

15 May 2025

Whare Kaupapa Atawhai /
Conservation House
18 Manners Street
Wellington 6011

doc.govt.nz

Ref: OIAD-5135

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 15 April 2025, in which you asked for:

"I have been informed by HDC that your department has issued OGM with either licenses, permits, consents relating to their proposed North Project.

"OceanaGold also hold a range of other licences, permits and consents issued by New Zealand Petroleum and Minerals, the Department of Conservation and the Waikato Regional Council. Hauraki District Council has also granted OceanaGold a Licence to Occupy the unformed road reserve for specific purposes."

Could you please provide me a copy of any you have issued?"

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA).
On 23 April 2025 you clarified your request advising:

"I wish to know what leases etc. DOC has given Oceana Gold over the land for access etc. for their future North Project, please. Plus maps identifying this land. Plus what you have permitted the land to be used for."

The Waihi North Project is a Fast Track application currently being assessed by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). Given this, the Department has not made any decisions related to that project. I regret that I am not able to provide you with the information you seek because the information does not exist. I am therefore refusing your request under section 18(e) of the OIA.

We can, however, provide a list of the permissions the Department has granted to OceanaGold Limited (OGL). This information is provided in the table in **Appendix 1**, below.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review of my decision by writing to an Ombudsman as provided by section 28(3) of the OIA.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) may be published on DOC's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Anita Murrell
Principal Advisor, Regulatory Authorisations
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Appendix 1

Table Oceana Gold Limited Permissions approved since 2014.

Permissions ref	Date applied for	Date approved	Description	Term	Area	Current Status
97859-FAU	19/07/2022	22/07/22	Wildlife Act application to undertake fauna surveys for native lizards and frogs and salvage within Access Arrangement (AA) Area	4 years – 21 May 2027 subject to valid AA in place	0.1350ha disturbance across 428.44ha.	Active
101993-OTH	8/09/2022	5/07/2024	Undertake baseline monitoring in Wharekirauponga catchment, including installing 24 new piezometers at 12 locations (2 holes at each location) in addition to the 6 piezometers installed under 87585-OTH.	10 years - 4/07/2034	0.2112ha	Active
102031-RES	14/09/2022	15/05/2023	Survey of Archey's and Hochstetter's frog to determine presence and distribution. Coromandel Forest Park, Tairua Forest Conservation Area, Whangapoua Forest Conservation Area, Conservation Are – Whangapoua Forest (Tokatea)	5 years - 14/05/2028	Conservation Areas within description	Active
48614-AA	18/12/2015	2/12/2016	Exploration drilling at 9 sites in the Wharekirauponga and Waiharakeke catchments	Expiry of EP 40598 – then 21/05/17	0.1350ha disturbance across 428.44ha.	Active (varied)

48614-AA-V1	28/08/19	17/08/2020	Exploration drilling at 9 sites in the Wharekirauponga and Waiharakeke catchments – Variation to reflect permit change and update conditions	21/05/2021	Within 48614-AA area	Active (varied)
48614-AA-V2	20/10/2020	7/05/2021	Exploration drilling at 9 sites in the Wharekirauponga and Waiharakeke catchments – Variation to extend term and undertake MIA activities	1 year - 21/05/2022	Within 48614-AA area	Active (varied)
48614-AA-V3	01/03/2022	20/05/2022	Exploration drilling at 9 sites - variation to extend term by 5 years.	5 years - 21/05/2027	Within 48614-AA area	Active (varied)
48614-AA-V4	3/10/2022	12/05/2023	AA - Variation to permit concurrent use of 3rd Drill Rig - Exploration drilling at 9 sites in the Wharekirauponga and Waiharakeke catchments	3 years - 21/05/2027	Within 48614-AA area	Active
48614-AA-V4-AEO2	23/11/2023	15/03/2024	Amendment to Annual Work programme Authority to Enter and Operate 17 March 2024 – 17 December 2024	9 months - 17/12/2024	Within 48614-AA area	Active
62342-AA	18/09/2017	17/01/2018	Access Arrangement for two sections of public conservation land that are part of Martha open pit, Waihi. MP 41808. Waihi Conservation Aeta and Community Buildings Local Purpose Reserve	21/03/2029	Existing Waihi Martha Mine pit and carpark.	Active

62342-AA-AEO1	08/11/2017	17/01/2018	Authority to Enter and operate 17/01/2018 – 29/03/2029	29/03/2029	Existing Waihi Martha Mine pit and carpark.	Active
87585-OTH	15/06/2020	Variation approved 13/04/2021	Extension of term for 75273-OTH and 70763-OTH. 6 piezometer sites to undertake baseline monitoring - Extension of term of existing metrological site, rain gauge and dust monitoring, Flow gauging within rivers within the catchment, Drilling and Bird and fauna survey. Variation reduced piezometers holes to 3 at approved sites and added additional site to helipad.	14/12/2025	Part Coromandel State Forest Park	Active
88890-FAU	13/08/2020	29/10/2020	Wildlife Act Authority to survey for native frogs to identify locations that contain low densities of frogs for potential new sites for drilling or future surface infrastructure on PCL in the areas between WKP and Golden Cross, and between WKP and Waihi.	3 years - 8/11/2023	Part Coromandel State Forest Park	Active
91248-MIA	16/09/2020	21/12/2020	Minimum Impact Authority for gold and silver in Coromandel Forest Park, MP 60541	5 years - 10/01/2026	1,894.28 ha Part Coromandel State Forest Park	Surrendered – replaced by 117829-MIA

97859-FAU	21/01/2022	5/08/2022 Variation 25/09/2023	Wildlife Act application to undertake fauna surveys for native lizards and frogs and salvage. Variation is replacement authority	5 years - 21/05/2027	Coromandel Forest Park. Within AA area	Active
117829-MIA	25/07/2024	1/10/2024	Minimum Impact Authority (MIA) for expanded mineral permit area MP60541.	5 years - 30/09/2029	1,894.28ha Coromandel Forest Park	Active
114932-FAU	14/02/2024	5/11/2024	Lizard and frog surveying in the Coromandel Forest Park to investigate potential vent shaft sites for the Waihi North Project. Public Conservation Land (for liberating wildlife and pest control activities only): Coromandel State Forest Park Other land (for catching, liberating and incidentally killing wildlife) Privately owned unformed road traversing the Coromandel State Forest Park	5 years - 4/11/2029	Coromandel State Forest Park	Approved
117761-OTH	9/07/2024	1/2/2025	5m wide easement for a trench to convey various services (ROW, water, electricity, telecommunications and drain water) for Willows Surface Facilities Area.	30 years - 31/1/2055	321m ² Ohinemuri River Fixed marginal strip.	Approved