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LGOIMA

When releasing responses to previous LGOIMA requests, names and contact details of individual requestors will be withheld to protect their privacy.

Information requested by the media, lobby groups, public sector organisations and MPs will always be published, while information specific to an individual or their property will not generally be published.

Request from: Private individual

Information requested: Illegal vegetation clearance dealt with by Westland District Council between 2016 and 2021

Response by: Simon Bastion, Chief Executive

06 August 2021

Private Individual

Via Email:

Dear Private Individual

Official information request for information regarding any illegal vegetation clearance dealt with by Westland District Council between 2016 and 2021

I refer to your official information request dated 27 July 2021 for information regarding any illegal vegetation clearance dealt with by Westland District Council between 2016 and 2021.

You have asked for the following information:

- 1) The number of cases of illegal vegetation clearance dealt with by council between 01 January 2016 and 27 July 2021.**

There has been 2 cases of illegal vegetation clearance, with one alleged and as yet unproven between 01 January 2016 and 27 July 2021.

- 2) I would like the information broken down by date, area of land cleared, rule broken, and action taken by council (warning, court action etc.).**

Date	Area of land cleared	Rule broken	Action taken
03/04/2017	2000m ²	Rule 5.6.2.2	A warning was issued with an ecological assessment required to consider potential mitigation and a retrospective resource consent applied for and granted
09/02/2021	6000m ²	Rule 5.6.2.2	A warning was issued with an ecological assessment required to consider potential mitigation and a retrospective resource consent applied for and granted

Rule 5.6.2.2 of the District Plan states:

The clearance of more than 2000 m² of indigenous vegetation per 5 years per site:

(a) Where the contiguous land is managed for conservation purposes, or;

(b) From an area of indigenous vegetation in excess of 5 hectares.

(c) From a natural wetland.

This rule does not include:

(a) Exotic plantation forest area.

(b) The clearance of regrowth vegetation to maintain existing tracks and stock crossings.

(c) The incidental clearance of indigenous vegetation to control gorse, broom or other exotic plant pests.'

There is no charge in supplying this information to you.

Council has adopted a Proactive Release Policy and accordingly may publish LGOIMA responses on the Council Website at <https://www.westlanddc.govt.nz/lgoima-responses>.

The collection and use of personal information by the Westland District Council is regulated by the Privacy Act 2020. Westland District Council's Privacy Statement is available on our website [here](#)

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Mary-anne Bell, Senior Administration Officer at LGOIMA@westlanddc.govt.nz, 03 756 9091.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Simon Bastion | Chief Executive

SB/MB