

OIA 18-E-0951 /DOC-5627541

26 November 2018

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, dated 14 November 2018. You requested the following:

*In regards of the most recent aerial 1080 operations in the following areas – Mikonui, Waitaha, Harihari, Whataroa:*

*Please provide sufficient evidence of any kea deaths, related or unrelated to aerial 1080 operations carried out in the year 2018, in the areas stated above. Please include the name of the person/s who carried out the removal of the carcass'. Please include the number of deceased kea found in each of the areas as stated above.*

No kea deaths have been reported following any of the above operations. These operations did not have specific kea survival monitoring programmes in place as it is not possible to carry out this research for all large-scale pest control operations that occur.

Some kea deaths can occur during 1080 operations, but research has shown that kea populations are better off after 1080 treatment than without it. The benefits of the use of 1080 to kea populations outweighs the possible risks to individuals. Without large scale pest control, kea will continue to decline throughout much of their range.

You may find some more information of interest available on the DOC “Battle for our Birds” website pages: <http://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/battle-for-our-birds/battle-for-our-birds-monitoring-results/kea/>

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

Yours sincerely

Hilary Aikman  
Director, National Operations