



25 March 2024

OIAD-975

9(2)a

Tēnā koe 9(2)a,

Thank you for your email of 26 February 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

With respect, can MfE please provide all ministerial briefings/notes/talking points/aide memoires/Cabinet papers or draft Cabinet papers regarding water conservation orders? If the information has been requested by the minister's office, please provide that correspondence from her office. The timeframe of my request is November 24 last year to today's date.

The Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) has identified the following two documents in scope of your request:

- 'BRF-4076 Aide memoire: Rakaia Water Conservation Order – Declarations – Fish and Game and EDS'
- 'BRF-4076 Appendix 1 – Application for Declarations'
- An excerpt of 'Environment Weekly Update Week of 19 February 2024'

The document 'BRF-4076 Appendix 1 – Application for Declarations' is being released in full.

The remaining two documents are being released in part, with some information redacted as out of scope of this request, and some information withheld under section 9(2)(h) of the Act to maintain legal professional privilege.

Please note that as only a minor part of the document 'Environment Weekly Update' is relevant to this request, the information in scope has been released as an excerpt, as provided for under section 16(1)(e) of the Act, with some information redacted as out of scope of this request.

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the withholding of this information is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

Please contact the Ministry's Manager of the Delivery and Oversight team, Macaela Flanagan, at macaela.flanagan@mfe.govt.nz if you have any further questions about this response.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work the Ministry publishes responses to requests for official information on our [OIA responses page](#) shortly after the response has been sent. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sara Clarke', written in a cursive style.

Sara Clarke, General Manager –System Enablement
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao