



# *West Coast District Health Board*

## *Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini*

Corporate Office  
High Street, Greymouth

Telephone 03 768 0499  
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2 March 2020

9(2)(a)

### **RE Official Information Act request WCDHB 9394**

I refer to your email dated 6 February 2020 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB.

**1080 poisoning of the Buller river catchment in 2019 resulted in poisoned animals washed down the Buller river and poisoned marine life washed up onto west coast beaches. Animals poisoned by 1080 operations are a public health hazard as the poison can remain active in carcasses as fluoroacetate, especially in intestines and bones.**

- 1. Please provide a dated list of the visits made by HSNO Enforcement and Public Health Officers which relate to the poisoning operation. The visits may include the helicopter loading site, checking that buffer zones and public pathways were not poisoned, the river banks and mouth and coastline where poisoned carcasses were deposited, the testing laboratories, the disposal area, and any other sites connected with the conduct and effects of the poisoning operation.**

I refer you to our response to your OIA request WCDHB 9391. No field audit visits were carried out by Public Health HSNO Enforcement Officers for either of the two aerial 1080 operations carried out in the catchments of the Buller, Inangahua and Maruia rivers in the latter part of 2019. Public Health HSNO Officers did not carry out any visits to the sites where dead animals were found at Westport North beach, or to the site where the carcasses were buried.

- 2. Please provide copies of the reports produced by these officers.**

As no visits were carried out, there are no such reports

- 3. Please provide copies of reports produced by or for the Board reviewing the 1080 poisoning operation.**

No reports were produced by or for the West Coast DHB in relation to either of the aerial 1080 operations referred to above or to the dead animals found on the beach at Westport North beach.

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the West Coast DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gullery', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Carolyn Gullery  
**Executive Director**  
**Planning, Funding & Decision Support**