

From: § 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: § 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: § 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU NZTA Wildlife Act Authority
Date: Friday, 19 March 2021 1:21:47 pm
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

I have been in and signed it off.

§ 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: § 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 19 March 2021 11:58 a.m.
To: § 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: § 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: 69578-FAU NZTA Wildlife Act Authority

Hi § 9(2)(g)(ii),

I have amended the approval letter for you to sign at [DOC-6579067](#)

Best Regards

§ 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: § 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 19 March 2021 9:57 am
To: § 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: § 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: 69578-FAU NZTA Wildlife Act Authority

Hi § 9(2)(g)(ii),

§ 9(2)(g)(ii) has now signed off the OSD and Authority (witnessed by me).

Can you update the Approval letter with today's date and § 9(2)(g)(ii)'s email and let § 9(2)(g)(ii) know when he can sign it?

Many thanks.

§ 9(2)(g)(ii)

§ 9(2)(g)(ii)
Supervisor, Community
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
§ 9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office

2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140



From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 19 March 2021 9:47 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU NZTA Wildlife Act Authority

Kia ora s 9(2)(g)(ii),

I have looked at the application and as a result now signed off the DSD and Authority (which needs to be witnessed).

I cannot sign the approval letter as it has s 9(2)(g)(ii)'s name on it which needs to be changed.

■

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 19 March 2021 8:58 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: 69578-FAU NZTA Wildlife Act Authority

Sorry s 9(2)(g)(ii), I dropped the ball on this one somehow as I have no trace of it in my emails. Let me know if you would like me to brief you on any aspects but it should be a pretty straightforward.

It's also the application s 9(2)(a) worked on for NZTA ! I knew her name sounded familiar.

Thank you in advance and let me know if you have any questions or if I can help in any way.

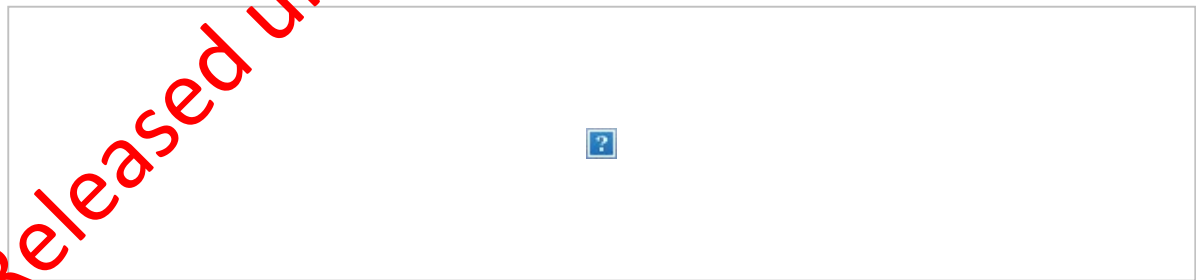
Nga mihi,

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Supervisor, Community
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office

2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140



From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 18 March 2021 5:31 p.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU NZTA Wildlife Act Authority

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

I sent this for a decision on 19 February but no decision has been received. Shall I change to s 9(2)(g)(ii)'s

name – does § 9(2)(g)(ii) need to be briefed?

Best Regards

§ 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: § 9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Friday, 19 February 2021 9:18 am

To: § 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: 69578-FAU NZTA Wildlife Act Authority

Attached for § 9(2)(g)(ii)'s consideration is the decision support document and draft authority for the above.

I have also attached a draft approval letter as approval is anticipated.

You have access to all documents.

[DOC-6485281](#) Decision Support Document

[DOC-6485473](#) Authority

[DOC-6579067](#) Approval Letter

If approval is forthcoming, please:

1. Arrange for the Decisionmaker to fill out the decisionmaker section of the decision support document and sign
2. Arrange for the Decisionmaker to sign the authority and have it witnessed and sign the approval letter
3. Scan email to me the authority, decision support document and approval letter.

Please confirm approval with me via email so that I can change the status of the application in the permissions database from pending to approved.

Can you please arrange for an update of time spent by the decisionmaker in the decision support document, for time recording purposes.

Thanks

Best Regards

§ 9(2)(g)(ii)

Released under the Official Information Act

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) Treaty Partner feedback
Date: Thursday, 17 December 2020 3:02:46 pm

Thanks s 9(2)(g)(ii) ive given you access now!

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 17 December 2020 10:54 am
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: 69578-FAU NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) Treaty Partner feedback

Kia ora s 9(2)(g)(ii).

I am unable to access the DSD.
But we received feedback from Te Parawhau

Te Parawhau position is unchanged and do not oppose the application timeframe extension to cover new works at Loop Rd project. They ask that all current mitigation measures agreed to under the current authority remain within the extended authority applied.

Here is the link to the email: <https://doccm.doc.govt.nz/wcc/faces/wccdoc?dDocName=DOC-6526596>

If you can give me access to the DSD I can go and update that for you.

Nga mihi,
s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Released under the Official Information Act

From: 9(2) (a)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: Permission 69578-FAU
Date: Tuesday, 15 December 2020 5:52:35 pm

Tena koe s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Thank you for your reminder re NZTA application.

Te Parawhau position is unchanged and we do not oppose the application timeframe extension to cover new works at Loop rd project.

we ask that all current mitigation measures agreed to under the current authority remain within the extended authority applied.

Kind regards

9(2)
(a)

Sent from my iPhone

Released under the Official Information Act

From: 9(2)(a)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: No issues
Date: Tuesday, 15 December 2020 3:13:31 pm

Kia ora s 9(2)(g)(ii) !

The others will respond as well but I understand all are happy with your proposals.

Ngā mihi anō,

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

" Je ne connais qu'une liberté et c'est la liberté de l'esprit. "

" I know only one freedom and that is the freedom of the spirit "

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Released under the Official Information Act

From: [Whangarei Community](#)
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject:
Date: Tuesday, 15 December 2020 1:45:00 pm
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[NZTA SH1 Loop Road to Smeatons Hill Project indigenous lizard management - WAA variation application .msg](#)
[Re FW 69578-FAU \(Bioresarches Group Limited\).msg](#)
Importance: High

Tēnā koutou,

Just reminding you all that the anticipated date back for comments on this variation is this coming **Friday 18th December.**

Please let us know if you have any concerns with this application or as stated previously we can accept that the whanau are pai with this application in which case we will continue to process this pukapuka tono with that understanding.

Ngā mihi,

§ 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: Aurelia Robertson
Sent: Friday, 20 November 2020 1:25 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
9(2)(a)
Subject: Permission 69578-FAU (NZ Transport Agency (NZTA)) - Wildlife Act Authority variation

Tēnā koutou,

Please find attached for your perusal Wildlife Act Authority variation (9a) application attached pertaining to the **NZTA SH1 Loop Road to Smeatons Hill improvements project** (current WAA: 69578-FAU).

I have also attached your initial feedback on WAA 69578-FAU.

We will be asking to check the qualifications of their Ecologist, 9(2)(a) (AECOM NZ Ltd.), and that the applicant extend their trapping and monitoring in the area for 1 year, in alignment with the one year extension to term.

We will also be requesting the variation include an authority to salvage, transfer, **and incidentally kill wildlife** (as per the initial application). This is to take into consideration the minimal number of skins that will not be able to be salvaged by the operation and therefore will unfortunately be killed through the damage to their habitat.

TŪWĀHI/LOCATION

Release site – Otaika Valley Government Purpose Reserve

Source site – within the proposed construction site on SH1/SH14 Loop Road

Tuakiri/who is applying

NZ Transport Agency

Take/purpose of the application

A recent redesign of the road layout to increase the capacity and construct a dual lane (cf. single lane) roundabout at the Loop Road-SH1 intersection and a dual lane bridge of the Otaika River has resulted in a minor increase the size of the works footprint. The new affected areas are represented by roadside rank grass, much of which is maintained (mowed) for traffic safety reasons. However, it is acknowledged that the increase in the footprint could see a requirement for the salvage and relocation of additional 'Not Threatened' copper skinks (*Oligosoma aeneum*). Accordingly, a variation to the existing WAA is being sought to allow the salvage and relocation of up to 40 individual copper skinks to allow the lizard mitigation work and the project to continue.

Rauhi / what is being taken

A variation to the existing WAA is being sought to allow the salvage and relocation of up to 40 individual copper skinks to allow the lizard mitigation work and the project to continue.

Angawā/term

One year extension to the term of the existing WWA so that it ends on and includes 30 December 2022

Iwi feedback due by - Friday 18th December

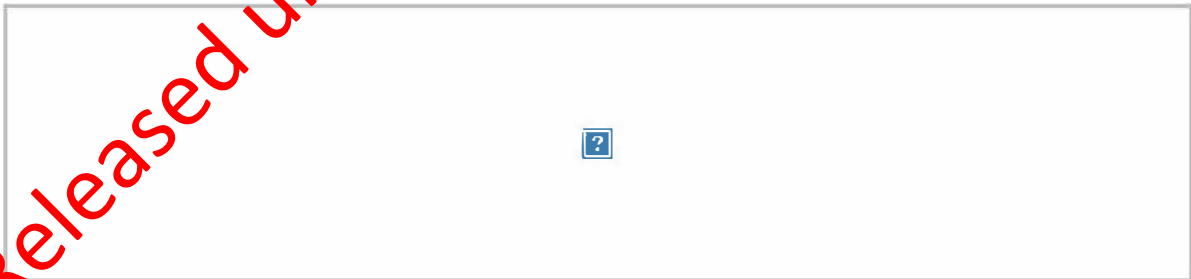
If you need more information to make your assessment on this application please let me know asap, so I can arrange this for you.

I will contact you a couple of days prior to this date as a reminder. If we haven't heard from you within this timeframe we will accept that the whanau are ok with this application and will continue to process it with that understanding.

Nga mihi,
Aurelia

s 9(2)(g)(ii) [redacted]
Supervisor, Community
Department of Conservation — Te Kāpa Atawhai
9(2)(a) [redacted]

Whangarei Office
2 South End Avenue, Raunanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140



Released under the Official Information Act

From: 9(2)(a)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii); 9(2)(a)
Cc: 9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: FW: 69578-FAU (Bioresearches Group Limited)
Date: Monday, 15 October 2018 3:44:47 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

kia ora koutou,

I hope this locks everyone into the stream but just in case I'll recap mainly for Heidi's sake. Te Parawhau discussed the Lizard Management Plan prepared by Bioresearchers (17 July 2017) during the consultation stage of the CIA prepared by 9(2)(a) for NZTA on behalf of Te Parawhau over the Loop Rd to Smeatons Hill SH 1 proposal (6th September 2018) and while Te Parawhau supported the removal of pest species and non-indigenous vegetation they considered the Lizard/Gecko catch and translocation proposal could have significant effects on their cultural values mainly their mana whenua values and their kaitiakitanga values and to that end they requested, as mitigation measures, firstly that they perform karaka prior to any works being carried out and, secondly, that Te Parawhau would relocate the indigenous species and, thirdly that the Species relocation management plan be undertaken in consultation with Te Parawhau.

You will note (i) from 9(2)(a) response to my email that he is confirming karaka arrangements as well as requesting a meeting with the applicants to apprise them of our mitigation measures and (b) please note that I think 9(2)(a) means 'stoats' when she writes 'stouts'.

Heidi, once again thank you for notifying us and I hope the above is helpful also I'm sure 9(2)(a) won't mind if you contact him direct. I'm happy to stay in the loop.

Nga mihi
9(2)(a)

On Thu, Oct 11, 2018 at 1:40 PM s 9(2)(g)(ii) <s 9(2)(g)(ii)> wrote:

Kia Ora 9(2)(a)

Just a friendly reminder that feedback is due for the below application on the **Monday 15th October 2018**. Please let me know if you require any further information.

Nga mihi

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Tuesday, 2 October 2018 7:56 a.m.
To: Te Parawhau 9(2)(a)
Subject: 69578-FAU (Bioresearches Group Limited)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Please find attached a Wildlife Act application for your perusal.

TŪWĀHI/LOCATION

Release site – Otaika Valley Government Purpose Reserve

Source site – within the proposed construction site on SH1/Loop Road

Rauhi/what is being collected?

Proposed species

Copper skink

Ornate skink

Forest gecko

Elegant gecko

Pacific gecko

Who is applying?

Bioreserachers Group Limited

Rationale

The Department has received an application to carry out lizard salvage as part of SH1 upgrades south of Whangarei.

Potential lizard habitat was identified within the project footprint of the SH1/ Loop Road upgrades during preliminary ecological assessments undertaken by AECOM NZ Ltd (AECOM) and Bioreseraches in early 2017. Copper skink were observed during these assessments; however, ornate skinks are also likely to be present within impacted areas. It was also recognised that three native gecko species may occur in the development footprint.

Wildlife Authorisation is being sought to allow the capture and salvage of native lizard

species prior to and during construction to protect individuals from harm. Salvage would be undertaken between months September to May only.

It is proposed that captured lizards will be placed immediately into containment boxes and held temporarily (< 1 day), before being released into an nearby Otaika Valley Wildlife Reserve.

All native lizards will be captured and handled by DOC-authorized herpetologists only. Salvage methods will include: -Search and salvage prior to construction: manual searching through terrestrial debris, groundcover and tree bark and foliage. -Destructive searching of areas with dense coverage: grass trimming, vegetation removal with hand tools and with large machines.

These works would be supervised by a herpetologist/ ecologist. -Supervised vegetation clearance during site prep/construction.

A lizard management plan is also attached with the application.

Angawā/term

September 2018 - May 2021

Iwi feedback due by- 15th October 2018

If you need more information to make your assessment on this application please let me know asap, so I can arrange this for you. If you would like to meet with the applicant, let me know potential dates, times and a point of contact so that I can forward it on to the applicant.

I will contact you a couple of days prior to this date as a reminder. If we haven't heard from you within this timeframe we will accept that the whanau are ok with this application and will continue to process it with that understanding.

Nga mihi

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Community Ranger

Department of Conservation – *Te Papa Atawhai*

VPN: 7285

Whangarei Office

2 South End Ave, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110

cid:image001.png@01D41E90.93BB5A40



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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: NZTA SH1 Loop Road to Smeatons Hill Project & indigenous lizard management - WAA variation application
Date: Wednesday, 2 December 2020 12:54:00 pm
Attachments: [image009.jpg](#)
[image010.jpg](#)
9(2)(a) [_Master CV 20201119 lizards only.pdf](#)
[Affected potential lizard habitat SH1 Loop Rd variation.jpeg](#)
[image001.jpg](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image006.jpg](#)

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

9(2)(a) has asked for some reasoning or justification around the requirement for additional management/monitoring. Can you please advise?

Best regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 27 November 2020 3:16 pm
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii) <s 9(2)(g)(ii) >
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii) <s 9(2)(g)(ii) >
Subject: RE: NZTA SH1 Loop Road to Smeatons Hill Project & indigenous lizard management - WAA variation application

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

Thanks for progressing the application.

- I have attached 9(2)(a) CV 9(2)(a) has assisted me on numerous lizard surveys and salvages and she has additional lizard experience from other projects she has been involved in.
- Yes we would like to check the "kill box" so please take this email as confirmation, as I could not see the "kill" option in the WAA variation document.
- Regarding the request to extend the pest management and monitoring for an additional year. Could you please provide some reasoning or justification around the requirement for additional management/monitoring for our client to consider.

I have also attached a map showing the extent of the additional vegetation proposed to be removed.

Nga mihi,

9(2)(a)

Senior Ecologist / Herpetologist



Biobabbage Consultants Limited

Level 4, 68 Beach Road, Auckland 1010

PO Box 2027, Shortland Street, Auckland 1140, New Zealand

T 9(2)(a)

W www.bioresearches.co.nz



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Professionalism, Respect.

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii) s 9(2)(g)(ii) >

Sent: Thursday, 19 November 2020 11:56 AM

To: 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: NZTA SH1 Loop Road to Smeatons Hill Project & indigenous lizard management - WAA variation application

Importance: High

Hi 9(2)(a)

We just held a meeting to discuss your application.

Given the additional lizards to be salvaged are you ok with extending the trapping and monitoring one more year?

Can you also provide a CV and summary of salvage experience to date regarding 9(2)(a)

As incidental kill is always or most likely associated with vegetation clearance, can you please add "kill" to the application otherwise your client will be committing an offence.

Thanks 9(2)(a)

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Friday, 6 November 2020 10:46 am

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii) s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: NZTA SH1 Loop Road to Smeatons Hill Project & indigenous lizard management - WAA variation application

Fantastic, thanks s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Cheers,

9(2)(a)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii) <s 9(2)(g)(ii)>

Sent: Friday, 6 November 2020 10:32 AM

To: 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: NZTA SH1 Loop Road to Smeatons Hill Project & indigenous lizard management - WAA variation application

Hi 9(2)(a)

I've been assigned to coordinate processing of your application. I will give you updates along the way.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: 9(2)(a)

Conservation leadership for our nature **Takina te Hi, tiakina te ha, o t**

s 9(2)(g)(ii) <s 9(2)(g)(ii)>

Sent: Monday, 17 August 2020 2:35 pm

To: permissions <permissions@doc.govt.nz>; Permissions Hamilton

<permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: NZTA SH1 Loop Road to Smeatons Hill Project & indigenous lizard management - WAA variation application

Kia Ora,

Please find our Wildlife Act Authority variation (9a) application attached pertaining to the **NZTA SH1 Loop Road to Smeatons Hill improvements project** (current WAA: 69578-FAU).

The NZTA SH1 Loop Road to Smeatons Hill improvements project and the associated lizard salvage and relocation programme are progressing well. A summary of the lizard management activities to date is attached above.

A recent redesign of the road layout to increase the capacity and construct a dual lane (cf. single lane) roundabout at the Loop Road-SH1 intersection and a dual lane bridge of the Otaika River has resulted in a minor increase the size of the works footprint. The new affected areas are represented by roadside rank grass, much of which is maintained (mowed) for traffic safety reasons. However, it is acknowledged that the increase in the footprint could see a requirement for the salvage and relocation of additional 'Not Threatened' copper skinks (*Oligosoma aeneum*). Accordingly, a variation to the existing WAA is being sought to allow the salvage and relocation of up to 40 individual copper skinks to allow the lizard mitigation work and the project to continue. Considering the low quality of the additional affected habitat for indigenous lizards it is expected that the 40 lizard limit would be sufficient to see the project through to completion. Attached is our completed and signed WAA variation application.

We are requesting 1) an increase in the number of skinks to be salvaged/ relocated (from 20 to 40 skinks), 2) an increase in the term by one year, and 3) for an AECOM ecologist (Kate Feickert) to be named on the authority to assist with the salvage operation.

Supporting documents that were submitted with our initial WAA application (e.g. LMP, iwi consultation evidence) remain relevant.

Please acknowledge receipt of this WAA variation application.

Nga mihi,

9(2)(a)

Wildlife Ecologist & Herpetologist | Bioresearches (A Babbage Company)

Level 4, 68 Beach Road, Auckland 1010 | PO Box 2027, Shortland Street, Auckland 1140

9(2)(a)

www.bioresearches.co.nz

Bioresearches Logo 2016_email



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Released under the Official Information Act



Otaika Creek

Oaks Road

Released under the Official Information Act

0 50 100 m

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) - wording for Treaty Partner feedback
Date: Thursday, 19 November 2020 12:30:15 pm
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii)

I just changed it a little otherwise all good

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii) <s 9(2)(g)(ii)>
Sent: Thursday, 19 November 2020 12:21 pm
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii) <s 9(2)(g)(ii)>
Subject: 69578-FAU NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) - wording for Treaty Partner feedback

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii).

Just confirming with you the wording for our Treaty Partner feedback about the request to include “to kill” in the application:

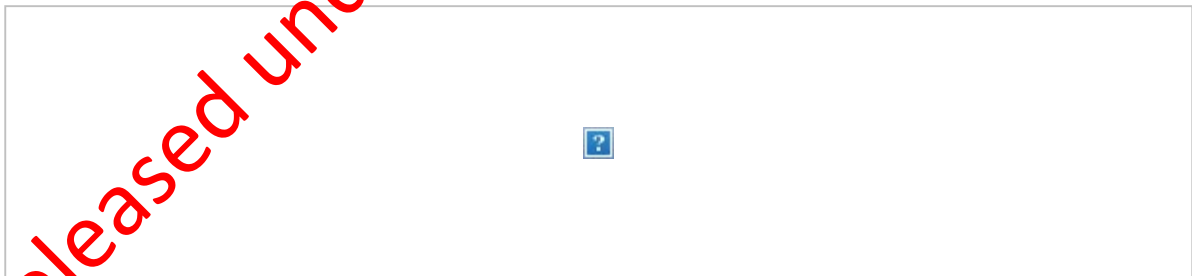
If I state something along the lines:

We will also be requesting the variation include an authority to kill. This is to take into consideration the minimal number of skinks that will not be able to be salvaged by the operation and therefore will unfortunately be killed through the damage to their habitat.

Is this sufficient ?

s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Supervisor, Community
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office
2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140



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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: 9(2)(a)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: 69578-FAU Bioresearchers (Loop Rd)
Date: Friday, 1 February 2019 2:38:00 pm

Hi 9(2)(a)

Just checking in to see how you are getting on with the updates to the loop road lizard management plan? I am keen that this is tidied up as it has been ongoing for some time.

Thanks

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Operations Manager, Whangarei
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*

M 9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office

2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140

Released under the Official Information Act

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: 69578-FAU NZTA Lizard Salvage Decision Sought
Date: Thursday, 20 December 2018 2:27:00 pm
Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii)

I have approved this application. Signed DSD is in DOCCM, hard copies of signed authority and letter are on your desk. Please witness the authority, scan that and the letter to DOCCM and then send to the applicant.

We got there in the end!

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Operations Manager, Whangarei
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
M s 9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office

2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii) <s 9(2)(g)(ii)>

Sent: Thursday, 20 December 2018 9:18 a.m.

To: NorthlandDO Permissions <whangareipermissions@doc.govt.nz>

Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: 69578-FAU NZTA Lizard Salvage Decision Sought

Importance: High

Hi,

Attached for s 9(2)(g)(ii)'s consideration is the decision support document and draft authority for the above.

I have also attached a draft approval letter as approval is anticipated.

You have access to all documents:

[DOC-5591490](#) Decision Support Document

[DOC-5624771](#) Authority

[DOC-5659068](#) Approval Letter

The Director of PP and L has advised that the findings of the Shark Cage Diving High Court Case is “good law” and so the application has been assessed in light of it.

If approval is forthcoming, please:

1. Arrange for the Decisionmaker to fill out the decisionmaker section of the decision support document and sign
2. Arrange for the Decisionmaker to sign the authority and have it witnessed and sign the approval letter
3. Scan email to me the authority, decision support document and approval letter.

Please confirm approval with me via email so that I can change the status of the application in the permissions database from pending to approved.

Can you please arrange for an update of time spent by the decisionmaker in the decision support document, for time recording purposes.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: s 9(2)(g)(ii) | s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Conservation leadership for our nature **Takina te Hi, tiakina te ha, o te ao turoa**

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU NZTA Lizard Salvage Decision Sought
Date: Thursday, 20 December 2018 2:26:39 pm

Hi s 9(2)(a) – I have approved this application. Thank you for your hard work on this one – and patience!! A good DSD which makes it easy to make a decision.

Thank you

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Operations Manager, Whangarei
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
M: +64 27 615 9318

Whangarei Office

2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii) <s 9(2)(g)(ii)>
Sent: Thursday, 20 December 2018 9:18 a.m.
To: NorthlandDO Permissions <whangareipermissions@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii) <s 9(2)(g)(ii)>
Subject: 69578-FAU NZTA Lizard Salvage Decision Sought
Importance: High

Hi,

Attached for s 9(2)(g)(ii)'s consideration is the decision support document and draft authority for the above.

I have also attached a draft approval letter as approval is anticipated.

You have access to all documents.

[DOC-5591490](#) Decision Support Document

[DOC-5624771](#) Authority

[DOC-5659068](#) Approval Letter

The Director of PP and L has advised that the findings of the Shark Cage Diving High Court Case is “good law” and so the application has been assessed in light of it.

If approval is forthcoming please:

1. Arrange for the Decisionmaker to fill out the decisionmaker section of the decision support document and sign
2. Arrange for the Decisionmaker to sign the authority and have it witnessed and sign the approval letter
3. Scan email to me the authority, decision support document and approval letter.

Please confirm approval with me via email so that I can change the status of the application in the permissions database from pending to approved.

Can you please arrange for an update of time spent by the decisionmaker in the decision support document, for time recording purposes.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards

Darcy Liddell

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: s 9(2)(a)

Conservation leadership for our nature **Takina te Hi, tiakina te ha, o te ao turoa**

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: Re: 69578-FAU - Loop Road - Additional Information Provided
Date: Wednesday, 19 December 2018 5:26:46 pm

Awesome thank you

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

----- Original message -----

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii) <s 9(2)(g)(ii)>
Date: 19/12/18 15:30 (GMT+12:00)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU - Loop Road - Additional Information Provided

Have a nice Christmas s 9(2)(g)(ii)

s 9(2)(g)(ii)'s happy from the technical side of things I will finalise the docs

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 19 December 2018 2:04 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii), 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: 69578-FAU - Loop Road - Additional Information Provided

Thanks 9(2)(a) Yes, we'll have to add that to the list (ie talking to Council about variations without an ecologist looking it over).

s 9(2)(g)(ii), you can let s 9(2)(g)(ii) know I'm happy from the technical side of things. Please make sure you use the latest Lizard Management Plan attached in 9(2)(a) previous email (19 Dec 2018, 1:19 pm) that contains the updates.

Happy holidays to both of you! Enjoy the time off with whānau!

Best regards,

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 19 December 2018 1:19 p.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii), 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: 69578-FAU - Loop Road - Additional Information Provided

Thanks s 9(2)(g)(ii),

See 3.5.3: Paragraph 1 (p17)- I've included a threshold at >20 'not threatened skinks' for post-release monitoring.

Agree with your point about short term predator control vs. long-term positive effects for lizard populations. We often recommend the maximum Auckland Council imposes for standard land development projects (5 years). I have heard that it is not uncommon for developers to seek a variation to their consent conditions is granted to reduce pest control. There are occasions where this is approved without input from an ecologist. Therefore expectations (and compliance

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monitoring) need to be ratified with local govt. to tighten this up.

Many thanks,

9(2)(a) | **Bioresearches Group Ltd**

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Tuesday, 18 December 2018 2:39 PM

To: 9(2)(a)

Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: FW: 69578-FAU - Loop Road - Additional Information Provided

Hi 9(2)(a)

Can you make this adjustment if 9(2)(a) is away? Please see below or give me a call Wednesday.

Best regards,

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Technical Advisor Ecology

Department of Conservation—*Te Papa Atawhai*

DDI: s 9(2)(g)(ii) | 9(2)(a) | s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Whakatū / Nelson Office

186 Bridge Street, Nelson 7010 | Private Bag 5, Nelson 7042

Usual Office Hours: 8 am-4:30 pm Monday - Wednesday

Conservation for prosperity *Tiakina te taiao, kia puawai*

www.doc.govt.nz

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Tuesday, 18 December 2018 2:36 p.m.

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii) ; 9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: 69578-FAU - Loop Road - Additional Information Provided

Hi 9(2)(a)

This looks mostly ok... but the monitoring that we talked about on the phone- I didn't realise you meant it not to include copper skinks. Perhaps we could put a number on it? Ie if more than 20 copper skinks are found/surveyed then the monitoring conditions will kick in as well. It would be useful to get some information as to whether the short term predator control has any long term positive impacts for lizards – as the impacts of development on wildlife are permanent.

s 9(2)(g)(ii) - if the above change is added to the Lizard Management Plan, then it ticks all the boxes that 9(2)(a) and I talked about on the phone. I'm in the office Wednesday and then out until Jan 22. So if you need me for anything else, give me a ring Wednesday.

Best regards,

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Tuesday, 18 December 2018 10:49 a.m.

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: FW: 69578-FAU - Loop Road - Additional Information Provided

Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

We received further information from the applicant. Did you want Jen to look over it?

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: [redacted] 9 (2) (a)

Sent: Monday, 17 December 2018 5:42 p.m.

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: [redacted] 9(2)(a)

[redacted]

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: 69578-FAU - Loop Road - Additional Information Provided

Hello [redacted] s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Please find attached the revised documentation for the Loop Road Wildlife Authorisation Permit.

The changes that have been made to the attached documentation are as follows:

- Bait stations will be 25m x 25m apart (12 stations) rather than 50m x 50m apart (6 stations)
- NZ Transport Agency will provide iwi/local community with opportunities to learn how to deliver the pest control with a view that they may be able to continue it in the longer term (post three year period that the Transport Agency will pay for).
- The text in the Lizard Management Plan has been updated to provide further information/evidence as to why the receptor site selected is the most appropriate site for the lizards.
- An upper threshold has been stated. Therefore, if > 50 native lizards (in respect of species) are captured during the salvage, a supplementary relocation site would be utilised. The location of this relocation site and respective management would be agreed upon with DOC and iwi prior to the release of the additional lizards.

These changes have been agreed during a telephone conversation between [redacted] 9(2)(a)

(Bioreserches lizard specialist) and DOCs technical advisor (3/12/18).

I realise that we are on the run up to the Christmas break, but if possible could you indicate when we may receive the permit for these works.

Kind Regards

[redacted] 9(2)(a)

Principal Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

[redacted] 9(2)(a)

[redacted] 9(2)(a)

AECOM

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From: 9(2)(a)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: 69578-FAU - Loop Road - Additional Information Provided
Date: Monday, 17 December 2018 5:42:12 pm
Attachments: [17122 Loop Road Lizard Management Plan \(Dec 2018\).pdf](#)
[Pest Management Plan Loop Road Final for Issue 171218.pdf](#)

Hello 9(2)(g)(ii)

Please find attached the revised documentation for the Loop Road Wildlife Authorisation Permit.

The changes that have been made to the attached documentation are as follows:

- Bait stations will be 25m x 25m apart (12 stations) rather than 50m x 50m apart (6 stations)
- NZ Transport Agency will provide iwi/local community with opportunities to learn how to deliver the pest control with a view that they may be able to continue it in the longer term (post three year period that the Transport Agency will pay for).
- The text in the Lizard Management Plan has been updated to provide further information/evidence as to why the receptor site selected is the most appropriate site for the lizards.
- An upper threshold has been stated. Therefore, if > 50 native lizards (irrespective of species) are captured during the salvage, a supplementary relocation site would be utilised. The location of this relocation site and respective management would be agreed upon with DOC and iwi prior to the release of the additional lizards.

These changes have been agreed during a telephone conversation between 9(2)(a) (Bioresearches lizard specialist) and DOCs technical advisor (13/12/18).

I realise that we are on the run up to the Christmas break, but if possible could you indicate when we may receive the permit for these works.

Kind Regards

9(2)(a)

Principal Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

9(2)(a)

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LIZARD MANAGEMENT PLAN

SH1 LOOP ROAD TO SMEATONS HILL IMPROVEMENTS

13 DECEMBER 2018



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LIZARD MANAGEMENT PLAN

SH1 LOOP ROAD TO SMEATONS HILL IMPROVEMENTS

PREPARED BY:

9(2)(a)

BIORESEARCHES GROUP LTD
68 BEACH ROAD, AUCKLAND

9(2)(a)

FOR:

DATE: 22 AUGUST 2017

REVISED: 16 AUGUST 2018

15 DECEMBER

REFERENCE:

BIORESEARCHES (2018). LIZARD MANAGEMENT PLAN: SH1 LOOP ROAD TO SMEATONS HILL IMPROVEMENTS.

COVER ILLUSTRATION:

COPPER SKINK (*OLIGOSOMA AENEUM*).

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1 INTRODUCTION

The NZ Transport Agency is working to significantly improve the roads and intersections along State Highway 1 (SH1) in Otaika, from Loop Road to Smeatons Hill (hereafter the “Project area”), as part of the Accelerated Regional Roding Package included in the National Land Transport Programme 2015–18.

The Project area covers a 1.7 km section of SH1, between Portland Road and the passing lane north of Loop Road (Figure 1); approximately 8 km south of Whangarei. The scope of the improvement works includes construction of single lane roundabout at the intersection of SH1 and Loop Road North, road widening, the addition of turning bays, an extension to existing passing lanes, upgrading services (e.g. lighting, storm water management) and roadside landscaping (see *Appendix I* for further details). To initiate these works, the removal of roadside vegetation and habitat would be required, and thus the activities are likely to have localised effect on resident biodiversity.

AECOM New Zealand were engaged in early 2017 to carry out an ecological assessment of the terrestrial and freshwater environments that currently exist within the Project area (AECOM, 2017). The assessment included a desktop review of grey literature and a site visit (28 March 2017) to determine the overall ecological characteristics of the Project area and identify areas of ecological interest that may potentially be impacted on by the Project. The assessment briefly addressed native lizards and their habitat, and noted that suitable habitat features for native skinks were present along roadside verges. It was recommended that a Lizard Management Plan (LMP) be implemented to reduce potential risks to native copper skinks during construction in high risk areas.

In recognition of the legal protection status of all indigenous lizards (Wildlife Act 1953), and that vegetation and landscape features that provide significant habitat for native herpetofauna are protected under the Resource Management Act (1991), NZTA engaged AECOM to prepare and implement an LMP to manage local lizard populations. Bioresearches Group were subsequently engaged by AECOM to assist in carrying out these specialised tasks, which resulted in the production of the following LMP.

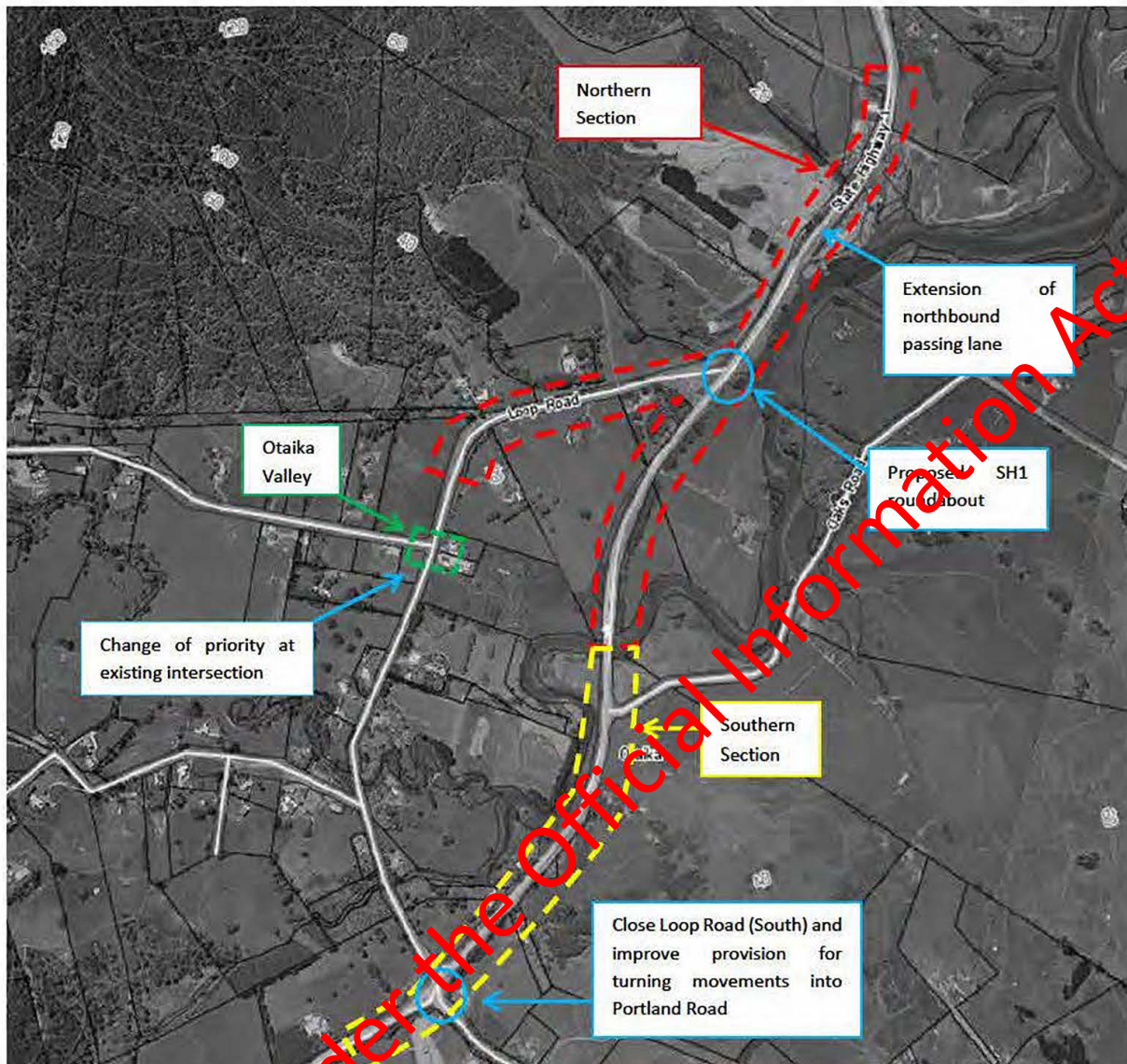


Figure 1. Project area: SH1 Loop Road to Smeatons Hill (Image provided by AECOM, 2017).

2 LIZARD MANAGEMENT PLAN

2.1 CONTEXT OF THE LIZARD MANAGEMENT PLAN

Herpetofauna (reptiles and amphibians) comprise a significant component of New Zealand’s terrestrial fauna. Over 100 endemic taxa are currently recognised (Hitchmough *et al.* 2016) and approximately 80% have a conservation threat status of ‘Threatened’ or ‘At Risk’ of extinction (Hitchmough *et al.* 2016). All native reptiles and amphibians are legally protected under the Wildlife Act 1953, and vegetation and landscape features that provide significant habitat for native herpetofauna are protected by the Resource Management Act 1991. Thus, statutory obligations require that management of resident reptile and amphibian populations occur where they or their habitats are threatened by disturbance or development.

Management recommendations are usually addressed in a site-specific management plan—in this case a Lizard Management Plan (LMP)—which guides construction activities and ensures that all necessary measures are identified and implemented to protect native lizards and/ or their habitats. Since the Project area falls under the jurisdiction of the Northland Regional Council, wildlife management is also covered under the Regional Policy Statement for Northland (May 2016), particularly Policy 4.4.1 (1a).

A Lizard Management Plan must be actioned under a valid Wildlife Act Authority (WAA), and a site-specific WAA has been applied for with respect to this project.

2.2 AREA OF AFFECTED HABITAT

A rapid assessment of the lizard habitat available within the alignment was undertaken during a site visit on 8 August 2017. The objective of this brief assessment was to develop an understanding of the potential adverse effects of the proposed works on resident native lizards.

The affected area was viewed both from a moving vehicle, travelling north to south, and where possible, viewed on foot (e.g. from private driveways, side roads, and pull-over spots). The habitat was generally comprised of managed pasture, areas of mixed exotic and native shrubland, exotic tree shelterbelts, garden ornamental species and self-seeded native trees along fence lines (Plates 1 – 5). The understorey below shelterbelts was mostly sparse but was weed-dominated and dense in areas of regenerating shrubland. Pampas (*Cortaderia selloana*) and gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) were prevalent along the roadside vegetation strip in the northern section of the alignment and rank kikuyu grass formed dense mats on slopes. Organic (e.g. logs, piles of wood) and inorganic debris (e.g. signage, plastic waste) was identified at several sites along the roadside and on private properties (Plates 3 & 5).

Native lizards regularly utilise fragmented, weed-dominated (“surrogate”) habitat in heavily modified environments; thus, large areas of the current alignment can be considered potential lizard habitat (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Project area showing the location of identified lizard habitat

2.3 LOCAL LIZARD POPULATIONS

A review of the lizard species known from the Northland Region and those likely occur within the designation was carried out by accessing the Department of Conservation's *BIOWEB Herpetofauna database* (accessed August 2017) and determining the likely presence of species based on the on-site habitat assessment (8 August 2017).

The review indicated that sixteen (16) lizard taxa are known to occur in regional Northland (mainland only), including nine skinks and seven geckos. These taxa, as well as their corresponding New Zealand Conservation Threat Status (NZCTS), are listed in Table 1. The threat status of each taxon generally correlates with significance of occurrence at sites where it is identified. That is, the higher the threat status, the higher the significance of occurrence at a site.

During the site visit, brief opportunistic searches for native skinks were undertaken by lifting terrestrial debris. No dedicated attempts were made to search for arboreal geckos. Two lizards, including a native copper skink (*Oligosoma aeneum*) and introduced plague skink (*Lampropholis delicata*), were detected beneath a piece of corrugated iron lying in grazed pasture, at the southern extent of the alignment (Plate 4). *Lampropholis delicata* is highly invasive, is abundant in Northland and is regarded as having a detrimental ecological impact on native species where it has established in New Zealand. As a result, it has been classified as an "Unwanted Organism" by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) under the Biosecurity Act (1993) and will not be considered further in this LMP.

Considering the presence of suitable habitat for terrestrial skinks and arboreal geckos in the Project area, and the proximity of historical gecko records, it is likely that at least two species of indigenous lizard (e.g. copper skink and ornate skink) may be resident within the alignment. In addition, three local "At Risk" gecko species, including the elegant gecko (*N. elegans*), Pacific gecko (*D. pacificus*) and forest gecko (*M. granulatus*), may also occur within the alignment and management recommendations have been extended to cover these likely species.

Table 1. Lizards of the Northland Region (mainland taxa only), including conservation threat status (Hitchmough *et al.* 2016) and status in the project area (✓ - confirmed; ? – likely; x – highly unlikely).

Species	Threat Category	Threat Status	Site
Whirinaki (Bream Head) skink (<i>Oligosoma</i> "Whirinaki")	Nationally Critical		x
Slight skink (<i>Oligosoma levidensum</i>)	Nationally Vulnerable		x
Ornate skink (<i>Oligosoma ornatum</i>)	At Risk	Declining	?
Tatahi skink (<i>Oligosoma</i> aff. <i>smithi</i> "Three Kings, Te Paki, Western Northland")	At Risk	Declining	x
Moko skink (<i>Oligosoma moco</i>)	At Risk	Relict	x
Suter's skink (<i>Oligosoma suteri</i>)	At Risk	Relict	x
Copper skink (<i>Oligosoma aeneum</i>)	Not Threatened		✓
Shore skink (<i>Oligosoma smithi</i>)	Not Threatened		x
Plague skink (<i>Lampropholis delicata</i>)	Unwanted Organism		✓
Forest gecko (<i>Mokopirirakau granulatus</i>)	At Risk	Declining	?
Matapia gecko (<i>Dactylocnemis</i> "Matapia")	At Risk	Declining	x
Te Paki gecko (<i>Dactylocnemis</i> "North Cape")	At Risk	Declining	x
Elegant gecko (<i>Naultinus elegans</i>)	At Risk	Declining	?
Aupori gecko (<i>Naultinus</i> "North Cape")	At Risk	Declining	x
Northland green gecko (<i>Naultinus grayi</i>)	At Risk	Declining	x
Pacific gecko (<i>Dactylocnemis pacificus</i>)	At Risk	Relict	?

2.4 POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT ON LIZARDS

Many native lizards, particularly those found in the upper North Island, are indiscriminate in their use of habitat; thus, weed-dominated vegetation, rank grass and scrubland/ low-growing shrubs often provide suitable habitat for a variety of protected lizard species. The clearance of seemingly low value vegetation and habitat features, such as dense weedy thickets, decaying logs, rock piles and inorganic debris (e.g. corrugated iron, car tyres, etc.) can result in direct adverse effects (i.e. significant injury or mortality) to native lizards as these features provide suitable shelter sites in the heavily modified landscape. In addition, the loss of habitat and resources (e.g. food and refuge sites) and consequent displacement of lizards into surrounding areas, as well as a reduction in ecological linkages (e.g. corridors), may have longer-term effects on local lizard communities. Any risks associated with these potential effects can be minimised through the implementation of appropriate vegetation clearance protocols and lizard management, including habitat enhancement at lizard relocation sites.

Management (lizard salvage and relocation) can be broadly categorised into three stages: Stage 1) Pre-works management, Stage 2) Works management, and Stage 3) Post-works management; each of which are discussed in more detail below.

3 LIZARD SALVAGE AND RELOCATION

3.1 TIMING

The SH1 Loop Road to Smeatons Hill project is estimated to occur over a three-year timeframe, from September 2018 to May 2021. This timeframe will accommodate the total expected construction period of 18–24 months, accounting for the appointed contractor schedules and any unforeseen delays in construction. Lizard salvage and relocation activities would be undertaken annually within this period between September and May only, to avoid lizard-related works during cooler months when lizards are typically less active.

3.2 DEMARCATION OF WORKS FOOTPRINT

All works areas would be marked/ taped/ pegged-out by contractors prior to commencement of vegetation clearance, to clearly demarcate the extent of the footprint and ensure that works do not affect any intact peripheral vegetation.

3.3 STAGE 1: PRE-WORKS LIZARD MANAGEMENT

Prior to the commencement of any vegetation clearance or earthworks, a herpetologist(s) would carry out a search-and-salvage operation that would involve active searches for lizards in all priority habitats (Figure 2) within the clearance footprint. Ideally, pre-works lizard searches would be carried out 1 – 3 days prior to the scheduled vegetation clearance date(s), which would provide ample opportunity for herpetologists to search all suitable habitats.

Searches would involve lifting terrestrial debris (e.g. fallen logs, rocks, inorganic debris) and searching through thick leaf litter to reveal terrestrial skinks, as well as peeling back flaking tree bark, searching the skirts of tree ferns and the foliage of affected trees for arboreal geckos.

In some instances, systematic destructive searches may be necessary where habitat features cannot be easily searched (e.g. the interior of pampas clumps). Destructive searches would involve clearing terrestrial substrate (e.g. raking leaf litter) away from targeted areas and then systematically dismantling the vegetation (e.g. pampas clumps, dense shrubs, removing foliage and small branches from trees) by hand to reveal lizards.

Once the project herpetologist is satisfied that no further vegetation or debris can be effectively searched by hand, approval would be given to contractors to proceed with the remainder of the vegetation clearance programme (see 3.3 Stage 2: Works Management).

Any native lizards found during the pre-works activities would be captured and relocated into the approved relocation site (see 3.4.1 Relocation Site(s)).

3.4 STAGE 2: WORKS MANAGEMENT

3.4.1 Vegetation Clearance

It is crucial that vegetation is not mulched *in situ* by lowering a mulch-head directly onto standing vegetation, as this eliminates any opportunity for native lizards to vacate the foliage before it is destroyed. In some instances, where standing vegetation has been thoroughly searched by a herpetologist, approval to mulch discrete areas of poor quality vegetation (e.g. areas of gorse) may be given.

Any areas of rank grass (i.e. grass taller than 200 mm in height) that have been identified as potential lizard habitat may be cut to a level of 50 – 100 mm above the ground using hand-held line trimmers or flail mowers. Cutting the grass to this level, and avoiding disturbance to the soil, would lower the risk of direct injury or mortality in lizards utilising the dense lower layer in the grass and over a short time would allow the soil/ substrate to either dry-out in the sun or become saturated during heavy rain, resulting in lizards vacating the affected area(s).

All native vegetation should be felled using hand saws (e.g. chain saws) and established trees (> 5 m tall) sectioned (deconstructed), stacked in small piles and left on the ground for at least 48 hours to allow resident lizards to vacate the vegetation before it is discarded, chipped or mulched. The herpetologist may supervise the felling of trees and search the stacked vegetation at their discretion to recover lizards.

Coordination and communication between the herpetologist and vegetation clearance contractors (both managers and manual labourers) is critical and will ensure compliance with consent conditions and legal protection of wildlife and associated habitats. The herpetologist and vegetation clearance contractor would agree on a suitable methodology at a pre-start meeting.

3.4.2 Machine-Assisted Vegetation Clearance

In instances where debris, vegetation or habitat structures cannot be physically searched by hand, machine-assisted searches may be required. These searches would involve coordination between the herpetologist and machine operator to carry out systematic scrapes of surface vegetation, as well as lifting heavy objects (e.g. large logs) so that lizards hiding beneath can be captured. An excavator with a toothed bucket or root-raker attachment would be required for this work (Plate 6).

Recoverable leaf litter substrate, woody debris, potential shelter structures (e.g. logs, rocks) and invertebrate food sources will be collected and transferred to the lizard relocation site(s) by the herpetologist.

3.4.3 Lizard Capture

Native lizards will be captured and handled by DOC-authorized herpetologists only. All native lizards captured prior to and during vegetation clearance operations will be placed immediately into

containment boxes and held temporarily for release. Captured lizards will be measured, sexed, weighed and photographed, and where suitable habitat is immediately available, the lizards will be released. The retention of lizards in captivity for periods longer than one day should be avoided as far as practicable.

It is not expected that any threatened species of lizards (i.e. those with a threat classification higher than “At Risk”) will be present in the work area. However, if a threatened lizard is detected, it will be captured and the Department of Conservation (Northland Office) contacted immediately for further advice/ instruction.

3.4.4 Incidental Discovery

The herpetologist would brief project contractors on incidental discovery protocols prior to the start of the works (e.g. at the pre-start meeting). If a lizard is observed by a contractor(s) during site works and the herpetologist is not present on-site, the contractor(s) should cease works in the immediate vicinity of the detection and promptly contact the herpetologist for advice. *Project herpetologist: Dylan van Winkel; Phone: 027 341 3497*.

3.5 STAGE 3: POST-WORKS MANAGEMENT

Post-works management allows for the provision of suitable lizard relocation habitat to ensure long-term survival and protection of salvaged lizards at release sites.

3.5.1 Relocation Site(s)

Ultimately, suitable relocation sites should offer lizards equal or better prospects for survival and long-term persistence than original capture site(s). Determining the suitability of receiving sites can be hindered by an absence of detailed information on factors such as community composition and security of estate; however, the following set of criteria can assist in the rapid determination of suitable lizard relocation sites.

1. **Habitat size and complexity** – ensure the relocation habitat is representative, or of better quality, than the original capture site(s).
2. **Vicinity to original population** – limit the distance that lizards are relocated from their original capture site(s).
3. **Security of estate** – ensure long-term protection and maintenance of habitats at relocation sites.
4. **Resident species composition and density** – limit the potential adverse effects of intra- and inter-species competition at the relocation site(s).

Considering these criteria, potential relocation sites were investigated through a desktop review and site visit by a herpetologist, on 8 August 2017. Relocation site options were broadly categorised into: 1) Relocation sites within the Project area (i.e. within the alignment) and 2) Relocation sites outside the Project area. These are described in more detail below.

3.5.1.1 Relocation sites within the Project area

The retention of lizards within the Project area following works is generally the preferred option with respect to development-related lizard salvages, as this may avoid the potential effects associated with longer distance relocations or translocations (e.g. stress during relatively long transfer periods, which may lead to detrimental effects on the establishment and long-term survival of relocated individuals). An assessment of the potential habitat that may be available within the alignment following works clearly indicated that although areas of vegetation are scheduled for restoration (replanting and landscaping), both the quality and quantity of habitat are unlikely to be adequate to ensure high survival of relocated lizards, large enough to support future growth in lizard populations, and insufficient to provide connectivity to other local lizard populations. Therefore, it is recommended that alternative locations outside the Project area are investigated as potential recipient sites.

3.5.1.2 Relocation sites outside the Project area

Two potential sites have been identified outside the Project area (Figure 3). These include Otaika Valley Scenic Reserve (Figure 4) and Otaika Valley Government Purpose Wildlife Management Reserve (Figure 5).

A more detailed description of these sites, including assessments against the lizard relocation site criteria, are provided in Table 2.

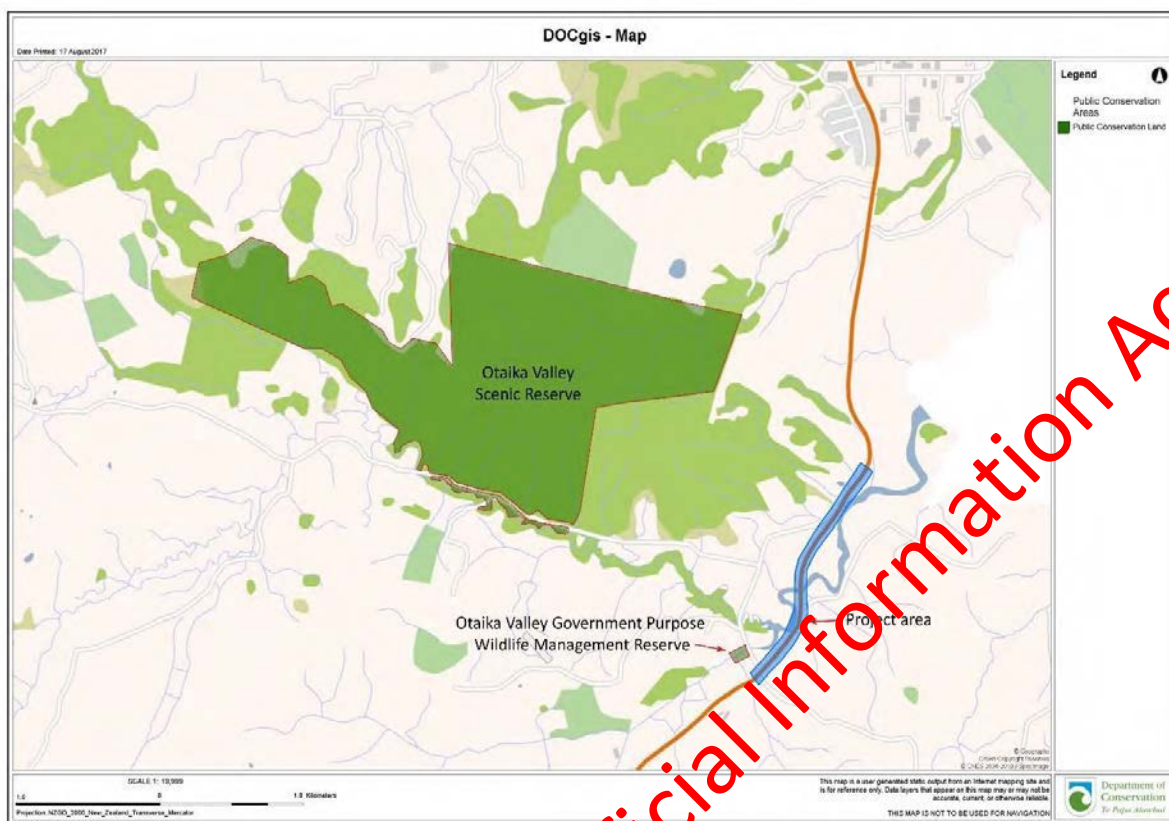


Figure 3. Map showing the location of the project area in relation to potential lizard relocation sites (Otaika Valley Scenic Reserve and Otaika Valley GPWMR).

Table 2. Assessment of native lizard relocation sites within Otaika. Criteria definitions: 1) Habitat size and complexity; 2) Vicinity to original population; 3) Security of estate; 4) Resident species composition and density

Map no.	Site name	Land status	Distance from project area	Size of fragment	Habitat description	Criteria			
						1	2	3	4
1	SH1 roadside (Project area)	Road Reserve	NA	c. ha	<p>Description: The vegetation is currently comprised of mixed native and exotic shrubland, with some larger shelterbelt trees and areas of rank grass. No pest control is currently in place. Restoration/ planting is proposed along the sides of the new road, following construction.</p> <p>Lizard habitat: Although landscaping and planting plans have not been finalised, restoration planting to reinstate/ establish roadside vegetation has been proposed, with most the planting occurring on the eastern margin of SH1 at a width of 5 – 20 m. The vegetation composition would include mixed native species such as sedges, ferns, <i>Muehlenbeckia</i>, flax, <i>Coprosma</i> spp., kanuka, mapou, <i>Pittisporum</i> spp. and some trees (e.g. totara, kahikatea, kohekohe). The planting areas would incorporate roadside swales and ground cover is likely to consist of bark in areas of lower relief and geotextile matting on embankments to mitigate soil erosion.</p> <p>In general, this type of roadside landscaping is not designed to provide quality habitat for native fauna, but rather to provide visual amenity and function to prevent soil erosion post-earth works. In addition, the use of ground cover (e.g. bark, mulch or woodchip) to assist in the establishment of new plants can significantly delay the establishment of invertebrate and lizard communities, which often rely on dense leaf litter and high moisture environments.</p>				?

2	Otaika Valley Scenic Reserve	Public Conservation Land (DOC administered)	c. 1.4 km	c. 340 ha	<p>Description: A large patch of mature native forest to the west of the Project area, north of Otaika Valley Road.</p> <p>Lizard habitat: This site was not accessed but was viewed from the roadside at Otaika Valley Road. The vegetation is comprised of regenerating native forest, with a dense understorey of native plants and thick layer of leaf litter throughout and thus, is likely to provide suitable habitat for indigenous lizards. No information could be gathered on the diversity and abundance of lizards in the reserve. The reserve shares poor ecological connections with the vegetation present in the Project area.</p> <p>It is not known whether pest control occurs in the reserve, but if it does, it is likely to exist at a relatively low intensity.</p>	✓	?	✓	?
3	Otaika Valley Government Purpose Wildlife Management Reserve ¹	Public Conservation Land (DOC administered)	c. 0.16 km	c. 1.2 ha	<p>Description: A modestly-sized government purpose wildlife management reserve to the west of Loop Road, incorporating the riparian margins of Otaika Creek.</p> <p>Lizard habitat values: Site not accessed but viewed from the roadside at the Loop Road bridge. The site is fenced and the vegetation is well established, with a dense mix of native trees and shrubs. The understorey/ groundcover consists of dense rank grass, interspersed with flax and pampas clumps.</p> <p>The site is in close vicinity to the Project area (150 m at its closest distance) and shares ecological connections with the existing SH1 roadside vegetation (i.e. the affected area), via the riparian vegetation along Otaika Creek. No pest control is currently in place.</p>	✓	✓	✓	?

¹ **Government Purpose Wildlife Management Reserves:** government purpose areas managed to benefit wildlife and subject to any prohibition or restriction imposed by proclamation (Reserves Act 1977; Wildlife Management Act 1953)

Otaika Valley Scenic Reserve



Figure 4. Otaika Valley Scenic Reserve: topographic map showing the steep terrain (above) and Otaika Valley Scenic Reserve viewed from Stunnell Road (Image: Google Earth) (below).

Otaika Valley Government Purpose Wildlife Management Reserve



Figure 5. Otaika Valley Government Purpose Wildlife Management Reserve—proposed relocation site for lizards salvaged from the Project area. Otaika Valley Government Purpose Wildlife Management Reserve, viewed from Loop Road.

3.5.1.3 Recommended release site

Retention of lizards within the Project area (e.g. release into roadside amelioration planting) is not considered a viable option, due to the timing of the habitat restoration and quality of habitat at the time of release. Of the other two potential release sites, Otaika Scenic Reserve meets two of the four criteria while Otaika Valley GPWMR adequately meets three of the four criteria.

While the habitat suitability for native lizards is good at both the Otaika Scenic Reserve and Otaika Valley GPWMR, the vegetation community and habitat structure at Otaika Valley GPWMR are much more comparable to the affected habitat within the works footprint where native lizards would be salvaged from. In comparison, the habitat at Otaika Scenic Reserve is more heavily shaded dense native forest and therefore, significantly different to habitat present within the project footprint. Thus, the Otaika Valley GPWMR provides a more comparable relocation site for lizards salvaged from the works area. It is also closer to the Project area (c. 160 m) than the Otaika Scenic Reserve (i.e. reducing the distance lizards need to be moved) and is a government purpose reserve established for wildlife management (Reserves Act 1977).

Everything considered, the Otaika Valley GPWMR—a modestly sized (c. 1.2 ha) and densely vegetated reserve, which supports a diversity of microhabitats that are comparable to the salvage areas—represents the most suitable lizard relocation site.

It is suggested that a combination of hard-release and appropriate habitat enhancement practices would be sufficient to achieve high survival and persistence of relocated lizards at the release site (i.e. soft-release pens would not be required).

3.5.2 Lizard Habitat Enhancement

Lizard habitat enhancement would involve both the provision of additional refuge structures and implementation of mammalian pest control, and would act to increase the probability of survivorship and persistence of displaced lizards over the long-term.

Permanent supplementary refuge structures, including but not limited to log piles, log discs, natural debris from the site clearance or artificial cover objects (*Onduline*) (Plate 7) would be provided throughout the relocation area. As far as practicable, refuge structures should be placed throughout the release site prior to the release of any lizards to allow time for refuges to settle into the environment. Salvaged lizards would then be released beneath refuge structures to provide immediate protection from predators and limit post-release dispersal response. Refuge placement would be undertaken by the project herpetologist.

Mammalian pest control, including but not limited to rodents, would be required where ≥ 10 “Not Threatened” or ≥ 1 “At Risk” or “Threatened” species are relocated, and pest control would extend across the entire Otaika Valley GPWMR. In the instance where > 50 native lizards (irrespective of species) are captured during the salvage, a supplementary relocation site would be utilised. The location of this relocation site and respective management would be agreed upon with DOC and iwi prior to the release of the additional lizards.

The pest control programme would be designed by a qualified ecologist and would utilise bait-stations and targeted kill-traps. Pest control would be implemented by a registered pest control provider and the operation would be overseen by an experienced ecologist. Pest control operations would be managed regularly (i.e. at least monthly) and continue for a minimum period of three years. This three-year period is intended to coincide with the post-release lizard monitoring period (see 3.4.3 *Post-Release Monitoring*) and ensure that relocated lizards receive adequate protection from introduced predators during their re-establishment phase.

The pest control provider would submit regular (i.e. monthly or bi-monthly) reports on the progress of the pest control operations to the project's ecologist(s), Northland Regional Council, and the Department of Conservation for review.

Local community and iwi involvement would be integrated into the lizard salvage and relocation programme, and all opportunities taken to engage with iwi representatives and Otaika School, providing opportunities for up-skilling and training around lizard conservation and pest management.

3.5.3 Post-Release Monitoring

Post-release monitoring is a requirement of most DOC Wildlife Authorities issued for the purpose relocating protected wildlife. Where lizards are rescued and relocated from the works site, post-release monitoring would be required only where ≥ 10 "At Risk" or ≥ 1 "Threatened" species are relocated (i.e. post-release monitoring would not be required for "Not Threatened" species).

Where required, monitoring would commence 12 months after the lizard release and would aim to analyse the outcome of the relocation, any mitigation efforts, and determine the need for further management. Lizard monitoring would be required for three years following the release of salvaged animals.

Lizard monitoring would be undertaken over a four- to six-week period during the months of November – April, inclusive, and employ standard herpetofauna survey techniques such as the use of artificial lizard refuges, nocturnal spotlight searching (geckos only) and habitat-searches, in accordance with Department of Conservation SOPs (*DOC Biodiversity inventory and monitoring toolbox – Herpetofauna*). The specific methods and intensity of the monitoring regime would reflect the outcome of the lizard salvage programme (e.g. where skinks are relocated: deployment of artificial refuges for at least one month, followed by at least four inspections. Where geckos are relocated: at least two nights of nocturnal spotlight searches for arboreal geckos. And where skinks and geckos are relocated: employ both techniques).

Post-release monitoring would aim to: 1) determine the status of native lizard populations at the relocation sites (e.g. determine the presence of gravid females and/ or juveniles), 2) re-capture salvaged individuals (using photo identification), and 3) determine the success/ failure of lizard habitat restoration initiatives.

A post-release monitoring report (memo) will be prepared following each monitoring event (i.e. annually) and copies provided to the Department of Conservation, Northland Regional Council and stakeholders. In addition, observational records of lizards would be submitted to the Department of Conservation, via Amphibian and Reptile Distribution Scheme (ARDS) cards.

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Lizard Management Plan (LMP) Checklist

Project start-up	Required of:	Completed
Lizard Management Plan approval	Northland Regional Council (NRC)/ Client	
Confirmation/acknowledgement of approved Lizard Management Plan	Stakeholders	
Approved lizard release sites	Landholder/ NRC/ DOC	
Pre-works meeting with herpetologist, AECOM ecologist, vegetation clearance contractor (where required)	Project Manager	
Demarcation of works footprint	Surveyor/ vegetation clearance contractor	
Pre-works management (prior to vegetation clearance and earthworks)		
Pre-works lizard capture and site preparation	Herpetologist/ Ecologist	
Works lizard management		
Machine assisted lizard capture (where required)	Herpetologist, clearance contractor	
Stacked log-pile creation at lizard relocation sites	Herpetologist/ Ecologist	
Post-works		
Works completion report and lizard records to client, NRC and DOC	Herpetologist	
Post-release monitoring (annually) (where required)	Herpetologist	

4 REFERENCES

AECOM (2017). Ecological Assessment: SH1 Loop Road to Smeatons Hill Improvements. Prepared for The Transport Agency. 17 July 2017.

9(2)(a)

(2016). *Conservation status of New Zealand reptiles, 2015*. New Zealand Threat Classification Series 2. Department of Conservation, Wellington.

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5 PLATES



Plate 1. Affected vegetation and potential lizard habitat alongside SH1.



Plate 2. Set of plates showing mixed native and exotic vegetation along the roadside of SH1 (northern section).



Plate 3. Set of plates showing mixed native and exotic vegetation, tree land and debris along the roadside of SH1 (southern section).



Plate 4. Copper skink (*Oligosoma aeneum*) (left) and plague skink (*Lampropholis delicata*) found beneath debris immediately adjacent to the works alignment.



Plate 5. Treeland and debris (power pylons) at the southern extent of the Project area.



Plate 6. Machine-assisted lizard searches. Herpetologist supervising the scraping of terrestrial vegetation.



Plate 7. Example of stacked branches, logs, ponga trunks and leaf litter to create supplementary refuges for relocated lizards.

6 APPENDICES

APPENDIX I. SUMMARY OF PHYSICAL PROJECT WORKS

Section of Works	Description of the Works
Northern Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A single lane roundabout at the intersection of SH1 and Loop Road North to provide safe and efficient movement of light and heavy vehicles; and - An extension of the existing northbound passing lane starting at property no. 518 on SH1 and continuing to just north of the proposed roundabout at the intersection of SH1 and Loop Road North. This will increase the efficiency of SH1.
Southern Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A northbound right turn bay into Portland Road from SH1; - A southbound left turn bay into Portland Road from SH1; - Closure of Loop Road South; and - Widening of the Portland Road Bridge (Portland Junction Bridge No. 87) to enable a right turn bay to be added.
Otaika Valley Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrade of the Otaika Valley Road / Loop Road intersection to make it more accessible for pedestrians (ultimately reflecting that Loop Road South will not be a through route).
All Sections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Associated landscaping (where appropriate); - Provision of road lighting; - Improve stormwater management in the area and - Safety barriers as required.

Pest Management Plan

Otaika Valley Government Purposed Wildlife Management Reserve



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Pest Management Plan

Otaika Valley Government Purposed Wildlife Management Reserve

Client: NZ Transport Agency

ABN: N/A

Prepared by

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17-Dec-2018

Job No.: 60527151

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Quality Information

Document Pest Management Plan

Ref 60527151

Date 17-Dec-2018

Prepared by 9(2)(a)

Reviewed by 9(2)(a)

Revision History

Rev	Revision Date	Details	Authorised	
			Name/Position	Signature
A	30-Nov-2018	For Issue	9(2)(a) Technical Director	
B	17-Dec-2018	For Issue	9(2)(a) Technical Director	

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1.0 Introduction

AECOM New Zealand Limited (AECOM) and Bioresarches Group Limited have been commissioned by NZ Transport Agency (Transport Agency) to produce a Pest Management Plan for the Otaika Valley Government Purposed Wildlife Management Reserve (Reserve). The Reserve has been identified as the receptor site for native lizards that may be salvaged from vegetation that will be removed as part of a road improvement project known as Loop Road (Project).

AECOM was engaged in 2017 to complete an ecological assessment of the Project area (refer to Figure 1). The assessment identified that habitat along the roadside verges could be suitable for native skinks, if they were present.

Bioresarches Group was engaged by AECOM to undertake a focused habitat appraisal of the vegetation within the Project area. This appraisal assessed the vegetation's potential to support lizards and to undertake an opportunistic search for lizards. These works led to the identification of copper skink (*Oligosoma aeneum*), a native lizard species, on site and it was determined that the habitat could support other native lizard species.

In recognition of the legal protection status of all indigenous lizards (Wildlife Act 1953), the Project prepared documentation to obtain a Wildlife Act Authorisation (Permit) from the Department of Conservation (DOC). The receipt of a permit authorises the holder to undertake activities that would otherwise be considered an offence under the Wildlife Act 1953.

A Lizard Management Plan (LMP)¹ was produced to demonstrate to DOC the works that would be undertaken to mitigate effects on native lizards. This outlined how pest control would be delivered at the receptor site, if ≥ 10 "Not Threatened" or ≥ 1 "At Risk" or "Threatened" lizard species were to be salvaged and subsequently relocated to Otaika Valley Reserve. DOC indicated during the permit review process that a full Pest Management Plan is required prior to the commencement of the lizard salvage works. This is to ensure that pest control could be implemented immediately, if required. Therefore, this Pest Management Plan has been prepared.

This Pest Management Plan should be read in conjunction with the LMP prepared by Bioresarches.

1.1 Project description

The Transport Agency is working to significantly improve the roads and intersections along State Highway 1 (SH1) in Otaika from Loop Road to Smeatons Hill (hereafter the "Project area"), as part of the Accelerated Regional Roading Package included in the National Land Transport Programme 2015–18.

The Project area covers a 1.7 km section of SH1, between Portland Road and the passing lane north of Loop Road (Figure 1); approximately 8 km south of Whangarei. The scope of the improvement works includes construction of a single lane roundabout at the intersection of SH1 and Loop Road North, road widening, the addition of turning bays, an extension to existing passing lanes, upgrading services (e.g. lighting, storm water management) and roadside landscaping.

¹ Bioresarches (2018) Lizard Management Plan – Loop Road

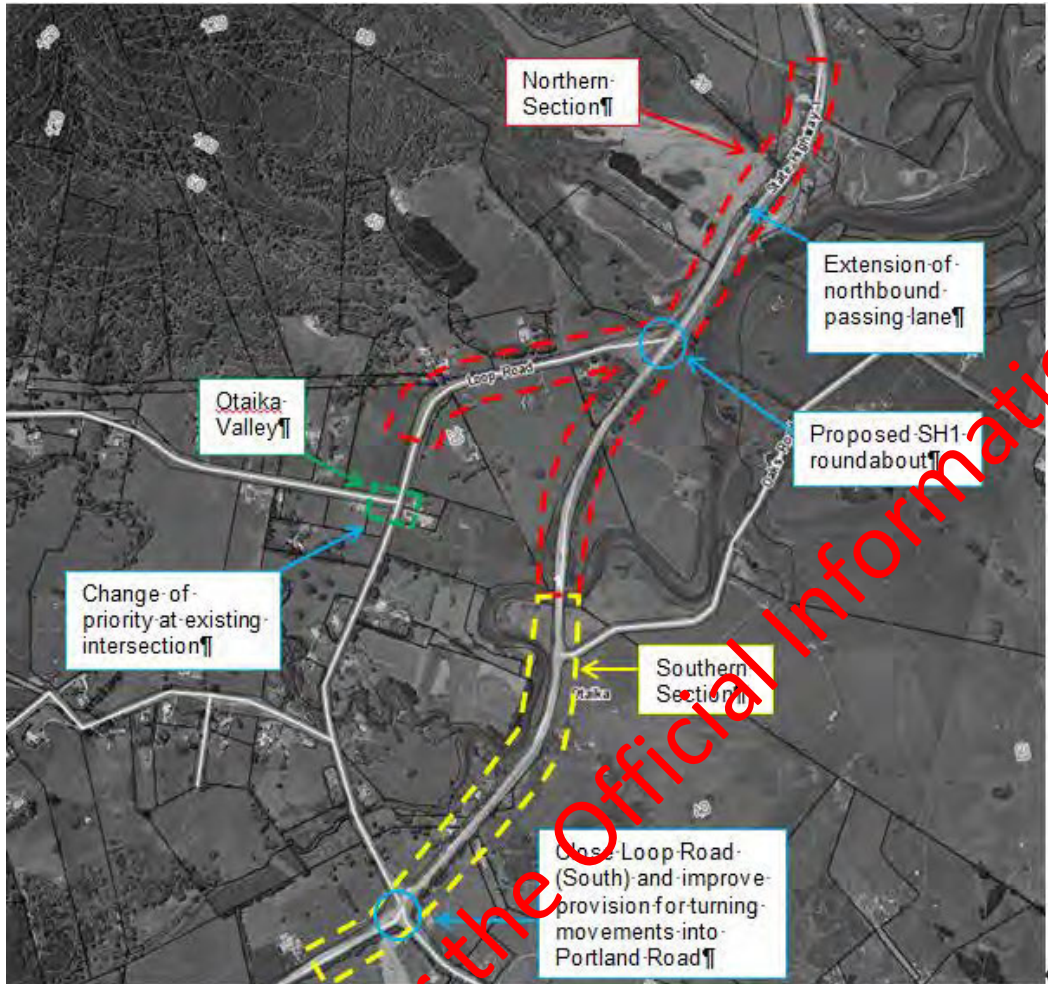


Figure 1 SH1 Loop Road to Smeaton Hill Project Locations and Sections.

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2.0 Receptor Site Description

2.1 Otaika Valley Government Purposed Wildlife Management Reserve

The Reserve covers approximately 1.2 hectares (ha) and is owned and managed by DOC. It is located 150 metres (m) to the west of the Project area and comprises a dense mix of native trees and shrubs surrounding Otaika Creek (refer to Figure 2). The understory/groundcover consists of dense rank grass, interspersed with flax (*Phormium tenax*) and pampas (*Cortaderia* sp.) clumps (refer to Figure 3).

The receptor site (Otaika Reserve) is linked to the Project area by the riparian vegetation along Otaika Creek. It is understood that pest control is not currently undertaken within the Reserve.

Access to the northern part of the Reserve can be attained directly from Loop Road, which forms the eastern boundary of the Reserve. To the north, the Reserve is bound by Otaika Valley School, while to the west and south the Reserve is bound by agricultural land. Otaika Creek runs through the middle of the Reserve and access to the southern part of the Reserve is through private property.

There are no formal walkways through the Reserve and dense vegetation within the Reserve is likely to deter walkers. However, the Reserve is public land and there is the potential that the public could access it.



Figure 2 Location of Otaika Reserve in relation to the Project Area.



Figure 3 Boundary of Otaika Valley Government Purpose Wildlife Management Reserve.

3.0 Lizard species

A review of the historical data held by DOC within the *BIOWEB Herpetofauna database* (accessed August 2017) was undertaken by Bioreserches to determine the likely presence of lizard species within the Project area.

The review indicated that sixteen lizard species are known to occur in Northland, including nine skinks and seven geckos. These species, as well as their corresponding New Zealand Conservation Threat Status (NZCTS), are listed in Table 1. Table 1 also indicates the likelihood of these species being on site, due to the nature of the habitat on site.

During the lizard habitat appraisal, brief opportunistic searches for native skinks were undertaken by lifting terrestrial debris. No dedicated attempts were made to search for arboreal geckos. Although these opportunistic searches were completed outside of the optimal lizard survey window two lizard species were observed, including native copper skink (*Oligosoma aeneum*) and introduced plague skink (*Lampropholis delicata*). These species were recorded beneath a piece of corrugated iron lying in grazed pasture, at the southern extent of the alignment. Plague skink is abundant in Northland and is regarded as having a detrimental ecological impact on native species. As a result, it has been classified as an “Unwanted Organism” by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) under the Biosecurity Act (1993) and will not be considered further in this Pest Management Plan.

Considering the presence of suitable habitat for terrestrial skinks and arboreal geckos in the Project area, and the proximity of records, it is considered that at least two species of indigenous lizard; copper skink and ornate skink (*Oligosoma ornatum*) may be resident within the alignment. In addition, three local “At Risk” gecko species, including the elegant gecko (*Naultinus elegans*), Pacific gecko

(*Dactylocnemis pacificus*) and forest gecko (*Mokopirirakau granulatus*), may occur within the alignment.

The relocation site has not had a lizard survey completed to determine which species are currently present.

Table 1. Lizards of the Northland Region (mainland taxa only), including conservation threat status and status in the project area (✓ - confirmed; ? - likely; x - highly unlikely).

Species	Threat Category	Threat Status	Site
Whirinaki (Bream Head) skink (<i>Oligosoma</i> "Whirinaki")	Nationally Critical		X
Slight skink (<i>Oligosoma levidensum</i>)	Nationally Vulnerable	Nationally Vulnerable	X
Ornate skink (<i>Oligosoma ornatum</i>)	At Risk	Declining	?
Tatahi skink (<i>Oligosoma</i> aff. <i>Smithi</i>) "Three Kings, Te Paki, Western Northland"	At Risk	Declining	X
Moko skink (<i>Oligosoma moco</i>)	At Risk	Relict	X
Suter's skink (<i>Oligosoma suteri</i>)	At Risk	Relict	X
Copper skink (<i>Oligosoma aeneum</i>)	Not Threatened		✓
Shore skink (<i>Oligosoma smithi</i>)	Not Threatened		X
Plague skink (<i>Lampropholis delicata</i>)	Unwanted Organism		✓
Forest gecko (<i>Mokopirirakau granulatus</i>)	At Risk	Declining	?
Matapia gecko (<i>Dactylocnemis</i> "Matapia")	At Risk	Declining	X
Te Paki gecko (<i>Dactylocnemis</i> "North Cape")	At Risk	Declining	X
Elegant gecko (<i>Naultinus elegans</i>)	At Risk	Declining	?
Aupori gecko (<i>Naultinus</i> "North Cape")	At Risk	Declining	X
Northland green gecko (<i>Naultinus grayi</i>)	At Risk	Declining	X
Pacific gecko	At Risk	Relict	?

Species	Threat Category	Threat Status	Site
(<i>Dactylocemis pacificus</i>)			

4.0 Pest Species

Mammalian pest control is to be implemented in order to enhance lizard habitat and increase the probability of survivorship and persistence of displaced lizards over the long term.

Mammalian pests listed under the Northland Regional Pest and Marine Pathway Management Plan (2017-2027) that are known to predate on lizards include; ferret (*Mustela furo*), stoat (*Mustela ermina*), weasel (*Mustela nivalis*), ship rat (*Rattus rattus*), Norway rat (*Rattus norvegicus*), house mouse (*Mus musculus*) and European hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*). Therefore, this Pest Management Plan is focussed on the control of these species.

5.0 Threshold

As indicated within the Lizard Management Plan and in Section 1.0 of this report, this mammalian Pest Management Plan will be used if ≥ 10 "Not Threatened" or ≥ 1 "At Risk" or "Threatened" lizard species are salvaged and relocated.

In the instance where > 50 native lizards (irrespective of species) are captured during the salvage, a supplementary relocation site would be utilised. The location of this relocation site and respective management would be agreed upon with DOC and iwi prior to the release of the additional lizards.

6.0 Desired Outcome (Goal)

The objective of pest control is to increase the probability of survivorship and persistence of the relocated lizards and the presumed resident population in the Reserve over the long-term.

6.1 Measures of Success

Success of the Pest Management Plan will be measured through the following indicator.

- A decrease in the occurrence of pest species in the Reserve.

The project will also look at the following indicators to assess if pest control is having a positive impact on the lizard population.

- The presence of gravid females and/ or juveniles lizards indicating a recruiting population; and
- Re-capture salvaged individuals (using photo identification) showing individual survival and population recruitment.

7.0 Roles and Responsibilities

7.1 NZ Transport Agency

The Transport Agency is responsible for ensuring that all subcontractors are aware of and remain compliant with the Projects Wildlife Act Authorisation, during all stages of the Project; pre-implementation, construction and operation (including Pest Control and Monitoring). It is the Transport Agency's responsibility to review the successes of the Project in relation to lizards and implement remedial action if it is found that the outcomes of Pest Control are not being delivered (refer to Section 6.0).

7.2 Pest Control Contractor

The Pest Control Contractors will be competent in the delivery of pest control to achieve conservation outcomes and in the handling of pesticides. They will have read this Pest Management Plan and will implement its recommendations (control and monitoring). It is the contractor's responsibility to liaise with DOC's Reserve Manager so that DOC are aware when pest control is being completed. It is the contractor's responsibility to ensure that appropriate signage is in place to warn members of the public that pest control is in progress. It is the contractor's responsibility to keep the Transport Agency informed of the effect of Pest Control in the Reserve and to indicate to the Transport Agency, when a change in approach is required because pest numbers are rising rather than declining.

7.3 Project Ecologist

It is the Ecologists responsibility to monitor lizards and to indicate whether pest control is considered a success in accordance with the Measures of Success presented in Section 6.0.

7.4 Department of Conservation

DOC as landowner is responsible for informing the Transport Agency if land management on the Reserve is going to change, if it could affect the success of the pest control being implemented.

7.5 Iwi

Te Parawhau will be involved with the relocation of lizards to the Reserve. They will subsequently be kept informed of progress in relation to pest control.

8.0 Pest Control Methodology

This Pest Management Plan has been developed in accordance with current best practice. The approach to pest control and/or monitoring of pests and lizards may change during the period when pest control is proposed to be implemented. The Project should adjust the approach in relation to the results collected and also in response to changes in best practice.

The species/species groups that will be targeted include; rodents, mustelids and hedgehogs. A combination of poison bait stations and DOC 200 traps will be used to control these species. Prior to pest control being implemented monitoring will be undertaken to gain an understanding of the species present and an indices of their abundance.

8.1 Poison bait stations

Poison bait stations will be used to control rodents for a period of three years post relocation (refer Table 2). The Project will use purpose-built bait stations (e.g. Philproof) to keep the bait dry and to protect non-target animals.

Bait stations will be spaced at 25 m x 25 m grid (12 bait stations) within the Reserve (1.2 ha). Bait will be delivered in four pulses through the year (January, April, August and November).

A non-toxic pre-feed will be used at the beginning of each pulse for a period of two week to encourage animals into the traps before toxic baits are swapped into place. Once the use of toxic bait begins they will be filled in accordance with the following regime; fill on day one, three, five and 14. If less than half the bait from the previous fill is present on day 14 fill, then fill again on day 17. Remove bait at the end of week four.

The poison to be used will be on the NRC registered rodenticides list². Consultation will be undertaken with DOC to identify whether second generation pesticides such as brodifacoum and difenacoum could be used within this reserve.

² If using Diphacinone, it is a multi-feed toxin and it is very important that it is available for five consecutive nights for the rodents to be able to consume a lethal dose.
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Revision B – 17-Dec-2018
Prepared for – NZ Transport Agency – ABN: N/A

8.2 DOC 200 traps

DOC 200 traps will be used to kill stoats, ferrets, weasels, rats and hedgehogs. The traps will be in place for a period of three years. The kill traps will be set up approximately 50 m apart on trap lines that are 100 m apart (4 traps). These will be positioned to avoid theft. During the first week after the traps have been placed on site they will be baited but not set to encourage animals to enter the trap. The traps will then be set and checked every 1-2 days, once catch rates drops (between 5-10 checks traps will be checked once a month. If catch rate numbers increase, the frequency of trap checking should also increase.

8.3 Habitat Enhancement

The Lizard Management Plan indicates that if pest control is implemented that habitat enhancement within the Reserve would be undertaken. This enhancement would take the form of refuge structures such as log piles, log discs, natural debris from the site clearance or artificial cover objects (Onduline).

The objective of these features would be to create cavities that mammalian predators cannot access and provide internally environmental conditions that would be favoured by lizards.

8.4 Pest control monitoring

Indices of pest abundance will be obtained by using tracking tunnels. The tracking tunnels will be placed out on site for the first week when bait stations and traps are not set. The plastic tunnels will be baited (e.g. peanut butter or egg, depending on species being attracted) and paper and ink set so that pest leave footprints on the paper inside. These will be checked after 3 days.

Monitoring will be undertaken four times a year, in line with each pulse of poison bait (January, April, August and November).

If levels of pests appear to be increasing, rather than decreasing, then the approach to control would be reviewed

8.5 Pest control reporting

The pest control provider would submit regular annual reports on the progress of the pest control operations to the Project's Ecologist(s), the Transport Agency and the Department of Conservation for review.

This report will present the quantity of bait taken from bait stations and the Capture Rate per Unit Effort (CRUE) for the DOC 200 traps.

8.6 Community Engagement

Iwi have indicated that they would like to be involved with pest control within the receptor site with a view of undertaking pest control in the longer term. The Transport Agency will engage with the local community with the intention of providing opportunities to interested individuals to learn how to deliver pest control and to develop closer community connection with the reserve. Funding for extending the pest control, beyond the proposed three years, would need to be sought by the community.

9.0 Lizard Monitoring

9.1 Methodology

Post-release monitoring will be undertaken where ≥ 10 "At Risk" or ≥ 1 "Threatened" species are relocated (i.e. post-release monitoring would not be required for "Not Threatened" species).

Monitoring will be undertaken in Year 1, 3 and 6 after the relocation of lizards has occurred. The monitoring in Year 1 and 3 will be during the pest control period and Year 6 will be three years after pest control has ended.

Lizard monitoring will be undertaken over a four- to six-week period during the months of November – April, inclusive, and employ standard herpetofauna survey techniques relevant to the lizard species salvaged and translocated; such as the use of artificial lizard refuges, nocturnal spotlight searching (geckos only) and habitat-searches, in accordance with Department of Conservation Standard Operating Procedures (*DOC Biodiversity inventory and monitoring toolbox – Herpetofauna*).

If skinks are relocated, they will be surveyed through checks of natural and artificial refuges. The artificial refuges would be placed on the Reserve at least one month prior to the survey commencing. This is to provide the lizards with the time to locate the refuges. Once the refuges have bedded in, at least four inspections would be undertaken during suitable weather conditions.

If geckos are relocated, then at least two nights of nocturnal spotlight searches for arboreal geckos will be completed.

9.1.1 Post-release monitoring report

A post-release monitoring report (memo) would be prepared following each monitoring event and copies provided to the DOC, the Transport Agency and the pest control contractors. In addition, observational records of lizards will be submitted to the DOC, via Amphibian and Reptile Distribution Scheme (ARDS) cards.

10.0 Review

As indicated above, the pest control contractor will provide an annual report to the Project Ecologist, the Transport Agency and the Department of Conservation. On behalf of the Transport Agency it will be the Project Ecologists responsibility to review this report and determine whether the control needs to be adjusted.

After three years of pest control and two years of lizard monitoring the Project Ecologist on the behalf of the Transport Agency should review the results of the Pest Management Plan in relation to the indicators of success. If these have not been met, then it may be necessary to extend the pest control programme.

11.0 Summary Table of Pest Control and Monitoring

Table 2 provides an overview of when pest control and monitoring will be delivered if the number of lizards salvaged exceeds the thresholds indicated in Section 5.0.

Table 2 Programme of Pest Control and Monitoring.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Pest Control inc Annual Report						
Monitoring of bait take and CRUE						
Lizard Survey inc Annual Report						

From: 9(2)(a)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii); 9(2)(a)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU
Date: Sunday, 9 December 2018 5:41:20 pm

Hello 9(2)(g)(ii)

Thank you for sending that through. I will get back to you shortly.

Kind Regards

9(2)(a)

Principal Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

9(2)(a)

AECOM

AECOM House, 8 Mahuhu Crescent, Auckland 1010

PO Box 4241 Shortland St, Auckland 1140

T +64 9 967 9200 F +64 9 967 9201

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 6 December 2018 2:26 PM
To: 9(2)(a)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: 69578-FAU
Importance: High
Hi 9(2)(a)

Our technical advisor just needs a bit more information regarding the proposed release site as per below. Can you please provide the requested information.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 5 December 2018 3:27 p.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU

Hi 9(2)(g)(ii)

Most of this is ok.

However, the pest management plan provided is likely to have little to no benefits for the lizards as the site is too small and will have constant reinvasion. Plus to control mice the bait stations should be at 25 m grid spacings. So as is it should not be considered part of mitigation.

They have Otaiki Valley Scenic Reserve listed as a possible release site. Its slightly further (only by 1 km) but much larger and it says that it is likely to contain suitable habitat for lizards. I don't work Thurs/Fri and tried to call 9(2)(a) but couldn't reach him. Can you give him a call 9(2)(a)

If the Otaiki Valley Scenic Reserve has suitable habitat and if there is any pest control done there at all (more likely at a 340 ha reserve than a 1.2 ha one), then this would be a far better option.

So ask 9(2)(a) to check on these.

If 9(2)(a) can confirm the Otaiki Valley Scenic Reserve has suitable habitat for the expected species and they can put an appropriate pest control plan including 25 m spacing bait stations on top of whatever DOC is doing, then I'd be happy with that. I think the difference of 1 km for a much larger protected area is worthwhile.

Happy to help Monday if you need it.

I think the rest is fine on my quick skim through. Prepping stuff for the Minister so don't have much more time today.

Best regards,

9(2)(g)

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Friday, 30 November 2018 2:57 p.m.

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: 9(2)(a)

Subject: 69578-FAU

Hello s 9(2)(g)(ii)

The attached documentation presents the further information requested by DOC:

- Application form updated – Kill box has been ticked to take account of the potential for incidental kill
- Provision of a Pest Management Plan for the lizard release site.
- The Pest Management Plan (rather than updating the LMP as previously indicated) indicates how the lizard release site will be monitored post release, if thresholds are passed.
- 9(2)(a) will be present on site for all salvage works but 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(a), will be working with him to gain experience of delivering lizard salvage projects. CVs for 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(a) have been provided.
- Application form updated (rather than updating the LMP as previously indicated) – to indicate that salvage works will be programmed to occur one week before construction works commencing on site. It is estimated that the clearance works would take between 2-3 days to complete but these works need to be undertaken during suitable weather conditions, therefore, the application form indicates that sufficient time will be provided to ensure that salvage works are completed appropriately.

On the 26th November AECOM were sent an additional email from DOC stating;

1. Who reminds the contractor doing the construction that they need to apply for a Wildlife Act authority?

AECOM consulted with DOC in relation to this statement and it was agreed that if the Wildlife Act Permit was held by NZ Transport Agency this would cover all of their contractors e.g. Ecological Contractors and construction contractors. Therefore, the Application Form was updated so that NZ Transport Agency are now the holder of the permit once issued.

Please can you review the information attached and indicate if sufficient information has been provided. In addition, please can you indicate when the permit application would be reviewed and consequently issued.

Kind Regards

9(2)(a)

Principal Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

9(2)(a)

AECOM

AECOM House, 8 Mahuhu Crescent, Auckland 1010

PO Box 4241 Shortland St, Auckland 1140

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Released under the Official Information Act

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU
Date: Thursday, 6 December 2018 12:29:00 pm

Yes please

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Operations Manager, Whangarei
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
M s 9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office

2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 6 December 2018 11:53 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: 69578-FAU

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

Looks like Jen just needs a bit more information regarding the proposed release site. I can call s 9(2)(a) about this?

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 5 December 2018 3:27 p.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Most of this is ok.

However, the pest management plan provided is likely to have little to no benefits for the lizards as the site is too small and will have constant reinvasion. Plus to control mice the bait stations should be at 25 m grid spacings. So as is it should not be considered part of mitigation.

They have Otaiki Valley Scenic Reserve listed as a possible release site. Its slightly further (only by 1 km) but much larger and it says that it is likely to contain suitable habitat for lizards. I don't work Thurs/Fri and tried to call s 9(2)(a) but couldn't reach him. Can you give him a call s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a).

If the Otaiki Valley Scenic Reserve has suitable habitat and if there is any pest control done there at all (more likely at a 340 ha reserve than a 1.2 ha one), then this would be a far better option. So ask s 9(2)(a) to check on these.

If s 9(2)(a) can confirm the Otaiki Valley Scenic Reserve has suitable habitat for the expected species and they can put an appropriate pest control plan including 25 m spacing bait stations on top of whatever DOC is doing, then I'd be happy with that. I think the difference of 1 km for a much larger protected area is worthwhile.

Happy to help Monday if you need it.

I think the rest is fine on my quick skim through. Prepping stuff for the Minister so don't have much more time today.

Best regards,

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 5 December 2018 9:39 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Released under the Official Information Act

Subject: FW: 69578-FAU

Importance: High

Hi [redacted],

[redacted] would like for you to do a quick check of the attached documents – Are we ok to approve subject to conditions.

Best Regards

[redacted]

From: [redacted] 9(2)(a)

Sent: Friday, 30 November 2018 2:57 p.m.

To: [redacted] 9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: [redacted] 9(2)(a)

Subject: 69578-FAU

Hello [redacted] 9(2)(g)(ii)

The attached documentation presents the further information requested by DOC:

- Application form updated – Kill box has been ticked to take account of the potential for incidental kill
- Provision of a Pest Management Plan for the lizard release site
- The Pest Management Plan (rather than updating the LMP as previously indicated) indicates how the lizard release site will be monitored post release, if thresholds are passed.
- [redacted] 9(2)(a) will be present on site for all salvage works but [redacted] 9(2)(a) and [redacted] 9(2)(a) will be working with him to gain experience of delivering lizard salvage projects. CVs for [redacted] 9(2)(a) and [redacted] 9(2)(a) have been provided.
- Application form updated (rather than updating the LMP as previously indicated) – to indicate that salvage works will be programmed to occur one week before construction works commencing on site. It is estimated that the clearance works would take between 2-3 days to complete but these works need to be undertaken during suitable weather conditions, therefore, the application form indicates that sufficient time will be provided to ensure that salvage works are completed appropriately.

On the 26th November AECOM were sent an additional email from DOC stating;

1. Who reminds the contractor doing the construction that they need to apply for a Wildlife Act authority?

AECOM consulted with DOC in relation to this statement and it was agreed that if the Wildlife Act Permit was held by NZ Transport Agency this would cover all of their contractors e.g. Ecological Contractors and construction contractors. Therefore, the Application Form was updated so that NZ Transport Agency are now the holder of the permit once issued.

Please can you review the information attached and indicate if sufficient information has been provided. In addition, please can you indicate when the permit application would be reviewed and consequently issued.

Kind Regards

[redacted] 9(2)(a)

Principal Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

[redacted] 9(2)(a)

AECOM

AECOM House, 8 Mahuhu Crescent, Auckland 1010

PO Box 4241 Shortland St, Auckland 1140

T +64 9 967 9200 F +64 9 967 9201

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: Re: 69578-FAU
Date: Wednesday, 5 December 2018 8:02:11 am

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii) - yes please just a quick look to double check that everything is in there. Would be great to get this sorted before the Christmas break.

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

----- Original message -----

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Date: 3/12/18 10:14 (GMT+12:00)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: 69578-FAU

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Did you want Jen to look over the updated pest control plan before you make a decision?

Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 30 November 2018 2:57 p.m.

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: 9(2)(a)

Subject: 69578-FAU

Hello s 9(2)(g)(ii)

The attached documentation presents the further information requested by DOC

- Application form updated – Kill box has been ticked to take account of the potential for incidental kill
- Provision of a Pest Management Plan for the lizard release site.
- The Pest Management Plan (rather than updating the LMP as previously indicated) indicates how the lizard release site will be monitored post release, if thresholds are passed.
- s 9(2)(a) will be present on site for all salvage works but 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(a) will be working with him to gain experience of delivering lizard salvage projects. CVs for 9(2) and 9(2) have been provided.
- Application form updated (rather than updating the LMP as previously indicated) – to indicate that salvage works will be programmed to occur one week before construction works commencing on site. It is estimated that the clearance works would take between 2-3 days to complete but these works need to be undertaken during suitable weather conditions, therefore, the application form indicates that sufficient time will be provided to ensure that salvage works are completed appropriately.

On the 26th November AECOM were sent an additional email from DOC stating;

1. Who reminds the contractor doing the construction that they need to apply for a Wildlife Act authority?

AECOM consulted with DOC in relation to this statement and it was agreed that if the Wildlife Act Permit was

held by NZ Transport Agency this would cover all of their contractors e.g. Ecological Contractors and construction contractors. Therefore, the Application Form was updated so that NZ Transport Agency are now the holder of the permit once issued.

Please can you review the information attached and indicate if sufficient information has been provided. In addition, please can you indicate when the permit application would be reviewed and consequently issued.

Kind Regards

9(2)(a)

Principal Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

9(2)(a)

AECOM

AECOM House, 8 Mahuhu Crescent, Auckland 1010

PO Box 4241 Shortland St, Auckland 1140

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: 9(2)(a)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: 69578-FAU Critical Issue
Date: Monday, 26 November 2018 12:21:00 pm
Importance: High

Hi 9(2)(a)

Just thought I better raise an issue over authorisations. I understand Bioresarches have applied to do the lizard salvage and supervise the construction works but that the contractor will be doing the actual construction works itself (including vegetation clearance). If this is the case then the contractor should also obtain a wildlife authority for potential incidental kill of wildlife.

The cleaner way of approaching such proposals is for the contractor to apply and for ecological consultants to be authorised personnel under their permit. This avoids duplication of authorities.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 15 November 2018 8:51 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU Critical Issue

Thanks s 9(2)(g)(ii)

A couple of questions;

1. Have we received the updated LMP and is s 9(2)(g)(ii) happy with it?, and
2. Who reminds the contractor doing the construction that they need to apply for a Wildlife Act authority?

Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Operations Manager, Whangarei
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
M 9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office

2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 November 2018 5:40 p.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: 69578-FAU Critical Issue
Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii)

I have prepared the documents as far as I can go. I note that iwi want to be involved in the development of the lizard management plan, that they relocate the species and perform a karakia prior to construction works.

Bioresarches have applied to do the lizard salvage and supervise the construction works but the contractor doing the actual construction works itself (including vegetation clearance) will require a Wildlife Act Authority for potential incidental kill of wildlife. Just a thought.

The links to the documents I have drafted are:

Decision Support Document: [DOC-5591490](#)

Authority: [DOC-5624771](#)

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: 9(2)(a)

Conservation leadership for our nature **Takina te Hi, tiakina te ha, o te ao turoa**

Released under the Official Information Act

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: AECOM LETTER OK
Date: Monday, 26 November 2018 4:38:14 pm

Great – once we have that we should be in a position to make a decision.

Louisa Gritt

Operations Manager, Whangarei
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
M: s 9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office

2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Monday, 26 November 2018 4:31 p.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: AECOM LETTER OK
Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii)

The applicant rang me and advised that in the next few days they will provide the pest control programme, LMP and an updated wildlife application made by the nZ A with others as the authorised personnel (including bio researchers and the contractor carrying out the work). This covers off all parties involved.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Monday, 19 November 2018 9:10 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: AECOM LETTER OK
Yes.

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 November 2018 11:58 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: AECOM LETTER OK
Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

So in regard to the documents they are to provide us (pest control programme, updated LMP) is it your recommendation we approve subject to conditions?

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Monday, 5 November 2018 8:30 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: AECOM LETTER OK
Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

Traveling for work but had a look through the letter from aecom about loop road permit and looks ok. It's not perfect and I told s 9(2)(a) it wouldn't be enough in the future but you can let this one through with the amendments they've outlined.

§ 9(2)(g)(i)

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: 69578-FAU Critical Issue
Date: Monday, 26 November 2018 12:17:00 pm
Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

Have we received an updated LMP from the applicant – it sounds as though s 9(2)(g)(ii) wants this before making a decision.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 15 November 2018 8:51 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU Critical Issue

Thanks s 9(2)(g)(ii)

A couple of questions;

1. Have we received the updated LMP and is Jen happy with it?, and
2. Who reminds the contractor doing the construction that they need to apply for a Wildlife Act authority?

Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Operations Manager, Whangarei
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
M: s 9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office

2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 November 2018 5:40 p.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: 69578-FAU Critical Issue
Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

I have prepared the documents as far as I can go. I note that iwi want to be involved in the development of the lizard management plan, that they relocate the species and perform a karakia prior to construction works.

Biosearches have applied to do the lizard salvage and supervise the construction works but the contractor doing the actual construction works itself (including vegetation clearance) will require a Wildlife Act Authority for potential incidental kill of wildlife. Just a thought.

The links to the documents I have drafted are:

Decision Support Document: [DOC-5591490](#)

Authority: [DOC-5624771](#)

Best Regards

Darcy Liddell

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: s 9(2)(a)

Conservation leadership for our nature **Takina te Hi, tiakina te ha, o te ao turoa**

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU Critical Issue
Date: Monday, 26 November 2018 12:16:00 pm

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

I havnt received the LMP I will ask Jen if she's received it.

Bioresearchers should have advised the contractor so I will mention the issue to them.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 15 November 2018 8:51 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU Critical Issue

Thanks s 9(2)(g)(ii)

A couple of questions;

1. Have we received the updated LMP and is Jen happy with it?, and
2. Who reminds the contractor doing the construction that they need to apply for a Wildlife Act authority?

Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Operations Manager, Whangarei
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
M: s 9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office

2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 November 2018 5:40 p.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: 69578-FAU Critical Issue

Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

I have prepared the documents as far as I can go. I note that iwi want to be involved in the development of the lizard management plan, that they relocate the species and perform a karakia prior to construction works.

Bioresearchers have applied to do the lizard salvage and supervise the construction works but the contractor doing the actual construction works itself (including vegetation clearance) will require a Wildlife Act Authority for potential incidental kill of wildlife. Just a thought.

The links to the documents I have drafted are:

Decision Support Document: [DOC-5591490](#)

Authority: [DOC-5624771](#)

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: s 9(2)(a)

Conservation leadership for our nature **Takina te Hi, tiakina te ha, o te ao turoa**

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU Critical Issue
Date: Thursday, 22 November 2018 8:04:00 am

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Just following up on my previous email – do we have the updated LMP and who tells the contractor that they will also need to make an application?

I would like to get this sorted as soon as we can.

Thanks

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Operations Manager, Whangarei
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
M: s 9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office

2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Wednesday, 14 November 2018 5:40 p.m.

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: 69578-FAU Critical Issue

Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

I have prepared the documents as far as I can go, those that iwi want to be involved in the development of the lizard management plan, that they relocate the species and perform a karakia prior to construction works.

Bioresearches have applied to do the lizard salvage and supervise the construction works but the contractor doing the actual construction works itself (including vegetation clearance) will require a Wildlife Act Authority for potential incidental kill of wildlife. Just a thought.

The links to the documents I have drafted are:

Decision Support Document: [DOC-5591490](#)

Authority: [DOC-5624771](#)

Best Regards

Darcy Liddell

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*

DDI: s 9(2)(a)

Conservation leadership for our nature **Takina te Hi, tiakina te ha, o te ao turoa**

Released under the Official Information Act

From: 9(2)(a)
To: 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(g)(ii); 9(2)(a)
Cc: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU (Bioresearches Group Limited) application for Species relocation
Date: Sunday, 18 November 2018 1:49:32 pm
Attachments: [image002.jpg](#)

Hi 9(2)(a)

Thanks for your email.

I have relayed your requests to others involved in the project and am awaiting their responses. I will be away next week but will be checking emails and will be in touch asap regarding any developments.

In the meantime, if there are any specific comments from yourself or Te Parawhau regarding the Lizard Management Plan, please feel free to forward these to me so that I may address them.

I will be back in the office on Monday 26 November and will be in touch.

Ngā mihi nui

9(2)(a)

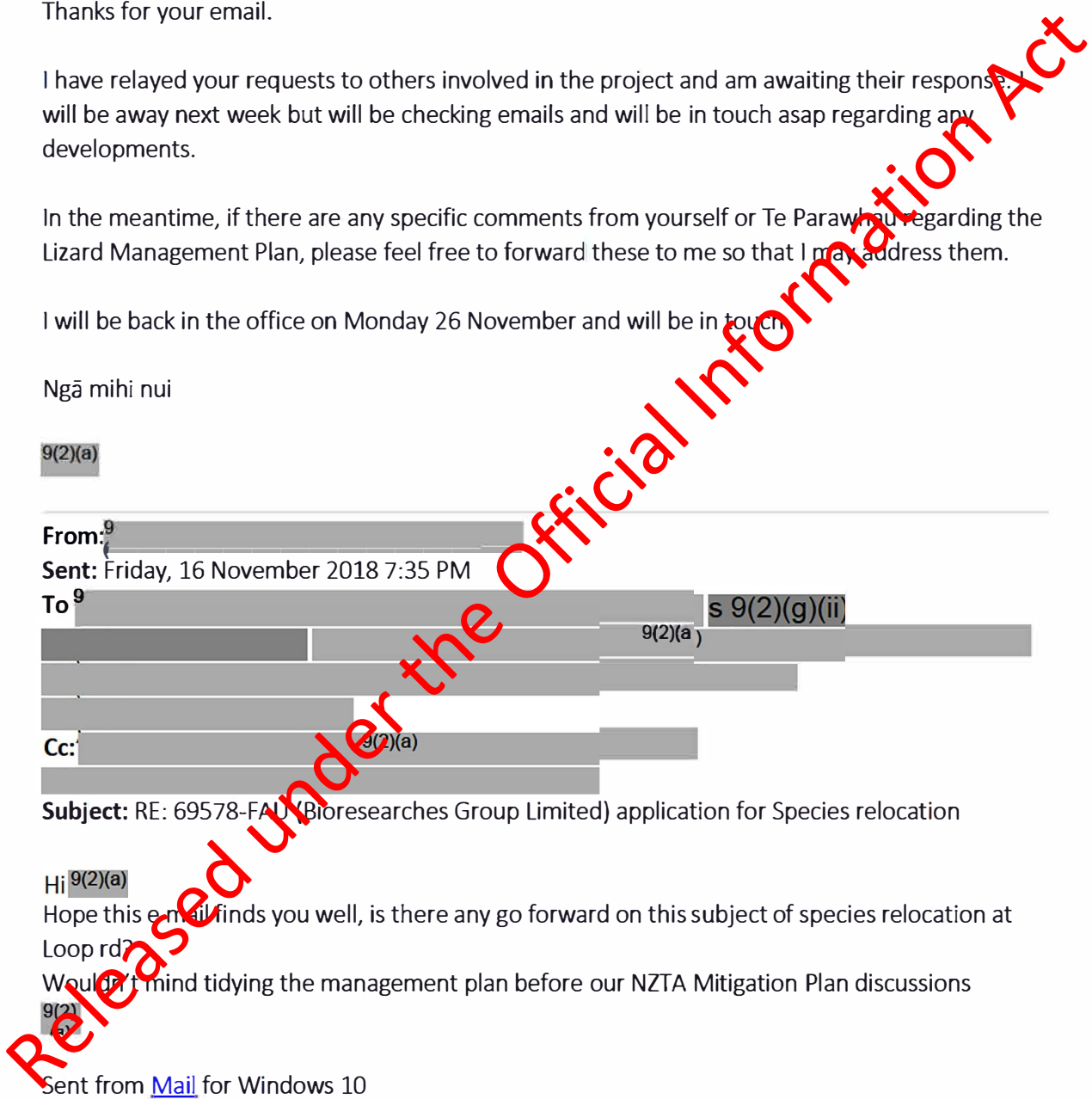
From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 16 November 2018 7:35 PM
To: 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(g)(ii); 9(2)(a)
Cc: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU (Bioresearches Group Limited) application for Species relocation

Hi 9(2)(a)
Hope this email finds you well, is there any go forward on this subject of species relocation at Loop rd?
Wouldn't mind tidying the management plan before our NZTA Mitigation Plan discussions

9(2)(a)

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2018 12:57:38 PM
To: 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(g)(ii); 9(2)(a)
Cc: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: 69578-FAU (Bioresearches Group Limited) application for Species relocation



Kia Ora 9(2)(a)

Sorry, tried to call on Thursday and was away sick on Friday.

Will give you a call now.

Regards,

9(2)(a)

Wildlife Ecologist - Herpetologist | Biosearches Group Ltd

Level 4, 68 Beach Road, Auckland 1010 | PO Box 2027, Shortland Street, Auckland 1144

9(2)(a)

Biosearches Logo 2016 email



www.biosearches.co.nz

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From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Monday, 12 November 2018 12:46 PM

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii) 9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

Cc: 9(2)(a) 9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: 69578-FAU (Biosearches Group Limited) application for Species relocation

Tena koe s 9(2)(g)(ii)

I have been unable to make contact with 9(2)(a) regarding the above application, despite leaving my number as requested of him. Therefore I will have no other choice but to seek advice and guidance from our Te Parawhau in house experts in pursuing an alternative way forward with this matter.

Māku noa

9(2)(a)

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Thursday, November 8, 2018 12:26:24 PM

To: 9(2)(a) 9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

Subject: Re: 69578-FAU (Biosearches Group Limited)

Kia ora 9(2)(a)
my number is 9(2)(a)
9(2)
(a)

Sent from my iPhone

On 8/11/2018, at 10:48 AM, 9(2)(a) wrote:

Kia Ora 9(2)
(a)

I understand you would like to have a chat regarding the lizard management works associated with the proposed SH1 upgrades. More than happy to give you a call to discuss.

Could you please send me your contact number?

Kind regards,

9(2)(a)

Wildlife Ecologist - Herpetologist | Biosearches Group Ltd

Level 4, 68 Beach Road, Auckland 1010 | P.O. Box 2027, Shortland Street, Auckland 1140

9(2)(a)

<image002.jpg>

www.biosearches.co.nz

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From: Heidi Weston <hweston@doc.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, 6 November 2018 8:32 AM

To: 9 (2)(a)

Cc: S 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: 69578-FAU (Biosearches Group Limited)

Kia Ora 9(2)(a)

I have been in correspondence with 9(2)(a) of Te Parawhau in regards to your application to carry out lizard salvage as part of the SH1 upgrades south of Whangarei. 9(2)(a) has some suggestions to facilitate the move around mitigation and karakia measures that he would like to discuss, are you please able to contact him as soon as possible.

Nag mihi

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Community Ranger

Department of Conservation – *Te Papa Atawhai*

VPN: 7285

Whangarei Office

2 South End Ave, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110

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From: 9(2)(a)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Cost estimate - 69578
Date: Wednesday, 14 November 2018 3:58:04 pm

Hi 9(2)(g)(ii)

Thanks for your email.

I'm just a little bit concerned about your estimate cost. It seems a bit high considering the fee estimate provided in Form A: \$400 (exc GST) for a standard application or \$800 (exc GST) where a project is likely to have significant effects, is novel, or spans multiple DOC regions.

Given that the project this application relates to covers a 1.7km stretch of roadside vegetation on SH1 in which copper skinks are considered the only species likely to be encountered I would have considered this to be a standard application. I'm curious to know what the complexities of this project were to incur such a fee.

Kind regards,

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

9(2)(a)

AECOM

AECOM House, 8 Mahuhu Crescent, Auckland 1010

PO Box 4241 Shortland St, Auckland 1140

T +64 9 967 9200 F +64 9 967 9201

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Wednesday, 14 November 2018 11:16 a.m.

To: 9(2)(a)

Subject: FW: Cost estimate - 69578

Hi 9(2)(a)

The costs to cover staff processing time are 9(2)(i) + GST and can be broken down as below:

Cost Estimate	Time (hrs)	Cost (Esc GST)
Team member: Permissions Advisor - 9(2)(i) + GST per hour This includes time spent for reviewing application received and application of legislation and statutory plans / strategies/policies, correspondence and discussions with decisionmaker, others in the team, drafting of report and authority, attendance at team process meetings. Read application and relevant statutory documents, request further information 9(2)(i) Attend team meetings: 9(2)(i) Report preparation: 9(2)(i) Authority preparation: 9(2)(i)	9(2)	9(2)(i)

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Conversations: 9(2)(j)		
Cost estimate preparation: 9(2)(j)		
District Office Ranger: 9(2)(j) + GST per hour Reviewing application received, comms with other staff and iwi, providing comment.	9 (9(2)(j)
Technical Advisor - Ecology: 9(2)(j) + GST Read application, attend team meetings, discussion with team members, and provide comments.	9 (9(2)(j)
Operations Manager for the Whangarei Office - 9(2)(j) + GST per hour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time to review application, attendance at team process meetings, time to review document and make a decision, discussions with staff. 	9(2)) (j)	9(2)(j)
Total Cost:		9(2)(j) + GST

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: 9(2)(a)

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From: 9(2)(a)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578 (Loop Rd)
Date: Wednesday, 7 November 2018 2:02:54 pm

Thank you for letting me know.
Kind Regards

9(2)(a)
Principal Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)
9(2)(a)

AECOM

AECOM House, 8 Mahuhu Crescent, Auckland 1010
PO Box 4241 Shortland St, Auckland 1140
T +64 9 967 9200 F +64 9 967 9201
aecom.com

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 7 November 2018 11:19 AM
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578 (Loop Rd)
Hi 9(2)(a)

Yes the Department is ok with the letter provided. The local office is just confirming that iwi consultation has been covered and the necessary documents need to be written up. A decision may be made next week if iwi consultation has not raised any issues.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 6 November 2018 5:36 p.m.
To: Darcy Liddell <dliddell@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578 (Loop Rd)

Hello s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Are you able to confirm if DOC are happy with our proposed approach to providing additional information for the Loop Road project?

Kind Regards

9(2)(a)
Principal Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)
9(2)(a)

AECOM

AECOM House, 8 Mahuhu Crescent, Auckland 1010

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From: 9 (2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 31 October 2018 9:04 AM
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: 9(2)(a)
Subject: Application status - no. 69578 (Loop Rd)

Hello 9(2)(g)(ii)

Thank you for sending through the technical advisors comments in relation to the Loop Road Permit Application. 9(2)(a), who is the lead herpetologist for the Loop Road Project, has consulted with the DOC technical advisor and the attached letter is the result of those conversations.

The letter indicates the additional information that we will be providing shortly.

Please can you confirm that DOCs Technical Advisor agrees that the letter presents the results of the conversations with 9(2)(a) and that they are happy with the scope of the additional information that we will provide.

Kind Regards

9(2)(a)
Principal Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)
9(2)(a)

AECOM

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T +64 9 967 9200 F +64 9 967 9201
aecom.com

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 18 October 2018 9:25 a.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578
Importance: High

H 9(2)(a)

Sorry the delay but I have been waiting for our Department's technical advisor to provide comment so that I can finalise a request for more information, following the meeting where your application was discussed. I hope to get the necessary comments on Monday. In the meantime the following further information is requested:

- A pre-clearance survey of the development site. There is concern that the number of lizards identified at the site might be underestimated, especially as the survey carried out was

carried out in winter when lizards are not as active.

- Lizard salvage always involves incidental kill. Did you mean to tick the “kill wildlife” box in the application form.
- More information / evidence that satisfies the Department that the release site is suitable, and how many lizards already exist there?.
- Please provide details of the pest control programme.
- In regards to monitoring, please provide more details in the LMP about how monitoring will indicate success or failure of the salvage and predator control- will there be sufficient data to determine whether the project is a success or failure? (there needs to be pre-release monitoring and monitoring following release and then monitoring for 3 years after the predator control has been turned off). Please provide more details about how monitoring is going to be carried out?.
- Please provide the credentials of the other people named in the application- are they qualified herpetologists?.

The comments I am waiting for relate to the issue of whether there will be enough time to rescue lizards before vegetation is removed. I will have a request for more info around this on Monday.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: 9(2)(a)

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: 69578-FAU (Bioresearches Group Limited)
Date: Tuesday, 6 November 2018 10:27:47 am

Kia Ora s 9(2)(g)(ii),

s 9(2)(g)(ii) has asked I keep you up to date with how things are going, communication between the applicant and iwi has ceased for the moment so I have requested the applicant re-engages with iwi. s 9(2)(g)(ii) has requested you continue with the DSD and she will re-assess the level of engagement before making a decision.

Thanks

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Tuesday, 6 November 2018 8:32 a.m.

To: s 9(2)(a)

Subject: 69578-FAU (Bioresearches Group Limited)

Kia Ora s 9(2)(a)

I have been in correspondence with s 9(2)(a) of Te Parawhau in regards to your application to carry out lizard salvage as part of the SH1 upgrades south of Whangarei s 9(2)(a) has some suggestions to facilitate the move around mitigation and karakia measures that he would like to discuss, are you please able to contact him as soon as possible.

Nag mihi

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Community Ranger

Department of Conservation – *Te Papa Atawhai*

VPN: 7285

Whangarei Office

2 South End Ave, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110

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From: 9(2)(a)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: Re: 69578-FAU (Biosearches Group Limited)
Date: Monday, 5 November 2018 3:31:33 pm

Sent from my iPhone

On 5/11/2018, at 11:19 AM, Heidi Weston <hweston@doc.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia Ora 9(2)(a)

I was hoping to check in on how your arrangements are going with Biosearchers/NZTA in relation to mitigation measures and karakia. If you are happy with how things are progressing then I will pass this feedback onto our decision maker for this application, before a decision is made on any of the permissions applications it is a requirement that appropriate iwi consultation is under taken.

Please feel free to contact me if you need any further information.

Nga mihi

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Community Ranger
Department of Conservation – *Te Papa Atawhai*
VPN: 7285
Whangarei Office
2 South End Ave, Raumanua, Whangarei 0110

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Monday, 15 October 2018 4:20 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: FW: 69578-FAU (Biosearches Group Limited)

Kia Ora 9(2)(a)

Thank you very much for your response – I will feed this back to our decision maker. I am on AL until next Wednesday but will be following up on this to ensure Biosearches are making arrangements with 9(2)(a).

Nga Mihi

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 15 October 2018 3:50 p.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii) 9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

Cc: 9(2)(a)

Subject: Re: FW: 69578-FAU (Bioreseraches Group Limited)

Im now instructing my MacAir to learn karakia and stop changing it to karaka!

On Mon, Oct 15, 2018 at 3:44 PM 9(2)(a) >
wrote:

kia ora koutou,

I hope this locks everyone into the stream but just in case I'll recap mainly for Heidi's sake.

Te Parawhau discussed the Lizard Management Plan prepared by Bioreseraches (17 July 2017) during the consultation stage of the CIA prepared by 9(2)(a) for NZTA on behalf of Te Parawhau over the Loop Rd to Smeatons Hill SH 1 proposal (6th September 2018) and while Te Parawhau supported the removal of pest species and non-indigenous vegetation they considered the Lizard/Gecko catch and translocation proposal could have significant effects on their cultural values mainly their mana whenua values and their kaitiakitanga values and to that end they requested, as mitigation measures, firstly that they perform karaka prior to any works being carried out and, secondly that Te Parawhau would relocate the indigenous species and, thirdly that the Species relocation management plan be undertaken in consultation with Te Parawhau.

You will note (i) from 9(2)(a) response to my email that he is confirming karaka arrangements as well as requesting a meeting with the applicants to apprise them of our mitigation measures and (b) please note that I think 9(2)(a) means 'stoats' when she writes 'stouts'.

Heidi, once again thank you for notifying us and I hope the above is helpful also I'm sure 9(2)(a) won't mind if you contact him direct. I'm happy to stay in the loop.
Nga mihi

9(2)(a)

On Thu, Oct 11, 2018 at 1:40 PM s 9(2)(g)(ii) wrote:

Kia Ora 9(2)(a) ,

Just a friendly reminder that feedback is due for the below application on the **Monday 15th October 2018**. Please let me know if you require any further information.

Nga mihi

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

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Sent: Tuesday, 2 October 2018 7:56 a.m.

To: Te Parawhau [REDACTED] 9(2)(a)

Subject: 69578-FAU (Bioresearches Group Limited)

Tēnā koe [REDACTED] 9(2)(a),

Please find attached a Wildlife Act application for your perusal.

TŪWĀHI/LOCATION

Release site – Otaika Valley Government Purpose Reserve

Source site – within the proposed construction site on SH1/Loop Road

Rauhi/what is being collected?

Proposed species

Copper skink

Ornate skink

Forest gecko

Elegant gecko

Pacific gecko

Who is applying?

Bioresearches Group Limited

Rationale

The Department has received an application to carry out lizard salvage as part of SH1 upgrades south of Whangarei.

Potential lizard habitat was identified within the project footprint of the SH1/ Loop Road upgrades during preliminary ecological assessments undertaken by AECOM NZ Ltd (AECOM) and Bioresearches in early 2017. Copper skink were observed during these assessments; however, ornate skinks are also likely to be present within impacted areas. It was also recognised that three native gecko species may occur in the development footprint.

Wildlife Authorisation is being sought to allow the capture and salvage of native lizard species prior to and during construction to protect individuals from harm. Salvage would be undertaken between months September to May only.

It is proposed that captured lizards will be placed immediately into containment boxes and held temporarily (< 1 day), before being released into

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an nearby Otaika Valley Wildlife Reserve.

All native lizards will be captured and handled by DOC-authorized herpetologists only. Salvage methods will include: -Search and salvage prior to construction: manual searching through terrestrial debris, groundcover and tree bark and foliage. -Destructive searching of areas with dense coverage: grass trimming, vegetation removal with hand tools and with large machines.

These works would be supervised by a herpetologist/ ecologist. -Supervised vegetation clearance during site prep/construction.

A lizard management plan is also attached with the application.

Angawā/term

September 2018 - May 2021

Iwi feedback due by- 15th October 2018

If you need more information to make your assessment on this application please let me know asap, so I can arrange this for you. If you would like to meet with the applicant, let me know potential dates, times and a point of contact so that I can forward it on to the applicant.

I will contact you a couple of days prior to this date as a reminder. If we haven't heard from you within this timeframe we will accept that the whanau are ok with this application and will continue to process it with that understanding.

Nga mihi

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Community Range

Department of Conservation – *Te Papa Atawhai*

VPN: 7285

Whangarei Office

2 South End Ave, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: 69578 Check-In Meeting
Date: Monday, 5 November 2018 11:09:03 am

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii)

I can't make this time and am out most of next week as well. If Jen is happy with the information that is great. s 9(2)(g)(ii) is going to confirm that consultation is continuing and that the treaty partners are happy.

As long as you have confirmed they have ticked the "apply to kill" box then I am happy to review the DSD without a context meeting.

Please complete the DSD as soon as you can – I am out Monday and Tuesday next week so if you could have it ready for Wednesday that would be good. I'll then review and either make a decision or ask for a further check in when you are back from leave.

Let me know if there are any issues with this way ahead.

Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Operations Manager, Whangarei
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
M s 9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office

2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140

-----Original Appointment-----

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Monday, 5 November 2018 10:46 a.m.

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: 69578 Check-In Meeting

When: Thursday, 8 November 2018 9:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. (UTC+12:00) Auckland, Wellington.

Where: Skype Meeting

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

s 9(2)(g)(ii) has just advised that she is ok with the further information provided in the letter from the applicant. I am under a rather large workload at present and so can only make Thursday this week at the earliest for a check-in. I also won't be able to prepare the documentation for a decision until next week. I am on leave from 15 November so can get the Documents ready before then.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

[Join Skype Meeting](#)

Trouble Joining? [Try Skype Web App](#)

[Help](#)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578 (Loop Rd)
Date: Thursday, 1 November 2018 10:13:39 am

Thanks s 9(2)(g)(ii) – forward to s 9(2)(g)(i) and check with her when she can get back to you with comments. Arrange the check in meeting for after this.

s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Operations Manager, Whangarei
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
M: s 9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office
2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 31 October 2018 3:45 p.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: Application status - no. 69578 (Loop Rd)
Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii)
The applicant provided comment back this morning regarding the further info request but not under a name I recognize and I havnt had a chance to open all my emails today. I'll forward this onto Jen to comment on. Shall I set up another check-in meeting in a few days time?

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 31 October 2018 9:04 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s 9(2)(a)

Subject: Application status - no. 69578 (Loop Rd)

Hello s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Thank you for sending through the technical advisors comments in relation to the Loop Road Permit Application s 9(2)(a), who is the lead herpetologist for the Loop Road Project, has consulted with the DOC technical advisor and the attached letter is the result of those conversations. The letter indicates the additional information that we will be providing shortly. Please can you confirm that DOCs Technical Advisor agrees that the letter presents the results of the conversations with s 9(2)(a) and that they are happy with the scope of the additional information that we will provide.
Kind Regards

s 9(2)(a)
Principal Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)
s 9(2)(a)
s 9(2)(a)

AECOM
AECOM House, 8 Mahuhu Crescent, Auckland 1010
PO Box 4241 Shortland St, Auckland 1140
T +64 9 967 9200 F +64 9 967 9201
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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 18 October 2018 9:25 a.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578
Importance: High
Hi 9(2)(a)

Sorry the delay but I have been waiting for our Department's technical advisor to provide comment so that I can finalise a request for more information, following the meeting where your application was discussed. I hope to get the necessary comments on Monday. In the meantime the following further information is requested:

- A pre-clearance survey of the development site. There is concern that the number of lizards identified at the site might be underestimated, especially as the survey carried out was carried out in winter when lizards are not as active.
- Lizard salvage always involves incidental kill. Did you mean to tick the "kill wildlife" box in the application form.
- More information / evidence that satisfies the Department that the release site is suitable, and how many lizards already exist there?.
- Please provide details of the pest control programme.
- In regards to monitoring, please provide more details in the LMP about how monitoring will indicate success or failure of the salvage and predator control- will there be sufficient data to determine whether the project is a success or failure? (there needs to be pre-release monitoring and monitoring following release and then monitoring for 3 years after the predator control has been turned off). Please provide more details about how monitoring is going to be carried out?.
- Please provide the credentials of the other people named in the application- are they qualified herpetologists?.

The comments I am waiting for relate to the issue of whether there will be enough time to rescue lizards before vegetation is removed. I will have a request for more info around this on Monday.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: 9(2)(a)

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From: 9(2)(a)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578
Date: Wednesday, 31 October 2018 3:33:10 pm
Attachments: [Application status - no. 69578 \(Loop Rd\).msg](#)

Hi 9(2)(g)(ii)

Thanks for your email.

My colleague, 9(2)(a) has been addressing your request in collaboration with 9(2)(a)
She sent an email to you earlier today detailing the response. Please see attached.

Regards,

9(2)
(a)

9(2)(a)

Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

9(2)(a)

AECOM

AECOM House, 8 Mahuhu Crescent, Auckland 1010
PO Box 4241 Shortland St, Auckland 1140
T +64 9 967 9200 F +64 9 967 9201
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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 31 October 2018 3:22 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Application status - no. 69578
Importance: High

Hi 9(2)(a)

We just had a check-in meeting and the decisionmaker has requested that the further information requested below (and by Jen Germano when speaking to 9(2)(a)) be provided within the next week. The decisionmaker has also advised that if no response is provided to the further information request within the week, that the application may be declined due to insufficient information. A response detailing when the further information will be provided would suffice.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: 9(2)(a)

Conservation leadership for our nature **Takina te Hi, tiakina te ha, o te ao turoa**

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 18 October 2018 9:25 a.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578

Importance: High

Hi [9(2)(a)],

Sorry the delay but I have been waiting for our Department's technical advisor to provide comment so that I can finalise a request for more information, following the meeting where your application was discussed. I hope to get the necessary comments on Monday. In the meantime the following further information is requested:

- A pre-clearance survey of the development site. There is concern that the number of lizards identified at the site might be underestimated, especially as the survey carried out was carried out in winter when lizards are not as active.
- Lizard salvage always involves incidental kill. Did you mean to tick the "kill wildlife" box in the application form.
- More information / evidence that satisfies the Department that the release site is suitable, and how many lizards already exist there?.
- Please provide details of the pest control programme.
- In regards to monitoring, please provide more details in the LMP about how monitoring will indicate success or failure of the salvage and predator control- will there be sufficient data to determine whether the project is a success or failure? (there needs to be pre-release monitoring and monitoring following release and then monitoring for 3 years after the predator control has been turned off). Please provide more details about how monitoring is going to be carried out?.
- Please provide the credentials of the other people named in the application- are they qualified herpetologists?.

The comments I am waiting for relate to the issue of whether there will be enough time to rescue lizards before vegetation is removed. I will have a request for more info around this on Monday.

Best Regards

s [9(2)(g)(ii)]

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: [9(2)(a)]

Conservation leadership for our nature **Takina te Hi, tiakina te ha, o te ao turoa**

From: [9(2)(a)]

Sent: Tuesday, 16 October 2018 1:06 p.m.

To: s [9(2)(g)(ii)]

Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578

Hi [9(2)(g)(ii)]

Any updates on the status of this application?

Cheers

[9(2)(a)]

[9(2)(a)]

Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

[9(2)(a)]

AECOM

AECOM House, 8 Mahuhu Crescent, Auckland 1010

PO Box 4241 Shortland St, Auckland 1140

T +64 9 967 9200 F +64 9 967 9201

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 27 September 2018 4:16 p.m.
To: 9
Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578
Ok thanks 9(2)
Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 27 September 2018 12:51 p.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Thanks for your reply.
No worries, I'll follow up early next month.
Regards

9(2)
(a)

9(2)(a)

Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

9(2)(a)

AECOM

AECOM House, 8 Mahuhu Crescent, Auckland 1140
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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 27 September 2018 11:57 a.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578

Hi 9(2)(a)

Due to different staff commitments, unfortunately a meeting to discuss your application has not occurred as yet but is scheduled for Monday the 1st of October. I will be able to update you with progress after that meeting.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: 9(2)(a)

Conservation leadership for our nature **Takina te Hi, tiakina te ha, o te ao turoa**

From: [redacted] 9 (2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 25 September 2018 4:03 p.m.
To: S 9(2)(g)(ii) [redacted]
Subject: Application status - no. 69578

Hi [redacted],

I'm just chasing up a wildlife Act Authority application submitted on behalf of Bioreserches on the 16 August 2018. From what I understand this was assigned to you and processed on the 28 August under the ref no. 69578.

Could you please let me know the status of this application?

Kind regards,

9(2)
(a)

9(2)(a)

Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

9(2)(a)

AECOM

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Released under the Official Information Act

31 October 2018

§ 9(2)(g)(ii)

Permissions Advisor
Department of Conservation

Dear § 9(2)(g)(ii)

Loop Road Wildlife Authorisation Permit - No 69578

Thank you for sending through the request for further information, in relation to the Loop Road Wildlife Authorisation Permit (No. 69578). In response to this request § 9(2)(a) (Bioresearches), who is the projects qualified herpetologist, has undertaken consultation with Department of Conservation (DOC) technical advisor, to discuss the requests made. Below is a summary of the conclusions reached during these discussions and details of the further information that we will be providing, in relation to the questions raised by DOC.

1. *A pre-clearance survey of the development site. There is concern that the number of lizards identified at the site might be underestimated, especially as the survey carried out was carried out in winter when lizards are not as active.*

In March 2017 a site walkover was undertaken by AECOM which identified the potential for native lizards to be present within the habitat surrounding the existing road. To gain further understanding of this potential AECOM appointed § 9(2)(a) (Bioresearches) to undertake a desk study to identify which species could potentially be present based on historical records and to complete an onsite habitat assessment in winter 2017 (8th August 2017).

During the habitat appraisal, opportunistic searches were undertaken for native skinks, by lifting terrestrial debris (no searches were completed that would have identified geckos). This led to the identification of copper skink (*Oligosoma aeneum*), even though these searches were undertaken, outside of the lizard survey season.

On conclusion of the desk study and the habitat appraisal (road verge, piles of logs etc.) it was concluded that at least two indigenous lizards; copper skink and ornate skink (*Oligosoma ornatum*) may be resident in habitat to be impacted by the re-alignment works. In addition, three "at risk" gecko species including elegant gecko (*Naultinus elegans*), Pacific gecko (*Dactylocnemis pacificus*) and forest gecko (*Mokopirirakau granulatus*) may be found within the alignment. The Lizard Management Plan was consequently prepared on the basis that these species could be present and included triggers to respond to the presence of ≥ 10 'Not Threatened' lizards and in response to the discovery of ≥ 1 'At Risk' lizard.

It is understood that following discussions with § 9(2)(a) that DOC has agreed that the appraisal that has been completed to date is commensurate to the scale of the project, and that a pre-clearance survey is not required in this instance.

However, it is acknowledged that DOC have concerns in relation to how mitigation has been delivered for lizards in New Zealand and that comprehensive pre-clearance lizard surveys outside of the winter period would be necessary moving forward, to guide the development of mitigation and reduce the risks associated with underestimating the species diversity and size of lizard populations to be salvaged.

2. *Lizard salvage always involves incidental kill. Did you mean to tick the "kill wildlife" box in the application form.*

It is understood that while salvage methods aim to avoid lizards being killed or injured there is always the possibility that animals could be accidentally injured or killed through the salvage process. In previous submissions the 'kill wildlife' box has not been ticked, but it is understood that

as there is the potential that animals could be killed this needs to be approved through the Wildlife Authorisation Process and therefore DOC would like this box ticked in future applications.

The Wildlife Authorisation Application form will be updated with the “kill wildlife” box ticked. In the box titled ‘other’ it will be clarified that this is incidental kill.

3. *More information / evidence that satisfies the Department that the release site is suitable, and how many lizards already exist there?.*

The Otaika Valley Government Purpose Wildlife Management Reserve, owned and managed by DOC, was selected because of the size and complexity of the habitat on site, its vicinity to the original population and that it is located on a secure site. The local DOC rangers were consulted in relation to information that they hold in relation to the lizard species present on this site. The project was informed that currently DOC do not hold any information in relation to lizards on this site and that they do not carry out any pest control on this parcel of land.

To determine how many lizards are present at the release site would require a mark-recapture and modelling study to be completed, which is beyond the scope of a project like Loop Road.

All mainland lizard populations are persisting at densities below the levels known to occur in natural predator-free environments, e.g. 10,000 – 16,000 skins/ha for copper skink. Thus, if predator control is implemented effectively it should increase carry capacity of the receptor site that would allow additional animals to be released and survive, irrespective of the existing population density.

Consequently, at this time it is not proposed that the release site is the subject of a detailed survey.

4. *Please provide details of the pest control programme.*

The Lizard Management Plan indicates that pest control will be implemented at Otaika Valley Government Purpose Wildlife Management Reserve if ≥ 10 ‘Not Threatened’ species or ≥ 1 ‘At Risk’ species are salvaged.

The Lizard Management Plan outlines how the pest control would be implemented for a period of three years post salvage. However, it is understood that DOC would like the plan prepared in advance so that the control can be commenced at the time of salvage, if required. Avoiding the need for consultation at the point of salvage and relocation.

The project will provide to DOC a pest control programme in accordance with current best practice (outlined in the Lizard Management Plan) and within the DOC format.

5. *In regards to monitoring, please provide more details in the LMP about how monitoring will indicate success or failure of the salvage and predator control- will there be sufficient data to determine whether the project is a success or failure? (there needs to be pre-release monitoring and monitoring following release and then monitoring for 3 years after the predator control has been turned off). Please provide more details about how monitoring is going to be carried out?.*

The Lizard Management Plan will be updated to provide further detail as to how the release site will be monitored to determine the success of the salvage and predator control, if the thresholds within the Plan were to be exceeded (if ≥ 10 ‘Not Threatened’ species are found during salvage or ≥ 1 ‘At Risk’ or ‘threatened’ species are salvaged).

It is proposed that monitoring will be undertaken over a period of six years, as indicated by DOC above. It is proposed that a lizard survey is completed in year 1, 3 and 6, post release. Therefore, monitoring will be completed during the pest control period, implemented for three years post salvage, and in the three year post pest control period, as indicated by DOC above.

The Lizard Management Plan details how post-release monitoring will be implemented, and that this will be tailored following the salvage process so that it is fit for purpose. The aim of the monitoring would be;

- to determine the reproductive status of the native lizard population by looking for gravid females and/or juveniles, and
- to confirm the continued presence of the translocated species (use photo identification to confirm if salvaged individuals are still present).

6. *Please provide the credentials of the other people named in the application- are they qualified herpetologists?*

9(2)(a) **is a qualified herpetologist and will be present / supervising all salvage works.** 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(a) are at an early stage in their careers and are working towards becoming qualified herpetologist. This requires that they work on projects such as Loop Road, as an assistant, to gain experience and knowledge.

The Wildlife Authorisation Permit indicates that all individuals who will be involved in the activity should be listed and therefore, 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(a) were listed.

Their CV's will be provided on resubmission of the Application Form and Lizard Management Plan, but a summary of their experience to date specific to lizard surveys and salvage is provided below;

- 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(a) both worked with 9(2)(a) (Ecogecko) in 2018. To set up and survey for skinks and gecko on a project known as Southern Links, Hamilton, which involved checking artificial cover objects, natural refugia and spot lighting. During this survey, working with Trent, they found copper skink and plague skinks (*Lampropholis delicata*).
- In 2017 9(2)(a) worked on a salvage project with 9(2)(a) (Wildlands) for a project known as Penlink. Vegetation clearance works were required to allow geotechnical surveys to be completed. The only lizards found during these works were plague skink.
- In 2017 and 2018 9(2)(a) accompanied Bioresearches on site to undertake a lizard habitat appraisal for Loop Road and Ameti, Auckland.

At no time would 9(2)(a) or 9(2)(a) be left to manage contractors or undertake salvage works independently.

7. *Is there enough time to rescue lizards before vegetation is removed?*

In the Lizard Management Plan it is indicated that salvage will take 2-3 days. The length of the salvage period is dependent on weather conditions, habitat complexity and the contractor helping to deliver the salvage works. It is understood that it needs to be clearer in the Lizard Management Plan that salvage will be undertaken during suitable conditions and continue until 9(2)(a) is satisfied that all habitats have been inspected in detail.

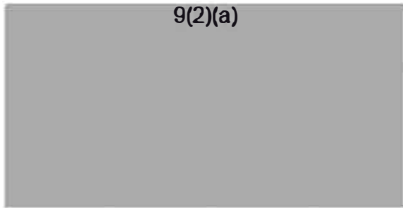
Therefore, the Lizard Management Plan will be updated to indicate that salvage works will commence one week in advance of works on site, so that if conditions were not suitable for salvage they would be delayed until conditions improve. The 2-3 days salvage period detailed in the Lizard Management Plan was determined by 9(2)(a) following a walkover of the site.

Conclusion

Can DOC confirm that the way forward proposed within this letter will meet the request for additional information issued on the 18th October 2018.

Yours faithfully

9(2)(a)



9(2)(a)
Principal Environmental Scientist - Ecologist
9(2)(a)

Direct Dial 9(2)(a)
Direct Fax 9(2)(a)

cc: Carol Bannock (NZ Transport Agency)

Released under the Official Information Act

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: Wildlife Act Authority Application
Date: Tuesday, 23 October 2018 10:52:21 am

Ok, just talked to s 9(2)(a) and he'll get back to me this afternoon to tell me whether its reasonable to write in something about delaying operations or not.

Once I hear that I can write you a condition for that one.

Best regards,

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 18 October 2018 9:16 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: Wildlife Act Authority Application

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

The applicant is asking for an update. I want to give the further info request to her – Are you able to look at it today. Thanks☺

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Tuesday, 16 October 2018 8:52 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: Wildlife Act Authority Application

Just clarify... is this the NZTA one submitted by s 9(2)(a)? I'm in a meeting all day but will see if I can get this one to you...if not today, definitely tomorrow.

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Monday, 15 October 2018 2:33 p.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: Wildlife Act Authority Application

Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

Can you please help me with bullet point 3 below? I will need to get this off to the applicant soon. Thanks

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Monday, 1 October 2018 12:22 p.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: Wildlife Act Authority Application

Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii) – Here is my email draft can you hep me with bullet point 3 thanks

Hi s 9(2)(a)

A meeting was held this morning to discuss your application and the following further information is required:

- A pre-clearance survey of the development site. There is concern that the number of lizards identified at the site might be underestimated, especially as the survey carried out was carried out in winter when lizards are not as active.
- Lizard salvage always involves incidental kill. Did you mean to tick the “kill wildlife” box in

the application form.

- What if there is not enough time to rescue lizards before vegetation is removed – allow 2 weeks or condition-suitably qualified herp can delay ops for sufficient time for lizards to be removed. A. Contact them!!! Give them option – go into LMP – provide minimum time. Jen to help. Jen??
- More information / evidence that satisfies the Department that the release site is suitable, and how many lizards already exist there?.
- Please provide details of the pest control programme.
- In regards to monitoring, please provide more details in the LMP about how monitoring will indicate success or failure of the salvage and predator control- will there be sufficient data to determine whether the project is a success or failure (there needs to be pre-release monitoring and monitoring following release and then monitoring for 3 years after the predator control has been turned off). Please provide more details about how monitoring is going to be carried out.
- Please provide the credentials of the other people named in the application, are they qualified herpetologists.

Due to a high court decision regarding shark cage diving the Department is at this stage, not able to make any decisions on wildlife act applications but it is hoped direction on how to proceed will be forthcoming soon. Your application will be processed in the meantime.

Can you please provide the requested information above by 15th of October 2018.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: 9(2)(a)

Conservation leadership for our nature **Takina te Hi, tiakina te ha, o te ao turoa**

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Thursday, 16 August 2018 2:54 p.m.

To: Permissions Hamilton

Cc: 9(2)(a)

Subject: Wildlife Act Authority Application

Hi,

Please find attached a Wildlife Act Authority Application and relevant attachments to support proposed lizard salvage works associated with state Highway improvement works.

Any queries please contact myself or 9(2)(a) (cc'd into this email).

Regards,

9(2)(a)

Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

9(2)(a)

AECOM

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PO Box 4241 Shortland St, Auckland 1140

T +64 9 967 9200 F +64 9 967 9201

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: Application status - no. 69578
Date: Thursday, 18 October 2018 12:35:00 pm
Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

I just sent the below email to the applicant requesting further info. s 9(2)(g)(ii) is to contact the applicant directly on Monday relating to the issue of whether there will be enough time to rescue lizards before vegetation is removed.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 18 October 2018 9:25 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578
Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(a),

Sorry the delay but I have been waiting for our Department's technical advisor to provide comment so that I can finalise a request for more information, following the meeting where your application was discussed. I hope to get the necessary comments on Monday. In the meantime the following further information is requested:

- A pre-clearance survey of the development site. There is concern that the number of lizards identified at the site might be underestimated, especially as the survey carried out was carried out in winter when lizards are not as active.
- Lizard salvage always involves incidental kill. Did you mean to tick the "kill wildlife" box in the application form.
- More information / evidence that satisfies the Department that the release site is suitable, and how many lizards already exist there?.
- Please provide details of the pest control programme.
- In regards to monitoring, please provide more details in the LMP about how monitoring will indicate success or failure of the salvage and predator control- will there be sufficient data to determine whether the project is a success or failure? (there needs to be pre-release monitoring and monitoring following release and then monitoring for 3 years after the predator control has been turned off). Please provide more details about how monitoring is going to be carried out?.
- Please provide the credentials of the other people named in the application- are they qualified herpetologists?.

The comments I am waiting for relate to the issue of whether there will be enough time to rescue lizards before vegetation is removed. I will have a request for more info around this on Monday.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: s 9(2)(a)

Conservation leadership for our nature **Takina te Hi, tiakina te ha, o te ao turoa**

From: s 9(2)(a)

Sent: Tuesday, 16 October 2018 1:06 p.m.

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

Any updates on the status of this application?

Cheers

9(2)
(a)

9(2)(a)

Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

D 9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

AECOM

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Thursday, 27 September 2018 4:16 p.m.

To: 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578

Ok thanks 9(2)
(a)

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Thursday, 27 September 2018 12:51 p.m.

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

Thanks for your reply.

No worries, I'll follow up early next month.

Regards

9(2)
(a)

9(2)(a)

Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

9(2)(a)

AECOM

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Thursday, 27 September 2018 11:57 a.m.

To: 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Application status - no. 69578

Hi 9(2)(a)

Due to different staff commitments, unfortunately a meeting to discuss your application has not occurred as yet but is scheduled for Monday the 1st of October. I will be able to update you with progress after that meeting.

Best Regards

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Permissions Advisor

Department of Conservation – Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: 9(2)(a)

Conservation leadership for our nature **Takina te Hi, tiakina te ha, o te ao turoa**

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Tuesday, 25 September 2018 4:03 p.m.

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: Application status - no. 69578

Hi 9(2)(g)(ii),

I'm just chasing up a wildlife Act Authority application submitted on behalf of Bioreserches on the 16 August 2018. From what I understand this was assigned to you and processed on the 28 August under the ref no. 69578.

Could you please let me know the status of this application?

Kind regards,

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

Environmental Scientist (Ecologist)

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

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From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: RE: Context Meeting 69578-FAU (Bioresarches Group Limited)
Date: Friday, 21 September 2018 11:58:31 am

Hi all,

My manager s 9(2)(g)(ii) is going to re-assign this request to another Technical Advisor (along with my written advice). This will hopefully give you more options. My apologies for my limited availability next week and hope you can get a Permissions Advisor this time.

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Friday, 21 September 2018 10:53 a.m.

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii) Context Meetings

<ContextMeetings@doc.govt.nz>; s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: Re: Context Meeting 69578-FAU (Bioresarches Group Limited)

Sorry everyone, for some reason I have not received the original meeting request although I see I am on it. I can't make this time as I already have another meeting scheduled then. It's with externals so can't rearrange.

Please can we re-schedule asap.

Thanks

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

----- Original message -----

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Date: 21/09/18 10:17 (GMT+12:00)

To: Context Meetings <ContextMeetings@doc.govt.nz>, s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: Context Meeting 69578-FAU (Bioresarches Group Limited)

Hi all,

I can likely make the Tuesday, 25 September 1:45-2:30 meeting if that still works for you? Sorry about the mixed messages - a bit of a juggling act with having to fit in some weather-dependent field work next week. s 9(2)(g)(ii) is away for 2 weeks but I have her feedback. Hopefully this meeting can happen soon.

Cheers

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Context Meetings

Sent: Thursday, 20 September 2018 4:00 p.m.

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: Context Meeting 69578-FAU (Bioresarches Group Limited)

When: Tuesday, 25 September 2018 1:45 p.m.-2:30 p.m. (UTC+12:00) Auckland, Wellington.

Where: Skype Meeting

Postponed meeting until a permissions advisor is available.

→ [Join Skype Meeting](#)

Trouble Joining? [Try Skype Web App](#)

[Help](#)

Permissions Advisors, please fill in the [template](#) and save to DocCM with the permission number in the title and in the reference ID put CxtCheck. It's important you upload this filled in template within 2 days after the meeting happened as part of the monitoring process.

Purpose: s 9(2)(g)(ii) will lead the team process for the following permissions application.

Please review the relevant application and identify any Critical Issues to bring to the meeting.

Please forward this calendar invitation to the Community Ranger.

Permission No.	Title	Application	Summary	Decision Maker	Advisors	Task Assignment
69578-FAU	Bioresearches Group Limited	DOC-5560620	The application is from Bioresearches Group Limited, seeking permission to carry out lizard salvage as part of SH1 upgrades south of Whangarei.	s 9(2)(g)(ii)	s 9(2)(g)(ii) (Permissions Advisor) s 9(2)(g)(ii) (Science Advisor) DIM to assign (Community Ranger)	DOC-5560624

Permission Ref: 69578-FAU

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Date: 30th August 2018

Task Assignment: Process Application from Bioresearches Group Limited

Wildlife Act Application to Salvage, Transfer and Incidentally Kill Wildlife

The Department has received an application to carry out lizard salvage as part of SH1 upgrades south of Whangarei.

Potential lizard habitat was identified within the project footprint of the SH1/ Loop Road upgrades during preliminary ecological assessments undertaken by AECOM NZ Ltd (AECOM) and Bioresearches in early 2017. Copper skink were observed during these assessments; however, ornate skinks are also likely to be present within impacted areas. It was also recognised that three native gecko species may occur in the development footprint.

Wildlife Authorisation is being sought to allow the capture and salvage of native lizard species prior to and during construction to protect individuals from harm. Salvage would be undertaken between months September to May only.

It is proposed that captured lizards will be placed immediately into containment boxes and held temporarily (< 1 day), before being released into an nearby Otaika Valley Wildlife Reserve.

All native lizards will be captured and handled by DOC-authorized herpetologists only. Salvage methods will include: -Search and salvage prior to construction: manual searching through terrestrial debris, groundcover and tree bark and foliage. -Destructive searching of areas with dense coverage: grass trimming, vegetation removal with hand tools and with large machines.

These works would be supervised by a herpetologist/ ecologist. -Supervised vegetation clearance during site prep/construction.

A lizard management plan is also attached with the application.

Proposed species

Copper skink
Ornate skink
Forest gecko
Elegant gecko
Pacific gecko

Proposed location

Release site – Otaika Valley Government Purpose Reserve
Source site – within the proposed construction site on SH1/Loop Road

Proposed term

September 2018 - May 2021

Consultation

If this activity cannot take place in your area an active decision must still be made to decline the application.

Fees

The authority for agreeing fees sits with PPL Director to ensure a consistent approach across the country. Where the fee setting is consistent with the Price Book, place based decision makers can incorporate this into their decision.

Purpose

To make a decision on the application.

Quantity:

- A decision or other appropriate closure of the application
- Written rationale for decision
- Permissions processing complete (e.g. paperwork, database)

Quality:

- Ensure appropriate engagement with iwi/hapu/whanau
- Ensure stakeholders are appropriately consulted
- Ensure a robust decision-making process following best practice
- Ensure appropriate interaction and communication with the applicant
- Use team process and follow the defined 'Type 2' process steps
- Utilise resources provided
- Request changes to resources if required
- Ensure final decision is appropriately shared
- Assess and escalate critical issues
- Learn how to shorten the cycle time
- Ensure standard lizard salvage conditions are used (see below and include conditions that apply)

[This activity has very high impacts. Authorities should be issued for a maximum of 3 years. Please ensure BEFORE GRANTING that Operations rangers and whānau/hapu/iwi fully understand what this authority does, which also includes killing lizards. Killing lizards should be included as an activity on the permit, note that many applicants fail to identify this as an activity; they should be made aware of this. Ensure that all mitigation conditions are always included. Authorisations are for lizards and issued to people assessed as experienced Herpetologists only.]

Note: ONLY name people on the permit if they meet the following, other employees of the company should NOT be included. These generic multiple salvage permits should only be issued to "suitably experienced herpetologist". This will be assessed by the Lizard TAG based on the following criteria:

- *Appropriate qualifications as an ecologist*

- *Suitable and relevant field skills from New Zealand and NZ lizard species*
- *Experienced in the conservation management and/or ecological requirements of most/all NZ Not Threatened and At Risk lizard species.*
- *Suitable experience with lizard salvage operations.*
- *Suitable experience in writing Lizard Management Plans (LMP), and favourable peer review for at least 2 salvage related LMP*
- *Have complied with all permit conditions of previous permits, including reporting.*
- *Understanding and experience of the effort required for lizard survey and salvage, including favourable peer review of at least 2 salvage operations.*

When renewing salvage permits check that the standard conditions apply (they may have been modified since the past permit was issued. Before reissuing a renewal, ensure that all conditions have been met from the previous permit, including reporting. It is essential we have full reports of all salvage operations before reissuing these permits

Mitigation Conditions:

The Authority Holder is only permitted to release wildlife:

- a. that are classified as Not Threatened or At-Risk species under the current threat classification system;
- b. into release site(s) that are assessed by a qualified herpetologist [or other expert] as being of similar or better habitat than the source location, and capable of supporting that lizard species;
- c. into release site(s) that are within five hundred (500) metres of the development footprint (or with consultation and agreement with the relevant DOC Services Manager);
- d. into release site(s) where habitat for that species of wildlife has been enhanced and approved prior to relocation, using accepted techniques such as provision of extra refuges suitable for the species providing protection from predators (e.g. complex rock stack), or long-term predator control; and
- e. into release site(s) where the site has long-term security from development or modification (e.g. Council or DOC- managed Reserves, covenants or District Plan provisions).

Any salvage operation for wildlife shall be accompanied by a translocation proposal or Species Specific Management Plan that outlines, as a minimum, capture and handling techniques to be applied, the proposed relocation release site, management of the release site including provision for protection of relocated wildlife, provision of post-release monitoring, actions that will be followed in the event that Threatened lizard species are found within the development footprint and contingencies should establishment of salvaged wildlife fails. The translocation proposal or Species-Specific Management Plan shall be approved by the Grantor.

Incidentally kill wildlife

The Authority Holder is permitted to kill wildlife provided reasonable efforts have been made to meet all of the terms and conditions expressed and implied in this Authority. If any lizards are injured as part of the Authorised Activity, the Authority Holder shall contact a suitably qualified herpetologist to get advice on management of the lizard. The

Authority Holder is authorised to euthanise injured animal(s) on recommendation of the qualified herpetologist

Salvage relocation and habitat enhancement

Where monitoring indicates that population establishment has failed, the Authority Holder must perform actions as set out in the contingencies/adaptive management sections of the Species Specific Management Plan(s) to ensure adequate mitigation of effects has been achieved.

DOC Operations Manager(s) are to be contacted immediately for further advice if wildlife species classified as Threatened are located within the footprint of the proposed development or within the proposed release site. separate application to translocate Threatened species will be required.

During wildlife salvage operations or construction, if Threatened wildlife are found within the footprint of the site, the Authority Holder must contact the DOC Operations Manager(s). The Authority Holder must transfer the wildlife to an approved captive holding facility until a suitable release site is identified by DOC. A separate application to translocate Threatened species may be required. The costs of care and subsequent release are the responsibility of the Authority Holder.

This Authority only allows the salvage of up to twenty (20) individuals of any species. If a larger number is estimated at the salvage site, a separate application to translocate over twenty (20) individuals is required.

The Authority Holder must engage with the relevant tangata whenua prior to any relocation of wildlife taking place in their rohe. Advice of engagement with tangata whenua should be sought from the DOC Operations Manager(s).

Once a Species-Specific Management Plan has been prepared and approved by DOC, the Authority Holder may hold any of the salvaged wildlife in captivity for up to twelve (12) months

Any offspring of the salvaged wildlife born in captivity must be released with the original salvaged wildlife, in accordance with the Species Specific Management Plan.

Lizard capture, handling and relocation should be undertaken at a suitable time of year [insert months] when lizards are active, as advised by a suitably experienced herpetologist [September – May is the usual duration, but this will vary by region and altitude. Check with local experts on the conditions /species to help define suitable times].

Lizard Salvage Reporting

1. A report is to be submitted in writing to the DOC Operations Manager, [insert office and address] by 30 June each year for the life of this Authorisation, summarising outcomes in accordance with the Species-Specific Management Plan. Each report must include:

- the species and number of any animals collected and released;
- the GPS location (or a detailed map) of the collection point(s) and release point(s);
- copies of approved Assessment of Environment Effects (lizards); Lizard Management Plans or similar; and
- results of all surveys, monitoring or research.

2. Completed Amphibian and Reptile Distribution System (ARDS) cards for all herpetofauna sightings and captures (<http://www.doc.govt.nz/conservation/native-animals/reptiles-and-frogs/species-information/herpetofauna-data-collection/ards-card/>) must be sent to Herpetofauna, Department of Conservation, National Office, PO Box 10420 Wellington 6143 or herpetofauna@doc.govt.nz.

Resources

Permissions Advisor – s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Community Ranger – To be assigned by the Decision Maker

Technical Advisor – s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Link to Application: [https://doccm.doc.govt.nz:443/wcc/faces/wccdoc?
dDocName=DOC-5560620](https://doccm.doc.govt.nz:443/wcc/faces/wccdoc?dDocName=DOC-5560620)

Timeframe

Within 20 working days of acceptance of Task Assignment. In this instance, the 20 working days will commence from 3rd September.

Released under the Official Information Act

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: Context Meeting 69578-FAU (Bioresarches Group Limited)
Date: Wednesday, 19 September 2018 2:28:49 pm

FYI

----- Original message -----

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Date: 17/09/2018 1:34 pm (GMT+12:00)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: Context Meeting 69578-FAU (Bioresarches Group Limited)

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Not sure what happened this afternoon but I felt that we could not go on with the meeting without a permissions advisor as there are likely to be a number of CIs.

Please could I ask you to reschedule the context meeting for the earliest opportunity given that we are already two weeks into this permission.

Thanks

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Operations Manager, Whangarei
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*

M: s 9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office

2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140

Released under the Official Information Act

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Subject: FW: Context Meeting 69578-FAU (Bioresarches Group Limited)
Date: Wednesday, 19 September 2018 2:29:24 pm

FYI

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 7 September 2018 10:44 a.m.
To: s 9(2)(g)(ii) Context Meetings <ContextMeetings@doc.govt.nz>;
s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: Context Meeting 69578-FAU (Bioresarches Group Limited)

Thanks s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Yes please postpone this meeting until we have a permissions advisor.

Thanks

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Operations Manager, Whangarei
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
M s 9(2)(a)

Whangarei Office

2 South End Avenue, Raumanga, Whangarei 0110 | PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 7 September 2018 10:25 a.m.
To: Context Meetings <ContextMeetings@doc.govt.nz>; s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: Context Meeting 69578-FAU (Bioresarches Group Limited)

Hi s 9(2)(g)(ii),

I have a critical issue on this application in that I do not have a Permissions Advisor to assign this to at the moment. I'm hoping someone will have some capacity in the next few days to take it. My contribution is to postpone this Context Meeting until I'm able to assign it to a Permissions Advisor.

Cheers,

s 9(2)(g)(ii)

---Original Appointment----

From: Context Meetings

Sent: Thursday, 30 August 2018 3:28 p.m.

To: Context Meetings; s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Cc: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: Context Meeting 69578-FAU (Bioresarches Group Limited)

When: Friday, 7 September 2018 11:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m. (UTC+12:00) Auckland, Wellington.

Where: Skype Meeting

→ [Join Skype Meeting](#)

Trouble Joining? [Try Skype Web App](#)

Released under the Official Information Act

[Help](#)

Permissions Advisors, please fill in the [template](#) and save to DocCM with the permission number in the title and in the reference ID put CxtCheck. It's important you upload this filled in template within 2 days after the meeting happened as part of the monitoring process.

Purpose: Louisa Gritt will lead the team process for the following permissions application. Please review the relevant application and identify any Critical Issues to bring to the meeting.

Please forward this calendar invitation to the Community Ranger.

Permission No.	Title	Application	Summary	Decision Maker	Advisors	Task Assignment
69578-FAU	Bioresearches Group Limited	DOC-5560620	The application is from Bioresearches Group Limited, seeking permission to carry out lizard salvage as part of SH1 upgrades south of Whangarei.	s 9(2)(g)(ii)	s 9(2)(g)(ii) (Permissions Advisor) s 9(2)(g)(ii) (Science Advisor) DIM to assign (Community Ranger)	DOC-5560624

Permission Ref: 69578-FAU

To: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

From: s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Date: 30th August 2018

Task Assignment: Process Application from Bioresearches Group Limited

Wildlife Act Application to Salvage, Transfer and Incidentally Kill Wildlife

The Department has received an application to carry out lizard salvage as part of SH1 upgrades south of Whangarei.

Potential lizard habitat was identified within the project footprint of the SH1/ Loop Road upgrades during preliminary ecological assessments undertaken by AECOM NZ Ltd (AECOM) and Bioresearches in early 2017. Copper skink were observed during these assessments; however, ornate skinks are also likely to be present within impacted areas. It was also recognised that three native gecko species may occur in the development footprint.

Wildlife Authorisation is being sought to allow the capture and salvage of native lizard species prior to and during construction to protect individuals from harm. Salvage would be undertaken between months September to May only.

It is proposed that captured lizards will be placed immediately into containment boxes and held temporarily (< 1 day), before being released into an nearby Otaika Valley Wildlife Reserve.

All native lizards will be captured and handled by DOC-authorized herpetologists only.

Salvage methods will include: -Search and salvage prior to construction: manual searching through terrestrial debris, groundcover and tree bark and foliage. -Destructive searching of areas with dense coverage: grass trimming, vegetation removal with hand tools and with large machines.

These works would be supervised by a herpetologist/ ecologist. -Supervised vegetation clearance during site prep/construction.

A lizard management plan is also attached with the application.

Proposed species

Copper skink
Ornate skink
Forest gecko
Elegant gecko
Pacific gecko

Proposed location

Release site – Otaika Valley Government Purpose Reserve
Source site – within the proposed construction site on SH1/Loop Road

Proposed term

September 2018 - May 2021

Consultation

If this activity cannot take place in your area an active decision must still be made to decline the application.

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- Request changes to resources if required
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- Assess and escalate critical issues
- Learn how to shorten the cycle time
- Ensure standard lizard salvage conditions are used (see below and include conditions that apply)

[This activity has very high impacts. Authorities should be issued for a maximum of 3 years. Please ensure BEFORE GRANTING that Operations rangers and whānau/hapu/iwi fully understand what this authority does, which also includes killing lizards. Killing lizards should be included as an activity on the permit, note that many applicants fail to identify this as an activity; they should be made aware of this. Ensure that all mitigation conditions are always included. Authorisations are for lizards and issued to people assessed as experienced Herpetologists only.]

Note: ONLY name people on the permit if they meet the following, other employees of the company should NOT be included. These generic multiple salvage permits should only be issued to "suitably experienced herpetologist". This will be assessed by the Lizard TAG based on the following criteria:

- *Appropriate qualifications as an ecologist*
- *Suitable and relevant field skills from New Zealand and NZ*

lizard species

- *Experienced in the conservation management and/or ecological requirements of most/all NZ Not Threatened and At Risk lizard species.*
- *Suitable experience with lizard salvage operations.*
- *Suitable experience in writing Lizard Management Plans (LMP), and favourable peer review for at least 2 salvage related LMPs*
- *Have complied with all permit conditions of previous permits, including reporting.*
- *Understanding and experience of the effort required for lizard survey and salvage, including favourable peer review of at least 2 salvage operations.*

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- d. into release site(s) where habitat for that species of wildlife has been enhanced and approved prior to relocation, using accepted techniques such as provision of extra refuges suitable for the species providing protection from predators (e.g. complex rock stacks), or long-term predator control; and
- e. into release site(s) where the site has long-term security from development or modification (e.g. Council or DOC- managed Reserves, covenants or District Plan provisions).

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Any offspring of the salvaged wildlife born in captivity must be released with the original salvaged wildlife, in accordance with the Species-Specific Management Plan.

Lizard capture, handling and relocation should be undertaken at a suitable time of year *[insert months]* when lizards are active, as advised by a suitably experienced herpetologist *[September – May is the usual duration, but this will vary by region and altitude. Check with local experts on the conditions /species to help define suitable times].*

Lizard Salvage Reporting

1. A report is to be submitted in writing to the DOC Operations Manager, *[insert office and address]*, by 30 June each year for the life of this Authorisation, summarising outcomes in accordance with the Species-Specific Management Plan. Each report must include:

- the species and number of any animals collected and released;
- the GPS location (or a detailed map) of the collection point(s) and release point(s);
- copies of approved Assessment of Environment Effects (lizards); Lizard Management Plans or similar; and
- results of all surveys, monitoring or research.

2. Completed Amphibian and Reptile Distribution System (ARDS) cards for all herpetofauna sightings and captures (<http://www.doc.govt.nz/conservation/native-animals/reptiles-and-frogs-species-information/herpetofauna-data-collection/ards-card/>) must be sent to Herpetofauna, Department of Conservation, National Office, PO Box 10420 Wellington 6143 or herpetofauna@doc.govt.nz.

Resources

Permissions Advisor – s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Community Ranger – To be assigned by the Decision Maker

Technical Advisor – s 9(2)(g)(ii)

Link to Application: <https://doccm.doc.govt.nz:443/wcc/faces/wccdoc?dDocName=DOC-5560620>

Timeframe

Within 20 working days of acceptance of Task Assignment. In this instance, the 20 working days will commence from 3rd September.