



20 March 2015

Official Information Request No. 9000133799  
(Please quote this in any correspondence)

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

**Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987**

**Re: Pest control in Hunua Park**

I refer to your email, which we received on 4 February 2015, requesting information about pest and weed control in Hunua Park. Your request consists of two parts. I will answer each question individually.

1. ***Could independent of the previous OIA requests we get a FULL AND COMPLETE COPY of the file presented to each Councillor regarding the pest control in the Hunua Park. There are some substantial concerns that Council was misled.***

As part of the consideration of a change in pest management in the Hunua Ranges Regional parklands, Governing Body elected members received the following information:

**Pre workshop**

1. 19 September 2014 – Memo, from the General Manager, Infrastructure & Environmental Services and Mace Ward, Manager Regional and Specialist Parks, to Regional Strategy and Policy Committee Members, Local Board Chairs and invited local board members, '**Pest Management in the Hunua Ranges Regional Park**' for a workshop to be held on Tuesday 23 September 2014. (Attached)

**Joint Workshop 24 September 2014**

*(All councillors, local board chairs and interested local board members)*

2. 23 September 2014 - Memo, from the General Manager, Infrastructure & Environmental Services and Mace Ward, Manager Regional and Specialist Parks, to Pest Management Workshop Attendees, 'Protecting the Hunua Ranges: reassessing pest management methods'. (Attached)
3. Powerpoint 'Pest Management Workshop, Hunua Ranges Regional Parks Pest Management', 23 September 2014 (Attached)

*Supporting documents tabled included*

4. Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment Letter to Gael Ogilvie, Manager, Environmental Services, Infrastructure & Environmental Services, 12 September 2014. (Attached)
5. Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment 'Evaluating the use of 1080: predators, poisons and silent forests, June 2011, (Attached)
6. Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, Update report on the original investigation, 'Evaluating the use of 1080: Predators, poison and silent forests', June 2013. (Attached)
7. Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, FAQs (1 page) (Attached)
8. Letter from Waikato Regional Council, 12 September 2014 (Attached)
9. Auckland Council, Working Frequently asked Questions for pest control methodology in the Hunua Ranges Regional Park, 23 September 2014 (Attached)

*Follow Up Email*

10. An email to all workshop attendees with all information tabled and discussed at the meeting. 26 September 2014, including a list of the panel of experts who attended and answered questions at the workshop. (Attached)

**Regional Strategy and Policy Committee Meeting – 9 October 2015**

11. Report - Agenda Item 9 ' Pest Management Options for the Hunua Ranges Regional Parklands', 9 October 2014 (Attached)
12. Minutes Regional Strategy and Policy Committee, 9 October 2014 (Attached)
13. Attachments to the Minutes of the Regional Strategy & Policy Committee including
  - a. Powerpoint supporting Agenda Item 9 'Pest Management Options for the Hunua Ranges Regional Parklands', 9 October 2014 (Attached)
  - b. Powerpoint, Auckland Regional Public Health Service, 'Pest management proposal public health regulation, 9 October 2014 (Attached)
  - c. Powerpoint, Dr Penny Fisher, Wildlife toxicologists presentation, 9 October 2014 (Attached)
14. List of non-council attendees including external subject matter experts (Attached)

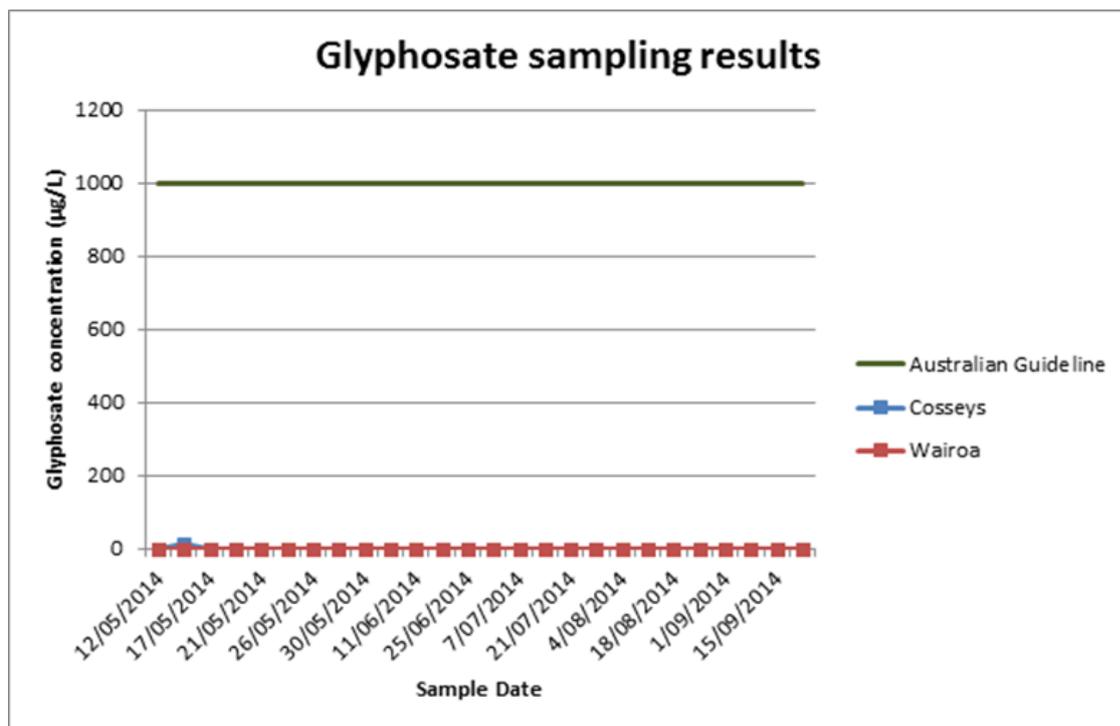
*Follow up*

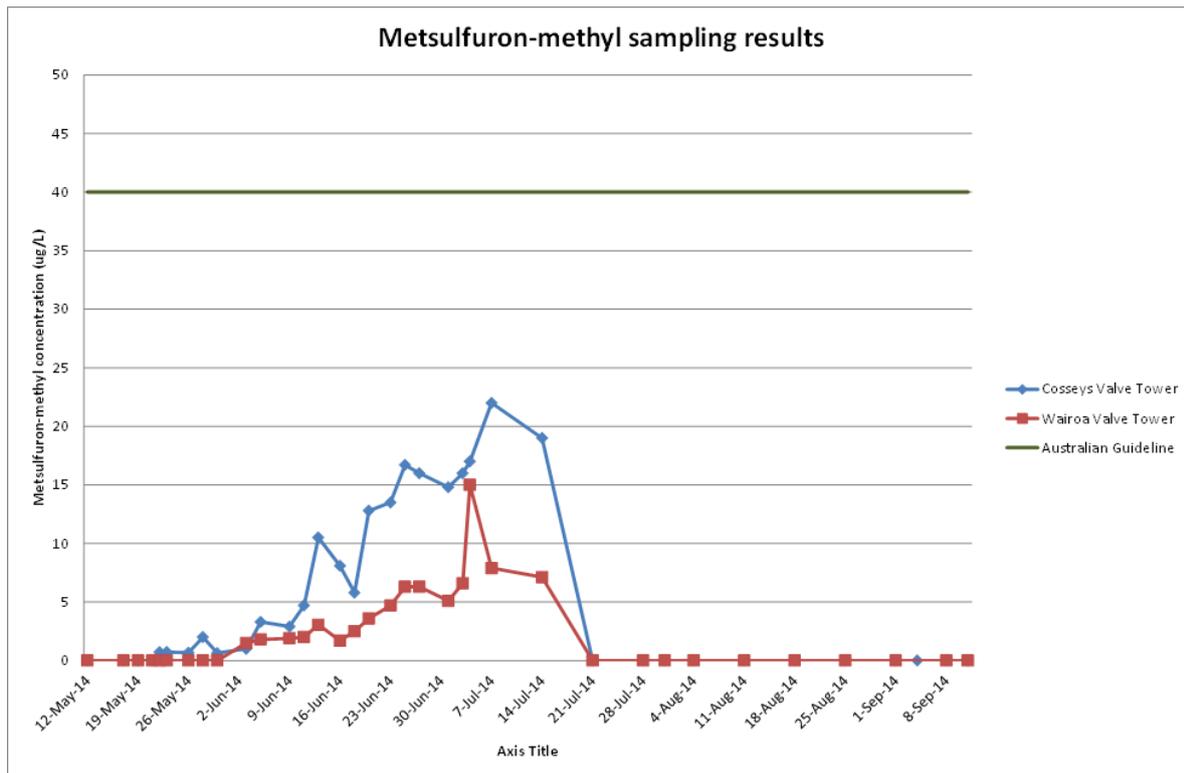
15. Email to all councillors – re possum control numbers – 23 October 2014
16.
  - a. Cover Email to all councillors – DOC 1080 pesticide review – 16 October 2014
  - b. Fairweather, A.A.C.; Broome, K.G.; Fisher, P. 2014: Sodium Fluoroacetate Pesticide Information Review. Version 2014/1. Unpublished report docdm-25427, Department of Conservation, Hamilton, NZ. 112p.

**2. Under the Official Information Act we requests complete details as to the weed control spray of the Hunua Park area that caused the water supply from those affected water supply lakes to be shutdown for 2 months or so. This will also include all details as to the decision making process that caused Councillors not to be informed of this problem until much later after the event.**

On 12 May 2014, aerial herbicide spraying was conducted by Waytemore Forestry Limited in the Cosseys and Wairoa Dam Catchments. Spraying was undertaken as part of Waytemore’s forestry operation as per their Forestry Lease granted through Auckland Council. Following the aerial herbicide application, positive results for Glyphosate and Metsulfuron were recorded in both water sources and both dams were isolated from the water supply system.

During this period of isolation, both sources were regularly sampled throughout the reservoirs. As there are no Maximum Allowable Values (MAV) for Glyphosate or Metsulfuron defined in Drinking Water Standards for New Zealand 2005 (Revised 2008), sample results were assessed against the MAVs stipulated in the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG). The sample results collected from the dam valve towers were below the ADWG – MAVs (1000µg/L Glyphosate and 40µg/L Metsulfuron), at all times.





In July 2014, samples from within both sources returned non-detected results and in late August, a return to service plan was approved and both Cosseys and Wairoa Dams were returned to supply.

During this incident, Watercare met all reporting obligations to Auckland Council officers.

Please find attached a copy of the memo sent by the Chief Executive to councillors on this matter. Details of the decision making process are included in the memo from the Chief Executive to councillors. A copy of the technical investigation report into the incident referred to in the Chief Executive's memo is included for completeness.

Please note that Auckland Council and Watercare staff will continue to work with Waytemore Forests Ltd to ensure that the recommendations of the investigation report are fully implemented. A letter from Watercare providing some additional information regarding water sampling is also attached.

You have the right in accordance with section 27(3) of the LGOIMA to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsmen regarding the delay in getting this response to you.

If you have any further queries please contact me on 09 301 0101, quoting Official Information Request No. 9000133799.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and curves, positioned below the text 'Yours sincerely'.

Isis van Geenen  
Information Advisor  
**Public Information Unit**  
**Auckland Council**

9000133799