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Ref: 20335

Wendy McGuinness
Chief Executive
McGuinness Institute Te Hononga Waka
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe Wendy

Thank you for your email of 17 December 2025 to Fire and Emergency New Zealand requesting data on wildfires in New Zealand under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). We copy and respond to your questions below.

- 1. Could you provide updated versions of Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 (originally supplied in your response to OIA 2024/02 on 11 April 2024), or advise where these updated documents can be accessed?*

Please find attached, as the **Appendix** to this request, data on vegetation fire land categories and area burned. This data has been updated from your previous request (reference number 17638) to include data from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025. Please note, the information provided in this appendix is based on information from our incident report system, which has not had data quality processes applied. As a result, data recorded may vary from other reported area burnt information such as information provided in the annual wildfire season summaries.

Regarding **Appendix Two** of your previous request, our Wildfire team are not aware of any new or updated reports being published by Beca in relation to residential fire climate impacts. For this reason, this aspect of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the documents alleged to contain the information requested do not exist.

- 2. When are the 2022/23, 2023/24, and 2024/25 Wildfire Season Updates scheduled for publication? Please provide links to these documents once available.*

The 2022/23 wildfire season summary report has been published, this is available on our website [here](#).



al stages of completion and is anticipated to be published within
2024/25 report is underway but there is no estimated date of

3. *Are there any other recent reports that we should be aware of? Additionally, are there any reports currently in development that are expected to be published in the coming months? Please provide details.*

The report on the Nenthorn vegetation fire on 11 March 2024 has now been completed and can be found online [here](#).

We are presently doing reviews of the following incidents and reports on these are anticipated to be complete over the next month:

- Island Block Road, Waikato (F4071747, 21 October 2024)
- Tiwai Point, Invercargill (F4137934, 29 January 2025)
- Tongariro, Ruapehu (F4331396, 8 November 2025)
- Fernhill Lodge, Hastings (F4364041, 23 December 2025)

4. *Has any progress been made on assessing the annual economic costs associated with wildfires?*

Fire and Emergency has not made progress on the development of a tool for assessing the annual economic costs associated with wildfires. Preliminary research into this work found the level of community level data required is extensive and not held by Fire and Emergency.

This matter may be better directed to Statistics New Zealand, who are more likely to have access to the necessary datasets, resources, and technical capability to develop such an assessment tool.

5. *Has any progress been made on estimating the annual emissions released from wildfires in New Zealand? Please explain. We would also welcome any records or information you hold on international practices or methodologies relevant to these measures. Note: We are keen to see wildfire related carbon emissions reported on a country by country basis at COP, and for wildfire emissions to be incorporated into the reporting requirements under the Paris Agreement.*

Fire and Emergency does not currently produce wildfire emissions estimates. This matter may be more appropriately be directed to the Ministry for the Environment, who lead New Zealand's greenhouse gas inventory and have undertaken studies relating to carbon emissions measurement in other sectors.

6. *We are hoping to publish this paper in the next few months. Lastly, would one of your staff be happy to look over a final draft of our paper and provide some thoughts and feedback?*

Our Wildfire team are open to help review the final version of the paper. They have asked if you can please provide them with an indication of the size and when they might receive this, along with when you would want any feedback by.

We trust that the information being provided is of assistance. If you require further information, please email officialinformationrequests@fireandemergency.nz

Nāku noa, nā


Manager, Information Requests