

DOCCM-6518298  
OIAD-485

22 January 2021



Tēnā koe 

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, received on 08 December 2020 in which you asked for:

*All information about the whale stranded at Farewell Spit on December 4th/5th this year.*

On 11 December 2020 you clarified (or refined) your request to *All memos, reports, emails and photos related to the whale stranded at Farewell Spit on December 4th/5th this year.*

The Department's responses to your request are contained within Table 1 below. This information covers information from the time of the stranding through to 17 December 2020.

**Table 1 - Schedule of documents**

Item	Page No.	To Date	Document description	Decision
1	1 to 23	17/12/2020	Emails on the Sei whale topic	Released in part
2	24 to 28	17/12/2020	Sei Whale stranding Debrief 4-12-2020 Taupata creek Golden Bay debrief	Released in part.
3	29 to 46	17/12/2020	WhatsApp log of stranding response	Released in part
4	47 to 94	17/12/2020	Photos of the event	Released in full

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed above, subject to information being withheld under the following section of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act.

**Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai**

Whakātu Nelson Office  
Private Bag 5, Nelson 7042,  
www.doc.govt.nz

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

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.

If you wish to discuss this with the Department, please contact Andrew Lamason Community Ranger Takaka, on [REDACTED] or [alamason@doc.govt.nz](mailto:alamason@doc.govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā



Roy Grose  
Director Operations Northern South Island  
Department of Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*

Encl.