

Memo

To:	Josh Leckie, Lane Neave	Job No:	2352.200
From:	Graham Ussher, RMA Ecology	Date:	17 June 2026
cc:	Mia Turner, Lane Neave; Cheryl Crow, Santana Minerals		
Subject:	Bendigo-Ophir Mine Project: FTAA Panel information request regarding biodiversity offsetting		

Dear Josh,

Matakanui Gold Limited (**MGL**) has applied for resource consents under the Fast Track Approval Act (**FTAA**) to establish, operate, and remediate the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project (**BOGP**) on Bendigo and Ardour Stations in the Dunstan Mountains of Central Otago.

Conferencing between lizard experts has resulted in a Joint Witness Statement on lizards. Paragraph 53 of the Joint Statement states that:

MB and GU intend to provide a summary table to clarify the degree to which effects management measures reduce the severity of effects or provide potentially positive benefits for each lizard species in the context of no net loss outcomes.

In the subsequent Hearing on ecology matters, the Panel expanded this request to cover all ecology values for which modelling had been undertaken (that is, not only for lizards).

This memorandum provides the summary table.

The information provided in the table below has been sourced from the offset models that were developed for some biodiversity components (species or communities) for the overall project, and which are discussed in Appendix 3¹ to the Ecological Effects Assessment report prepared by Alliance Ecology Ltd (document B.08 of the Application).

Table 1 provides a list of all of the biodiversity components for which offset modelling was undertaken. For each component, the percentage contribution of management at the rehabilitation or restoration management sites is provided, along with an overall summary statement on whether net-gain, or net-loss of values is expected to results after all of these management actions are applied.

Yours sincerely,



Graham Ussher

Principal Ecologist, RMA Ecology Ltd

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¹ RMA Ecology Ltd. Biodiversity Offsetting Report. 22 October 20225. 11 pp + appendices

Table 1. The degree to which management areas (and the management actions applied to those areas) contribute to addressing loss of values for biodiversity within the Benido-Ophir Gold Mine project footprint (DDF). Only data for those biodiversity components that were subject to offset modelling is included (as biodiversity not subject to offset modelling has no quantitative basis from which to generate quantitative estimates).

For each line (biodiversity), the percentage contribution of each management area (columns) is provided. The contribution of all management areas across a row sum to 100 % for each biodiversity value listed in the first column. The 100 % sum is the overall summed benefit that is predicted to be gained from the total enhancement actions. In some cases, the sum of the actions does not address all effects, and the overall net change for that biodiversity values across the project is projected to be a loss (last column), or in some cases, the sum of the actions is predicted to result in an overall net gain.

	Rehabilitation within DDF	Ardgour Restoration Area (ARA)	Mine Regeneration Zone (MRZ)	Ardgour Sanctuary (pest fenced area)	Bendigo Sanctuary (pest fenced area)	Overall net change in biodiversity after positive management actions
Tussock grassland	22.9 %	37 %	37.2 %	2.0 %	0.8 %	Net-gain
Taramea herbfield	5.2 %	-	94.8%	-	-	Net-gain
Kawarau gecko	30.4 %	32.9 %	21.4 %	7.9 %	7.5 %	Net-loss
McCann's skink	28.0 %	33.8 %	26.4 %	6.4 %	5.5 %	Net-loss
Woody vegetation (native dominated scrubland)	38.9 %	38.6 %	19.5 %	1.5 %	1.4 %	Net-gain
Wetland - marsh/swamp	68.1 %	-	31.9 %	-	-	Net-gain
Wetland - seep	-	-	-	-	-	Net-loss
Wetland - fen	-	-	-	-	-	Net-loss