

From: sharleen baird 9(2)(a)

Sent: Friday, 2 October 2026 11:11 am

To: Land Exchange <landexchange@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: Draft Land Exchange Report on application by Tukituki Water Security Ltd

Further comments from myself Sharleen Gay Baird 9(2)(a)

My contacts : 9(2)(a)

1 As the Draft Report on the Landswap indicates, the existing DOC land has higher ecological values, both aquatic and terrestrial, than the Smedley Block. This is a bird in the hand

2 We are not comparing like for like here. The report suggests that if certain actions are taken on Smedley block it COULD have higher terrestrial values .

This is a bird in the bush

There is no guarantee all required mitigations and activities will be actioned at future times

Further to the point I would challenge the suggestion that killing ancient podocarps (some possibly 400yrs or more) could possibly be mitigated by new juvenile plantings in the Smedley block - nobody can transplant a 400 yr old tree

3 If the DOC land was flooded, the loss of habitat would mean in many cases those species which depend on it will be deprived of their means of survival as all other existing ecological niches are already occupied

So another net loss

4. As things stand now the Aotearoa/NZ public have the DOC land.

The Smedley land also exists and could be upgraded anytime in the future.

The loss of the DOC land would leave us with only the Smedley block so clearly a large loss of an environmentally protected area

Final comments

It is clear that the DOC land has much higher ecological values than the Smedley block and any other conclusion could only be arrived at by ignoring the evidence and bowing to political pressure.