

**BENDIGO-OPHIR GOLD PROJECT**  
**PROPOSED ARCHEAEOLOGICAL AUTHORITY AND CONDITIONS**

<b>Authority Number:</b>	[TBC]	<b>File Reference:</b>	[TBC]
<b>Determination Date:</b>	[TBC]	<b>Expiry Date:</b>	31 October 2061
<b>Authority Holder:</b>	Matakanui Gold Limited		
<b>Postal Address:</b>	15A Chardonay Street CROMWELL 9310		

**Archaeological Sites:**

The Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project will have known effects on:

- > G41/6 – (no name/water race)
- > G41/251 – Come-in-time Battery
- > G41/256 – (no name/gold working)
- > G41/264 – Rise and Shine Creek (Gold working)
- > G41/265, G41/266, G41/267 – Rise and Shine Creek (Stone hut sites)
- > G41/269 – Rise and Shine Dam
- > G41/273 – (no name / stone hut site)
- > G41/277 – Rise and Shine Mine and Battery
- > G41/584 – Rise and Shine Water Race
- > G41/586 – Come-in-time water race
- > G41/589 – (no name / revetted road)
- > G41/604, G41/605 – (no names / gold working sites)
- > G41/606 – (no name / stone hut)
- > G41/658 – (no name / hut terrace)
- > G41/678 – (no name/ stone hut)
- > G41/782 – Matakanui-Bendigo Road
- > G41/783 – (no name / track)

- > G41/784, G41/785 – (no name (hut sites)
- > G41/786 – (no name / hut terrace)
- > G41/787, G41/788 – (no name / tailings sites)
- > G41/789 (no name / sluicing)
- > G41/790 – (no name / water race)
- > G41/792 – (no name- water race).

Works will take place in proximity to:

- > G41/4 – Rabbiter’s Hut
- > G41/5 – (no name / stock yards site)
- > G41/310 – (no name / gold working site).

**Location:**

This approval applies to the location of activities shown in **Attachment 1** comprising parts of Bendigo Station and Ardgour Station in the Dunstan Mountains of Central Otago and includes:

- a. The areas within which mining operations will occur including open pits, an underground mine, a tailings storage facility, engineered landforms, processing plant, haul roads and supporting / ancillary activities and infrastructure;
- b. Two bores on the Bendigo Terrace and associated pipelines for the supply of fresh water; and
- c. An upgrade to the intersection of SH8 and Ardgour Road.

**Section 45 Approved Person:**

Naomi Woods or any other person approved under section 45.

**Landowner Consent:**

Landowner consent has been provided from the owners of Bendigo Station and Ardgour Station and Central Otago District Council.

*[MGL has been engaging with the Department of Conservation throughout the development of the BOGP Substantive Application. Whilst formal consent has not yet been provided for those areas of the project located on land administered by the Department of Conservation, detailed information of the proposed activities has been provided as part of the ongoing engagement that MGL has undertaken. MGL will work with the Department of Conservation to obtain its consent following lodgement of the Substantive Application.]*

**Determination:**

This archaeological authority is granted pursuant to section 81 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 to enable the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project, subject to the following conditions.

**Conditions of Archaeological Authority:**

1. The authority holder must ensure that all contractors working on the project that may encounter archaeological evidence are briefed on site by the s45 approved person, who may appoint a person to carry out the briefing on their behalf, prior to any works commencing on the possibility of encountering archaeological evidence, how to identify possible archaeological sites during works, the archaeological work required by the conditions of this authority, and contractors' responsibilities with regard to notification of the discovery of archaeological evidence to ensure that the authority conditions are complied with.
2. Prior to the start of any on-site archaeological work, the authority holder must ensure that Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga is advised of the date when work will begin. This advice must be provided at least 2 working days before work starts. The authority holder must also ensure that Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga is advised of the completion of the on-site archaeological work, within 5 working days of completion.
3. The authority must be exercised in accordance with the "Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project – An Archaeological Management Plan" prepared by New Zealand Heritage Properties Ltd dated 13 May 2025. Any changes to the plan require the prior written agreement of Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga.

This approval applies to the location of activities shown in Attachment 1. If development plans are altered from those reviewed for the heritage assessment undertaken for the project (*Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project, A Heritage Assessment*, New Zealand Heritage Properties Ltd, March 2025), then HNZPT and NZHP must be alerted, as any changes may alter the assessment of effects or invalidate the authority.

4. Any earthworks that may affect any archaeological sites must be monitored by the s45-approved person who may appoint a person to carry out the monitoring on their behalf.
5. Any archaeological evidence encountered during the exercise of this authority must be investigated, recorded and analysed in accordance with current archaeological practice.
  - a. Recording of Water Races: The affected portions of the Rise and Shine (G41/584) and Come-in-Time (G41/586) water races are to be recorded to a Level II standard as defined in HNZPT's guide, Investigation and Recording of Buildings and Standing Structures (HNZPT, 2018), and the full extent of each race digitally mapped. Affected portions of water race G41/6, G41/790 and G41/792 are to be recorded to a Level III standard. Details of the recommended recording are provided in the certified Archaeological Management Plan.

- b. Recording of Stone Huts and Dams: The stone huts (G41/265, G41/266, G41/267, G41/273, G41/606 and G41/678) and dam (G41/269) are to be recorded to a Level II standard as defined in HNZPT's guide, Investigation and Recording of Buildings and Standing Structures (HNZPT, 2018). Details of the recommended recording are provided in the certified Archaeological Management Plan.
    - c. Recording of Stone Culverts and Revetments: The stone culverts and revetments (G41/589 and G41/782) are to be recorded to a Level II standard as defined in HNZPT's guide, Investigation and Recording of Buildings and Standing Structures (HNZPT, 2018). Details of the recommended recording are provided in the certified Archaeological Management Plan.
6. In addition to any tikanga agreed between the authority holder and takata whenua via Aukaha (on behalf of kā rūnaka) provided with the authority application, the following shall apply:
  - a. Access for takata whenua via Aukaha shall be enabled in accordance with any site safety requirements, in order to undertake tikanga.
  - b. takata whenua via Aukaha shall be informed 5 days before the start and finish of the archaeological work.
  - c. If any kōiwi (human remains) all work must stop within 20m of the find. NZHP will assist the authority holder in contacting all affected parties as soon as practicable, including takata whenua via Aukaha, HNZPT, and the police. The Ngāi Tahu policy for kōiwi takata shall also be followed (Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, 2019).
  - d. If archaeological material of Māori origin is discovered at any stage, all work must stop within 20m of the find. NZHP will assist the authority holder in contacting all relevant parties including takata whenua via Aukaha and HNZPT and in accordance with the AMP. Any taoka tūturu are prima facie the property of the Crown who will be notified of the find. Taoka tūturu will be registered with the Ministry for Culture and Heritage. NZHP, in collaboration with manawhenua, shall notify the Ministry of Culture Heritage and establish the most appropriate temporary storage, management and care for taoka tūturu, until such time as traditional or actual ownership is determined, with an appropriate institution or kaitiaki.
7. The authority holder must submit an annual report to Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga describing the activities that have occurred in the previous 12 months pursuant to this authority including the extent of monitoring, supervision, recording and actions undertaken.
8. The authority holder must submit a report synthesising the results of the archaeological investigations to date every 5 years from the issue date of this authority, completed following the Archaeological Report Guideline (AGS12 2023), is submitted to the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Senior Archaeologist for inclusion in the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga

Archaeological Reports Digital Library, to the Cromwell Museum and the NZAA Central Filekeeper, including:

- a. One hard copy and one digital copy of the final report are to be sent to Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga.
  - b. Digital copies of the final report must also be sent to the NZAA Central Filekeeper, Central Otago District Council, Cromwell Museum and takata whenua via Aukaha.
9. That within 12 months of the completion of the on-site archaeological work, the authority holder shall ensure that a final report, completed following the Archaeological Report Guideline (AGS12 2023), is submitted to the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Senior Archaeologist for inclusion in the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Archaeological Reports Digital Library, to the Cromwell Museum and the NZAA Central Filekeeper, including:
- a. One hard copy and one digital copy of the final report are to be sent to Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga.
  - b. Digital copies of the final report must also be sent to the NZAA Central Filekeeper, Central Otago District Council, Cromwell Museum and takata whenua via Aukaha.
10. Protection of sites / features: As a first principle, every practical effort must be made to avoid damage to any heritage site, whether known, or discovered during any redevelopment of the site.
- a. Site G41/4 (Rabbitier's Hut) must be protected during works and any modifications for its future adaptive re-use may require a separate archaeological authority.
  - b. No works will take place within the fenced boundary around site G41/5 (stock yards).
  - c. No topsoil or other overburden is to be stored within 10m of any previously recorded heritage site or additional Points of Interest identified by NZHPT in the Archaeological and Heritage Management Plan.
  - d. The points at which the Rise and Shine (G41/584), Come-in-Time (G41/586) and newly recorded G41/790 water races enter the project area must be marked by semi-permanent timber survey pegs and avoided.
11. Artefacts: All archaeological and twentieth century artefacts collected during the proposed works should be retained and offered to the Cromwell Museum.
12. Re-use of materials: Stone from the stone huts, dam, culverts and revetments should be repurposed for landscaping or other purposes where it will be visible to future visitors to the project area or offered to Cromwell Museum or other local heritage organisations for re-use. Prior to their re-use, all stone should be kept in a secure storage location, with material from each site stored discretely to preserve the provenance.

## Attachment 1 - Location of Activities to Which the Archaeological Authority Applies

