

## Stephen Day

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**From:** info  
**Sent:** Monday, 31 October 2022 12:04 pm  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** info  
**Subject:** RE: Official Information Act Request  
**Attachments:** Can Methven & Districts Tramping Club help the pīwauwau rock wren win Bird of the Year?; Can Mount Hutt High School help the pīwauwau rock wren win Bird of the Year?; Pīwauwau blames Breakfast TV for endangered status

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thankyou for your request for information on 31 October 2022 for *"copies of any correspondence, memoranda, wreports, emails, text messages, microsoft teams (or equivalent messages), aide memoirs or ministerial briefings that wrefer to the Takahē for Bird of the Year campaign 2022. In particular I would like to know what the team behind the Wrenegade thought about the masterpiece that is Takaheat."*

We referred to the takahē in three pieces of correspondence. These are attached.

1. A media release that aimed to get breakfast tv coverage for the pīwauwau
2. Emails we sent to the following high schools (only the email to one school has been attached, but the same message was sent to all schools below):
  - a. Buller High School, Westport
  - b. Greymouth High School, Greymouth
  - c. John Paul II High School, Greymouth
  - d. Westland High School , Hokitika
  - e. Darfield High School, Darfield
  - f. Mount Hutt College, Methven
  - g. Dunstan High School, Alexandra
  - h. Cromwell College, Cromwell
  - i. Wakatipu High School, Queenstown
  - j. Mt Aspiring College, Wanaka
3. Emails we sent to the following outdoor recreation clubs (only the email to club has been attached, but the same message was sent to all clubs below):
  - a. Wakatipu Tramping Club
  - b. Methven and Districts Tramping Club
  - c. Fiordland Endurance and Racing Club
  - d. Otago Tramping Club
  - e. Southland Tramping Club
  - f. Upper Clutha Tramping Club
  - g. Fiordland Tamping and Outdoor Recreation Club
  - h. Queenstown Climbing Club
  - i. Otago University Tramping Club
  - j. Buller Tramping Club

Our pīwauwau team did not discuss the Takahē for Bird of the Year campaign 2022 or Takaheat, sorry.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku iti noa, nā

## Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa, the Outdoor Access Commission

04 815 8502

herengaanuku.govt.nz



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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Monday, 31 October 2022 8:22 am

**To:** info <info@herengaanuku.govt.nz>

**Subject:** Official Information Act Request

Tēnā koe,

Congratulations to Herenga ā Nuku for wunning the successful 'Pīwauwau for Bird of the Year 2022' campaign.

To better understand the inner workings of the campaign, I would like to wrequest under the Official Information Act:

copies of any correspondence, memoranda, wreports, emails, text messages, microsoft teams (or equivalent messages), aide memoirs or ministerial briefings that wrefer to the Takahē for Bird of the Year campaign 2022. In particular I would like to know what the team behind the Wrenegade thought about the masterpiece that is [Takaheat](#).

[REDACTED]

Ngā mihi nui,

[REDACTED]

## Stephen Day

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**From:** Herenga ā Nuku - the Outdoor Access Commission  
<herenga.a.nuku-.the.outdoor.access.commission@fuseworks.nz>  
**Sent:** Saturday, 22 October 2022 8:02 am  
**To:** Stephen Day  
**Subject:** Pīwauwau blames Breakfast TV for endangered status  
**Attachments:** 72d72fca-a35b-40a1-bfdb-719289646041.png



### Pīwauwau blames Breakfast TV for endangered status

**Source:** Herenga ā Nuku - the Outdoor Access Commission

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Pīwauwau | rock wren is the early leader in the annual Bird of the Year election. Early voting shows the little rock wren is ahead of all other birds, including traditional favourites and previous winners like the kea.

Pīwauwau entered the race as a rank outsider. But she rejects the 'underbird' title Forest & Bird and the media have bestowed upon her.

"I'm not an underbird, I'm a wonderbird."

Pīwauwau says breakfast TV is to blame for her endangered population status.

Pīwauwau alleges that birds that come into the big city, such as tui and kereru, or hang out in sanctuaries, such as kiwi and takahe, get regular airtime, but journalists are missing the real news happening in remote alpine locations.

"Look back through your footage, I bet you can't find any of me," says pīwauwau.

"I'm [raising awareness](#) about myself, bobbing about and tweeting IRL on the top of mountains. But TV is not reporting it. I'm never on TV," says pīwauwau.

Pīwauwau is in a close election race for the title with kea. While pīwauwau is a true alpine bird that stays above the bushline in all conditions, the kea often ventures below the snow and rocks.

"I'm New Zealand's one true mountain bird," says pīwauwau - not that clown parrot that comes down from the mountains to steal windscreen wipers.

Pīwauwau has hired the small Crown agency Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa to run her campaign. Herenga ā Nuku spokesperson Stephen Day says, with pīwauwau's narrow lead in the voting, this is the best and maybe only opportunity for an underbird to win the title.

"Pīwauwau is a taonga, and this is a unique opportunity for her to get the aroha she deserves from all New Zealanders, and not just those few who've trekked into the mountains and seen her," says Stephen Day.

## **ENDS**

### **For more information contact:**

Herenga ā Nuku can supply video footage, sound files and photos of the pīwauwau | rock wren.

Stephen Day | Kaiwhakahaere Whakapā | Communications Manager, Herenga ā Nuku - the Outdoor Access Commission

Email: [stephen.day@herengaanuku.govt.nz](mailto:stephen.day@herengaanuku.govt.nz), Mobile: +64 (0)27 815 8552

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## Stephen Day

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**From:** Stephen Day  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 25 October 2022 2:28 pm  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Can Methven & Districts Tramping Club help the pīwauwau rock wren win Bird of the Year?

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

I work for Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa, the Outdoor Access Commission. This year we are managing the Bird of the Year campaign for the pīwauwau, rock wren. Excitingly, the pīwauwau rock wren is leading the voting, but not by much. So, because of your club's proximity to the rare alpine bird, we are writing to ask for your help.

The Bird of the Year competition is run by Forest & Bird each year, and normally the winner is a big, well-known bird like the takahē, kererū or penguin. This year Forest and Bird identified 20 'underbirds' that normally struggle in the competition, as well as real life (the pīwauwau is endangered and needs our help and attention). The pīwauwau is the only underbird in the competition with a realistic chance of winning. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for this remote, alpine bird to have the nationwide attention and support that would come from winning this popular competition.

Even 10 votes could make all this difference in this close competition. Is there any chance that you and your club community could help it win? Voting ends this week.

Here are some resources about the little rock wren:

- Where to vote: [www.birdoftheyear.org.nz](http://www.birdoftheyear.org.nz)
- A video we have been sharing to promote it: [youtu.be/ZD6pCMteDU4](https://youtu.be/ZD6pCMteDU4)
- Background about the pīwauwau: [www.nzbirdsonline.org.nz/species/rock-wren](http://www.nzbirdsonline.org.nz/species/rock-wren) and why it is in so much trouble and needs our help: [predatorfreenz.org/stories/tiny-alpine-bird-avid-collector-feathers](http://predatorfreenz.org/stories/tiny-alpine-bird-avid-collector-feathers)
- [TeamRockWren on Facebook](#)
- [TeamRockWren on Instagram](#)

We could help with further resources if you would like. We have quite a few photos, sound files and video files as well as information about the pīwauwau to share.

Hei konā mai me ngā mihi mahana,

## Stephen Day

Pronouns: he/him | See: [mypronouns.org](http://mypronouns.org)  
Kaiwhakahaere Whakapā | Communications Manager  
Aotearoa Outdoor Access Commission

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## Stephen Day

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**From:** Stephen Day  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 25 October 2022 12:26 pm  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Can Mount Hutt High School help the pīwauwau rock wren win Bird of the Year?

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

I work for Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa, the Outdoor Access Commission. This year we are managing the Bird of the Year campaign for the pīwauwau, rock wren. Excitingly, the pīwauwau rock wren is leading the voting, but not by much. So, because of your school's proximity to the rare alpine bird, we are writing to ask for your help.

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Even 50 votes could make all this difference in this close competition. Is there any chance that you and your school community could help it win? Voting ends this week.

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- Background about the pīwauwau: [www.nzbirdsonline.org.nz/species/rock-wren](http://www.nzbirdsonline.org.nz/species/rock-wren) and why it is in so much trouble and needs our help: [predatorfreenz.org/stories/tiny-alpine-bird-avid-collector-feathers](http://predatorfreenz.org/stories/tiny-alpine-bird-avid-collector-feathers)
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