

28 May 2026

Whare Kaupapa
Atawhai/Conservation
House
PO Box 10420
Wellington 6140
doc.govt.nz

Ref: OIAD-6231

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 4 April 2026, in which you asked for:

...copies of all information and documents held by the Department relating to NZSki Limited's proposed expansion into the Doolans Basin at The Remarkables Ski Area. This includes, but is not limited to, any information relating to activities on or affecting public conservation land, concessions, or access arrangements associated with the proposed expansion. Specifically, I request:

- *concession applications, approvals, or correspondence relating to NZSki Limited*
- *ecological, environmental, or landscape assessments*
- *reports, technical documents, and expert advice*
- *correspondence (including emails) between DOC staff and external parties*
- *internal memos, briefings, and notes.*

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act (OIA) 1982.

On 8 April 2026, we wrote to you seeking clarification on the date range of your request. On the same day, you advised that you are wanting information from 1 January 2021 to 4 April 2026 (the date of your request).

On 30 April 2026, we wrote to you advising that a search for the information you requested from 1 January 2021 to 4 April 2026 returned more than 1000 pages. To avoid refusing your request under substantial collation, section 18(f) of the OIA, we asked if you were willing to limit your request to information from 2026 only. You advised that you were willing to revise the scope of your request to contain material from 2026 only.

On 5 May 2026, we wrote to you advising that we were extending your request for an additional 17 working days to 28 May 2026, as the information you requested for 2026 also required both substantial collation and consultation before we could make a decision on your request. We are now in a position to respond. Thank you for your patience while we processed your request.

Please find the information you have requested **attached** as Appendix A. Some information has been withheld under the following sections of the OIA as outlined in the Document schedule **below**:

- Specific locations of lizards, under section 6(c) - to prevent illegal poaching
- personal contact details of officials, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people,
- commercially sensitive information, under section 9(2)(b)(ii) – to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or who is the subject of the information,
- free and frank expression under section 9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs,
- information, under section 9(2)(k) – to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.

In making my decision to withhold information under section 9, I have considered section 9(1) of the OIA and determined there are no public interests that outweigh the grounds for withholding.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review of my decision by writing to an Ombudsman as provided by section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

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

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynn Hansberry', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Lynn Hansberry
Acting Director Regulatory Systems
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Document schedule

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	7 January 2026	Email: Remarkables weather station	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
2	23 January 2026	Email: Permit application weather station The Remarkables	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
3	Not dated	Email attachment: Concession Application 3b – Private/commercial facility/structures.	Released in full.
4	20 January 2026	Email attachment: Applicant Information Form 1a Notified or Non-notified Process	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
5	Not dated	Email attachment: Tripod Met Station image	Released in full.
6	10 February 2026	Email: Remarkable/Doolans	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
7	23 February 2026	Email: NZSki Remarkables Ski Area Upgrades and Doolans Expansion Project – Fast Track Application – Initial Engagement	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
8	23 February 2026	Email Attachment: Cost recovery Initial Deposit Letter/request to invoice/Tax Invoice	Some information withheld under sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(b)(ii).
9	24 February 2026	Email: FT proposal – Remarkables extensions to Doolans	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(g)(i).
10	2 March 2026	Email: FTAA Remarkables Ski Field Upgrades and Doolans Expansion Project	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
11	16 March 2026	Email: Shared the folder “04 Councils + DOC-WIP Plans 3 March 2026”.	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
12	27 March 2026	PowerPoint Document: Doolans Creek Water Take	Released in full.
13	Not dated	PowerPoint Document: Doolans Expansion: NZSki Terrestrial Ecological Impact Assessment	Released in full.
14	Not dated	PowerPoint Document: NZSki Global Lizard Management Plan	Released in full.

15	Not dated	PowerPoint Document: Remarkables Upgrade & Doolans Expansion Project Overview	Released in full.
16	17 March 2026	Request for permission to access zip folder – Remarkables/Doolans project	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
17	27 March 2026	Email: NZSki Draft Executive Summary of Terrestrial Ecology	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
18	Not dated	Email Attachment: e3s Draft Executive summary of Terrestrial Ecology NZSki	Released in full.
19	31 March 2026	Email: NZSki – Workshop on Freshwater Ecology and Terrestrial Ecology with DOC	Some information withheld under sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(k).
20	31 March 2026	Email: NZSki – List of technical experts	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
21	1 April 2026	Email: NZSki Updated Heritage Assessment	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
22	1 April 2026	Email attachment: Remarkables Upgrade and Doolans Expansion A Heritage Assessment	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
23	2 April 2026	Email: Seeking for feedback please 125427-OTH NZSki Limited	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
24	2 April 2026	Email: Fast Track Proposal – Remarkables Ski Area – Doolans Basin.	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
25	Not dated	Email attachment: Schedule 2 listed projects process – role for Māori Groups	Released in full.
26	6 April 2026	Email: NZSki – Workshop on Freshwater Ecology and Terrestrial Ecology with DOC	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(k).
27	7 April 2026	Email: NZSki – Landscape and Visual Draft Report Part 2	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
28	1 April 2026	Email Attachment: Remarkables Ski Doolans Extension A3L Graphic Supplement	Released in full.