

From: Wendy McGuinness [wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org](mailto:wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org)  
Subject: FW: OIA 2025/04 - Request for data on wildfires in New Zealand  
Date: 3 Apr 2025 at 3:13:36 PM  
To: [REDACTED]  
Cc: [REDACTED]

From: Wendy McGuinness <[wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org](mailto:wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org)>  
Date: Thursday, 3 April 2025 at 3:11 PM  
To: [officialinformationrequests@fireandemergency.nz](mailto:officialinformationrequests@fireandemergency.nz) <[officialinformationrequests@fireandemergency.nz](mailto:officialinformationrequests@fireandemergency.nz)>  
Cc: Josie McGuinness <[jm@mcguinnessinstitute.org](mailto:jm@mcguinnessinstitute.org)>  
Subject: OIA 2025/04 - Request for data on wildfires in New Zealand

Kia ora,

**Our OIA 2025/04 - Request for data on wildfires in New Zealand**

On 13 March 2024, the Institute sent an OIA request for data on wildfires in New Zealand. We received a response from you on 11 April 2024 which was very valuable (for your reference, see the Institute's record of

FYI, we are aware of the following papers:

- a. A series of 'Wildfire Season Update' reports prepared by SCION. These include three reports: 2019/2020, 2020/21 and 2021/22.
- b. Operational reports on individual fires (e.g. the 2020 Lake Ōhau Operational Review)
- c. Briefs to the Incoming Government
- d. FENZ Annual reports

**QUESTIONS**

- Q1: When will the 2022/23 and 2023/24 Wildfire Season Updates be published?
- Q2: Are there any more 2024/2025 reports that we should be aware of? Are there any reports in progress?
- Q3: Are you able to update Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 (sent in your initial OIA response to us and attached to this email) for 2024, or direct us as to where to find the information? FYI, the appendices received from
- Q4: Has any progress been made on the measuring of annual emissions released from wildfires in New Zealand and the annual economic costs of wildfires? We are interested in any records you may have on intern

We are hoping to publish this paper in the next 4-6 weeks. It would be greatly appreciated if one of your staff could look over our paper in draft and provide some thoughts and feedback.

Please get back to us with any points of clarification you have relating to this request.

Many thanks,

Wendy

Wendy McGuinness  
Chief Executive

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Financial Year	Three largest fires by hectares burned	Area burned (Ha)
2022/23	Waimea Valley 9 mile	199
	Pegasus Beach	77
	Cape Reinga	65
2021/22	Waiharara	2337
	Awarua	863
	Emerald Bluffs	232
2020/2021	Ohau	5033
	Pukaki	2226
	Macraes	816
2019/20	Deep Stream	4664
	Moke Lake	975
	Meyers Pass	350
2018/19	Pigeon Valley	2316
	Pipiwai	80
	Horeke	65

2017/18	Chatham Islands	2440
	Mount Prospect	1315
	Mount Roy	200
2016/17	Port Hills	1661
	Broken River	300
	Colin White Road	270
2015/16	Parsons Road	1250
	Waikakaho	461
	Waitangi West	152
2014/15	Onamaltu	650
	Flock Hill	333
	Poutu	205
2013/14		
2012/13		



The area burned data is based on records held by Fire and Emergency, and data provided to Fire and Emergency in 2017 following the amalgamation of different Fire Authorities.



**FIRE**  
EMERGENCY

NEW ZEALAND

NZFSYearDesc	Area of Grassland	Area of Gorse	Area of Indigenous Forest	Area of Plantation Forest
2022/23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2021/22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2020/21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2019/20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2018/19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2017/18	3.67	2.76	0.00	0.00
2016/17	21,198.15	69.15	175.42	684.42
2015/16	19,546.60	19,139.54	23.07	1,269.91
2014/15	73,731.60	65.42	647.45	10,297.42
2013/14	8,584.41	54.04	10,031.49	498.11
2012/13	1,251.54	294.19	809.51	375.51
2011/12	214.34	447.22	80.52	65.91
2010/11	353.26	94.44	84.29	413.51
2009/10	558.78	215.46	54.79	403.01
2008/09	512.28	95.86	11.78	133.81
2007/08	447.95	260.27	874.24	415.01
2006/07	1,596.89	90.95	67.94	356.01
2005/06	210.30	121.71	160.74	446.71
2004/05	254.68	64.02	19.20	336.01
2003/04	531.30	307.53	86.03	71.41
Overall - Total	128,995.78	21,322.56	13,126.49	15,769.01

OIA2024-00013784 Vegetation fires by area burnt since 2003/2004