

From: Marie Payne
Sent: Thursday, 29 May 2025 11:46 am
To: Jenni Fitzgerald; Siobhan Quayle
Cc: Emma Fahey
Subject: RE: Formal Notification Letter - Santana Minerals
Attachments: Santana Formal Consultation Letter - Department of Conservation (29May 2025).pdf; RE: DOC Pre-lodgement consultation request BOGP

Hi all,

I have just viewed this letter re Bendigo / Santana Minerals advising they are intending to lodge at the end of June. A few key points from the FT Team below:

- We are working through the pre-lodgement process with the applicant
- We received an initial request to initial consultation on 27th Feb which provided a very high level of information – to facilitate consultation we requested further information on 19/03/2025 around the specific DOC approvals being sought
- We also contacted the applicant and ran through the fast-track pre-lodgement process approach to engagement
- We received a response from Santana last week (Monday 19th May) – the provision of a summary document – this states tech reports are not finalised
- We are in the process of establishing a project team which will be multidisciplinary – but will need more information from the applicant as per email on (19/03/2025) to facilitate engagement
- We understand that there is also an existing exploration permit which is likely to receive a decision (next 2-3 weeks) s9(

Next steps:

- Siobhan/Jenni – we were going through our triage process to establish the project team however I think a good interim step would be to hold a meeting with Santana and their application lead/key people to reiterate our approach to pre-lodgement ASAP given their approach to lodge at the end of June e.g. this could be limiting in terms of consultation
- More information – the information they have provided is still very high level and doesn't give us much to go on – at this point I would again like to request draft application documents and background reports even if in draft – but I have asked for these once and I think this may be better after or in conjunction with setting up a meeting as above
- s9(2)(b)(ii)
- We (me and Emma) met with John Roberts – Stat manager today and we have another meeting tomorrow with Pauline Marshall tomorrow – depending on how quickly we want to move we may not have time to wait until next week to request other resource for a project team as per normal process.

I will hold off going back to s9(until I have heard back from you, what your thoughts are.

Kind regards,

Marie

Proposed next steps:

On behalf of the Fast Track Applications team
Te Papa Atawhai | Department of Conservation

Whare Kaupapa Atawhai | Conservation House
18 - 32 Manners St | PO Box 10 420, Wellington 6143

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Tui. Photo: Sabine Bernert



From: FastTrackApplicationEnquiries <FastTrackApplicationEnquiries@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 29 May 2025 11:17 am
To: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: FastTrackApplicationEnquiries <FastTrackApplicationEnquiries@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Formal Notification Letter - Santana Minerals

Kia ora Marie,

Please see below from Santana Minerals regarding the lodgement of the Bendigo-ophir gold mine application.

Ngā mihi,

Grace Masterton ([she/her](#))

On behalf of the Fast-track Applications team
Te Papa Atawhai | Department of Conservation

From: s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com>
Sent: Thursday, 29 May 2025 10:34 am
To: FastTrackApplicationEnquiries <FastTrackApplicationEnquiries@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com>
Subject: Formal Notification Letter - Santana Minerals

You don't often get email from s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com>. [Learn why this is important](#)
Good morning,

Please find attached a formal notification letter from Santana Minerals Limited regarding the lodgement of the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project application under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024.

Kind regards,

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)



s9(2)(a)



www.santanaminerals.com



s9(2)(a)



15a Chardonnay Street, Cromwell 9310

SANTANA
MINERALS LIMITED

MATAKANUI
GOLD LIMITED

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29 May 2025

Penny Nelson
Director-General
Department of Conservation
c/o Fast-track Applications

By email: FastTrackApplicationEnquiries@doc.govt.nz

Dear Penny,

**RE: SANTANA MINERALS LIMITED – BENDIGO-OPHIR GOLD PROJECT – SUBSTANTIVE APPLICATION
UNDER SCHEDULE 2 OF THE FAST-TRACK APPROVALS ACT 2024**

1. We write to confirm that Matakanui Gold Limited (“MGL”) – as a New Zealand registered company and wholly owned subsidiary of Santana Minerals Limited – **s9(2)(b)(ii)**
- [REDACTED]**
- [REDACTED]** The Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project is listed in Schedule 2 of the FTAA, and it is intended that an application for the project will be lodged with the Environmental Protection Authority by the end of June 2025.

2. The application will seek approval for mining and mining related activities on Bendigo and Ardgour Stations in the Dunstan Mountains of Central Otago, including (but not restricted to):

- **s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(i)**

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3. Of relevance to the Department of Conservation, the approvals being applied for will include approvals that outside of the FTAA process would typically be required under:



s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(i)

4. Throughout the preparation of the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project, MGL has engaged a wide selection of domestic and international technical experts to assist with the design of the project and the undertaking of assessments of actual and potential environmental effects associated with the project. As a result of the inputs provided by these technical experts the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project will utilise leading-practise mining methodologies, environmental monitoring methods, and operational controls, management, and reporting measures. Furthermore, MGL will continue to actively engage with relevant administering authorities, government agencies, environmental groups, stakeholders, and members of the community as the project progresses. These commitments will be included in the proposed consent conditions provided as part of the FTAA application.
5. In terms of prior consultation with your department, in your capacity as one of the relevant administering agencies of any fast-track approvals process (section 11 (1)(e) of the FTAA), there has already been engagement on the project to date through the DOC Fast Track pre-lodgement portal responding to a request for information and the local DOC team to provide general overview information. However, if you or the department have any questions or matters you would like to discuss associated with the application for the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project under the FTAA, please let us know.
6. We have included, with this letter, our suggestion for a pre-lodgement briefing, if that would be of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

s9(2)(a)

Damian Spring
Chief Executive Officer
Santana Minerals Limited

From: s9(2)(a)@santanaminerals.com>
Sent: Monday, 19 May 2025 11:41 am
To: Marie Payne
Subject: RE: DOC Pre-lodgement consultation request BOGP
Attachments: 250519 SMI MGL Memo DOC Information Request - Final.pdf

Hi Marie,

Thank you for your email. Please find attached a memo addressing the information requested. Apologies for the delay in responding.

Please note the submission date for the BOGP has been pushed back to mid to late June.

I understand the consultation deposit has been paid. Please let me know if it is otherwise and I will follow up.

Regards

s9(2)(a)
Environment Manager

s9(2)(a)

From: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 19 May 2025 8:26 am
To: s9(2)(a)@santanaminerals.com>
Subject: RE: DOC Pre-lodgement consultation request BOGP

Caution: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected email.

Hi s9(2)

It has been a few weeks since we last caught up so I just wanted to check in, in relation to the below. Previously I understood you were working on providing some further information which was specific to the DOC approvals being sought.

I note that the intended lodgement date initially provided was the 29th of April, so also wondered if you were working towards a revised target lodgement date.

Happy to set up a meeting/discuss further and answer any questions etc...

Kind regards,

Marie

Marie Payne

Senior Advisor Fast Track Applications

Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington

Mobile: s9(2)(a)



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

From: FastTrackApplicationEnquiries

Sent: Wednesday, 19 March 2025 4:00 pm

To: s9(2)(a) (@santanaminerals.com)

Subject: DOC Pre-lodgement consultation request BOGP

Kia ora s9(2)(a)

Thank you for the pre-lodgement consultation request submitted. I (Marie Payne) will be the DOC fast track application lead for the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project.

I have reviewed the information provided to date and request and to move forward it would be helpful if you could provide some more information around the fast-track proposal.

- Specific detail around each permission/activity for which an approval is being sought from DOC e.g. a Wildlife Approval would need to be specific to species and activity. Concessions should detail specific activity/location etc...
- Background information to support that approval e.g. draft application documents/external assessments and reports
- Identification of any requests/application currently underway with the permissions team/local office

Without more specific further information we would be unable to provide feedback in relation to the DOC approvals being sought.

I acknowledge that you have been working with our local office previously for different approvals. As a fast-track request, I will be co-ordinating DOC's response to all of the approvals/permissions you identify as part of the fast-track application.

Our financial team has also noted no consultation deposit had not been received as of late last week, if you are able to progress this to enable us to proceed when further information is received that would be very helpful. If you have already, please confirm and I can follow up.

I am on leave tomorrow but happy to give you a call and walk through DOC's fast track process/answer any questions you may have at this point (my details are below).

Kind regards,

Marie

Marie Payne

Senior Advisor Fast Track Applications

Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington

Mobile: s9(2)(a)



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

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Bendigo Ophir Gold Project

FTAA Triage Assessment 5 June 2025

General Info:

Applicant	Matakanui Gold Limited (Santana Minerals Limited)
Engagement Type	Pre-lodgement engagement (listed project) - FTA107
Due (if applicable)	Applicant has advised they intend to lodge by the end of June 2025.
Location	On Bendigo and Ardour stations in the Dunstan Mountains of Central Otago. Approximately 20km north of Cromwell.
PCL affected?	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(i)
Project Lead	Marie (support from Emma)
Triage Level:	HIGH Fast Track Triage Assessment.docx

Project Overview



Figure 1: Overview Site Layout of the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project

To establish, operate, and remediate an open pit and underground gold mine.

Approvals sought from DOC

- Concessions under the Conservation Act 1986
- s9(2)(ba)(i)
- Wildlife Approval under the Wildlife Act
- Specific Permissions under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983
- Access arrangements under the Crown Minerals Act 1991

Comments on approvals

Concessions and access arrangements – the applicant has identified five of these

s9(2)(ba)(i)

s9(2)(b)(ii)

Comments from Stat Manager

There is historical knowledge within DOC regional teams of the heritage and ecological values of the project land. Also, in relation to the covenant on the land. s9(2)(q)(i)

s9(2)(g)(i)

Engagement to date

- Statutory manager advised that there is a large spectrum of community response to project, from very negative to very positive.
- s9(2)(g)(i)

Key Risks

s9(2)(g)(i), s9(2)(j)

Triage Input:

Team	Assessment	Comments
BHV	High	Freshwater – High. There are no database records of native fish, however, would need freshwater surveys to confirm. Potential for presence of threatened non-diadromous galaxiids. FW advisor needed (Nicholas Dunn confirmed) Richard Ewens – dryland veg – lizards/invertebrates
Permissions	High	Hokitika permissions team (due to Crown Minerals Act) – Carl confirmed as Crown Minerals and concessions permissions contact. TBC permissions team member for wildlife approvals and covenants (requested).
Legal	High	s9(2)(h)

RMA	High	Any previous RM engagement? Need to check. Need to see AEE & consents sought and any conditions put forward. Liz Williams confirmed as part of FT project team.
SLM		
Commercial		

Resourcing Required:

Please note previous DOC involvement:

Richard Ewans (Technical Advisor) has carried out several site visits assessing botanical values, and is familiar with assessing spring annual habitat (threatened plant species).

Matt Schmidt (Senior Heritage Advisor) has assessed heritage values.

John Roberts (Stat Manager) has history of the site and approvals granted.

Pene Williams (legal) has worked on the district with covenant approvals.

Ceri Warnock (legal) also has familiarity with the covenant through a separate RMA process (subdivision application)

Liz Williams (RMA) was the planner on the subdivision application, so is also familiar with the covenant. [Liz confirmed.](#)

Escalate:

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09/06/2025

Damien Spring
Chief Executive Officer

Santana Minerals Limited
15a Chardonnay St

Cromwell
New Zealand
community@santanaminerals

Tēnā koe Damian,

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION (DOC) RESPONSE - RE: SANTANA MINERALS LIMITED – BENDIGO-OPHIR GOLD PROJECT – SUBSTANTIVE APPLICATION UNDER SCHEDULE 2 OF THE FAST-TRACK APPROVALS ACT 2024

I am responding on behalf of Penny who appreciates your letter dated 29th May 2025 providing an update on the progress of your Fast-track application and advising DOC of your intended lodgement date. I have oversight of DOC's fast-track work and would be keen to have a meeting with your key people (perhaps together with MBIE) to discuss all the various regulatory processes that you are navigating for this project.

DOC is committed to working collaboratively with applicants on their Fast-track applications and has developed a pre-lodgement consultation process to facilitate engagement and ensure it delivers efficiencies for all stakeholders.

Having worked through this process in relation to several applications now, it is clear that it is extremely valuable and enables a range of potential issues and opportunities to be worked through prior to the formal Fast-track process commencing. For this project we anticipate that it would be valuable to use this process to consider:

- Alignment of the application documentation with the information requirements of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA) in relation to approvals sought where DOC is an administering agency.
- Identification of any information/approvals which DOC anticipates may need to be considered/provided in the application to meet FTAA information requirements and support a panel to consider the application.
- How you might address potential effects and potential mitigations informed by DOC expertise (e.g. the use of public conservation land, wildlife approvals).

To ensure that this process is undertaken effectively it is key that adequate time and information is provided. I am aware that the DOC Fast-track Team requested further information on the application in March 2025 and in response some high-level further information was recently received (19 May). I note your intention to lodge your application next month. As set out in the FTAA consultation with administering agencies is required prior to lodgement of a substantive application for a listed project, DOC's view is that working with applicants during the pre-lodgement phases will support that formal decision-making processes are as streamlined as possible – to this end I would encourage free and frank engagement. The earlier information is shared, the more fulsome and robust DOC's response will be, and the more time to iron out any issues. In an ideal world, DOC will have little to say in relation to substantive applications as all questions have been answered and issues resolved prior to lodgement.

I note your mention of a 'pre-lodgement briefing' but it appears the attachment may have been missing. Notwithstanding, the team will continue to work through the consultation



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process. Please continue to liaise with Marie Payne as the nominated Fast-track project lead to progress this.

Ngā mihi



Siobhan Quayle

Director Regulatory Systems Performance

Department of Conservation | Te Papa Atawhai

Email: squayle@doc.govt.nz

PA: Joanne Dixon: jdixon@doc.govt.nz

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Level 1, 18 - 32 Manners St | PO Box 10 420, Wellington 6143

Kia piki te oranga o te ao tūroa, i roto i te ngātahitanga, ki Aotearoa.

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Tui. Photo: Sabine Bernert

From: Emma Fahey
Sent: Wednesday, 11 June 2025 3:31 pm
To: Pauline Marshall; John Roberts; Richard Ewans; Nicholas Dunn; Liz Williams; Pene Williams; Carl Jones; Charlie Sklenar
Cc: Jenni Fitzgerald; Marie Payne; Sally Clarkson
Subject: Bendigo Ophir Gold Fast-track project potential timelines

Kia ora koutou,

Following on from the meeting this afternoon, I have devised some potential timelines for the project progressing through fast-track. These times are estimates only! As you can imagine there are many moving parts with fast-track and the times are based on previous progressions.

Scenario - If lodgement at the end of June (as applicant has stated to date):

1. Application lodged with EPA (**30 June**)
2. EPA requests completeness checks from DOC (we have 10wds to complete request)
 - a. Received **2 July – Due 16 July** – FT lead with advice requested from permissions and technical experts
3. Competing applications requested by EPA (we have 5wds to complete request)
 - a. Received **21 July – Due 28 July** – FT lead with advice from permissions
4. Application found complete with no competing applications (**4 August**)
 - a. Sent to Panel Convenor by EPA (PC ordinarily takes approx. 20wds to set up a conference once application received)
5. Panel Convenor sets conference for application (**1 September**)
6. EPA directs DOC to begin drafting s51 reports (for wildlife, concessions, covenant, freshwater fisheries, and Crown minerals Act access arrangements).
7. A memo is due to panel with any considerations / extra time participants may need of a panel (this is due 3wds before conference – **27 August**) – FT lead with legal input
8. Panel Convenor Conference – FT Lead + Legal to attend
9. The panel is appointed. This has taken **around 10wds after** the conference in the past (**15 September**)
10. The panel officially requests both s51 reports and s53 comments from DOC (**within 10wds of panel** being appointed – this has been directed on the 10th working day previously – **29 September**)
 - a. Comments from conservation boards and iwi groups invited at this stage
11. The s51 reports are due to the panel **10wds** from the official invite (**6 October**)
12. The s53 comments are due to the panel **20wds** after officially invited (**13 October**)

We do not currently have any projects that have progressed past stages 11/12 so timelines are not estimated past that point.

So that everyone is on the same page, the current thinking re s51 reports is:

- penned by permissions advisor (with technical advice sought as needed) –
- peer reviewed by FT project lead –
- legal review (primarily for any legal risks) –
- FT manager review / sign out.

Current thinking re s53 comments is:

- Penned by RMA team
- Peer reviewed by FT project lead
- Legal review (only for legal risk)
- Final review and signed out by FT manager.

If you have any questions re the process, timings (or anything really) let me know, always happy to chat 😊

Ngā mihi,

Emma Fahey (she/her)

Permissions Advisor – Fast-track

Te Papa Atawhai | Department of Conservation

s9(2)(a)

Whare Kaupapa Atawhai | Conservation House

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Template – DOC Treaty Settlement Considerations/Implications

Instructions:

Fast-track team: Follow the instructions in [docCM - Fast-track - How to identify Treaty settlement information](#) to complete **Tables A-D**.

Following the Context meeting, follow the guidance text in this template to complete **Table E** (if applicable).

Delete all instructions and red text before sending the template to the Fast-track Applications Manager for approval.

A. Relevant enacted Treaty settlements & DOC obligations

Instructions: Please duplicate the table below for each relevant Treaty settlement.

Treaty settlement:	DOC obligation:	Source:	Relevance to project:
Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998	<p>[Deed of Settlement] Attachment 12.147: Protocol</p> <p>5 FRESHWATER FISHERIES</p> <p>5.1 The Department has a statutory role in advocating the conservation of aquatic life and freshwater fisheries generally. Its advocacy for freshwater biota, aquatic habitats and fish passage in all areas is primarily taken via statutory planning processes provided by the Resource Management Act 1991.</p> <p>5.2 The Settlement Legislation provides the power to promulgate regulations with respect to customary freshwater fisheries in the South Island administered under the Conservation Act 1987, with such regulations to be promulgated as soon as practicable, and in any event within two years of the Settlement Date. Besides generally consulting with Te Runanga and providing for its participation in the conservation and management of customary freshwater fisheries and freshwater fish habitats, the Department will consult and have particular regard to the advice of Te Runanga as an Advisory Committee appointed under section 56 of the Conservation Act on</p>	[DOS: Attachment 12.147 Form of Protocols] (pages 807-818 of PDF)	The Proposal is an open pit mine, the volume of earthworks required to actualise this will be substantial. Earthworks will need to be managed in a careful way to avoid impacts on freshwater fisheries. Of note in regard to this is that both Te Wairere (Lake Dunstan) and Mata-au (Clutha River) are near the proposal site. Both of these waterbodies are under a Statutory Acknowledgement.

	<p>all matters concerning the management and conservation by the Department of Conservation of Taonga Fish Species (as defined in the Settlement Legislation) within the Ngai Tahu Takiwa.</p> <p>5.3 Advisory Committee</p> <p>The Department will, in relation to the Taonga Fish Species and as far as reasonably practicable, provide the Advisory Committee with all relevant information to enable it to give informed advice, and will meet with the Advisory Committee at conservancy level as necessary to give effect to the Deed of Settlement and Settlement Legislation.</p> <p>5.4 Customary freshwater fisheries regulations The Department will work with Te Runanga at Regional and conservancy levels to: (a) Provide for Te Runanga participation in the development and promulgation of customary freshwater fishing regulations by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a joint working group; • Setting terms of reference for that working group; • Setting timelines for progress; • Providing information to Te Runanga in a timely manner and allowing Te Runanga an opportunity to comment. <p>5.5 Specific Projects The Department will, subject to 3.2 above, work with Te Runanga to:</p> <p>(a) Develop and implement guidelines for the Department with respect to the promotion of compliance with customary freshwater fisheries regulations.</p> <p>(b) Develop and implement guidelines for the Department with respect to monitoring the efficacy of the customary freshwater fisheries regulations at regular intervals.</p> <p>(c) Develop and implement guidelines for the Department with respect to sharing accumulated management information and research data on customary freshwater fisheries with Te Runanga.</p>		
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	<p>5.6 Other matters The Department will work with Te Runanga at Regional and conservancy levels to provide for active participation by Te Runanga in the conservation, management and research of customary freshwater fisheries and freshwater fish habitats by:</p> <p>(a) Seeking to identify areas for cooperation in advocacy, consistent with 9 below, focusing on fish passage, minimum flows, protection of riparian vegetation and habitats, water quality improvement and in the restoration, rehabilitation or enhancement of customary freshwater fisheries and their freshwater habitats.</p> <p>(b) Consulting with Te Runanga in developing or contributing to research programmes that aim to improve the understanding of the biology of customary freshwater fisheries and their environmental and habitat requirements. The Department confirms that it regards Te Runanga as a possible science provider or collaborator for research projects funded or promoted by the Department in the same manner as other potential providers or collaborators.</p> <p>5.7 Specific Projects The Department will, subject to 3.2 above, work with Te Runanga to:</p> <p>(a) Conduct research to establish and address ecosystem threats to specified customary freshwater fisheries including barriers to migration, habitat loss and exotic species interaction.</p> <p>(b) Contribute to the resolution of eel management issues, in particular, the administration of the fish passage regulations in the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations, and the promotion of the installation of effective fish passes where necessary and monitoring of their effects, by participating in discussions with Te Runanga and Te Waka a Maui me ona Toka Mahi Tuna.</p> <p>(c) Identify the need for, and where necessary prepare, management plans for freshwater fisheries management.</p>		
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	<p>[Deed of Settlement] Attachment 12.147: Protocol</p> <p>7 HISTORIC RESOURCES</p> <p>7.1 The Minister acknowledges the importance to Ngai Tahu of their wahi tapu, wahi taonga and other places of historic significance to them. Liaison with Te Runanga is important in the management of those places containing sites of historic and cultural significance to Ngai Tahu, including places of settlement, horticulture, natural resource harvesting, warfare, communication, and places of cultural and spiritual connection.</p> <p>7.2 The Department notes that non-disclosure of locations of places known to Ngai Tahu is a practice used by Ngai Tahu to preserve the sanctity of a place. Respecting the principle of confidentiality brings management difficulties of a particular kind. Where information is not available, management practices which (unintentionally) contravene the cultural purpose associated with a specific site, may be put in place. Where reasonably practicable, the Department will respect the principle of confidentiality that applies to wahi tapu, wahi taonga and places of historic significance to Ngai Tahu. The primary responsibility for identifying and assessing Ngai Tahu heritage values rests with Te Runanga.</p> <p>7.3 The Department will work with Te Runanga at Regional and conservancy levels to:</p> <p>(a) Ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, that Ngai Tahu values attaching to identified wahi tapu, wahi taonga and places of historic significance to Ngai Tahu managed by the Department are respected by the Department, for example, by the Department giving consideration to impacts from visitor numbers, facilities and services.</p> <p>(b) Manage, as far as reasonably practicable, wahi tapu, wahi taonga and places of historic significance to Ngai Tahu according to the standards of conservation practice outlined in the ICOMOS New Zealand Charter 1993.</p>	<p>[DOS: Attachment 12.147 Form of Protocols] (pages 807-818 of PDF)</p>	<p>DOC GIS shows several nearby historic heritage sites to the project study area. While in this instance the project study area is not directly within Public Conservation Land, it is adjacent to the Bendigo Historic Reserve, which contains many important cultural sites. The Department should consider the potential impacts of the Proposal to these sites.</p>
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	<p>(c) Ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, that when issuing concessions giving authority for other parties to manage land administered by the Department, those parties manage the land according to the standards of conservation practice outlined in the ICOMOS New Zealand Charter 1993.</p> <p>(d) Have particular regard to relevant Te Runanga policies, including those relating to Koiwi Tangata (unidentified human remains) and Archaeological and Rock Art Sites.</p> <p>(e) Ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, that it uses Ngai Tahu's cultural information only with the consent of Te Runanga.</p> <p>(f) When issuing concessions to carry out activities on the land administered by the Department, request that the concessionaire consult with Te Runanga before using Ngai Tahu's cultural information.</p> <p>7.4 Specific Projects The Department will, subject to 3.2 above, work with Te Runanga at Regional and conservancy levels to:</p> <p>(a) Develop and implement guidelines for the identification, inventory and management of wahi tapu, wahi taonga and other places of historic traditional uses and practices of Ngai Tahu and are, where reasonably practicable, consistent with Ngai Tahu tikanga.</p> <p>(b) Identify and actively protect specified wahi tapu, wahi taonga or other places of historic significance to Ngai Tahu on land administered by the Department.</p> <p>(c) Develop and implement guidelines for the active protection of wahi tapu, wahi taonga and other places of historic significance to Ngai Tahu.</p> <p>(d) Identify cooperative projects covering a range of options for the protection and management of wahi tapu, wahi taonga and other places of historic significance to Ngai Tahu.</p>		
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	<p>(e) Develop and implement guidelines relating to the use of Ngai Tahu's knowledge of wahi tapu, wahi taonga and other places of historic significance of Ngai Tahu, including the use of this information by the Department.</p> <p>(f) Consult with and seek participation from Te Runanga with respect to research, survey or inventory projects that relate specifically to wahi tapu, wahi taonga and other places of historic significance to them.</p>		
	<p>[Deed of Settlement] Attachment 12.147: Protocol</p> <p>9 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT</p> <p>9.1 Te Runanga and the Department both have concerns with the effects of activities controlled and managed under the Resource Management Act. These include effects on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wetlands; • riparian management; • effects on freshwater fish habitat; • water quality management; • protection of historic resources; • protection of indigenous vegetation and habitats. <p>9.2 From time to time, Te Runanga and the Department will seek to identify further issues of mutual interest for discussion. It is recognised that their concerns in any particular resource management issue may diverge and that each of them will continue to make separate submissions.</p> <p>9.3 The Department will work with Te Runanga at Regional and conservancy levels to discuss the general approach that will be taken by each of Te Runanga and the Department in respect of advocacy under the Resource Management Act, and seek to identify their respective priorities and issues of mutual concern.</p> <p>9.4 The Department will:</p>	<p>[DOS: Attachment 12.147 Form of Protocols] (pages 807-818 of PDF)</p>	<p>The Department should consider the identified issues when making comments on the proposal and should consult with Te Runanga in regards to the Proposal.</p>

	<p>(a) Have regard to the priorities and issues of mutual concern identified in 9.3(a) above in making decisions in respect of advocacy under the Resource Management Act.</p> <p>(b) Make non-confidential resource information available to Te Runanga to assist in improving their effectiveness in Resource Management Act advocacy work at the Papatipu Runanga level.</p>		
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Released under the Official Information Act

B. Conservation-related interests identified in enacted Treaty settlements:

Instructions: Please duplicate the table below for each relevant Treaty settlement.

Treaty settlement:	Conservation-related interests:	Source:	Relevance to project:
Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998	Taonga Species	[DOS: Attachment 12.148 Taonga Species] (pages 819-826 of PDF) Ngāi Tahu Deed of Settlement - Section 12 Mahinga kai general 21 Nov 1997	The Applicant does not appear to have provided an ecological assessment from which to identify any taonga species that may be affected, but the Act has an extensive list of species to be protected. The Department should seek to identify any Taonga Species that may be affected and pay particular attention to the impacts on these species.
	Customary fisheries	[DOS: Attachment 12.149 Customary Fisheries] (pages 827-828 of PDF) Ngāi Tahu Deed of Settlement - Section 12 Mahinga kai general 21 Nov 1997	As above, there does not appear to be an ecological assessment provided for the Proposal that has identified any customary fisheries species that may be impacted, but the Act provides a list of species that should be protected. The Department should pay special attention to any potential impacts on the listed species.
	Historic Resources See Clause 7 in Table A	[DOS: Attachment 12.147 Form of Protocols] (pages 807-818 of PDF)	See Clause 7 in Table A

C. Relevant Statutory planning documents:

Instructions: Please add additional rows for each relevant Statutory planning document and/or Treaty settlement.

Treaty settlement:	Statutory planning document:	Treaty settlement entity involvement:	Section 51(2)(a) Report:
Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998	Otago Conservation Management Strategy 2016	Co-authorship primarily for the Treaty relevant sections such as 1.4 and Ngāi Tahu information in the Places sections of the CMS Also gives effect to sections 109, 232, 241 – 243, 284 & 293 NTCSA	MUST be included in the report

D. Relevant Treaty settlements under negotiation and DOC obligations:

Instructions: Please duplicate the table below for each relevant Treaty settlement.

Treaty settlement:	Potential DOC obligation:	Source:	Relevance to project:	Negotiation Status:
No relevant under negotiation treaty settlements				

Released under the Official Information Act

E. Other comments on Treaty-related matters:

Instructions: Please duplicate the table below for each relevant Treaty partner.

This table is intended to any cover other Treaty-related matters and considerations that were not addressed above. This may include but is not limited to:

- Information received from previous Treaty partner engagement on the proposed activity, and/or activities at the proposed location. This could be received under DOC’s BAU and/or as part of our engagement on a Fast-track application,
- Trigger documents that state when and how DOC will engage with a Treaty partner on permission applications (if not developed under a Treaty settlement mechanism), and,
- Other Māori groups with interests in the project.

Treaty partner:	Comments:	Source document/s:
	<p>While it appears as though the project study area does not directly include any public conservation land it is nearby the following public conservation land sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bendigo Historic Reserve• Bendigo Scenic Reserve• Bendigo Conservation Area• Ardgour Conservation Area• Neinei kura Conservation Area• Dry Creek Conservation Area• Ardgour Road/Lindis River• Lower Lindis Conservation Area• Clutha River Islands Conservation Area• Clutha River/South Lindis Conservation Area• Lauder Basin Conservation Area• Omako Historic Reserve• Lindis River Marginal Strip• Rutherfords Conservation Area	
	<p>While likely not directly affected by the Proposal, the following may be relevant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Statutory Acknowledgement – Te Wairere (Lake Dunstan) -- Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998• Deed of Recognition – Te Wairere (Lake Dunstan) -- Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998• Right of First Refusal -- Ngāi Tahu• Deed of Recognition – Mata-au (Clutha River) -- Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998• Statutory Acknowledgement – Mata-au (Clutha River) -- Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998• Protocol Area -- Ngāi Tahu	

Fast-track Project Team

Project- Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project

Applicant - Matakanui Gold Limited
(Santana Minerals Limited)



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

**Te Kāwanatanga
o Aotearoa**
New Zealand Government



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Purpose of this meeting

- Establish project team – introductions
- Provide project overview
 - Proposal
 - Project history
- Provide Fast-track context
- Discuss roles and responsibilities
- Provide an overview of where to find project information

Overview of the project

Proposal - To establish, operate, and remediate an open pit and underground gold mine.

OGP comprises a new gold mine, ancillary facilities and environmental mitigation measures. The BOGP involves mining the identified gold deposits at Rise and Shine ("RAS"), Come in Time ("CIT") and Srex ("SRX"). The resources will be mined by open pit methods at each location identified above, with underground mining methods also proposed to be utilised at RAS. The majority of the mining activities, ancillary facilities and associated infrastructure will be located in Shepherds Valley, with an additional general and administration area located on the adjoining Ardour Terraces area.

Location - On Bendigo and Ardour stations in the Dunstan Mountains of Central Otago. Approximately 20km north of Cromwell.

Triage – DOC has triaged as 'high' priority project

Approvals sought

- Concessions under the Conservation Act 1986
- s9(2)(ba)(i)
- Wildlife Approval under the Wildlife Act
- Specific Permissions under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983
- Access arrangements under the Crown Minerals Act 1991

Proposal interacts with PCL and private land subject to a covenant which places onus on conservation and heritage values – MOC approval for activities



Project status

- Applicant engaging in pre-lodgement consultation – applicant has provided reports as they have become available – we do not have any specific ecological reports to date but have now received heritage reports [Technical Report Summary - Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project.docx](#)
- Applicant previously advised they were seeking to lodge end of June – this timeframe was amended recently and now there is no new intended lodgement date socialise.
- DOC has been engaging with applicants on BAU application and intends to provide feedback where appropriate on the reports/assessments received
 - DOC has requested to review any draft application documents for Approvals
 - DOC wants to feedback on proposed compensation, mitigations and conditions as appropriate
 - DOC wants to identify any potential oversight in the application to help inform approvals they may need to consider
 - Review of proposal information to date and outline critical issues/concerns/opportunities ?

Concessions

s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(i)

Conservation Covenant

s9(2)(b)(ii)

s9(2)(g)(i)

Wildlife Act

s9(2)(ba)(i)

s9(2)(ba)(i)

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Freshwater Fisheries Approvals/Regulations

- No native fish were recorded in applicants baseline water assessments

s9(2)(ba)(i)

- DOC may feel the applicant has not correctly identified the potential species and that the applicant will need an approval

Applicants summary of ecological effects

s9(2)(ba)(i)

Other information

- There are a number of historical applications for permissions from this applicant in relation to the site (exploration permits)
- s9(2)(b)(ii)
- Level of priority from regional team is high. This is due to very high historic heritage values present at the site. Biodiversity levels are lower but not insignificant.
- Potential considerations of cumulative effects given subdivision related to the same covenant
- Potential for MOC to comment on this application.
- It was also noted that information around discovery to date regional ops – no discovery

District Office

Fast track project team (Marie – lead – Emma/Sally – support)			
Key tasks - Project management - Tasking output focused - FT overview - Collating DOC information and advice from all experts below for EPA/Panel			
Permissions	Legal	RMA	BHV
Advisors	Primary contact?	Planner	Specialist Tech
Concessions /Access arrangements – Carl Wildlife – TBC Freshwater fisheries – TBC	Pene/Malcolm/Keri	Liz Williams (potential support from Sally Clarkson FT)	Heritage – Matt Schmidt Richard Ewans – botanical values threatened plant species, lizards and Invertebrates Birds – TBC dependant on species Freshwater Fisheries – TBC? Gaps?
Key Tasks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-lodgement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of application documents pre-lodgement – including information provision/conditions/ technical Issues Supporting engagement with applicant Identifying existing applications and concessions/wildlife authorities that could interact with proposal Completeness - Assisting in identifying information in relation to FTAA schedule requirements (working directly with district and technical advisors) Competing applications – identifying Reports – Section 51 Report Drafting Assisting with further requests for information as required 	Key Tasks <p>Providing legal advice and review to support the project as it progresses via advisors and project lead</p>	Key Tasks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-lodgement - Identifying issues opportunities in relation to AEE and proposal, review of any proposed conditions Reports – Section 53 provision of information and draft comments 	Key Tasks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting permissions and RMA with tech advise Review of technical documents and provision of advice <p>All stages</p>

Other considerations

- Any potential conflicts of interest?
- High interest application
- Public interest – OIA/Ministerial – will form key messages
- Cost recovery – please enter time in the FT work flow – FT can provide training and support as required

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Next steps

- FT project team to Provide relevant reports for review with Guidance
- Background analysis – identify critical issues and risks – BHV and permissions
- FT – update project team as we progress