

Mt Welcome Expert Consenting Panel

C/- Environmental Protection Authority

By email: [REDACTED]

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4 September 2026

Whare Kaupapa Atawhai | Conservation House

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FTAA-2603-1181

Tēnā koe Mr Robinson

Re: Response to Paragraph [2] of Minute 15 of the Expert Panel

On the 24 August 2026, the Department of Conservation (DOC) received Minute 15 of the Expert Panel for the Mt Welcome Fast-track application that contained an advance notice of a Request for Further Information. Minute 16 received on 28 August 2026 confirmed this request with a deadline of 12pm on the 4 September 2026 for Minute 15 paragraph [2] relating to the conditions of non-RMA approvals.

This letter provides a response to the further information requested.

Request

[2] Firstly, in relation to the non-RMA approvals being sought by the applicant, Mr McDonnell has supplied feedback on the Panel's review of conditions. The Panel invites Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga and Department of Conservation to comment on Mr McDonnell's responses as appropriate. We emphasise (again) that the review the Panel undertook was mechanical in nature, assessing the proposed conditions against SMART principles, and we are looking for input on the same basis.

Response

DOC accepts the comments and changes suggested by Mr McDonnell. We do, however, as a result of expert conferencing and conferencing with the Panel, have some additional comments on other details of the draft conditions that we intend to raise at the conferencing on conditions that the Panel has signalled. We also note at this stage that the correct version of the fish-passage guidance to refer to is the 2024 version: NZ Fish Passage Guidelines v4.5 dated July 2025.

We trust that the response adequately addresses the information requested. If there are further questions in relation to this response, please contact Terry Calmeyer, Project Lead Fast Track Applications, at [REDACTED] in the first instance.

Nāku noa, nā



Linda Kirk

Fast Track Applications Manager



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

**Te Kāwanatanga
o Aotearoa**
New Zealand Government



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai