



19-E-0051/docCM 5712844

25 February 2019

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, dated 28 January 2019. You requested the following:

*“I would like a copy of any and all information totalling the cost the Department of Conservation has spent on finding alternatives to 1080 since 2011.  
Please include a breakdown of the cost by year”.*

I am releasing the information you request, which is detailed in the table below.

Please note the Department of Conservation’s work on finding alternatives to 1080 is part of a wider ‘innovation ecosystem’ of research and development for new pest control tools.

This includes research funded by MBIE’s Strategic Science Investment Fund, Biological Heritage National Science Challenge and Endeavour Fund, as well as the Government’s Provincial Growth Fund, which has recently invested \$6 million via PF2050 Ltd to fast track the production of improved predator control tools and technologies <https://pf2050.co.nz/news/new-predator-free-funds-for-regions-and-new-technologies/>

The Department of Conservation is central to much of this predator control research in collaboration with multiple researchers and organisations including science providers, manufacturers, businesses such as PF2050 Ltd, and CRIs such as Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research.

For example, the following sub-projects are currently underway within the department’s Tools to Market Project (T2M), and due to an additional allocation of \$700k per annum from the 2018 Budget, a further \$2.4 million has been made available for further T2M procurement activities over the next two years

- **Department of Conservation:** Development of a new bait to control stoats using PAPP
- **Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research:** New methods to evaluate the vulnerability of native birds to PAPP

- **Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research and Orillion Ltd:** Extending a Norway rat-selective pesticide to also target ship rats
- **Victoria University of Wellington:** Bringing long-life rat lures to market
- **Lincoln Agritech Ltd, Boffa Miskell and Red Fern Solutions:** Automated pest detection – Print Acquisition for Wildlife Surveillance (PAWS)

Because of the complexity of the department’s collaborative and wide-ranging research programmes, you will understand it can be difficult to separate “alternatives to 1080 research” from general predator control research. Many of our collaborations include some aspect of research for 1080 alternatives, which is not able to be captured and accounted for, such as advice in kind to support trap manufacturers.

Thus, the data presented here should be considered in terms of the trend rather than an accurate spend.

The following documents fall within the scope of your request and are attached:

<b>Item</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Document description</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<i>1</i>	<i>14/2/2019</i>	Copy of spreadsheet “Spend on Alternatives to 1080” pdf docCM 5698559	<i>Released in full</i>

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

Yours sincerely

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Amber Bill  
Director Threats Biodiversity  
for Director-General