

From: Matt Schmidt
Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 12:08 pm
To: Marie Burton
Cc: Emma Fahey; Sally Clarkson
Subject: RE: Bendigo-Ophir heritage

Roger that.

Technical expert assessment for heritage uploaded.



Dr Matthew Schmidt
Senior Heritage Advisor | Kaitohu Matua Taonga Tuku Iho
Department of Conservation | Te Papa Atawhai
Ōtepoti | Dunedin Office, Level 1, John Wickliffe House, 265 Princes Street, Dunedin
s9(2)(a) | Email mschmidt@doc.govt.nz | doc.govt.nz

Our vision is for New Zealand to be the greatest living space on Earth | Kāore he wāhi i tua atu i a Aotearoa, hei wahi noho i te ao



International Correspondent for the Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO

From: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:29 am
To: Matt Schmidt <mschmidt@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: Emma Fahey <efahey@doc.govt.nz>; Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Bendigo-Ophir heritage

Thanks Matt, I heard back from Tim and it is Cat Wilson who will make decisions on the use of externals for Heritage. On this front as I progress the request with her it may be good to check in with Raewyn and give her a heads up.

Kind regards,

Marie

Marie Payne
Senior Advisor Fast Track Applications
Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington

s9(2)(a)



Department of Conservation *Te Papa Atawhai*

From: Matt Schmidt <mschmidt@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 10:37 am
To: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: Emma Fahey <efahey@doc.govt.nz>; Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Bendigo-Ophir heritage

I am around today until about 2.30pm if you want to call.



Dr Matthew Schmidt
Senior Heritage Advisor | Kaitohu Matua Taonga Tuku Iho
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International Correspondent for the Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO

From: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 21 August 2025 5:56 pm
To: Matt Schmidt <mschmidt@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: Emma Fahey <efahey@doc.govt.nz>; Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Bendigo-Ophir heritage

Thanks Matt,

I will take the points below to the request, it would be good to have a call if you have time tomorrow. **Not in scope**

s9(2)(g)(i)

s9(2)(g)(i)

Kind regards,

Marie Payne

Senior Advisor Fast Track Applications
Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington

s9(2)(a)



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

From: Matt Schmidt <mschmidt@doc.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, 21 August 2025 4:32 pm

To: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>

Cc: Emma Fahey <efahey@doc.govt.nz>; Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Bendigo-Ophir heritage

Kia ora Marie

Expertise from an independent expert with a thorough knowledge of the Otago goldmining landscape and history.

I have finished reading the assessments and am currently writing up my notes. s9(2)(g)(i), s9(2)(b)(ii)

I would contract s9(2)(a) as the external heritage expert. He s9(2)(a) and knows very well the wider heritage gold mining landscape and how it has changed. s9(2)(a)

Na

Matt



Dr Matthew Schmidt
Senior Heritage Advisor | Kaitohu Matua Taonga Tuku Iho
Department of Conservation | Te Papa Atawhai
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International Correspondent for the Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO

From: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 21 August 2025 1:23 pm
To: Matt Schmidt <mschmidt@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: Emma Fahey <efahey@doc.govt.nz>; Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Bendigo-Ophir heritage

Hey Matt,

Just following on from Sally's email below:

- I am in the process of requesting the resource – which goes through BHV – but might need a bit more detail on this front Matt i.e. the rationale for the request to outsource is it capacity/expertise or both? How would you see yourself working alongside?

- s9(2)(g)(i)

If you have some time to call please do.

Kind regards,

Marie

Marie Payne
Senior Advisor Fast Track Applications
Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington

s9(2)(a)



Department of Conservation *Te Papa Atawhai*

From: Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, 19 August 2025 12:45 pm

To: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>; Emma Fahey <efahey@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: Bendigo-Ophir heritage

Hi Marie & Emma

I was just speaking to Matt Schmidt who is down to provide heritage advice for Bendigo. He has started looking at the various heritage reports s9(2)(g)(i)

His thoughts are that DOC should engage an external contractor to review the heritage reports for the application. He suggested s9(2)(a) who is very experienced in this particular field.

s9(2)(g)(i)

Matt also suggested we bring Meg Embleton-Muir, the Senior Visitor Advisor, onto the team to assess the recreation aspects. Emma had contacted the Rec Manager for a suitable resource but hadn't heard back so far.

Sally

Sally Clarkson

Senior Planner Fast Track Applications

Whare Kaupapa Atawhai | Conservation House

18 Manners Street

Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington

Please note: My work days are Mondays and Tuesdays



Department of
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Te Papa Atawhai

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From: Tracey Grose
Sent: Thursday, 21 August 2025 3:58 pm
To: Charlie Sklenar; John Roberts; Kathryn Longstaff
Subject: ODT article - Bendigo/Santana

<https://www.odt.co.nz/regions/central-otago/blasting-massive-hole-conservation-area-not-done-thing>

Regards Tracey

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

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From: Richard Ewans
Sent: Tuesday, 19 August 2025 3:52 pm
To: Sally Clarkson; DLVC_FIELDLAB - MAX M L CROWE; Oliver Overdyck
Cc: Marie Burton; Emma Fahey
Subject: RE: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project - fast track pre-lodgement consultation

Thanks Sally, much appreciated 😊

From: Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 19 August 2025 3:42 pm
To: Richard Ewans <rewans@doc.govt.nz>; DLVC_FIELDLAB - MAX M L CROWE s9(2)(a); Oliver Overdyck <ooverdyck@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>; Emma Fahey <efahey@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project - fast track pre-lodgement consultation

Kia ora Richard,

Thanks for your email and the updates. I have amended the links in the below email so hopefully Max will be able to access the documents. Let me know if you encounter any issues.

The Technical Summary Report (linked below) contains links to the actual reports DOC has received thus far and I will need to check how Max can access those. I will keep Max updated on progress.

Regards
Sally

From: Richard Ewans <rewans@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 19 August 2025 3:04 pm
To: Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>; DLVC_FIELDLAB - MAX M L CROWE s9(2)(a); Oliver Overdyck <ooverdyck@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project - fast track pre-lodgement consultation

Kia ora Sally,

My apologies for the late response to your email.

My team has arranged for a consultant to support DOCs terrestrial ecosystem and botanical comments on this project: Max Crowe from FieldLab.

He will essentially be providing the comments for me. I will be available to support him and liaise with everyone as needed.

Could you please arrange for him to access all the documents below as soon as possible and include him in all correspondence.

Thank you for the summary of reports provided as pre-lodgement consultation which is very helpful.

We have limited hours s9(2)(a) for pre-lodgement comments so these would have to be high level and I'm unsure if he can meet 26 August date at this stage.

Ideally, we'd wait for the ecology report but appreciate that getting started is useful and that we don't know when that report is coming.
Cheers, Richard

From: Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, 12 August 2025 4:24 pm

To: Richard Ewans <rewans@doc.govt.nz>; Nicholas Dunn <ndunn@doc.govt.nz>; Carl Jones <cajones@doc.govt.nz>; Warren Chinn <wchinn@doc.govt.nz>; Darcy Liddell <dliddell@doc.govt.nz>; Liz Williams <lwilliams@doc.govt.nz>; Matt Schmidt <mschmidt@doc.govt.nz>; Rogan Colbourne <rcolbourne@doc.govt.nz>; Mandy Tocher <Mandy.Tocher@wildlands.co.nz>

Cc: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>; Emma Fahey <efahey@doc.govt.nz>; Pene Williams <pwilliams@doc.govt.nz>; John Roberts <jroberts@doc.govt.nz>; Pauline Marshall <pamarshall@doc.govt.nz>; Clare Fleming <cfleming@doc.govt.nz>; Debbie Lewis <delewis@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project - fast track pre-lodgement consultation

Kia ora everyone

As you are aware, and following our project initiation meetings, Santana Minerals Ltd are looking to apply for approval under the Fast Track Approvals Act to mine gold deposits on Bendigo and Ardour Stations.

Summary of technical reports:

As part of pre-lodgement consultation, Santana have now shared a series of technical reports with DOC. We are anticipating more reports to come which will have a significant conservation focus – relating mainly to ecology (habitat, avifauna, lizards, terrestrial invertebrates, pest management plans etc), hydrology, contaminated land, and planning. For your reference, a list of all reports that Santana have commissioned (and we are expecting to receive as part of pre-lodgement consultation) are included in the Register of Technical Reports saved here: [Register of Technical Reports - Bendigo-Ophir updated 11.8.25.xlsx](#). The reports in red font are the reports DOC is yet to receive.

As DOC has now received a number of the reports, we would like to get you underway with reviewing the reports and providing comment in your respective areas of expertise. As a starting point, I have been through the technical reports that have been shared and have compiled a summary. It is saved here: [Technical Report Summary - Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project.docx](#)

The summary document provides a brief scope for each report, potential effects, any mitigations included, where DOC's interest is expected to sit and who at DOC may be best placed to provide comment. Please feel free to add notes (and tag your name) if you have comments to add or believe we haven't identified the relevant expertise or commenting on this issue may not be a primary focus for DOC.

It would be appreciated if you could please review the reports relevant to your area of expertise (the summary includes who we believe the relevant expert is, as well as

links to the reports) and provide the following:

- An assessment relating to the conservation values affected
- Key findings, summary, conclusions and critical issues
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- Any critical information gaps (taking into account the other reports we are anticipating will be provided, where possible).

Once complete please save your comments/assessments here: [Technical Experts Assessments](#)

GIS shape files:

Santana has also provided GIS shape files for a series of things including the project footprint, concessions areas etc. These can be found here: [GIS shape files](#).

The files can be assessed and viewed via DOC's GIS. Let me know if you need any help with this. You can use these shape files to help inform your analysis and research. If technical reports aren't yet available for your area of expertise and undertaking some background analysis will help inform your future commentary, please progress with some initial background research.

If possible, we would love to have your summaries in two weeks time, by 26th August, but do let me know if there are any issues with meeting this date (I can see that Matt is away until then).

Please record your time spent on these tasks in the Workflow tool and cap the time spent to 10 hours each (if a technical report is not yet available for your review, please limit background research to 4 hours). If more time is needed, please let Marie or I know before proceeding. s9(2)(g)(i)

If you have any questions or have trouble with any links etc please let me know. It was also previously suggested some technical subgroups maybe helpful – if you would like us to progress with establishing these also get in touch. This is all new territory so happy to move and pivot to ensure DOC is well placed to provide feedback on this proposal and prepare for the lodgement of the application.

Thanks
Sally

Sally Clarkson

Senior Planner Fast Track Applications
Whare Kaupapa Atawhai | Conservation House
18 Manners Street
Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington

Please note: My work days are Mondays and Tuesdays



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From: John Roberts
Sent: Monday, 18 August 2025 5:48 pm
To: Sally Clarkson; Pene Williams; Marie Payne
Subject: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project - fast track pre-lodgement consultation

Hi Sally/Marie/Pene

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

s9(2)(g)(i)

s9(2)(g)(i)

s9(2)(b)(iii), s9(2)(g)(i)

s9(2)(g)(i)

JR

From: Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, 12 August 2025 4:24 pm

To: Richard Ewans <rewans@doc.govt.nz>; Nicholas Dunn <ndunn@doc.govt.nz>; Carl Jones <cajones@doc.govt.nz>; Warren Chinn <wchinn@doc.govt.nz>; Darcy Liddell <dliddell@doc.govt.nz>; Liz Williams <lwilliams@doc.govt.nz>; Matt Schmidt <mschmidt@doc.govt.nz>; Rogan Colbourne <rcolbourne@doc.govt.nz>; Mandy Tocher <Mandy.Tocher@wildlands.co.nz>

Cc: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>; Emma Fahey <efahey@doc.govt.nz>; Pene Williams <pwilliams@doc.govt.nz>; John Roberts <jroberts@doc.govt.nz>; Pauline Marshall <pamarshall@doc.govt.nz>; Clare Fleming <cfleming@doc.govt.nz>; Debbie Lewis <delewis@doc.govt.nz>

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If you have any questions or have trouble with any links etc please let me know. It was also previously suggested some technical subgroups maybe helpful – if you would like us to progress with establishing these also get in touch. This is all new territory so happy to move and pivot to ensure DOC is well placed to provide feedback on this proposal and prepare for the lodgement of the application.

Thanks
Sally

Sally Clarkson

Senior Planner Fast Track Applications
Whare Kaupapa Atawhai | Conservation House
18 Manners Street
Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington

Please note: My work days are Mondays and Tuesdays



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

From: Sally Clarkson
Sent: Monday, 18 August 2025 9:36 am
To: Marie Burton; Emma Fahey
Subject: FW: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project - fast track pre-lodgement consultation

Hi Marie and Emma

Please see Emily's email below. Are we comfortable with collaborating with the regional council in relation to water quality? It seems that this is a usual process for DOC but just wanted to check.

Sally

From: Emily Funnell <efunnell@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 14 August 2025 11:00 am
To: Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project - fast track pre-lodgement consultation

Kia ora Sally,

I am the Freshwater Species Manager and have Nicholas in the team. He is going to cover the hydrology aspects of this case, but he isn't the right expert for the water quality aspects. We have a few options to address this; s9(2)(g)(i)

[REDACTED]

Cheers
Emily

From: Nicholas Dunn <ndunn@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 12 August 2025 4:36 pm
To: Emily Funnell <efunnell@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project - fast track pre-lodgement consultation

Hi Emily,

The reports have now been received this application. There are reports relating to aquatic ecology and surface and groundwater quantity which I can cover, however the report relating water quality is better placed with someone else, possibly Dave.

Happy to discuss

Regards

Nicholas

From: Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, 12 August 2025 16:24

To: Richard Ewans <rewans@doc.govt.nz>; Nicholas Dunn <ndunn@doc.govt.nz>; Carl Jones <cajones@doc.govt.nz>; Warren Chinn <wchinn@doc.govt.nz>; Darcy Liddell <dliddell@doc.govt.nz>; Liz Williams <lwilliams@doc.govt.nz>; Matt Schmidt <mschmidt@doc.govt.nz>; Rogan Colbourne <rcolbourne@doc.govt.nz>; Mandy Tocher <Mandy.Tocher@wildlands.co.nz>

Cc: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>; Emma Fahey <efahey@doc.govt.nz>; Pene Williams <pwilliams@doc.govt.nz>; John Roberts <jroberts@doc.govt.nz>; Pauline Marshall <pamarshall@doc.govt.nz>; Clare Fleming <cfleming@doc.govt.nz>; Debbie Lewis <delewis@doc.govt.nz>

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As at 11.08.2025

	Category	Report	Comments	Reviewed
Alliance Ecology	Ecology	Assessment of effects		
Alliance Ecology	Ecology	Introduction and overarching plan framework		
Alliance Ecology	Ecology	Habitat Impact Management Plan		
Alliance Ecology	Ecology	Avifauna Management Plan		
Alliance Ecology	Ecology	Lizard Management Plan		
Habitat NZ	Ecology	Terrestrial Invertebrate Management Plan		
Habitat NZ	Ecology	Ardgour Restoration Plan Version of 19 June 2025		
Habitat NZ	Ecology	Sanctuary Management Plan		
Habitat NZ	Ecology	Mammalian pest Management plan		
Habitat NZ	Ecology	Biosecurity & Plant Pest Mgmt Plan		
Alliance Ecology	Ecology	Biodiversity Outcome Management Plan		
Habitat NZ	Ecology	BATS HNZ_Mtakanui Bat Report UPDATED		1.7.25
Habitat NZ	Ecology	Mammalian Pest Report UPDATED		1.7.25
Habitat NZ	Ecology	Invertebrate Report UPDATED		1.7.25
RMA Ecology	Ecology	Baseline Lizards		
RMA Ecology	Ecology	Baseline Birds		
RMA Ecology	Ecology	Baseline rear plants and vegetation		
RMA Ecology	Ecology	Baseline wetlands		
Waterways Consulting	Ecology	BOGM Aquatic Assessment of Effects		1.7.25
Komanawa	Water	Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project, Bendigo Groundwater Bore Take Effects Assessment (Gw_Take_Effects_Rpt-Z24019SML-Rev3)		8.7.25
Komanawa	Water	Groundwater Modelling Analysis for Mining BOGP (Draft_hardrock_bog_report_version_2.0.0)		8.7.25
Komanawa	Water	Gw Effects Rpt Z24002Bog-1 (Final)		8.7.25
Komanawa	Water	Surface water report		8.7.25
Komanawa	Water	Hydrology Management Plan		
MWM	Geochemistry	Summary Report		
MWM	Contaminated Land	J-G- NZ005-R-Rev0 Bendigo-Ophir PSI		
Landcare Research	Closure	Applied_Research_Plan_Cushionfields and Annuals_8_Santana		6.8.25
MCM	Closure	J-NZ0454-002-R-Rev1-MCP Mine Closure Plan		8.7.25
Boffa Miskell	Landscape	Landscape, Natural Character and Visual Assessment		21.7.25
Boffa Miskell	Landscape	Closure_Plan		21.7.25
Boffa Miskell	Landscape	BM240011_VisualSimulations_R1		21.7.25
Boffa Miskell	Landscape	Mine_Mitigation Plan (Landscape)		5.8.25
Boffa Miskell	Landscape	Landscape Rehabilitation Plan		
Marshall Day	Noise	Rp 001 20230685 Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project- Assessment Of Noise & Vibration Effects		8.7.25
Marshall Day	Noise	Rp 002 20230685 Operational Noise and Blasting Management Plan		5.8.25
PDP	Air Quality	Air Quality Effects Report - Final Draft		1.7.25
PDP	Air Quality	Air Quality Management Plan		5.8.25
Lane and Associates	Bond	Matakanui Bond Introduction-c		1.7.25
Ryder Consulting	Water	WQCompliance Limits Report		5.8.25
Recreation	Recreation	Santana Minerals Bendigo-Ophir recreation assessment		8.7.25
NZHP	Heritage/archeology	J011821_BOGP HA_May 2025		7.7.25
NZHP	Heritage/archeology	J011821_AMP_Rev A 1		7.7.25
NZHP	Heritage/archeology	J012084 Camp HA May 2025		7.7.25
NZHP	Heritage/archeology	J012109 AGR April 2025		7.7.25
NZHP	Heritage/archeology	J012137 CIT Track April 2025		7.7.25
NZHP	Heritage/archeology	J012082 Emulsion Tanks 2025		7.7.25
People and Places	Economic	Economic Impacts of the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project		1.7.25
Rationale	Economic	Socio-economic Baseline Assessment		1.7.25
Landcare Research	Closure	Matakanui Mine Rehab overview and ecological values post-rehab_v7_21Jan2025		
Stantec	Traffic	Intergrated Transport Assessment - final draft		8.7.25
Stantec	Traffic	Transport Management Plan - construction		8.7.25
Aukaha	Cultural Impact Statement	BOGP Cultural Impact Statement		
Cosgroves	Lighting	CQ24020 BOGP Exterior Lighting Report RevA		8.7.25
GHD	Social Impact	Social Impact Assessment		
Mitchell Daysh	Planning		These reports have since been removed from the latest version of the Document Register	
Mitchell Daysh	Planning	BOGP Draft Fast-Track AEE Table of Contents (21 January 2025)		
Mitchell Daysh	Planning	BOGP Project Description - Tech Assessments - 19 March 25		
Mitchell Daysh	Planning	Project Description - AEE - 22 Jan 25		
Mitchell Daysh	Planning	Fast Track Application and AEE DRAFT		

Summary of reports provided by Santana Minerals as part of pre-lodgement consultation

- Santana have provided a register of the documents (assessments, technical reports etc) that are being/have been prepared in support of the substantive application.
Note: they have not provided to DOC all reports at this stage (but it sounds like they are intending to when they have been completed)
- Reports included on Document Register but not provided, to date (as of 11/08/25):
 - Ecology – numerous reports (habitat impact, lizard management plan, terrestrial invertebrate MP, avifauna MP...)
 - Water (hydrology management plan)
 - Geochemistry
 - Contaminated land
 - Landscape Rehabilitation Plan
 - Mine rehab overview and ecological values post-rehab
 - Cultural Impact Statement
 - Social Impact Statement
 - Planning – fast track application

Report title & author	Report scope / summary	Potential effects relate to	Mitigations included / recommended	DOC interest	DOC delegation	Technical expert reviewed (Y/N) Please also include link to your comments. Save here: Technical Experts Assessments
AIR QUALITY Assessment of Environmental Effects from the discharge of contaminants into air Author: Pattle Delamore Partners Ltd Date: 5 June 2025 Job ref: C051440001 Air Quality Assessment of Effects.pdf	Air quality assessment for dust and gaseous emissions	Ecological: s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) – purpose and intended content/structure (section 13, p105) – see below for AQMP which has now been completedScope & type of conditions of consent (section 14, p106) Nothing specific suggested in draft AQMP or as part of consent conditions seems to relate directly to ecological effects	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)	Vegetation – Richard Ewans	

Report title & author	Report scope / summary	Potential effects relate to	Mitigations included / recommended	DOC interest	DOC delegation	Technical expert reviewed (Y/N) Please also include link to your comments. Save here: Technical Experts Assessments
		s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)				
AIR QUALITY Air Quality Management Plan Author: Pattle Delamore Partners Ltd Date: July 2025 Rev: FINAL-R1 Air Quality Management Plan.pdf	Summary of key information on sources, mitigation and monitoring of air contaminants. Actions and measures to ensure that (proposed) conditions of consent can be met in relation to dust discharges	As noted above for Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dust / gaseous air contaminants monitoring Watering systems Meteorological monitoring 	s9(2)(g)(i)	Vegetation – Richard Ewans	
AQUATIC ECOLOGY Bendigo Ophir Gold Project: Assessment of Effects on Aquatic Ecology Author: Water Ways Consulting Date: June 2025 Report No. 38-2024A 250528 Aquatic Assessment Report Bendigo_FINAL.docx	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)				Freshwater – Nicholas Dunn	
BOND Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Bond Introduction Author: Land Associates Ltd Date: 27 May 2025 Matakanui Bond Introduction-e.pdf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matakanui expecting consent conditions that require a bond to cover cost of rehabilitation of site post-closure Outlines the process used for quantifying cost of rehabilitation of the site (& bond payable) 			Bond jointly held by ORC and CODC and perhaps DOC	Concessions permissions advisor – Carl Jones s9(2)(g)(i), s9(2)(j)	
ECOLOGY Mammalian Pest Survey Author: Habitat NZ Ltd	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)				Vegetation – Richard Ewans Invertebrates – Warren Chinn	

Report title & author	Report scope / summary	Potential effects relate to	Mitigations included / recommended	DOC interest	DOC delegation	Technical expert reviewed (Y/N) Please also include link to your comments. Save here: Technical Experts Assessments
Date: May 2025 Project No. 1801-1123 20250515 BOGP Mammalian Pest Report v001.pdf	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)					
ECOLOGY Native Bat Survey Author: Habitat NZ Ltd Date: May 2025 Project No. 1217-2401 20250515 BOGP Native Bat Survey Final v001.pdf	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Native bat survey across ESANo bats found – but occasional presence cannot be ruled out	Report concludes bats not likely to be affected by proposed mining activities and no further consideration of bats required	None – survey informs AEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Report notes that DOC records indicate long-tailed bats may be present in the immediate area of Dunstan MountainsNational Bat Database indicated single isolated long-tailed bat record 2km south of survey area. As it was close to site, it indicated that long-tailed bats could be present. However, record was removed from database due to degree of uncertainty around validity of recording. Following this, closest recording of bat activity is at least 60km from site	Darcy Liddell – would you be able to look into this please. Does it look like it may warrant a bat expert? Do we think they may actually need a permission? We can request expertise if needed. s9(2)(g)(i)	
ECOLOGY Terrestrial Invertebrate Survey Author: Habitat NZ Ltd Date: May 2025 Project No. 1801-1123 20250519 BOGP Terrestrial Invertebrate Survey Final v001.pdf	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)				Invertebrates – Warren Chinn	

Report title & author	Report scope / summary	Potential effects relate to	Mitigations included / recommended	DOC interest	DOC delegation	Technical expert reviewed (Y/N) Please also include link to your comments. Save here: Technical Experts Assessments
	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)					
ECONOMIC Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Socio-Economic Baseline Assessment Author: Rationale Ltd Date: 3 May 2024, Rev 2.0 BOGP_SE Baseline v2.0_final.pdf	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)					
ECONOMIC Economic Impacts of the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Author: Benje Patterson Date: Feb 2025, Version 5 Economic impacts of the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project FINAL (1).pdf						
HERITAGE Archaeological Management Plan (AMP) Author: NZ Heritage Properties Ltd Date: 13/5/2025, Rev A Archaeological Management Plan.pdf	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)				Heritage Advisor – Matt Schmidt	

Report title & author	Report scope / summary	Potential effects relate to	Mitigations included / recommended	DOC interest	DOC delegation	Technical expert reviewed (Y/N) Please also include link to your comments. Save here: Technical Experts Assessments
	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)					
HERITAGE Heritage Assessment Author: NZ Heritage Properties Ltd (Naomi Woods & Claire Thorrold) Date: 11/04/2025, Rev A Heritage Assessment.pdf	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)				Heritage Advisor – Matt Schmidt	
HERITAGE Heritage Assessment: Construction Camp Author: NZ Heritage Properties Ltd (Naomi Woods) Date: 13/2/2025, Rev B	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)				Heritage Advisor – Matt Schmidt	

Report title & author	Report scope / summary	Potential effects relate to	Mitigations included / recommended	DOC interest	DOC delegation	Technical expert reviewed (Y/N) Please also include link to your comments. Save here: Technical Experts Assessments
Heritage Assessment.pdf	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)					
HERITAGE Magazine and Emulsion Tank (short report) Author: NZ Heritage Properties Ltd (Naomi Woods) Date: 28/03/2025 Magazine and Emulsion Tanks.pdf	Identify the presence and nature of any heritage sites within proposed location of magazine and emulsion tank (desktop assessment)	No previously recorded archaeological sites present	3x recommendations made p2	N/A – no sites present however may wish to review report to ensure agreement with conclusions reached	Heritage Advisor – Matt Schmidt	
HERITAGE Ardgour Rise Realignment (short report) Author: NZ Heritage Properties Ltd (Naomi Woods) Date: 17/04/2025 Ardgour Rise Realignment.pdf	Identify the presence and nature of any heritage sites within Ardgour Rise road realignment (desktop assessment)	No previously recorded archaeological sites present	3x recommendations made p2-3	No sites present however may wish to review report to ensure agreement with conclusions reached	Heritage Advisor – Matt Schmidt	
HERITAGE Come-in-Time CIT Battery Access Track (short report) Author: Claire Thorrold Date 17/04/2025	Identify the presence and nature of any heritage sites within the CIT battery access track area (desktop assessment)	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)	3x recommendations made p4-5	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)	Heritage Advisor – Matt Schmidt	
CLOSURE Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Mine Closure Plan Author: Mine Closure Management PTY Ltd Date: 5 June 2025 Ref: J-NZ0454-002-R-Rev1 Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Mine Closure Plan.pdf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describes strategies to be implemented to manage closure risks and to meet proposed closure outcomes Closure outcomes include cultural heritage, revegetation, hydrology, hydrogeology (pit lakes) ... Post-mine land use (PMLU) = to return majority of land to pastoralism with areas of ecological uplift in line with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closure of mine and how impacts will be minimised, landform remediated etc 	Suggested conditions of consent included – section 3.2, p24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> revegetation of native species where appropriate PMLU will be developed in consultation with landowners, regulatory bodies etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closure outcomes summary p5-6. Also refer to table 7, p38 DOC identified as stakeholder relevant to closure planning (section 4.1, p27) Rehabilitation management (landform surface treatment, seed management, planting) 	Carl? Concessions/Legal? Richard Ewans – revegetation elements Matt Schmidt – heritage elements Nicholas Dunn – freshwater	

Report title & author	Report scope / summary	Potential effects relate to	Mitigations included / recommended	DOC interest	DOC delegation	Technical expert reviewed (Y/N) Please also include link to your comments. Save here: Technical Experts Assessments
	current surrounding and underlying land use			strategies, fauna habitats) section 9.6, p55 <ul style="list-style-type: none">C.3.6 fauna, p131		
LIGHTING Exterior Lighting Report Author: Cosgroves Date: 15/05/2025 Ref: CQ24020, Rev C CQ24020 BOGP Exterior Lighting Report Rev C FINAL.pdf	Expected effects and mitigation of exterior lighting			TBC	May be relevant in relation to birds (and bats?). Birds – Rogan Colbourne.	
NOISE Assessment of Noise and Vibration Effects Author: Marshall Day Acoustics Date: 13 May 2025 Ref: Rp 001 R02 20230685 Assessment Of Noise & Vibration Effects FINAL.pdf	Assessment of operational noise and vibration	Noise and vibration	Consent conditions (noise limits, management plan etc)	TBC	As above. Unsure if noise effects would be relevant to avifauna. Birds – Rogan Colbourne.	
NOISE Noise and Vibration Management Plan Author: Marshall Day Acoustics Date: 27 June 2025 Rev: R02 Noise and Vibration Management Plan.pdf	Outlines strategies and procedures to manage and mitigate noise and vibration	Noise and vibration		TBC	As above. Unsure if noise effects would be relevant to avifauna. Birds – Rogan Colbourne.	
RECREATION Recreation Assessment Author: Rob Greenaway & Associates Date: June 2024 Matakanui Bendigo-Ophir recreation assessment Final 12 June 2025.pdf	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)					

Report title & author	Report scope / summary	Potential effects relate to	Mitigations included / recommended	DOC interest	DOC delegation	Technical expert reviewed (Y/N) Please also include link to your comments. Save here: Technical Experts Assessments
	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)					
TRAFFIC Integrated Transport Assessment (ITA) Author: Stantec Date: 13 May 2025 Project/file: 310206156 Integrated Transport Assessment.pdf	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)					
TRAFFIC Access Road Construction Traffic Management Plan (TMP) Author: Matakanui Gold Limited Date: 23.05.2025, Rev 1 Integrated Transport Assessment.pdf	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(ba)(ii)					
GROUNDWATER Groundwater Existing Environment & Effects Assessment Author: Kōmanawa Solutions Ltd Date: 30.04.2025 Report No. Z24002BOG-1	Assessment of effects on groundwater (abstraction, diversion, use and return)	Groundwater		Would DOC be interested in impacts on groundwater? Report describes aquatic ecology & wetlands, but info has come from another report (Assessment of Effects on Aquatic Ecology, Water Ways Consulting)	Nicholas Dunn – is DOC interested in commenting on groundwater effects?	

Report title & author	Report scope / summary	Potential effects relate to	Mitigations included / recommended	DOC interest	DOC delegation	Technical expert reviewed (Y/N) Please also include link to your comments. Save here: Technical Experts Assessments
Groundwater - existing environment & effects assessment.pdf						
GROUNDWATER Groundwater Bore Take Effects Assessment Author: Kōmanawa Solutions Ltd Date: 30.04.2025 Report No. Z24019SML-3 Groundwater - bore take effects assessment.pdf	Assessment of effects on mine bore water supply	Groundwater		Would DOC be interested in impacts on groundwater?	As above.	
GROUNDWATER Groundwater Modelling Analysis for Mining Bendigo-Ophir Deposit Author: Kōmanawa Solutions Ltd Date: 12.05.2025, version 2.0.1 Groundwater modelling analysis.pdf	Modelling results			Not relevant		
SURFACE WATER Surface Water & Catchment Existing Environment & Effects Assessment Author: Kōmanawa Solutions Ltd Date: 15/05/2025 Report No. Z24002BOG-2 Surface water & catchment - existing environment & effects assessment.pdf	Existing hydrological environment & assesses the effects of the proposal on the flow or volume of surface water (surface water hydrological assessment)	Surface water		Not relevant	Nicholas Dunn – may wish to review and/or comment	
SURFACE WATER Water Quality Compliance Limits Report Author: Greg Ryder Consulting	Recommendations relating to water quality compliance limits to establish thresholds for chemical indicators of water quality	Water quality from mining activities		Water quality	Freshwater – Nicholas Dunn	

Report title & author	Report scope / summary	Potential effects relate to	Mitigations included / recommended	DOC interest	DOC delegation	Technical expert reviewed (Y/N) Please also include link to your comments. Save here: Technical Experts Assessments
Date: 30 July 2025 Version: 4.2 (Final) Water Quality Compliance Limits Report.pdf						
LANDSCAPE Landscape, Natural Character and Visual Effects Assessment Author: Boffa Miskell Date 11/07/2025 Landscape, Natural Character and Visual Assessment.pdf	Effects assessment relating to landscape, visual and natural character effects	Landscape effects during operation and beyond – pits, engineered landforms, haul roads, buildings/structures, Thomson Gorge Rd realignment Visual effects from private viewpoints, dwellings, roads, conservation areas Natural character effects – creek catchments (creeks)	Landscape Mitigation Plan p184 & 185	Does briefly describe pest exclusion areas (1 st paragraph p35 and section 6.5.3.13 p41) Also note the broader interests of the covenant.	RMA if relevant/potentially covenant related SLM.	
LANDSCAPE Visual Simulations Author: Boffa Miskell Date: 08/07/2025	Visual simulations from various locations showing views (existing, during operations and at closure)	Visual effects on landscape and natural character	N/A			
LANDSCAPE Landscape Mitigation Plan Author: Boffa Miskell Date: 11 July 2025	1 page graphic plan	Visual effects	Included on plan		RMA if relevant. SLM – potentially related to the covenant.	
LANDSCAPE Applied Research Plan (for conservation management, rehabilitation and expansion of cushionfield) Author: Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research Date: June 2025 Applied Research Plan - herbfields.pdf	Management actions to enhance the area and size of herbfields	s9(2)(b)(ii)	Management at 3 levels (broad/whole site; paddock; and small patch). ARP has 6 components p5	Management and replacement of herbfields – entire report useful/relevant	Richard Ewans – vegetation	

Email correspondence

From: Marie Payne
Sent: Monday, 11 August 2025 8:25 pm
To: Sally Clarkson
Subject: RE: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project - fast track consultation

Hey Sally,

Looks good a few edits below in red. I wondered if we could add a column to your report summary table too stating whether or not reviewed and asking the expert to provide a link to their document. We should also instruct them where to save their commentary – set up a folder in the workflow?

Hope that sounds good, always happy to chat.

Kind regards,

Marie Payne
Senior Advisor Fast Track Applications
Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington
s9(2)(a)



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

From: Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 11 August 2025 4:58 pm
To: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project - fast track consultation

Hi Marie,

Here is the draft of what I am proposing to send to the project team. Feel free to make any changes required.

I was thinking to send it to the following:

The following recipient is outside your organization: **Mandy Tocher** ✕
Debbie Lewis ✕ **Matt Schmidt** ✕ : These recipients are sending automatic replies.
 We've found some ways to make your message more accessible. [Review accessibility issues](#)

	To	<input type="radio"/> Richard Ewans <input type="radio"/> Nicholas Dunn <input type="radio"/> Carl Jones <input type="radio"/> Warren Chinn <input type="radio"/> Darcy Liddell <input checked="" type="radio"/> Liz Williams <input checked="" type="radio"/> Matt Schmidt <input type="radio"/> Rogan Colbourne <input type="radio"/> Mandy Tocher <mtoucher@lizardexpertnz.co.nz>
	Cc	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Marie Payne <input checked="" type="radio"/> Emma Fahey <input type="radio"/> Carl Jones <input checked="" type="radio"/> Pene Williams <input checked="" type="radio"/> John Roberts <input type="radio"/> Pauline Marshall <input type="radio"/> Clare Fleming <input checked="" type="radio"/> Debbie Lewis
Subject Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project - fast track consultation		

Sally

Kia ora everyone

As you are aware and following our project initiation meetings, Santana Minerals Ltd are looking to apply for approval under the Fast Track Approvals Act to mine gold deposits on Bendigo and Ardour Stations.


As part of pre-lodgement consultation, Santana have now shared a series of technical reports with DOC but we are anticipating more reports which will have a more significant conservation focus to come – relating mainly to ecology (habitat, avifauna, lizards, terrestrial invertebrates, pest management plans etc), (hydrology, contaminated land, landscape, planning – Felt like we have received some of these?)

As a starting point, I have been through the reports that have been shared and have compiled a summary – saved here: [Technical Report Summary - Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project.docx](#)


The summary document provides a brief scope for each report, potential effects, any mitigations included, where DOC's interest is expected to lie and who at DOC may be best placed to provide comment. Please feel free to add notes (and tag your name) if you have comments to add or believe we haven't identified the relevant expertise/commenting on this issue may not be a primary focus of DOC.

It would be appreciated if you could please review the reports relevant to your area of expertise (the summary includes links to the reports) and provide the following:

- An assessment relating to the conservation values affected
- Key findings, summary, conclusions and critical issues
- Your thoughts on potential compensation/mitigation/offsetting/avoidance possibilities – (noting that an advisor on compensation will also support the project)
- Any critical information gaps (taking into account the other reports we are anticipating will be provided, where possible).

As mentioned above, we are still anticipating that Santana will share more reports with DOC. A list of all reports that Santana have commissioned and we are expecting to receive are included in the Register of Technical Reports (in red font) saved here: 

[Register of Technical Reports - Bendigo-Ophir updated 11.8.25.xlsx](#)

Santana has also provided GIS shape files for a series of things including the project footprint, concessions areas etc). These can be found here  [GIS shape files](#).

and assessed via DOC's GIS. Let me know if you need any help with this. **You can use these shape files to help inform your analysis and research. If technical reports aren't yet available for your area of expertise and undertaking some background analysis will help inform your future commentary please progress with some initial background research.**

If possible, we would love to have your summaries in two weeks time, by 25th August, but do let me know if there are any issues with meeting this date (I can see that Matt is away until then).

Please record your time spent on these tasks in the Workflow tool and cap the time spent to 10 hours each **(if a technical report is not yet available for your review please limit background research to 4 hours)**. If more time is needed, please let Marie or I know before proceeding. **s9(2)(q)(i)**

Mandy and Liz – I've sent this to you as an fyi. We haven't received any reports relating to lizards and specifically an AEE so far but I will be in touch when/if we do.

If you have any questions or have trouble with any links etc please let me know. **It was also previously suggested some technical subgroups maybe helpful – if you would like us to progress with establishing these also get in touch. This is all new territory so happy to move and pivot to ensure DOC is well placed to provide feedback on this proposal and prepare for the lodgement of the application.**

Thanks
Sally

Sally Clarkson

Senior Planner Fast Track Applications
Whare Kaupapa Atawhai | Conservation House
18 Manners Street
Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington



Please note: My work days are Mondays and Tuesdays



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

From: Shawn Gardner
Sent: Thursday, 7 August 2025 1:45 pm
To: Andrew Mclellan
Cc: Stephen Karaitiana; Grace Masterton; Peter Galvin; Emma Fahey; Marie Burton
Subject: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Treaty Obligations Table for Review

Hi Andrew,

I've completed the draft Treaty Obligations Table for the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project, find the table here: [Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Treaty Settlements Table.docx](#). The Proposal is for an open-pit mine then later underground mining in Central Otago. The Project will also include ancillary mining related activities including engineered landforms for sterile rock storage, tailings storage, processing facilities and access roads. The project location is indicated here:  [Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Location Project Study Area.pdf](#). I've noticed that we also have GIS shapefiles for this project, find those here:  [GIS shape files](#). While it appears from my initial assessment that no PCL directly overlaps with the area of the Proposal, there are several areas of PCL nearby (indicated in Table E in the Treaty Settlements summary document).

There is no drop dead deadline for this review.

Please do reach out if you have any questions.

All the best,
Shawn

The Proposal is for an open-pit mine then later underground mining in Central Otago. The Project will also include ancillary mining related activities including engineered landforms for sterile rock storage, tailings storage, processing facilities and access roads.

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)	<p>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 subject to a Statutory Acknowledgement and Deed of Recognition (s206 and 212 NTSC Act).</p>

Commented [AM1]: perhaps include reference to the relevant Deed schedule and Deed Plan as well?



	<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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Commented [SG2]: The Project Area does appear to overlap with the Bendigo Covenant. [Lands-Tracker: Covenant / Kawenata / PPL Agreement - Bendigo Covenant](#)

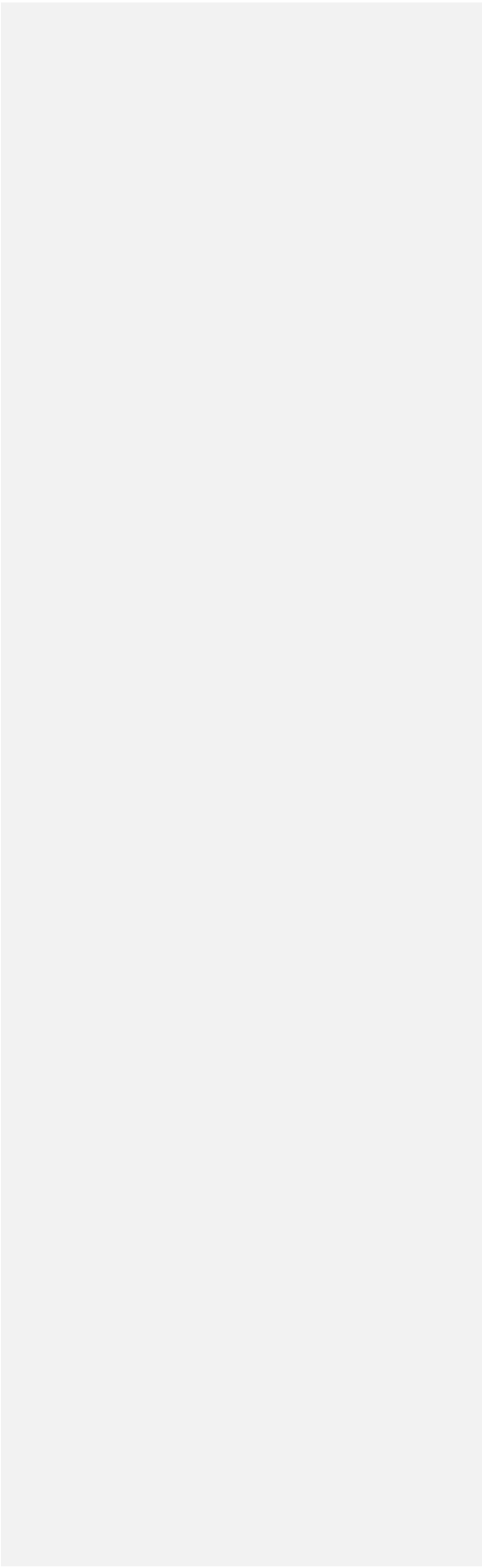
s9(2)(g)(i)

	<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				

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>• The Project study area also includes land subject to the Bendigo Conservation Covenant.</p>	
	<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	

s9(2)(g)(i)









From: s9(2)(a)@santanaminerals.com>
Sent: Monday, 4 August 2025 3:26 pm
To: Sally Clarkson; Marie Burton
Cc: Emma Fahey
Subject: RE: New report in shared folder

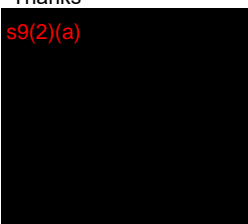
Good Afternoon

More reports – doc register updated  [DOC Document Register \(2\).xlsx](#)

 [B.00 - Marshall Day Acoustics - Noise and Vibration Management Plan.pdf](#)
 [B.00 - PDP - Air Quality Management Plan.pdf](#)
 [B.00 - Landcare Research - Applied Research Plan for conservation management, rehabilitation and expansion of cushionfield.pdf](#)
 [B.00 - Greg Ryder Consulting - Water Quality Compliance Limits.pdf](#)

Thanks

s9(2)(a)




s9(2)(a)

 www.santanaminerals.com

SANTANA
MINERALS LIMITED

MATAKANUI
GOLD LIMITED

s9(2)(a)

 15a Chardonnay Street, Cromwell, 9310

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From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 4 August 2025 1:15 pm
To: Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>; Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: Emma Fahey <efahey@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: New report in shared folder

Good Afternoon

I have just added more reports to your landscape folder and updated your document register.

More reports coming through today

 [Landscape, Rehabilitation and Closure](#)

Thanks

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 16 July 2025 12:45 pm
To: Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>; Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: Emma Fahey <efahey@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: New report in shared folder

Hi Sally

Thanks for your email.

Happy to share with you today the **Landscape, Natural Character & Visual Assessment** and **Landscape Visual Simulations**

 [Landscape, Rehabilitation and Closure](#)

Attached is our latest footprint, I'm just seeking information in relation to the requested shapefile and answers to the other questions you have.

Did you or your team move your document register ? I can't see it in there anymore...

These reports
are provided as
summaries
and listed as
'Item 5' later in
this document.

From: Marie Payne
Sent: Sunday, 3 August 2025 5:27 pm
To: Sally Clarkson
Cc: Jenni Fitzgerald; Emma Fahey
Subject: Tasks this week :)
Attachments:

Not in scope

Hey Sally,

s9(2)(a)

Just to keep things ticking over
some tasks below to progress in addition to previously discussed).

Not in scope

Not in scope

Bendigo

- **Project report summary** – Could you please send out the project report summary to the project team with a cover email. Asking them to review the relevant reports with a view to providing:
 - An assessment on the conversation values affected – thinking about potential compensation/mitigation/offsetting/avoidance possibilities (**we are getting an advisor on compensation to support the project**).
 - Key findings/summary/conclusions/Critical issues
 - Any critical information gaps – which look like they won't be covered given the other reports we are anticipating will be provided
 - Provide a deadline of 22nd August or sooner – happy to discuss with them as they go
 - Ask all experts to cap to 10hrs – record their time and if they need more time (over 10hrs) to let us know before proceeding (no necessarily an issue but just so we can keep an eye on pre-lodgement costs/manage expectations).
- **New reports** - Check there are no new reports to add to summary/if there are can you review and add as you have done with all the other 😊 and give the relevant project team advisor a heads up.
- **Exploration permits roll up** – see yellow notes in email sent separately.

In any comm's to project teams can we also remind them to record time as people seem to have been light on this recently. Any questions let me know, I will check my emails and will let you know if I will likely be online for Tues.

Kind regards,

Marie

Marie Payne

Senior Advisor Fast Track Applications
Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington

s9(2)(a)



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Released under the Official Information Act

From: Marie Payne
Sent: Sunday, 3 August 2025 5:19 pm
To: Sally Clarkson
Cc: Emma Fahey
Subject: RE: Work from Home

Hey Sally,

Thanks for this note below in yellow.

Also, the SLM advisors were in the further catch up I held and they were very helpful s9(2)(g)(i)

Kind regards,

Marie Payne
Senior Advisor Fast Track Applications
Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington
s9(2)(a)



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

From: Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 22 July 2025 12:25 pm
To: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: Emma Fahey <efahey@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Work from Home

Hi Marie,

Just found this in my drafts (!) so thought I'd complete the response and send it off to you.

I have done all my tasks for now so will log off soon for the afternoon but will log in again later in the week to see if there is any new info etc.

See notes below (in red) relating to the tasks I have been working on. I've saved all the linked docs in the Teams channel, so they are in the one place. I have also added the report links into the Technical Reports table.

Hope you are feeling better soon, see you on Monday 😊

Sally

From: Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 9 July 2025 9:36 am
To: Sally Clarkson <sclarkson@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: Jenni Fitzgerald <jefitzgerald@doc.govt.nz>; Emma Fahey <efahey@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Work from Home

Hey Sally,

As discussed last week s9(2)(a)

Not in scope

To summarise your current tasks (working through next week):

Bendigo

- Reviewing several reports for Bendigo – provided by applicant

Reports have all been reviewed up until Tues 22nd July. I have uploaded the Landscape Assessment & Visual Simulations that s9(2) provided last week, to the Teams channel. I get the impression from s9(2) that they do intend to share the outstanding reports (primarily relating to ecology & planning) with DOC but she was unable to provide a timeframe for doing so. I did contact s9(2) again to see she could tell us what sort of gap we can expect between sharing the remaining reports and lodging the application, but she did not respond to

that question unfortunately. She did share the Shape files for the project areas and there is a useful pdf showing the project area, PCL etc. It is here: [DOC_GIS_Extent.pdf](#)

- Gaining understanding of broader effects of the project, potential mitigations etc...(to inform DOC's commentary Expected effects have been included in the Technical Report Summary (line below) as they relate to different aspects e.g. air discharge, aquatic ecology, heritage/archaeology etc. In some cases, the reports include mitigations but expect more work will be required in this area
- Summarising reports for our experts so we can direct review and information efficiently to the PT
I have prepared a table including all technical reports and noted how they may be relevant to DOC and who is the advisor who would be responsible for assessing and providing comments (thanks Emma!).

s9(2)(g)(i)

As we know, Matakanui currently has an application for an exploration permit underway with MBIE under the usual BAU process s9(2)(q)(i)

[Bendigo BAU mining permit info v FTAA 22.7.25.docx](#)

Not in scope

Catch you next week 😊, Jenni is around for anything urgent or Emma Fahey from FT team.

Kind regards,

Marie

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



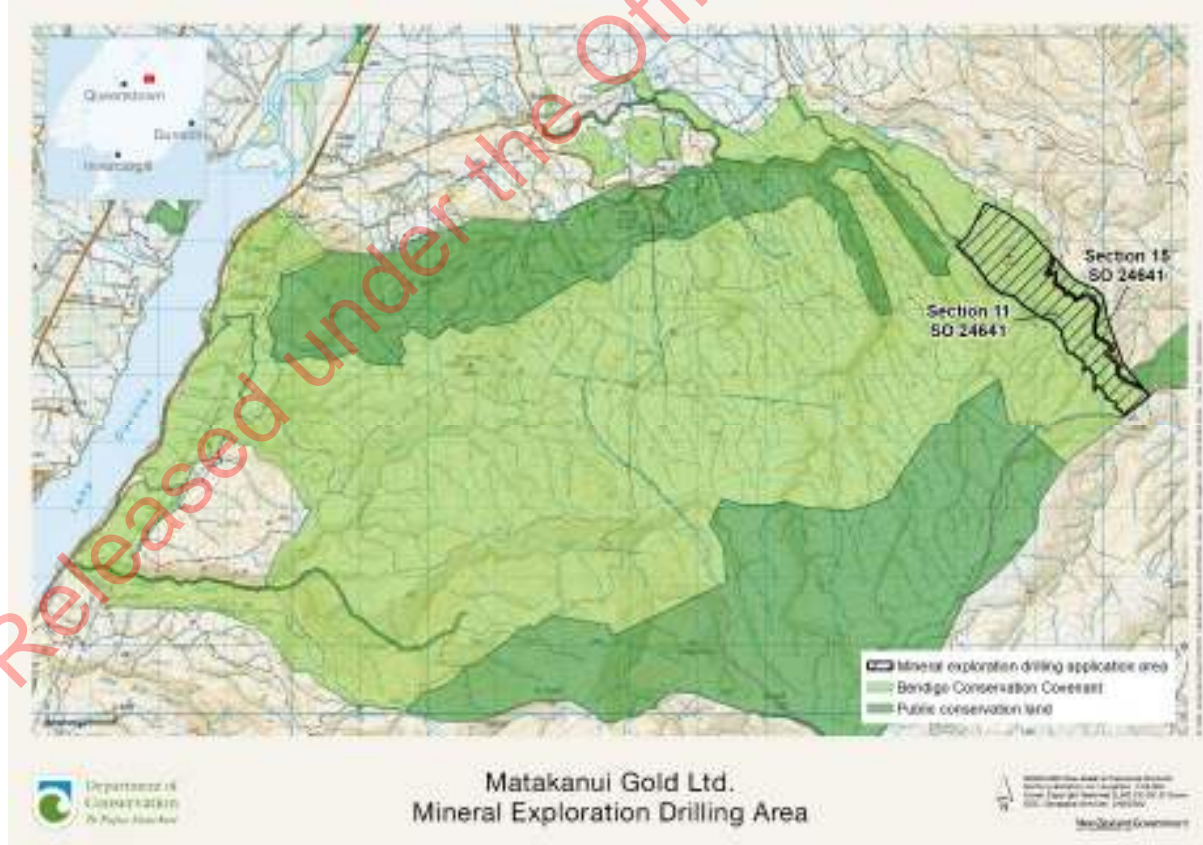
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Brief Project Overview (in relation to conservation covenant)

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

From the project application:

s9(2)(b)(ii)



Conversation Covenant (under s77 Reserves Act 1977)

- Covenant between landholders and MOC
- Signed 18th August 2000 and varied in December 2023 – understand there been other variations?

Variations:

- Details of a variation lodged 5th Dec 2023 is included with the copy of the covenant provided by Matakanui
- This variation amended condition 9(d) of the covenant to provide for construction of temporary tracks, subject to restoration and enhancement programme

Land subject to covenant to be managed in accordance with conservation objectives

Landholders and MOC agreed that the land be managed in accordance with conservation objectives:

- i. *Protecting and enhancing the natural character of the land with particular regard to the natural functioning of ecosystems and to the native flora and fauna in their diverse communities and dynamics inter-relationships with their earth substrate and water courses and the atmosphere.*
- ii. *Protecting the land as an area representative of a significant part of the ecological character of the Dunstan Ecological District as referred to in the draft survey report for the Protected Natural Areas Programme for the Lindis Pisa and Dunstan Ecological Districts dated February 1987.*
- iii. *Maintaining the landscape values of the land as referred to in the "Application for exchange of property rights" submitted to the Commissioner of Crown Lands.*
- iv. *Maintaining the historic values of the land as referred to in "The rich fields of Bendigo" by Jill Hamel February 1993.*

In summary, the covenant seeks to:

- i. **Protect and enhance natural character** of the land – particular regard to:
 - Natural functioning of ecosystems
 - Native flora and fauna in their diverse communities & dynamic inter-relationships with their earth substrate, water courses and atmosphere
- ii. **Protect the ecological character** of the Dunstan Ecological District
- iii. **Maintain the landscape values** of the land, as referred to in...
- iv. **Maintain the historic values** of the land, as referred to in...

Reports referred to in objectives iii and iv:

- Objective iii

iii Maintaining the landscape values of the land as referred to in the "Application for exchange of property rights" submitted to the Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Link to report here: [DOC-7109853](#)

Visual and Scenic Values, p112 In summary:

- Landscape appraisal for Dunstan Ranges as part of assessment of conservation values undertaken for the Pisa Lindis Dunstan Ecological District
- Categorised the Dunstan Ranges into six landscape management units
- The pastoral lease at Bendigo is covered by three of these units – South Dunstan Crest Landscape Management Unit (LMU), Central Dunstons LMU & Cromwell Bendigo LMU
- The three units represent areas with broadly homogenous landscape character, requiring similar management to retain character
- Within these three units, priority areas for landscape protection were identified:
 - South Dunstan Crest:
natural characteristics – landforms, rock tors, sequence of contrasting vegetation types, ephemeral characteristics & spectacular views
 - Bendigo Hills:
 - distinctive and important landscape feature in Upper Clutha,
 - kanuka vegetation makes important contribution to landscape character and diversity (one of few remaining remnants of kanuka in Central Otago)
 - Upper Bendigo Creek (Rise and Shine Creek):
 - landscape character derived from its smooth rounded landform (absence of rock outcrops)
 - vegetation pattern – silver tussock is dominant vegetation cover, speargrass is common on south faces and higher ridges, wetlands occupy valley floor (mix of exotic and native species including toetoe),
 - remains of early sluice workings line lower valley (form part of network of gold workings in the upper Bendigo Creek),
 - poplars (lombardy and silver) – cultural plantings left over from gold mining era
 - valley represents one of the few remaining areas with relatively intact short tussock from valley floor to ridge top
 - historic/cultural overlay contributes to its character & appeal

The report also contains commentary on other values (botanical, cultural, recreation) but assume that only “visual and scenic values” are relevant to “maintaining the landscape values”??

- **Objective iv**

“Maintaining the historic values of the land as referred to in “The rich fields of Bendigo” by Jill Hamel February 1993

Link to report here: [DOC-7118894](#)

- Report considers historic and cultural values on Bendigo Station as part of implementation of the Protected Natural Areas Programme

Summary of report:

- Māori sites; farming at Bendigo, townships; geography of gold field; field evidence in various locations e.g. main battery sites, Bendigo Creek etc; discussion/recommendations
- Difficult to pinpoint exact historic values

Conditions on covenant

Covenant includes conditions under which the land must be managed (in order to meet the purpose and objectives:

- Condition 1: grazing provided for, landholder must maintain fences and gates
- Condition 1: MOC, at any time, may monitor native vegetation and historic sites
- Condition 2: landholder obligations e.g. maintenance of fences and gates, land free from gorse, broom etc, rabbits, vermin and rubbish
- Condition 3: activities that cannot take place without MOC's prior approval e.g. erection of any fence, building, structure; tree planting and earthworks/soil disturbance on land near historic sites; and 3(1)d – any prospecting or mining for minerals coal or other deposit on or under the land
- Condition 4: MOC may object to a mining licence application which conflicts with covenant objectives
- Condition 5: landholders must permit public access through specified parts of land
- Condition 6: right of access to MOC for specified purposes (e.g. examining / recording condition of land, maintenance consistent with covenant purpose

- Condition 7: survey costs met by landholder
 - Condition 8: requirements re wildfires
 - Condition 9: relates only to Rise and Shine Creek area. Public provided with foot access, removal of woody vegetation around historic sites, interpretation signage, forestry and track construction prohibited
 - Condition 10: acknowledgement of principal historic values outside Rise and Shine Creek area
 - Condition 11: MOC may provide technical advice/assistance to landholders (by request); change conditions by mutual agreement; and prepare a joint land management plan
 - Condition 12: avoidance of doubt: covenant bound in perpetuity; bound to each owner jointly; notice given in writing...
- District Office manages requests for amendments to the covenant

Fast-track Approvals Act

In cases where a project is in conflict with an existing conservation covenant, as is the case with the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project, the covenant will need to either be amended or revoked.

- S42(4)(g): a substantive application may seek approval for an amendment or revocation of a conservation covenant as defined in clause 41 of Schedule 6 (conservation covenant = covenant in force under s 27 of the Conservation Act 1987 or s77 of the Reserves Act 1977)
- Clause 42(a)-(h) of Schedule 6: information requirements for amendment or revocation of conservation covenant, including:
 - Assessment of values protected by covenant
 - Description of areas affected & values if application relates only to portion of the area protected
 - Impacts of project on values & any proposed methods of addressing those impacts
 - Etc
- Clause 43: s51 report must include information about:
 - Purpose of covenant and conservation values of land concerned
 - Whether the amendment or revocation will compromise values (regional, national or international significance)
 - Any conditions that should be imposed (in accordance with clause 46 or s84) S84 = conditions relating to Treaty settlements and recognised customary rights

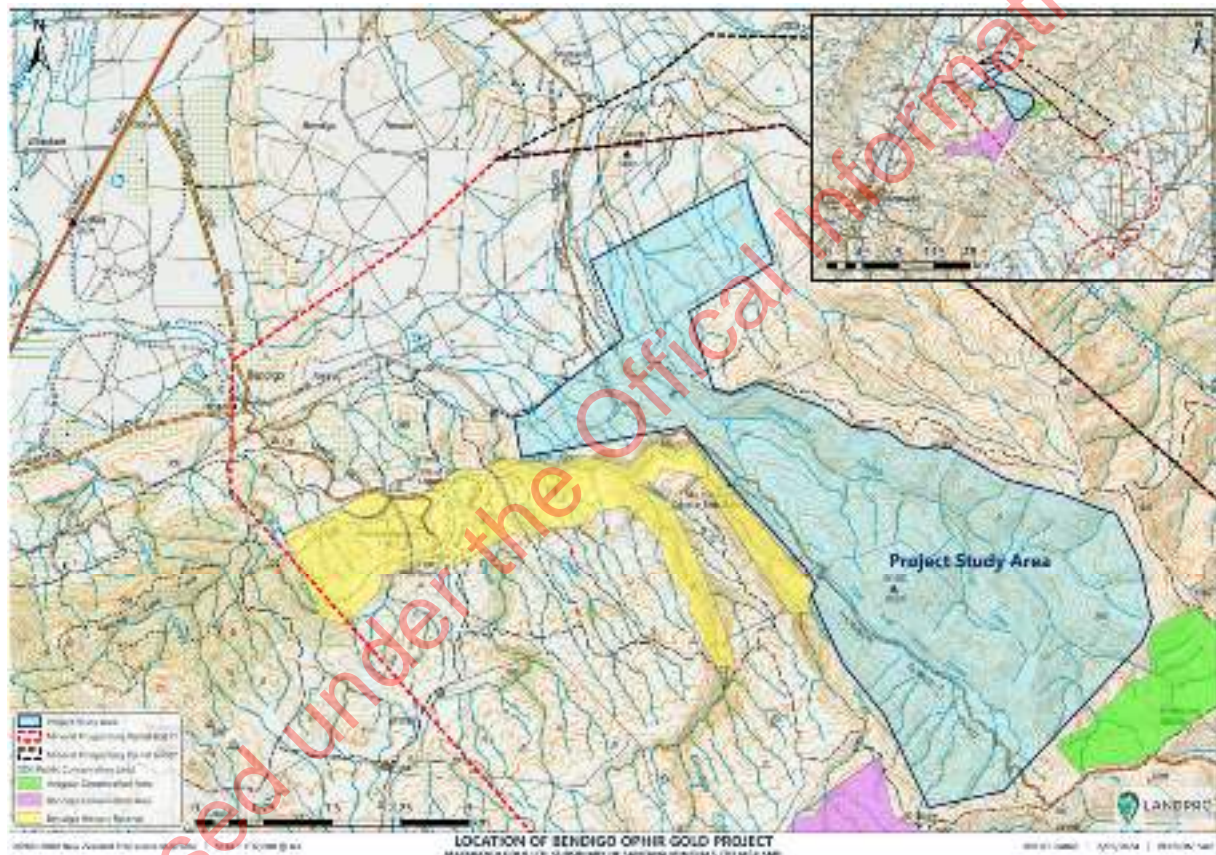
- Clause 45: when assessing an application for an amendment or revocation of a covenant, the panel must take into account:
 - Purpose of the FTAA (give greatest weight to)
 - Purpose of covenant & conservation values of land
 - Whether amendment or revocation will compromise values of regional, national or international significance
- Clause 46: panel may impose conditions, including:
 - In cases where covenant being revoked – protection by applicant of equivalent land outside covenant area
 - In cases where covenant being amended – any works to enhance conservation values on land remaining within the covenant²

Relevant/useful information relating to the application

(Details taken from applicant's application for inclusion in Schedule 2 and from NZPAM webmaps)

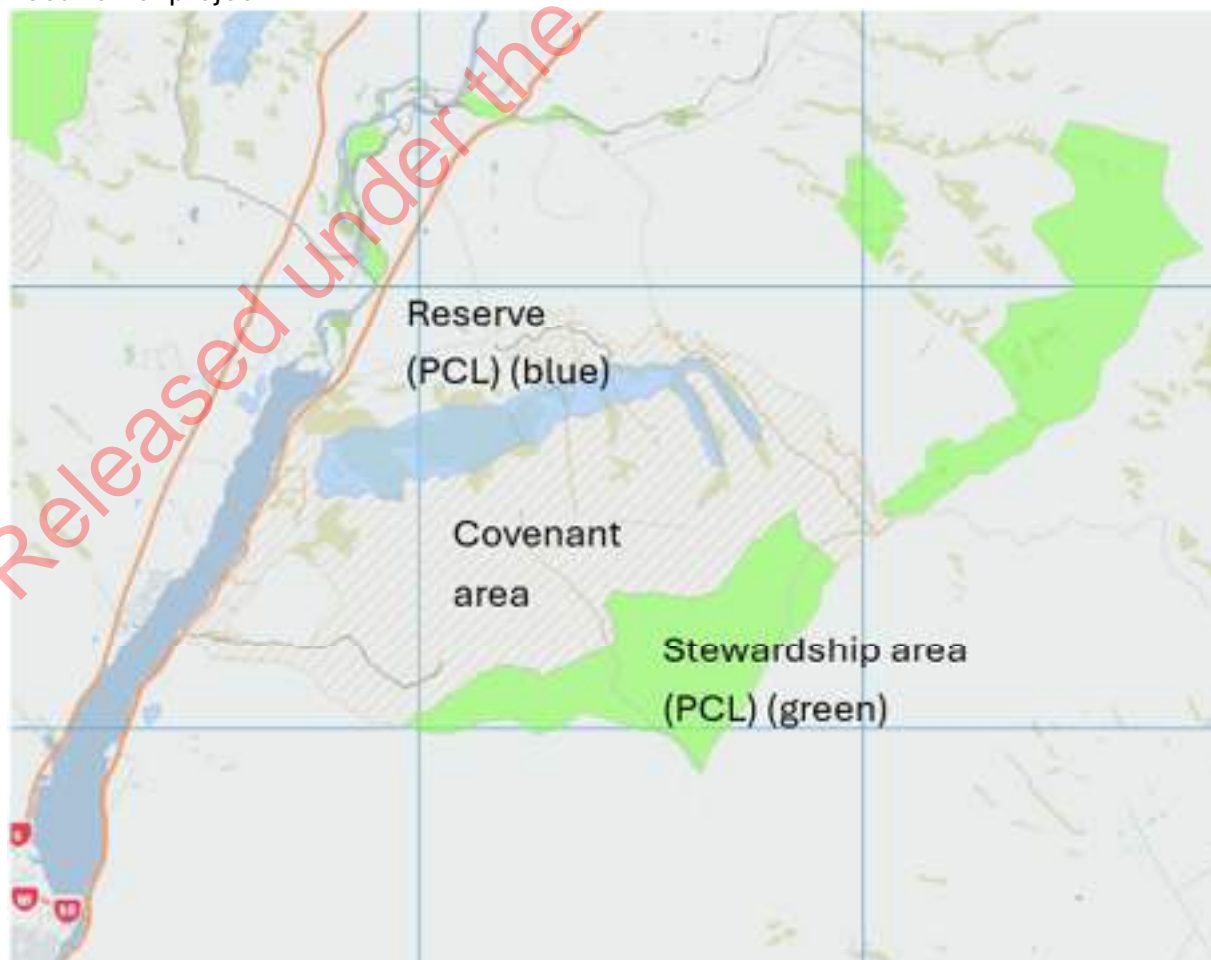
Project Study Area

- Is this different to the project area – appears to be (see “location of project” map below)
- Does the conservation covenant cover the entire mine site – unclear



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

Location of project

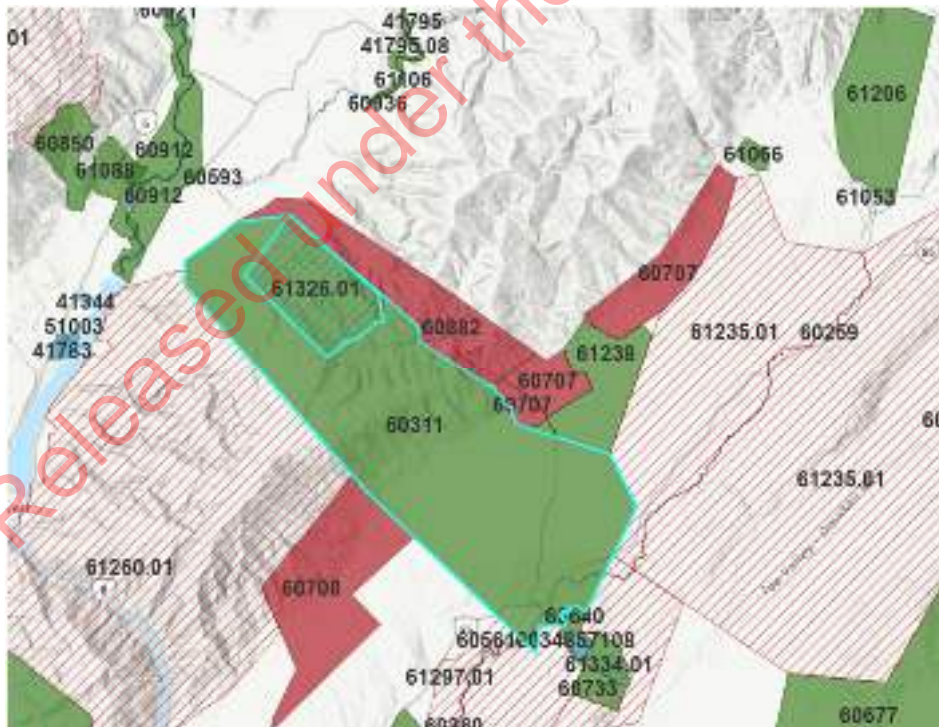


PCL land in vicinity of project area

- Current Mineral Exploration Permit 60311 was granted 5 yr extension in Dec 2023 (expires 12/4/2028). Permit area includes land within which discoveries have been made that form basis of project
- Key activities involved in the project include exploration drilling
- Project has undergone extensive drilling and evaluation and is in advanced stages of project development
- Mining permit required under CMA 1991 from NZ Petroleum & Minerals – would provide exclusive right to mine for gold within the site
- Have been undertaking exploratory and investigation works since 2016 including establishment of track network across the site and drilling platforms (and drilling) at various locations

Matakanui's two active permits (1 for exploration and 1 for prospecting) and current permit application

Permit No.	Type	Owner/operator	Status	Notes
60311	Exploration permit	Matakanui	Active-change pending	Expires 12.4.2028
60882	Prospecting permit	Matakanui	Active	
613216.01	Minerals mining	Matakanui	Application made 26.3.25	Operation name = RAS



Is there anything in the FTAA that would prevent the mining permit application (61326.01) from being incorporated into the FT application

- s9(2)(g)(i)
- FTAA includes the following relevant sections:

- s5 ineligible activity – not relevant
- s37 mining permit information may be lodged with relevant chief executive

- s9(2)(g)(i)

Preliminary step for application for mining permit

37 Mining permit information may be lodged with relevant chief executive

- (1) This section applies if a substantive application for a listed project or a referred project is to seek an approval described in section 42(4)(n) (mining permit)
- (2) Before lodging the substantive application, the authorised person may lodge with the relevant chief executive—
 - (a) the information specified in clause 16(a) and (b) of Schedule 11;
 - (b) the information relevant to the mining permit that,—
 - (i) in the case of a listed project, is required under section 43(2);
 - (ii) in the case of a referred project, was contained in the referral application.
- (3) The information must not be lodged unless any fee, charge, or levy payable under regulations in respect of lodging the information is paid.
- (4) If there is more than 1 authorised person for a project, any 1 of the authorised persons may lodge the information on behalf of all of them.

- s42 authorised person may lodge substantive application for approvals
- s42(4)(n) substantive application may seek 1 or more approvals – mining permit
- s42(11)

- (11) A substantive application may seek an approval described in subsection (4)(n) only if—
 - (a) the approval is sought for 1 or more deposits of 1 or more minerals; and
 - (b) the applicant holds exploration permits or existing privileges that—
 - (i) apply to those minerals; and
 - (ii) have more than 3 months before they expire; and
 - (c) the area of land for which the approval is sought is within, or the same as, the area of land to which those exploration permits or existing privileges apply; and
 - (d) the application proposes that those exploration permits or existing privileges be surrendered in relation to the area of land over which the approval is sought; and
 - (e) the proposed term of the approval is no more than 40 years; and
 - (f) granting the approval would not be prevented by any of sections 25(6) and (7) and 30(8) of the Crown Minerals Act 1991 if the approval were applied for under that Act.

s9(2)(b)(ii)

- s46 EPA decides whether substantive application is complete and within scope must comply with s42 (authorised person may lodge substantive application), 43 (requirements for substantive application) & 44 (sufficient detail)

From: Siobhan Quayle
Sent: Monday, 28 July 2025 4:54 pm
To: John Roberts; Charlie Sklenar; Marie Burton; Pauline Marshall
Subject: RE: FYI - Santana - withdrawal of SRX Resource Drilling Application

A well-managed response, thanks very much team
Siobhan

From: John Roberts <jroberts@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 28 July 2025 4:46 pm
To: Charlie Sklenar <csklenar@doc.govt.nz>; Marie Payne <mpayne@doc.govt.nz>; Pauline Marshall <pamarshall@doc.govt.nz>; Siobhan Quayle <squayle@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: FYI - Santana - withdrawal of SRX Resource Drilling Application

Kia ora koutou – see attached reply from Santana re-their BAU SRX application.

At the end s9(2)(a) notes:

MGL acknowledges DOCs position on the SRX Resource Drilling proposal and requests that the application be withdrawn. This work will be included in the Fast-Track process. Thank you for your time in preparing your response to MGL and we look forward to working with DOC into the future.

Thanks very much for your help everyone to bring this part to a conclusion.

Hi Marie – I see that s9(2)(a) must be taking over from s9(2)(a). Is there anything you seek at this time wrt the FT process that I could helpfully introduce in my very brief reply back to s9(2)(a)

Hi Pauline – any development with s9(2)(a) wrt the newly proposed, yet to be defined exploration works in the Bendigo Historic Reserve?

Ngā mihi

JR

From: s9(2)(a) <s9(2)(a)@santanaminerals.com>
Sent: Monday, 28 July 2025 3:26 pm
To: John Roberts <jroberts@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: s9(2)(a) <s9(2)(a)@santanaminerals.com>; s9(2)(a) <s9(2)(a)@santanaminerals.com>
Subject: RE: SRX Resource Drilling Application - DOC assessment as requested

Hi John,

Thank you for your detailed email. Please find MGL's response attached.

I copy in s9(2)(a) and s9(2)(a). Could please copy them in future emails.

Regards

s9(2)(a)

From: John Roberts <jroberts@doc.govt.nz>

Sent: Friday, 11 July 2025 9:15 am

To: s9(2)(a) <[s9\(2\)\(a\)@santanaminerals.com](mailto:s9(2)(a)@santanaminerals.com)>

Subject: SRX Resource Drilling Application - DOC assessment as requested

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H s9(2)(a) happy to provide our assessment – see below.

Context

You have asked for our assessment of your application to help you to address this activity in the Fast-track Approvals Act process

As you know the Department has a delegated role (from the Minister of Conservation) under the Bendigo Conservation Covenant to consider applications for certain activities at Bendigo Station.

The covenant has a set of objectives that the two parties (Bendigo Station, as landowner, and the Minister of Conservation) have agreed the land be managed for. The Department considers applications within this framework.

Consequently, the information below sets out the relevant matters under the current covenant framework rather than an assessment that might occur under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024.

As you will be aware clause 42 of Schedule 6 of the Fast-track Approvals Act provides information requirements for applications relating to conservation covenants under that process.

Regardless of administering the specifics of any covenant that the Minister might be a party to, the Department also has a responsibility as set out in s6(b) of the Conservation Act to “*advocate the conservation of natural and historic resources generally*”; and under s6(ab) “*to preserve so far as is practicable all indigenous freshwater fisheries, and protect recreational freshwater fisheries and freshwater fish*

habitats", including where this occurs off public conservation lands. These provisions are the basis for our work protecting nature and cultural heritage which is often outside of public conservation lands and waters, for example, in planning and consenting processes under the RMA. We also have a role under the Wildlife Act e.g. to issue permits where protected wildlife are affected.

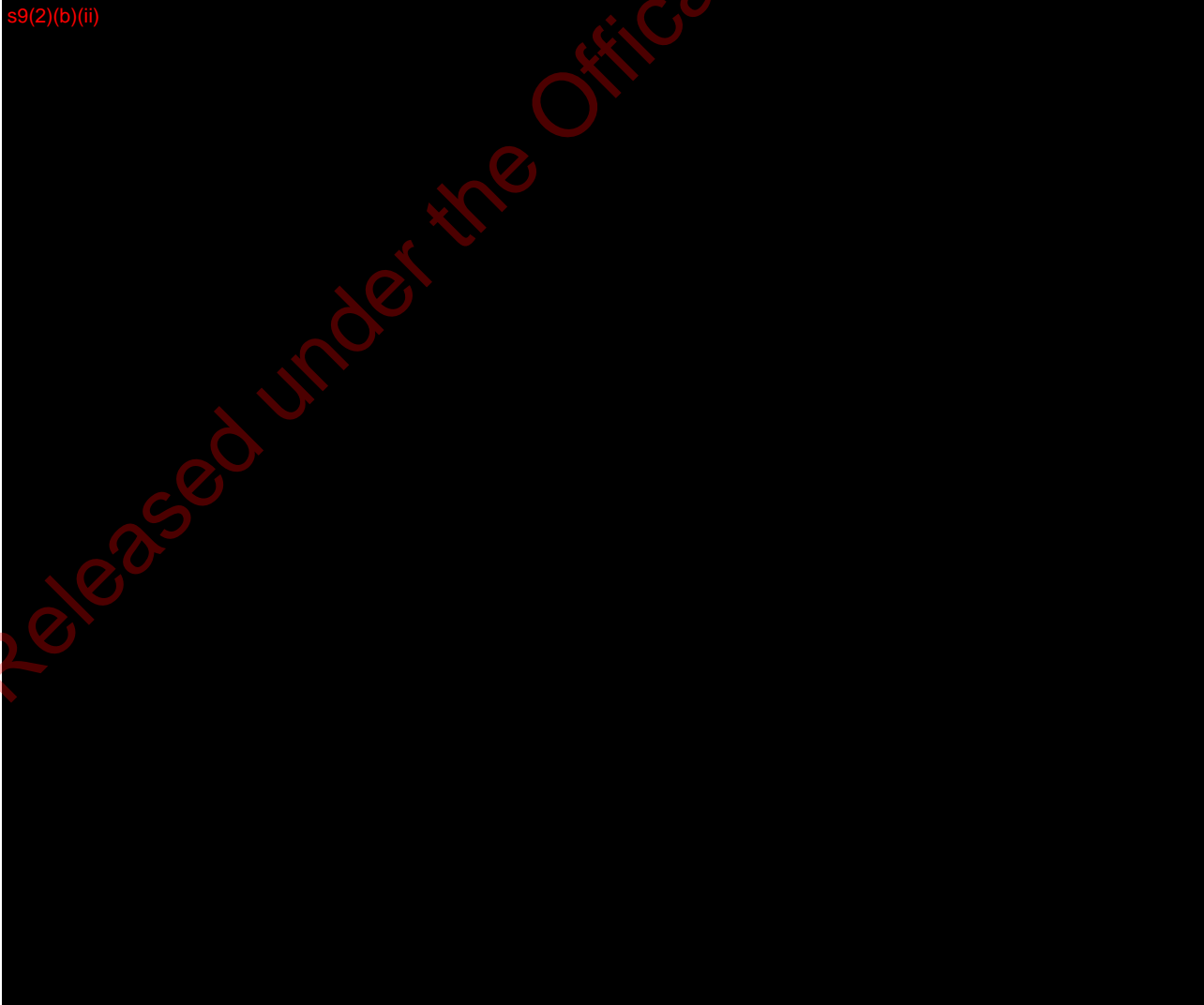
As advised in the letter attached from the 24 February the Department noted concerns around progressing an approval due to potential effects on conversation values which would be unlikely to be consistent with the objectives of the covenant.

Just to confirm, unless we hear otherwise within the next 10 working days we'll action a withdrawal of your application, consistent with our telephone conversation of the 26th June and as indicated in your emails below of the 27th June and 1 July 2025.


Key matters considered in relation to the application against the specifics of the covenant were:

1. Historic/Heritage Values

s9(2)(b)(ii)

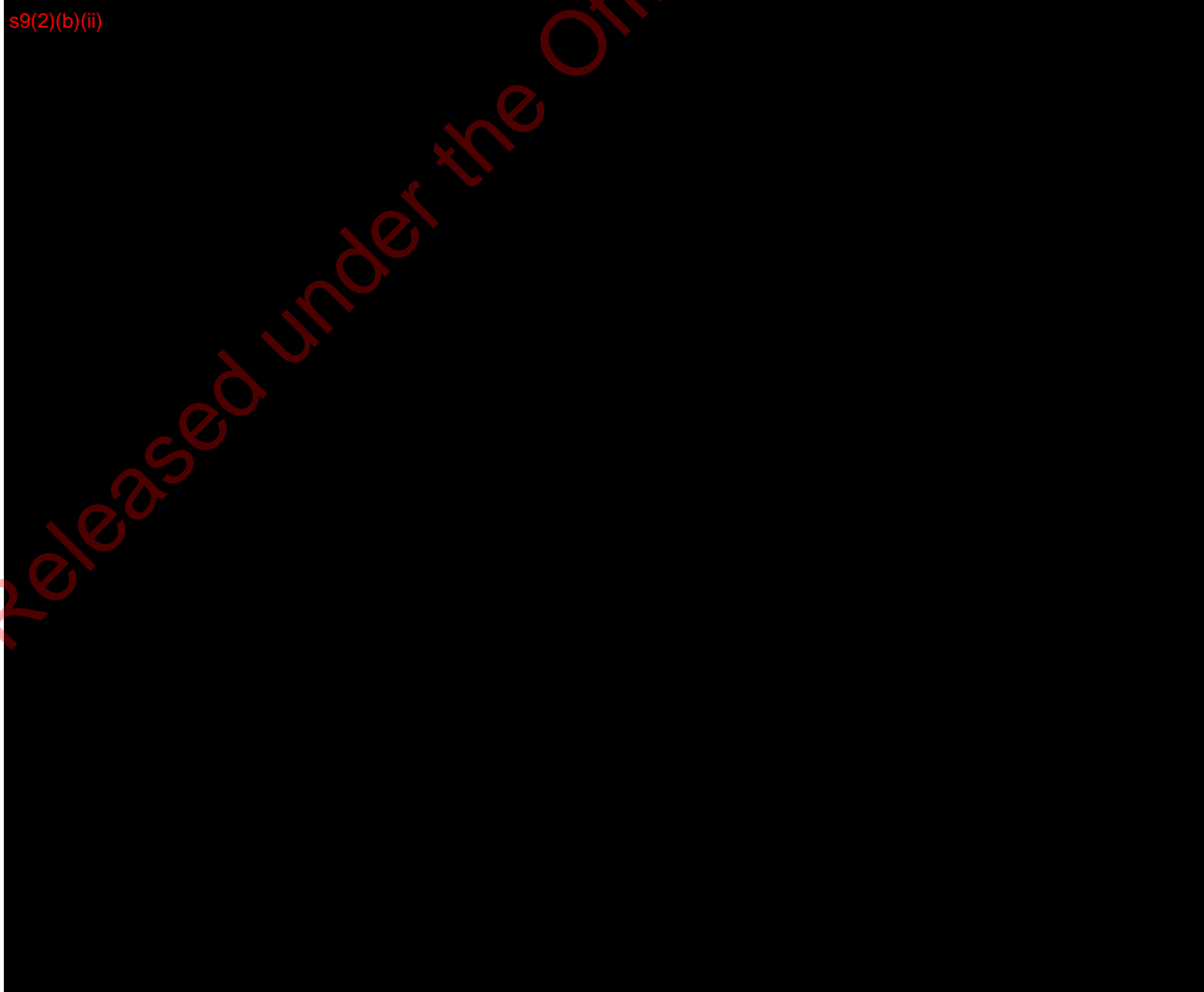


s9(2)(b)(ii)

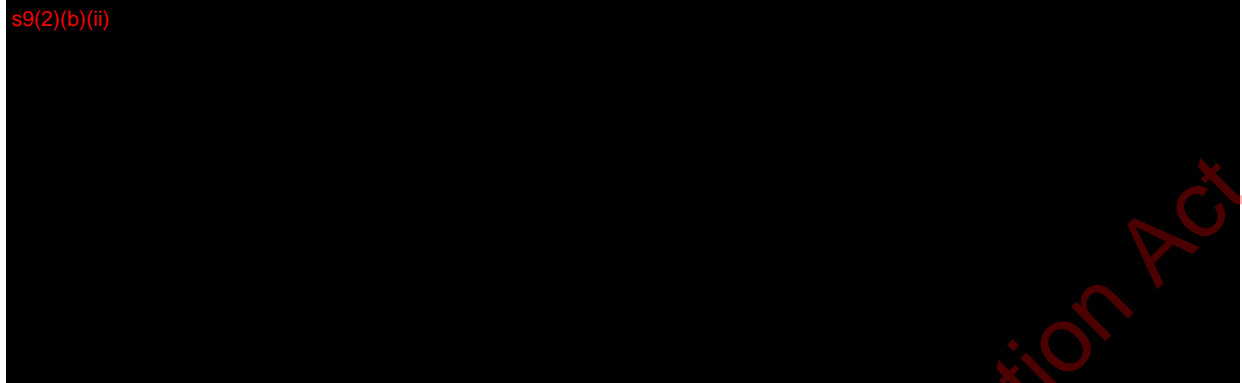


2. Ecological Values

s9(2)(b)(ii)

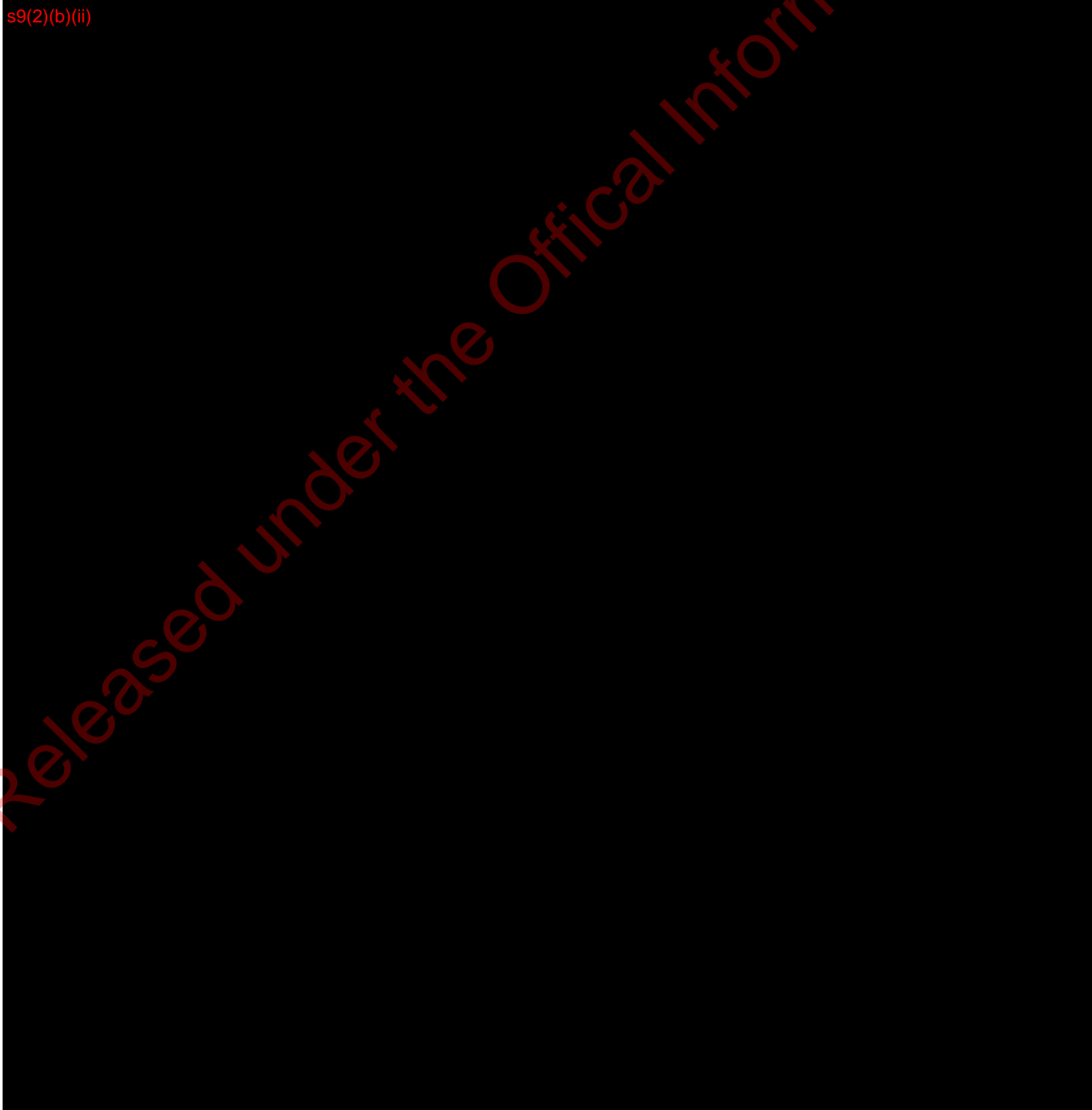


s9(2)(b)(ii)

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3. Landscape Values

s9(2)(b)(ii)

A large rectangular area of the document is completely redacted with a solid black fill.

s9(2)(b)(ii)

For these reasons the Department concluded that the application was inconsistent with the covenant.

It is acknowledged there is a different framework for decision making under the Fast-track Approvals Act.

I encourage you to continue to engage with the Department and our Fast Track Team if you intend to progress this activity through the Fast-track process.

Best Regards

John Roberts
Pou Ture Whenua, Statutory Manager
Southern South Island Region
Department of Conservation

Attachments

Attachment A: Department of Conservation Email to Matakanui Gold: 24 February 2025

From: s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 1 July 2025 10:34 am
To: John Roberts <jroberts@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com>
Subject: RE: SRX Resource Drilling Application

Hi John,

MGL will not be able to proceed with the application if DOC can not support it, as discussed. Could you please confirm, in writing, DOC's position.

Many thanks

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

From: John Roberts <jroberts@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 30 June 2025 12:50 pm
To: s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com>
Subject: RE: SRX Resource Drilling Application

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)(a) happy to – can you just confirm that you have withdrawn your application.

Thanks

JR

From: s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com>
Sent: Friday, 27 June 2025 11:18 am
To: John Roberts <jroberts@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com>; s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com>; s9(2)(a) | Town Planning Group s9(2) <[\[REDACTED\]@townplanning.co.nz](mailto:[REDACTED]@townplanning.co.nz)>
Subject: SRX Resource Drilling Application

Hi John,

Thank you for your time on the phone yesterday, our discussion was helpful. Could you please write to MGL with your assessment. It will help us to address the concerns in the FTA process.

Regards



s9(2)(a)

W: www.santanaminerals.com

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Released under the Official Information Act

From: John Roberts
Sent: Monday, 28 July 2025 4:46 pm
To: Charlie Sklenar; Marie Payne; Pauline Marshall; Siobhan Quayle
Subject: FYI - Santana - withdrawal of SRX Resource Drilling Application
Attachments: 250728 SRX Resource Drilling Response - Letter to DOC.pdf

Kia ora koutou – see attached reply from Santana re-their BAU SRX application.

At the end s9(2)(a) notes:

MGL acknowledges DOCs position on the SRX Resource Drilling proposal and requests that the application be withdrawn. This work will be included in the Fast-Track process. Thank you for your time in preparing your response to MGL and we look forward to working with DOC into the future.

Thanks very much for your help everyone to bring this part to a conclusion.

Hi Marie – I see that s9(2)(a) must be taking over from s9(2)(a). Is there anything you seek at this time wrt the FT process that I could helpfully introduce in my very brief reply back to s9(2)(a)?

Hi Pauline – any development with s9(2)(a) wrt the newly proposed, yet to be defined exploration works in the Bendigo Historic Reserve?

Ngā mihi

JR

From: s9(2)(a) <s9(2)(a)@santanaminerals.com>
Sent: Monday, 28 July 2025 3:26 pm
To: John Roberts <jroberts@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: s9(2)(a) <s9(2)(a)@santanaminerals.com>; s9(2)(a) <s9(2)(a)@santanaminerals.com>
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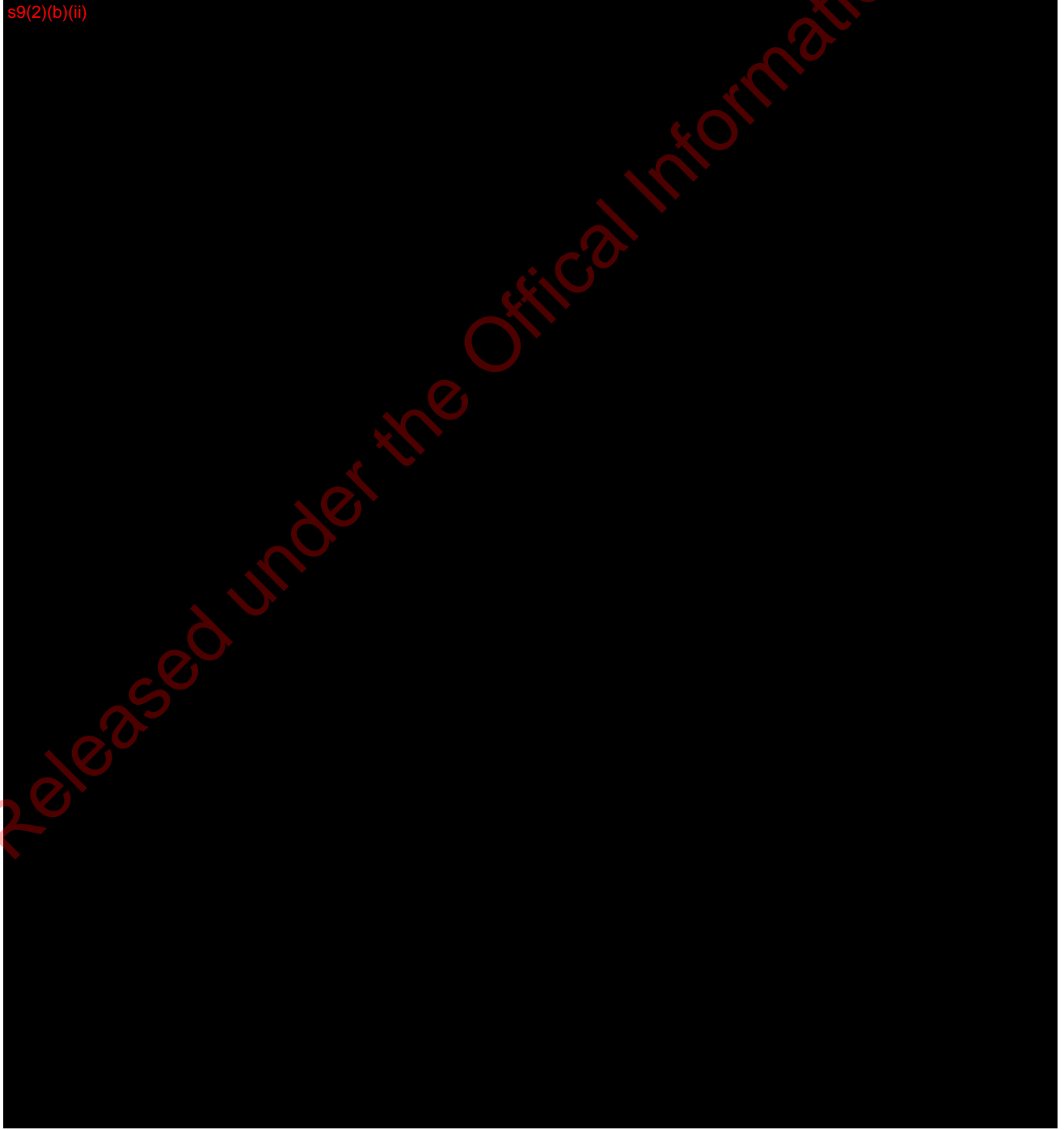
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1. Historic/Heritage Values

s9(2)(b)(ii)



s9(2)(b)(ii)

2. Ecological Values

s9(2)(b)(ii)

s9(2)(b)(ii)

3. Landscape Values

s9(2)(b)(ii)

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s9(2)(b)(ii)

For these reasons the Department concluded that the application was inconsistent with the covenant.

It is acknowledged there is a different framework for decision making under the Fast-track Approvals Act.

I encourage you to continue to engage with the Department and our Fast Track Team if you intend to progress this activity through the Fast-track process.

Best Regards

John Roberts
Pou Ture Whenua, Statutory Manager
Southern South Island Region
Department of Conservation

Attachments

Attachment A: Department of Conservation Email to Matakanui Gold: 24 February 2025

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Cc: s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com>
Subject: RE: SRX Resource Drilling Application

Hi John,

MGL will not be able to proceed with the application if DOC can not support it, as discussed. Could you please confirm, in writing, DOC's position.

Many thanks

s9(2)(a)

From: John Roberts <jroberts@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 30 June 2025 12:50 pm
To: Mary Askey <MAkey@santanaminerals.com>
Subject: RE: SRX Resource Drilling Application

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)(a) happy to – can you just confirm that you have withdrawn your application.

Thanks

JR

From: s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com>

Sent: Friday, 27 June 2025 11:18 am

To: John Roberts <jroberts@doc.govt.nz>

Cc: s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com>; s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com>;

s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@townplanning.co.nz>

Subject: SRX Resource Drilling Application

Hi John,

Thank you for your time on the phone yesterday, our discussion was helpful. Could you please write to MGL with your assessment. It will help us to address the concerns in the FTA process.

Regards

SANTANA
MINERALS LIMITED

s9(2)(a)

www: www.santanaminerals.com

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15A Chardonnay St
Cromwell

28 July 25

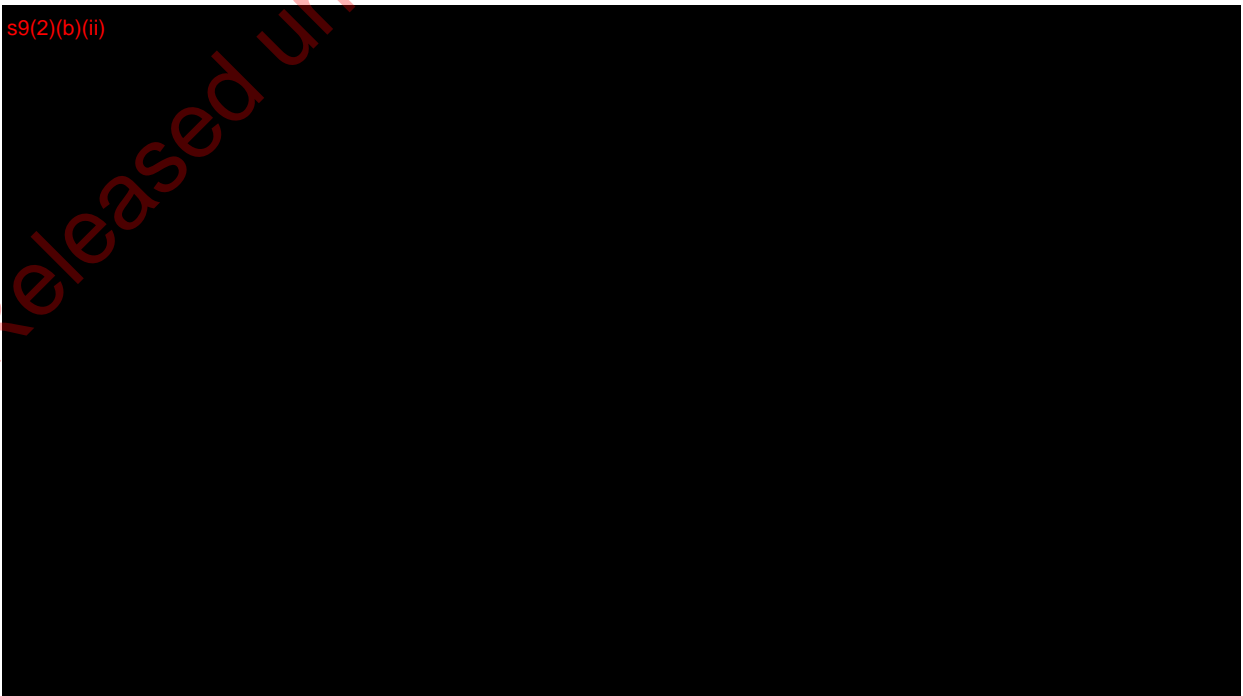
Dear John,

Thank you for your email on 11 July providing DOC's assessment of the SRX Resource Drilling application.

A number of points raised were raised in your email to which we wish to respond as follows.

- MGL responded to the letter from DOC dated 24 February to which MGL noted our consultation with Aukaha, HNZPT and Bendigo Station and that MGL had sought advice from our consultants and heritage experts regarding the proposed program of mineral exploration.
- Our telephone conversation on 26 June was an informal discussion as withdrawal of the application requires company approval. In the conversation and following emails I was looking to understand the detail of DOC's position to relay to management for a decision. While we talked about options, including withdrawal, MGL did not formally commit to withdrawing the application in the conversation or in the emails.

s9(2)(b)(ii)



- The area where spring annuals could credibly have been found was surveyed during late Spring 2024 for the three spring annuals which are known from the





surrounding area. Spring annuals were not found in the SRX Resource Drilling area. However, spring annuals were found in other areas during the survey.

s9(2)(b)(ii)

Early this year MGL engaged several times with Jenna Sinclair and then with Jenna and Charlie Sklenar, including an invitation for a site visit by DOC specialists with respect to the proposed drilling program and the REMP. s9(2)(b)(ii)

MGL acknowledges DOCs position on the SRX Resource Drilling proposal and requests that the application be withdrawn. This work will be included in the Fast-Track process. Thank you for your time in preparing your response to MGL and we look forward to working with DOC into the future.

Regards

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@santanaminerals.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 15 July 2025 1:26 pm
To: Permissions Hokitika
Subject: Fw: Access Arrangement Application - Mineral Exploration Drilling Activities - Bendigo

Some people who received this message don't often get email from s9(2)(a)@santanaminerals.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good afternoon,

We are looking at doing some exploration drilling on DOC land, at Bendigo Historical Reserve, near Cromwell, and are keen to arrange a pre-application meeting with someone in your team please? We have been told to get in touch with your Hokitika office.

Many thanks,

s9(2)(a)

From: Pauline Marshall
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 11:11 AM
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Access Arrangement Application - Mineral Exploration Drilling Activities - Bendigo

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H s9(2)(a)

If you click on the [Hokitika office](#) (as shown in the previous email) that will take you to the relevant contact details:

Permissions Advisor (Support)

Hokitika

Email: permissionshokitika@doc.govt.nz

Just send an email requesting a pre-application meeting, which will be held over a Teams call.

Regards,
Pauline

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 15 July 2025 10:17 am
To: Pauline Marshall
Subject: Re: Access Arrangement Application - Mineral Exploration Drilling Activities - Bendigo
Thanks Pauline, how do we go about getting an appointment with the Hokitika office for the pre-ap meeting please? Also, assume we can do this over a teams call rather than in the Hokitika office itself?

Many thanks,

s9(2)(

From: Pauline Marshall <pamarshall@doc.govt.nz>

Sent: Monday, July 14, 2025 10:03 AM

To: s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]> @santanaminerals.com>

Subject: Access Arrangement Application - Mineral Exploration Drilling Activities - Bendigo

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)(a

Thank you for your email.

To undertake mineral exploration drilling activities within land administered by the Department of Conservation (DOC) you will require an Access Arrangement.

In the first instance you can find all the relevant information regarding what is required of an application and the process itself at: [Prospecting, exploration and mining: Apply for permits](#)

Please see the following summary and main points of the application process:

- Fill in the [Access arrangement application form \(PDF, 175K\)](#) or [\(DOCX, 294K\)](#).
- Check whether you require a [concession for any related activity](#) on public conservation land
- Email the forms along with the relevant documents requested to permissions@doc.govt.nz.
- Identify the name and status of the public conservation land you wish to use by checking [DOC maps](#).

As part of your application a detailed Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE) will be required and should include the following:

- Independent ecological and archaeological assessment reports.
- Photographs of each of the proposed drill hole/pad locations.

For further detailed information on what is required of an AEE please refer to: [Assessment of environmental effects for mineral exploration and prospecting](#)

It would also be helpful to include good quality maps (aerial/topo), showing exact drill site locations within the affected area, including an overlay of the public conservation land in which the proposed activity will take place.

Pre-application meeting:

In the first instance you can request a pre-application meeting with our specialist mining/exploration staff in the [Hokitika office](#) before lodging your application. This can help with discussing any questions you may have and also to ensure you have a complete application.

DOC will provide an estimate of the likely application processing time and cost when your application is received.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Regards,

Pauline Marshall

Ranger, Community (Statutory)

Department of Conservation – *Te Papa Atawhai*

Central Otago District

From: s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com>

Sent: Friday, 4 July 2025 12:53 pm

To: Charlie Sklenar <csklenar@doc.govt.nz>

Cc: s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@santanaminerals.com> s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]> Town Planning Group

s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@townplanning.co.nz>

Subject: Pre-app meeting

Hey Charlie,

Happy Friday, hope you've had a great week 😊

We wondered if you (or one of your colleagues) would be available for a pre-application meeting with us over the next month or so? We are looking into doing some drilling in the Bendigo Historic Reserve, and keen to understand what we would need to progress an application with DoC. We understand the time frames are quite lengthy, so we want to make sure we have all our ducks in a row before we submit.

s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]> will prepare a map showing the approximate envelope of where we are looking at, but if there is anything else that would be helpful for you to see at that Pre-app meeting, then please let me know.

Kind regards

s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]>

Santana Minerals | Cromwell, NZ

s9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]>

W: www.santanaminerals.com



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Technical Expert Assessment – Darcy Liddell – Permissions Advisor

Unfortunately I couldn't open the Pdf - [20250515 BOGP Native Bat Survey Final v001.pdf](#)

However, in reading the commentary in the spreadsheet it is likely bats or bat roosts are 60km or more from the site. Under the WA 1953 a wildlife authority is only required when catching or killing a bat or rob, disturb, or destroy, or have in his or her possession a used bat roost. See s53 and Section 63(1)(c) of the WA.

In most cases a bat roost tree felling protocol is followed and a wildlife authority is not needed.

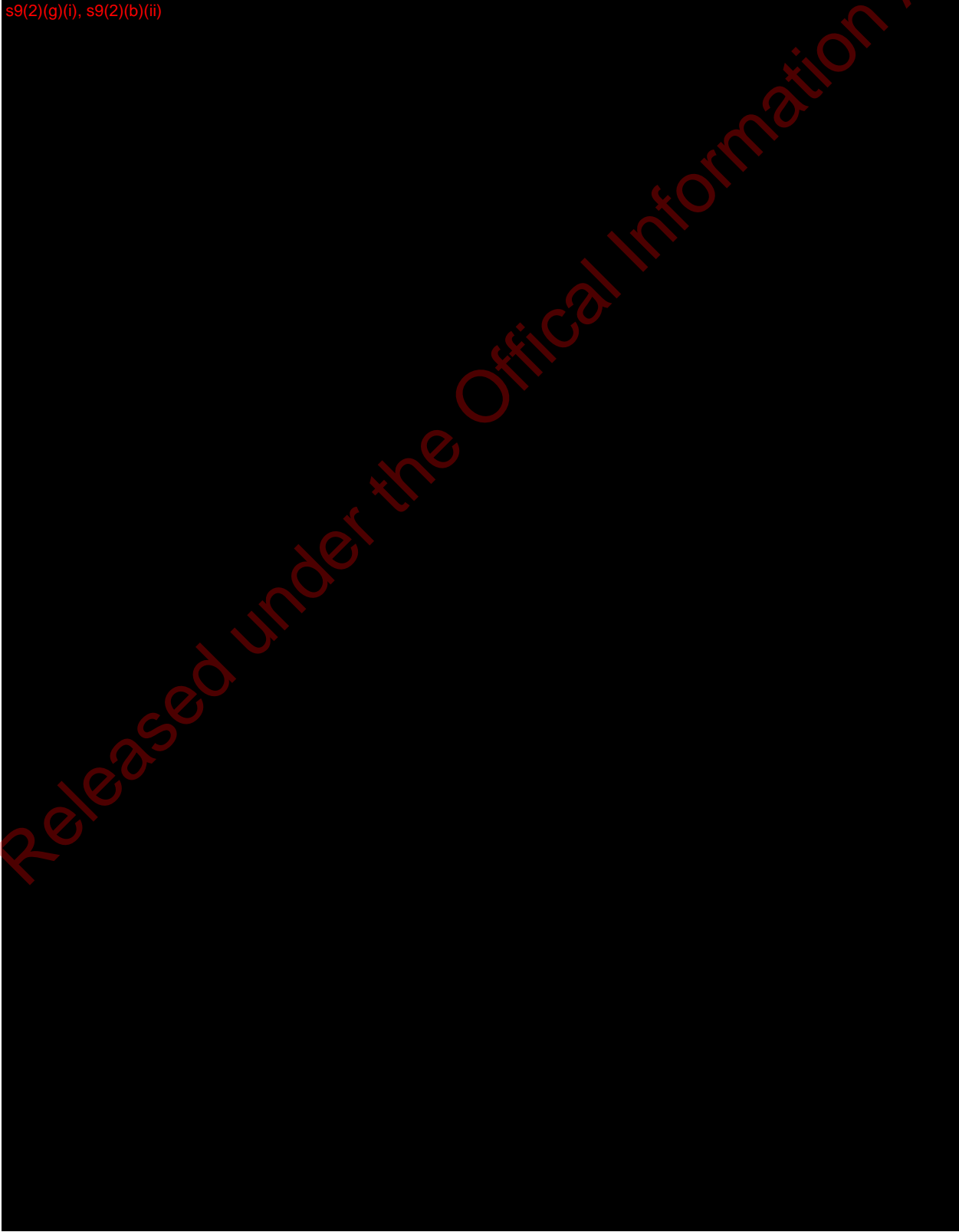
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Item 3

Matt Schmidt, Senior Heritage Advisor – 22 August 2025

I have read through the heritage assessment by New Zealand Heritage Properties Ltd titled *SREX Orebody, Bendigo - A Heritage Assessment prepared for Santana Minerals Ltd* by s9(2)(a) New Zealand Heritage Properties dated 30 January 2025.

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



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

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

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

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MEMO

DATE: 24 August 2025
TO: Sally Clarkson – Senior Planner FastTrack applications
CC: Emily Funnell – Freshwater Species Manager
FROM: Nicholas Dunn – Senior Freshwater Science Advisor
SUBJECT: Fast Track – FTA107 – Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project – freshwater advice

The purpose of this memo is to provide freshwater advice on the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project as requested in your email of 12 August 2025.

To inform my advice, I have read relevant sections of reports provided by the applicant. I note some reports have not been provided to DOC but are referred to in other reports by other consultants for the applicants. Reports that have been read being:

Allibone, R.M. 2025: Bendigo Ophir Gold Project: assessment of effects on aquatic habitat. Report Number: 38-2024A. Prepared for Santana Minerals Limited by Water Ways Consulting. Dunedin, New Zealand. 89 p.

Dumont, M.; Cleary, C.; Rekker, J.; Durney, P. 2025: Groundwater modelling analysis for mining Bendigo Ophir Gold Deposit. Report: Z24002.m1.1 Prepared by Kōmanawa Solutions Limited for Matakanui Gold Limited. Christchurch, New Zealand. 69 p.

Mine Closure Management Pty Ltd 2025: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project mine closure plan. Version J-NZ0454-002-R-Rev1. Prepared for Matakanui Gold Limited. Subiaco, Australia. 299 p.

Rekker, J. 2025. Bendigo – Ophir Gold Mine Project – surface water & catchment existing environment & effects assessment (Report Series No. Z24002BOG-2). Prepared by Kōmanawa Solutions Limited for Matakanui Gold Limited. Christchurch, New Zealand. 90 p.

Rekker, J.H., Dumont, M. 2025: Bendigo – Ophir Gold Mine Project – Groundwater existing environment & effects assessment. Kōmanawa Solutions Client Report No. Z24002BOG-1. Prepared by Kōmanawa Solutions Limited for Matakanui Gold Limited. Christchurch, New Zealand. 98 p.

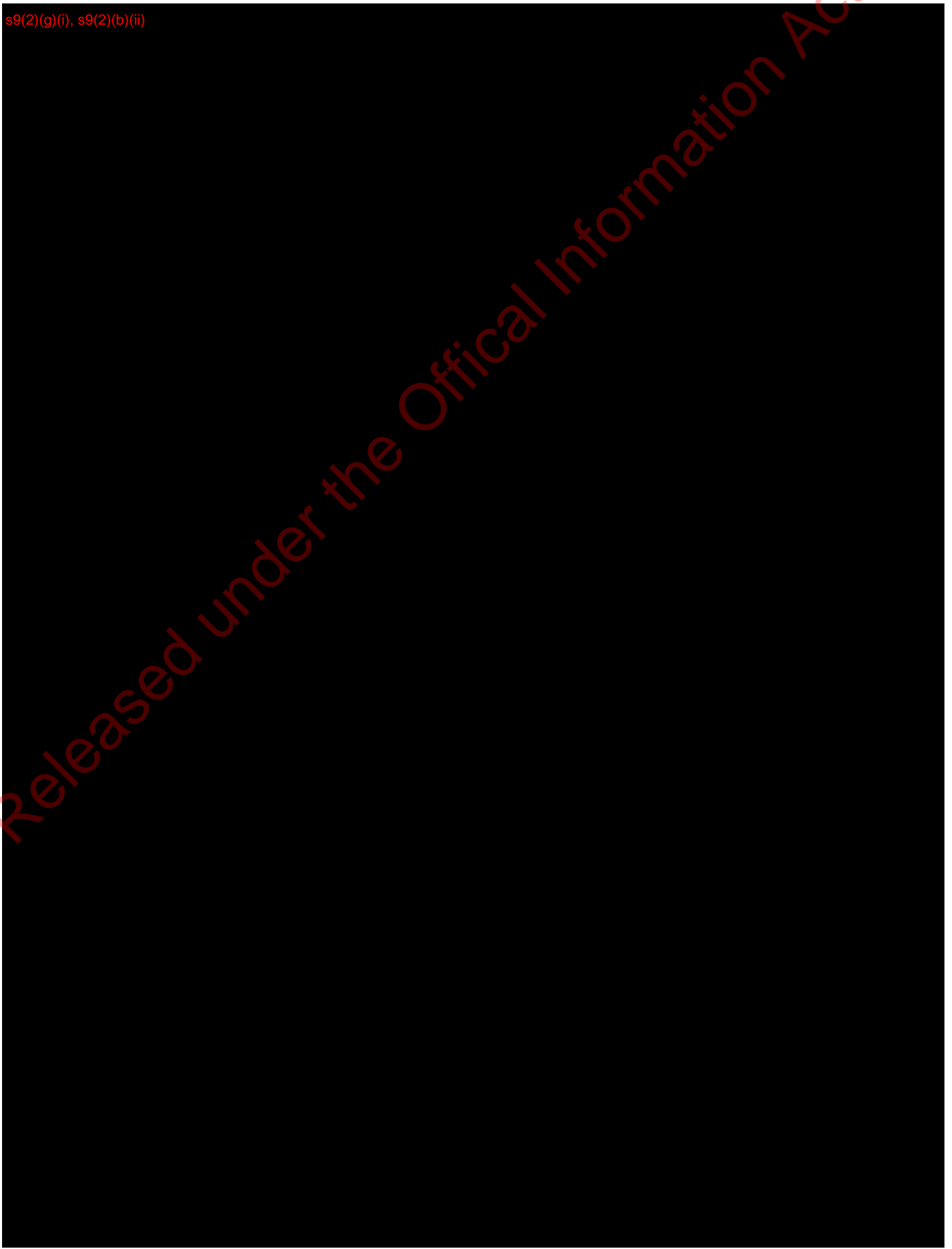
Rekker, J.H. 2025: Bendigo–Ophir Gold Mine Project – Bendigo groundwater bore take effects assessment Kōmanawa Solutions (KSL) Report No. Z24019SML-3. Prepared by Kōmanawa Solutions Limited for Matakanui Gold Limited. Christchurch, New Zealand. 73 p.

Ryder, G. 2025: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project - Recommended water quality compliance limits for the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project. Draft version 4.2 (Final). Prepared for Matakanui Gold Limited by Greg Ryder Consulting. Dunedin, New Zealand. 48 p.

I have also utilised my knowledge of the Lindis River catchment gained during the Environment Court proceedings for Plan Change 5A to the Regional Plan for Water (NZEnvC 166).

Using the available reports, I have assessed the application against the criteria of the Fast Track Approvals Act 2024, specifically Schedule 5, sections 6 and 7; and Schedule 9.

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



Released under the Official Information Act

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

Released under the Official Information Act

Technical report summaries

Reports provided to Department of Conservation by Santana Minerals Ltd.

Released under the Official Information Act

Air Quality Assessment of Effects

Air Quality Assessment of Effects.pdf

5 June 2025

Purpose	The report, prepared by Pattle Delamore Partners Ltd for Matakanui Gold Limited, assesses the potential environmental effects of air contaminant discharges – specifically dust and gaseous emissions – associated with the proposed Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project in Central Otago. The assessment supports resource consent applications and outlines mitigation strategies to manage air quality impacts.
Findings	<p>Dust and gas emissions from mining and processing activities are expected. Dust will be generated from mining activities including open pits, haul roads, stockpiles, ore processing, and tailings storage. Particulate matter includes coarse dust and particles. Gaseous emissions are expected to be minimal due to process controls and emission mitigation systems.</p> <p>A nearby area of native herbs may be exposed to dust. Effects are expected to be low to moderate, depending on proximity, and mitigated through dust control measures.</p> <p>With proposed controls, effects on health, ecology, and amenity are assessed as less than minor.</p> <p>Sensitive areas (e.g. nearby homes, native plants) are unlikely to be significantly affected due to distance and mitigation.</p>
Recommendations/ Mitigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP): A comprehensive plan will be implemented to manage emissions, monitor air quality, and ensure compliance with consent conditions.• Dust Suppression: Measures include water application, vegetation cover, speed limits on haul roads, and operational restrictions during high-risk wind conditions.• Gaseous Emission Controls: Engineering controls (e.g. pH management, fume hoods, filtration systems) will minimise emissions from processing activities.• Monitoring and Consent Conditions: Consent conditions should define permitted activities, emission limits, performance standards, and monitoring requirements to ensure effects remain within acceptable thresholds.

Air Quality Management Plan

PDP - Air Quality Management Plan.pdf
2 July 2025

Purpose	The AQMP outlines how Matakanui Gold Ltd will manage and monitor dust and gaseous emissions from mining activities to ensure compliance with resource consent conditions and minimise environmental impacts.
Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dust will be generated from haul roads, open pits, stockpiles, ore processing, engineered landforms, and tailings storage.• Dust sources are categorised into three priorities based on scale and frequency: Priority 1: High-risk, continuous sources (e.g. haul roads). Priority 2: Moderate-risk, routine sources (e.g. ore processing). Priority 3: Low-risk, intermittent sources (e.g. open pits).• Emissions are expected to be low and well-controlled through process design and mitigation systems.• Monitoring Systems: Visual inspections, dust deposition gauges, real-time particulate monitors, and meteorological stations are used to track air quality. Alerts are triggered when thresholds are exceeded, prompting mitigation or cessation of activities.• Water Supply: The site has sufficient water capacity (up to 55 L/s) to meet dust suppression needs across all operational phases.
Recommendations/ Mitigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement dust suppression using water carts, sprinklers, and vegetation cover.• Monitor air quality using visual checks, deposition gauges, real-time sensors, and meteorological stations.• Apply operational limits during high-risk weather conditions (e.g. strong winds).• Maintain equipment and train staff to respond to dust events and complaints.• Review and update the AQMP as needed to reflect changes in operations or best practice.

Applied Research Plan - herbfields

Landcare Research - Applied Research Plan for conservation management, rehabilitation and expansion of cushionfield.pdf
June 2025

Purpose	The Applied Research Plan (ARP) was developed to guide Matakanui Gold Ltd in managing and enhancing cushionfield ecosystems – high-value herbfields dominated by native <i>Raoulia</i> species – within the project's managed landscape. It aims to reduce uncertainty around ecological mitigation and support the establishment of new cushionfields on mined land.
Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ecological Value: Cushionfields support a range of nationally and regionally threatened plant species, including spring annual herbs. These ecosystems are increasingly rare and under pressure from land-use change, invasive species, and development.• Knowledge Gaps: There is limited experience in restoring cushionfields, especially at scale. Existing research is sparse, and past efforts have focused on transitioning to taller vegetation types.• Project Impact: Up to 92 ha of cushionfield may be removed due to mining. The ARP responds to this by proposing targeted research and trials to inform effective mitigation and restoration.
Recommendations/ Mitigations	<p>The ARP outlines a seven-year programme with six key components, applied across three scales - landscape, paddock, and patch:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mapping and Assessment: Survey and map existing cushionfields to establish baseline conditions and identify areas for enhancement.2. Pressure Analysis: Investigate current and historical land management practices affecting cushionfield health.3. Intervention Design: Develop and trial practical restoration methods, including grazing management, weed control, and soil treatments.4. Restoration Trials: Establish permanent plots to monitor the effectiveness of interventions over time.5. <i>Raoulia</i> Propagation: Trial propagation and planting of <i>Raoulia</i> species to expand cushionfield coverage.6. Kōwhai and Shrubland Restoration: Protect and replant genetically diverse native shrubs within cushionfield mosaics. <p>The plan also integrates with a complementary programme focused on conserving spring annual herbs, which are closely associated with cushionfields.</p>

Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP)

Marshall Day Acoustics - Noise and Vibration Management Plan.pdf
27 June 2025

Purpose	The NVMP outlines how Matakanui Gold Ltd will manage and mitigate noise and vibration effects from mining and processing activities. Its goal is to ensure compliance with consent conditions and minimise disturbance to nearby residential and commercial properties.
Findings	Mining and processing activities will generate noise from equipment, vehicles, and blasting. Noise limits are defined for both daytime and night-time operations, as well as for construction and blasting. The site is near several sensitive receivers, including homes and vineyards.
Recommendations/ Mitigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use quieter equipment and maintain machinery to reduce noise.• Schedule blasting and notify neighbours in advance.• Train staff to follow noise-reducing practices.• Monitor noise and vibration regularly and respond to any exceedances.• Maintain access roads and surfaces to reduce vehicle noise.• Record and respond to complaints promptly, with follow-up actions documented.

Landscape Mitigation Plan

Landscape Mitigation Plan.pdf

11 July 2025

Purpose	The plan outlines landscape and ecological mitigation measures to reduce the visual and environmental impacts of mining activities, while enhancing biodiversity and connectivity across the project area. It supports responsible land use and rehabilitation throughout the life of the mine.
Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The project area includes sensitive landscapes, conservation reserves, and habitats for native species, including lizards.• Mining activities will affect landforms, waterways, vegetation, and public access routes.• Several areas are identified for progressive rehabilitation and ecological enhancement.
Recommendations/ Mitigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Progressive Rehabilitation: Establish “Mine Regeneration Zones” to restore grey scrubland and tussock grassland, improving ecological connectivity.• Ecological Design: Engineered landforms will be capped and rehabilitated with diverse native vegetation and rock features to support lizard habitat.• Waterway Management: Divert and naturalise creeks and drainage channels to protect water quality and riparian zones.• Habitat Protection: Create predator-proof fenced areas for lizard conservation and relocate individuals from disturbed areas.• Visual Integrity: Preserve key landscape features and delay mining in sensitive areas (e.g. Come In Time Pit) until restoration techniques are proven.• Public Access: Realign and upgrade roads (e.g. Ardgour Rise Road) and repurpose closed sections (e.g. Thomson Gorge Road) for future recreational use.• Weed Control: Remove invasive species (e.g. willows) from waterways to support native vegetation recovery.

Water Quality Compliance Limits Report

Greg Ryder Consulting - Water Quality Compliance Limits.pdf

30 July 2025

Purpose	The report establishes recommended water quality compliance limits for surface water and groundwater within the BOGP footprint. These limits are designed to protect aquatic ecosystems, livestock, and human health, and to guide environmental monitoring and management throughout the life of the mine.
Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Freshwater Values: Ecological values in the project area are generally low due to historical mining, agriculture, and invasive species. No threatened aquatic invertebrates or fish communities were detected in most streams.• Hydrology: Many watercourses are ephemeral or intermittent, with limited surface flow reaching downstream rivers. Groundwater from Shepherds Creek contributes to the Ardgour Aquifer, which is used for irrigation and drinking water.• Contaminants of Concern: Mining activities may elevate levels of suspended solids, sulphate, nitrate, ammonia, and trace metals. Some contaminants already exceed guideline values due to legacy impacts.• Guideline Selection: Compliance limits are based on national and international standards, including Australian and New Zealand Guidelines (2018), NZ Drinking Water Standards (2022), and draft livestock water guidelines (2023). In some cases, bespoke limits were developed due to the absence of established criteria.
Recommendations/ Mitigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface Water Compliance Limits: Set thresholds for pH, turbidity, ammonia, nitrate, cyanide, sulphate, and various metals, based on ecological protection levels.• Groundwater Compliance Limits: Focus on drinking water and livestock safety, using maximum acceptable values from NZ standards and aesthetic thresholds.• Monitoring Programme: Monthly sampling at designated surface and groundwater sites.• Performance Monitoring: Include additional parameters where modelling suggests potential elevation.• Adaptive Management: Review compliance limits if monitoring indicates exceedances or new scientific data becomes available.