From: Tim Williams
To: Hayley Boyd

Subject: Expert Conferencing FAO Hearing Panel **Date:** Friday, 15 December 2023 1:14:24 pm

Dear Hearing Panel,

We note the request for dates of availability for expert conferencing.

Forest & Bird is concerned that it would not be appropriate for the proposed experts to conference in the absence of a brief of evidence from Mr Goldwater (Wildlands).

So far as we are aware, Mr Goldwater did not give evidence at the hearing, and we have not seen a written brief of evidence. As a result, our expert Dr Maseyk would not be able to be sufficiently informed in advance of the conference to make the process efficient and worthwhile.

We also note that it is most unusual for an expert to be included in expert conferencing where that expert has not prepared a brief of evidence or given evidence at the hearing.

Please can these concerns be addressed before any further steps are taken in relation to expert conferencing.

Ngā mihi,

Tim Williams

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