



OIA 18-E-0607/docCM-5586454

15 October 2018

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Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, dated 17 September 2018. You requested the following:

I have just been listening to an interview on the National Station with Nicola Toki this morning.

She made some points which I would like more information on please.

1. That there was information available that showed comparisons between the nesting results of kea in areas that were 1080'd and those that were not. Can you please send me this information.

2. There were 8 reported cases of abuse in the past month. That there have been threats of death and violence, and in a previous TV interview with someone else, they reported that threats had been made against families and children of DoC workers.

I would particularly like to have any information on:

- a. the number of cases that have been verified and reported in writing, particularly in the past two years.*
- b. the cases that have been referred to police ever.*

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

- 1. That there was information available that showed comparisons between the nesting results of kea in areas that were 1080'd and those that were not. Can you please send me this information.*

This information is now published in the open access New Zealand Journal of Ecology:

Kemp, J., Mosen, C., Elliott, G., & Hunter, C. (2018). Effects of the aerial application of 1080 to control pest mammals on kea reproductive success. *New Zealand Journal of Ecology*, 42(2). doi:10.20417/nzjecol.42.28

2. There were 8 reported cases of abuse in the past month. That there have been threats of death and violence, and in a previous TV interview with someone else, they reported that threats had been made against families and children of DoC workers.

I would particularly like to have any information on:

a. the number of cases that have been verified and reported in writing, particularly in the past two years.

We have had 185 reported incidents of harassment and threats reported by staff in the last twelve months.

Further, we understand that there has been under-reporting of incidents by staff, and that this does not capture the total volume of incidents.

Of particular concern we have had six incidents of threats against the families of Departmental staff.

b. the cases that have been referred to police ever.

All threats to staff and other personnel associated with the Department are taken extremely seriously.

There have been 15 incidents which have noted that the matter was referred to the Police.

Please note that I am withholding in full the information regarding incidents you have requested under section 9(2)(g)(ii) of the Official Information Act, to protect members of the Department, officers and employees from improper pressure or harassment. In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act. It is vitally important that DOC staff are able to operate in a safe environment.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents will be published on the Department's website.

Yours sincerely



Amber Bill
Director, Threats Biodiversity
for Director-General