

TO: Stevenson Aggregates Limited
 COPY TO: Jessica Urquhart (Tonkin & Taylor)
 FROM: Chris Wedding

Date: 26 March 2025
 Job No: 64827

Wildlife Approval information Requirements

This report has been prepared to identify and respond to Wildlife Act approval requirements under Section 42(4)(h), and how the substantive application complies with these requirements. This report follows Checklist E- Wildlife approval, of the Fast-track Substantive Application Form. It is reproduced here as part of the substantive application for Stevenson Aggregates Ltd in relation to the Drury Quarry – Sutton Block Expansion. Table 1 provides a list of the ecological documents which also form part of the Fast Track consent application and are referred to in this report, and Table 2 responds to the information checklist.

This Wildlife Approval application is specifically for the capture and relocation of native Lizards (copper skink *Oligosoma aeneum*), and other potentially present native lizard species from the proposed quarry footprint to an adjacent area that will be subject to habitat enhancement, pest management and restoration planting. For the avoidance of doubt, this Wildlife Approval application does not relate to non-lizard fauna.

Table 1. Documents referred to in checklist (Table 2) and supplied with this Wildlife Approval application

Document name	Document acronym	Document number
Ecology Documents Guide and Overview of Effects and Management Package		E1:9
Ecological Impact Assessment	EclA	E2:9
Ecological Management Plan (includes multiple sections to address flora, fauna and edge effects)	EMP	E3:9
Net Gain Delivery Plan: Pest and Weed Control	NGDP:PWC	E7:9

Table 2. Information required of Wildlife Approval

Clause, Schedule 7	Information required for an approval described in section 42(4)(h) (Wildlife Act approval), clause 2 of Schedule 7	Application Reference and Response
2(1)(a)	Specify the purpose of the proposed activity	Document E2:9 EclA: Section 1.1, pages 1-7 The proposal is to construct and operate a new quarry pit (Sutton Block) comprising five indicative stages over 50 years.
2(1)(b)	Identify the actions the applicant wishes to carry out involving protected wildlife and where they will be carried	Document E2:9 EclA: Section 5.2.2.2 (Part A) Document E3:9 EMP: Section 5 (Native Lizard Management Plan) Document E7:9 NGDP



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	out (whether on or off public conservation land)	We propose to capture and relocate native skinks (e.g. copper skink, <i>Oligosoma aeneum</i>) and other potentially present native lizard species from the proposed quarry footprint to an adjacent area that will be subject to habitat enhancement, including pest management and restoration planting, and as detailed in the draft LMP. Note that the Quarry is proposed to be constructed over five indicative stages, over approximately 50 years (refer Figure 2 of E2:9 EclA, and Figure 1 of E3:9 EMP, Appendix 1 of this memorandum). The actions will involve pre-clearance trapping and systematic searches, followed by destructive searches during vegetation removal phase, to ensure all opportunities to relocate protected lizards are taken. These methods are detailed in Section 5.2 of E3:9 EMP. The lizards will be released into pest managed and enhanced habitats to the north and east of Stages 1-5, over the 50- year period. Refer to Figure 7 of E3:9 EMP – Appendix 2 of this memorandum. Release site enhancement is detailed in Section 5.3.2 of E3:9 EMP and overarching pest management design is contained in document E7:9 NGDP:PWC. The activities will all be undertaken on the applicant's existing landholdings (Stevenson Aggregates Limited), specifically the following: • Lot 4 DP 509893 • Allot 197 PSH OF Hunua • Allot 37 PSH OF Hunua (1189 Pong Road, Hunua) • Allot 198 PSH OF Hunua • Allot 191 PSH OF Hunua This Wildlife Approval application does not involve any public conservation land.
2(1)(c)	An assessment of the activity and its impacts against the purpose of the Wildlife Act	Document E2:9 EclA: Section 4.1.7 Document E3:9 EMP: Section 5 (Native Lizard Management Plan) The Wildlife Act protects animals classed as wildlife and controls how people interact with wildlife. The application is relevant to the Wildlife Act because it proposes vegetation removal activities that provide habitat to protected wildlife species, and these species may be killed or injured if unmanaged. These species are identified as copper skinks (<i>Oligosoma aeneum</i>); native birds and potentially, long tailed bats (<i>Chalinolobus tuberculatus</i>). However, this approval is requested in relation to the native lizards only given appropriate mitigation measures will be implemented in relation to native birds and long tailed bats (see the proposed Resource Consent conditions, Section 5.2.2 of document E2:9 identifies actions that will be undertaken to avoid and minimise impacts on protected wildlife and these are further detailed in document E3:9 EMP, Sections 5 (lizards); 6 (avifauna) and 7 (long-tailed bats- which have not been recorded within the Sutton Block from survey)). Section 5 (3:9 EMP) specifically proposes capture and relocation of native lizards from habitats to protected and enhanced habitats to minimise mortality where they may occur within vegetation and habitats of the Project area.



2(1)(d)	List protected wildlife species known or predicted to be in the area and, where possible, the numbers of wildlife present and numbers likely to be impacted	Document E2:9 EclA: Section 2.3, Table 18 Common name, species name, number: Confirmed present: Copper skink, <i>Oligosoma aeneum</i> >500 individuals over 5 stages / 50 years. Estimate is based on low numbers within degraded (grazed) habitats - five individuals recorded from site wide surveys in 2020 and 2021 (document E2:9 Section 2.3) Predicted to be in the area (species not recorded from survey) Ornate skink, <i>Oligosoma ornatum</i> >20 individuals Striped skink, <i>Oligosoma striatum</i> >10 individuals Forest gecko, <i>Mokopirirakau granulatus</i> >20 individuals Pacific gecko, <i>Dactylocnemis pacificus</i> >20 individuals Elegant gecko, <i>Naultinus elegans</i> >20 individuals
2(1)(e)	An outline of impacts on threatened, data deficient, and at-risk wildlife Species (as defined in the New Zealand Threat Classification System	Document E2:9 EclA: Section 4.1.7.1 and Section 5 (Table 56). No threatened or data deficient species are expected to occur within the project, noting that all those listed in E2:9 EclA: Section 2.3, Table 18 are at-risk, with only copper skink being recorded. An assessment of the activity and its impacts on native lizards is addressed on Section 4.1.7.1 and Table 48 and Table 56. In short, the native lizards are likely to be killed or injured during vegetation removal because they would be unable to move out of habitats as they are cleared (c.f. volant birds can fly away). Therefore, mortality and injury should be avoided through capture and relocation prior to and during vegetation removal, as detailed in a lizard management plan and sought via this approval.
2(1)(f)	A statement of how the methods proposed to be used to conduct the actions involving protected wildlife will ensure that best practice standards are met	Document E2:9 EclA: Section 4.1.7.1 Document E3:9 EMP: Section 5 (Native Lizard Management Plan) Best practice standards for managing New Zealand lizards are published in the Department of Conservation Lizard Technical Advisory Group document, 'Guidelines for producing management plans for New Zealand Lizards'. The recommended content of that document has been applied when developing the supporting documents of this application, particularly document E2:9 EclA: Section 4.1.7.1 and E3:9 EMP: Section 5 (Native Lizard Management Plan).
2(1)(g)	A description of the methods to be used to safely, efficiently, and humanely catch, hold, or kill the animals and identify relevant animal ethics processes:	Document E3:9 EMP: Section 5 (Native Lizard Management Plan) Detailed methods of capture and handling of lizards by experienced ecologists / herpetologists are contained within the Ecological Management Plan (Section 5.). In summary, this includes pre-works systematic searches and trapping, and works-assisted destructive searches; with release site enhancement and monitoring. Capture methods consider timing (environmental and seasonal controls (Section 5.2.1), pre-works trapping and searching periods



		and ensuring no more than 24 hours between trap checks (Section 5.2.2) handling protocols (Section 5.2.3.4) and incidental discovery protocols (Section 5.2.3.4).
2(1)(h)	A statement of the location or locations in which the activity will be carried out, including a map (and GPS coordinates if available)	Document E2:9 EclA: Section 1.1, pages 1-7 Document E3:9 EMP: Section 5 (Native Lizard Management Plan-Figure 6) The activity will be carried out in 5 stages over indicatively 50 years. These stages are Figures 2 - 7 of the Ecological Impact Assessment (see also Appendix 1 of this memorandum).
(2)(1)(i)	A statement of whether authorisation is sought to temporarily hold or relocate wildlife	Document E3:9 EMP: Section 5 (Native Lizard Management Plan) Authorisation to relocate wildlife (native lizards) to adjacent enhanced environments is sought.
2(1)(j)	A list of all actual and potential wildlife effects (adverse or positive) of the proposed activity, including effects on the target species, other indigenous species, and the ecosystems at the site	Document E2:9 EclA (Section 4) Document E1:9 Ecology Documents Guide and Overview Section 4 of EclA Assessments of effects identifies adverse effects on target and other indigenous species and ecosystems: 4.1 Terrestrial Ecology and ecosystems 4.1.7.1 of EclA Effects on lizards 4.1.7.2 of EclA Effects on Avifauna 4.1.7.3 of EclA Effects on bats An overview of the wider project with regard to effects and net gain outcomes is provided in an overarching ecology-focused summary document (E1:9). Overall, the proposal will result in the direct loss of 16.78 ha of fragmented and degraded vegetation and habitats. Following ecological management, including fauna-specific and buffer planting, significant (moderate and higher) residual effects are expected following permanent loss of mature forest and habitats. A biodiversity offset will provide for 63 ha of revegetation and 108 ha of enhancement via pest and weed control of existing forest, largely set strategically within a landscape where it will reconnect multiple mature forest fragments and habitats, including three existing Significant Ecological Areas. This will result in some 680.11 ha of continuous indigenous forest and habitat. Within the Ecology Summary document (E1:9), the impacted areas are mapped in Figures 1 & 2 of document E1:9, and the offset restoration planting and enhancements are mapped at Figures 3, 4, & 5. These are located at Appendix 3 of this memorandum.
2(1)(k)	Where adverse effects are identified, state what methods will be used to avoid and minimise those effects, and any offsetting or compensation proposed to address unmitigated adverse effects (including steps taken before the project begins, such as surveying, salvaging, and relocating protected wildlife)	Document E2:9 EclA (Section 5.2.2) Document E3:9 EMP Document E2:9 EclA (Section 5.2.2) details how the proposal adheres to the effects management hierarchy (avoid, minimise, remedy, offset) for adverse effects on flora, fauna and their habitats. The overall level of effect on indigenous fauna, including At Risk copper skinks is assessed as low, following management actions to avoid and minimise actual and potential effects (methods / actions detailed in document E3:9 EMP). Therefore, offset or compensation for these species is not proposed.



		At Risk copper skinks: While present within ground cover vegetation both within the Sutton Block and in surrounding habitats, copper skinks (and potentially other lizard species) are present at relatively low abundance. The magnitude of loss of these degraded environments to native lizards, including copper skinks, is considered to be Low on the basis that: • The population is represented by presence of one species at low abundance and within low-quality habitat where they occur within the Sutton Block. • There are very large areas of significant vegetation in the immediate landscape very large adjacent areas of SEA, beyond the Sutton Block, such as SEA_T_5349 (41.8 ha, Kaarearea Paa, which is avoided), SEA_T_5346 (18.53 ha, avoided); SEA_T_5323 (619.77 ha, 13.87 ha affected). Document E3:9 EMP sets out protocols / methods that will be used to avoid and minimise effects, particularly for lizards (Section 5), birds (Section 6) and potentially (but unlikely) bats (Section 7).
2(1)(l)	A statement of whether the applicant or any company director, trustee, partner, or anyone else involved with the application has been convicted of any offence under the Wildlife Act	The applicant or any company director, trustee, partner, or anyone else involved with the application has NOT been convicted of any offence under the Wildlife Act. Further, the identified herpetologist (Section 5, Table 5 of the EMP) does not have any convictions under the Wildlife Act.
2(1)(m)	A statement of whether the applicant or any company director, trustee, partner, or anyone else involved with the application has any current criminal charges under the Wildlife Act pending before a court	The applicant or any company director, trustee, partner, or anyone else involved with the application do NOT have any current criminal charges under the Wildlife Act pending before a court. Further, the identified herpetologist (Section 5, Table 5 of the EMP) does not have any convictions pending under the Wildlife Act.
2(1)(n)	Provision of proof and details of all consultation, including with hapū or iwi, on the application specific to wildlife impacts	Extensive consultation with mana whenua in relation to the Project has occurred for several years. A summary of all engagement for the Project is set out in section 10.5 of the AEE. For more details, refer to the Overview of Tangata Whenua Engagement Report at Appendix F. Copies of the Cultural Values Assessments received for the Project are located at Appendix G of the AEE.
2(1)(o)	Provision of any additional written expert views, advice, or opinions the applicant has obtained concerning their proposal	Document E1:9 Ecology Documents Guide and Overview of Effects and Management Package Document E2:9 Ecological Impact Assessment Document E3:9 Ecological Management Plan Document E7:9 Net Gain Delivery Plan: Pest and Weed Control Assessment of Environmental Effects, Tonkin & Taylor dated March 2025.

To: Jessica Urquhart (Tonkin & Taylor)

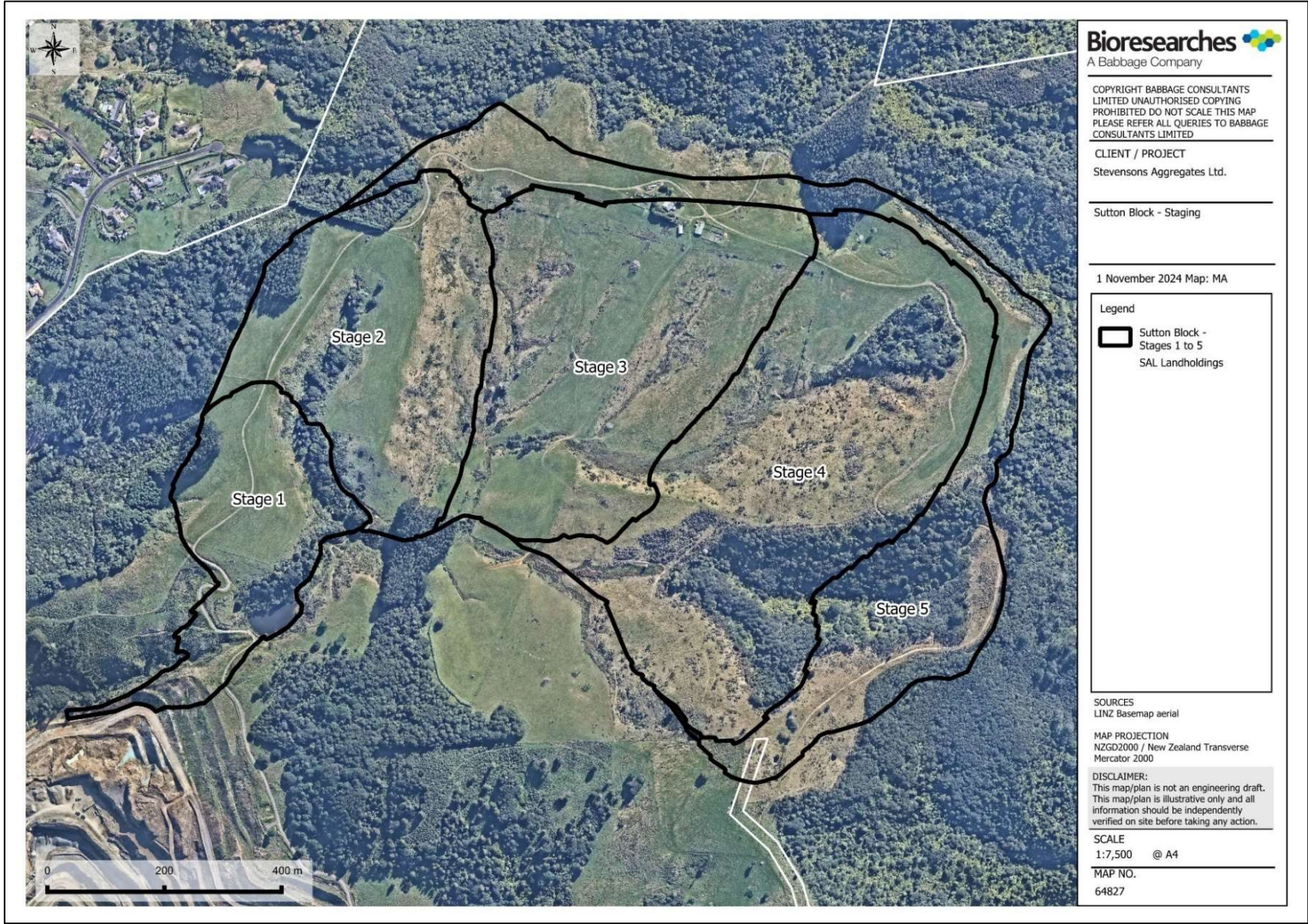
From: Chris Wedding

Chris Wedding
Ecology Manager
Bioresearches



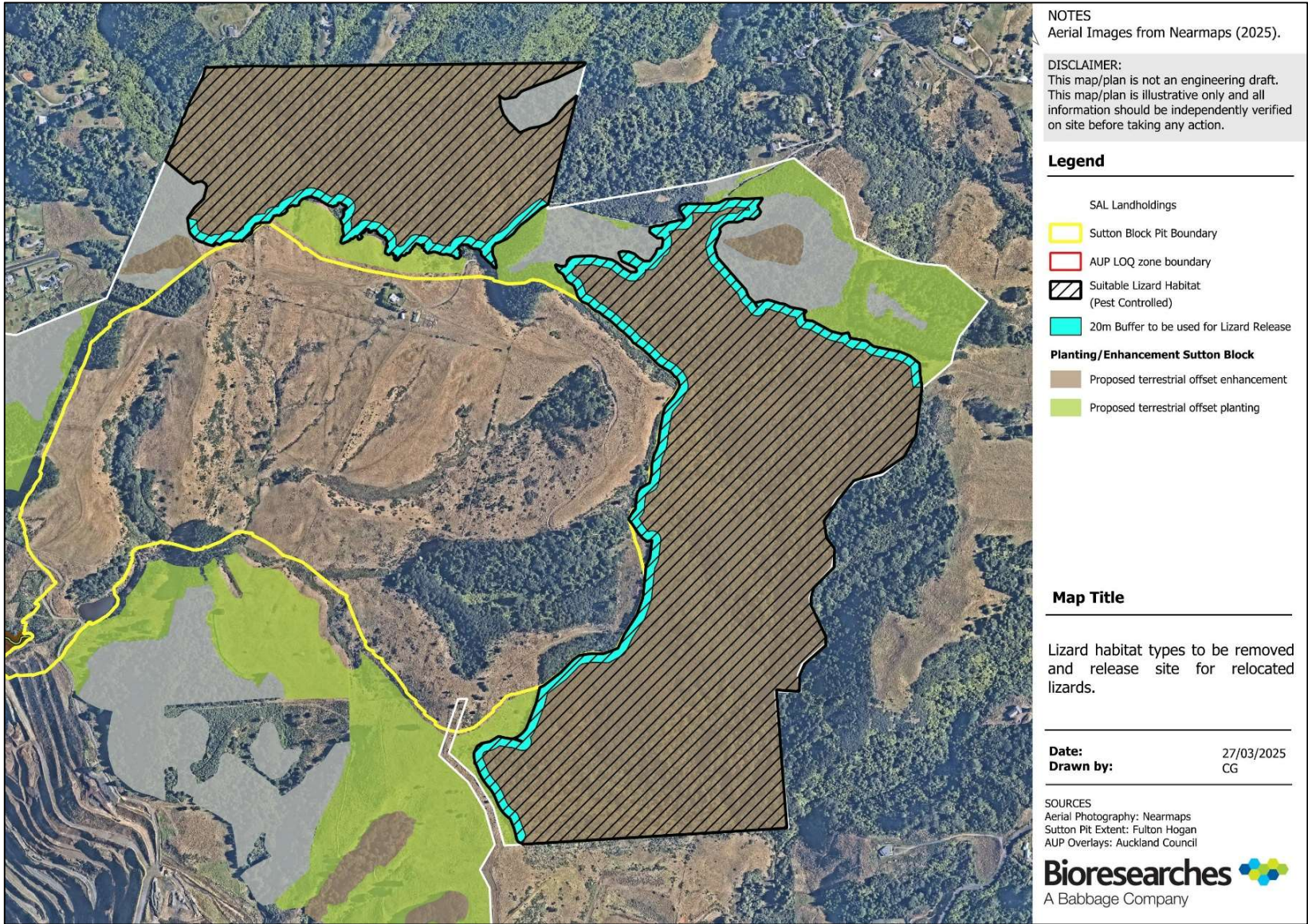
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Appendix 1 – Indicative Quarry Staging (Figure 2 of E2:9 EclA, and Figure 1 of E3:9 EMP)



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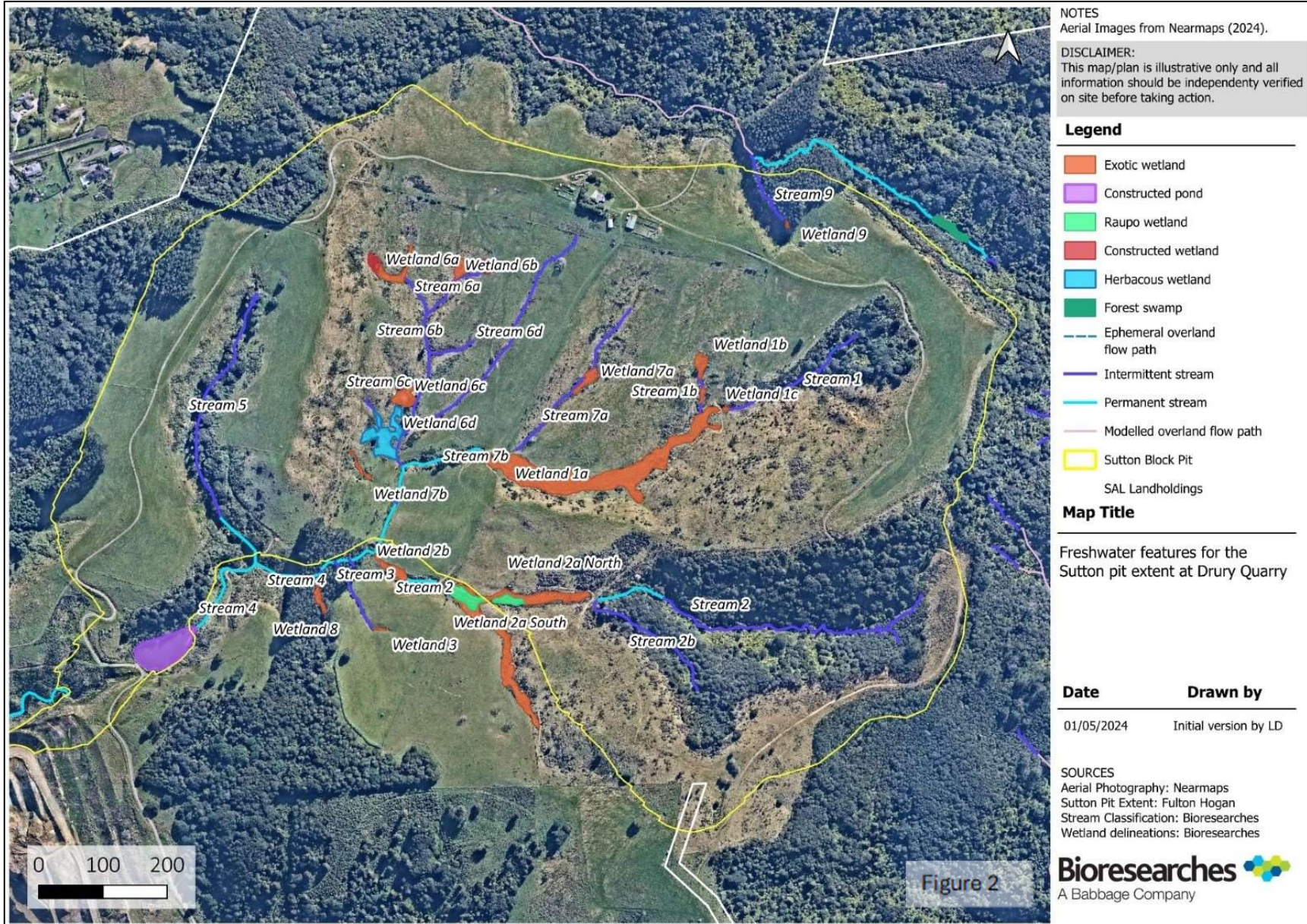
Appendix 2 – Map showing location of impact site (vegetation to be removed), where lizards will be salvaged and the proposed release site

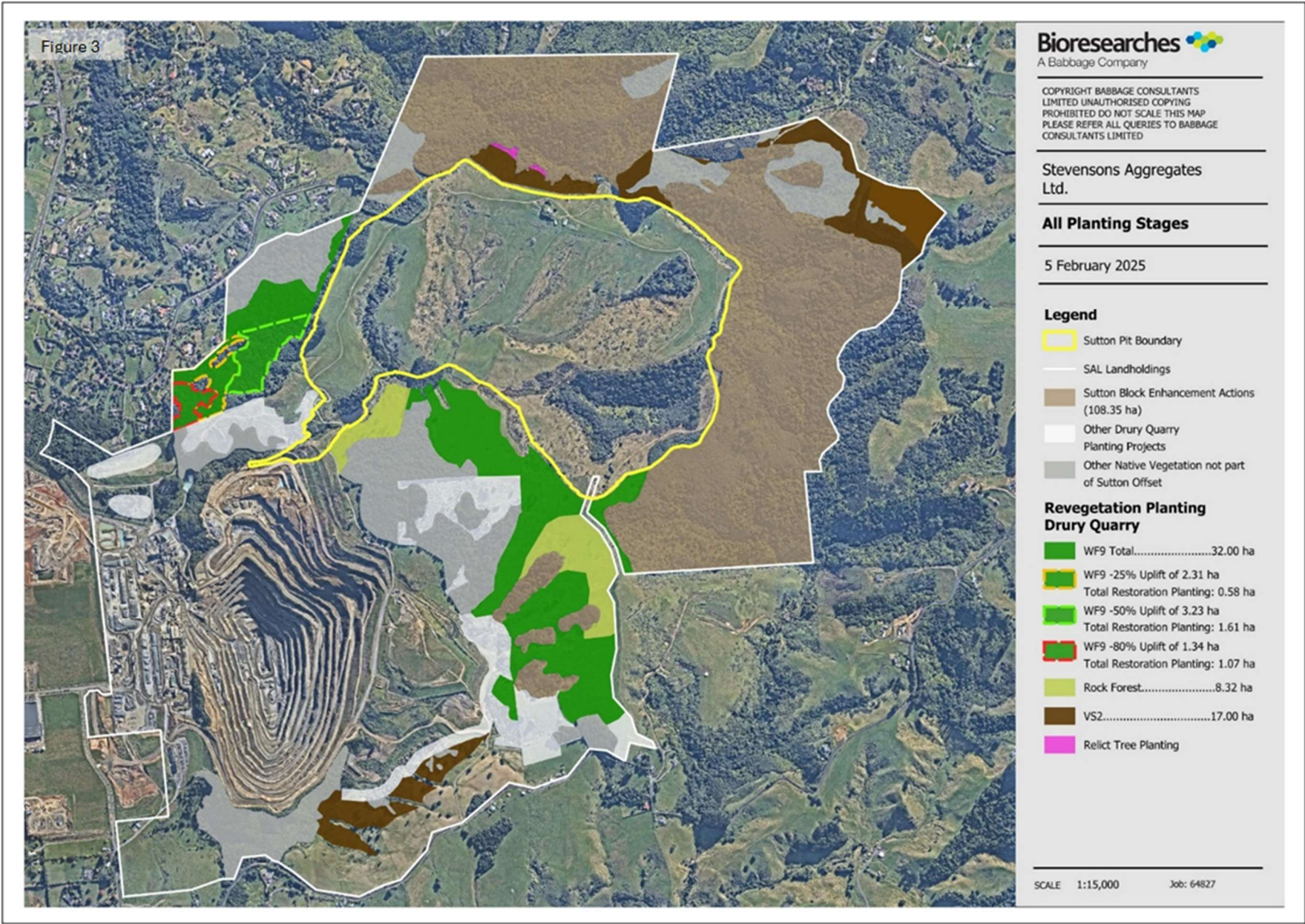


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Appendix 3 – Figures 1-5 of Document E1:9







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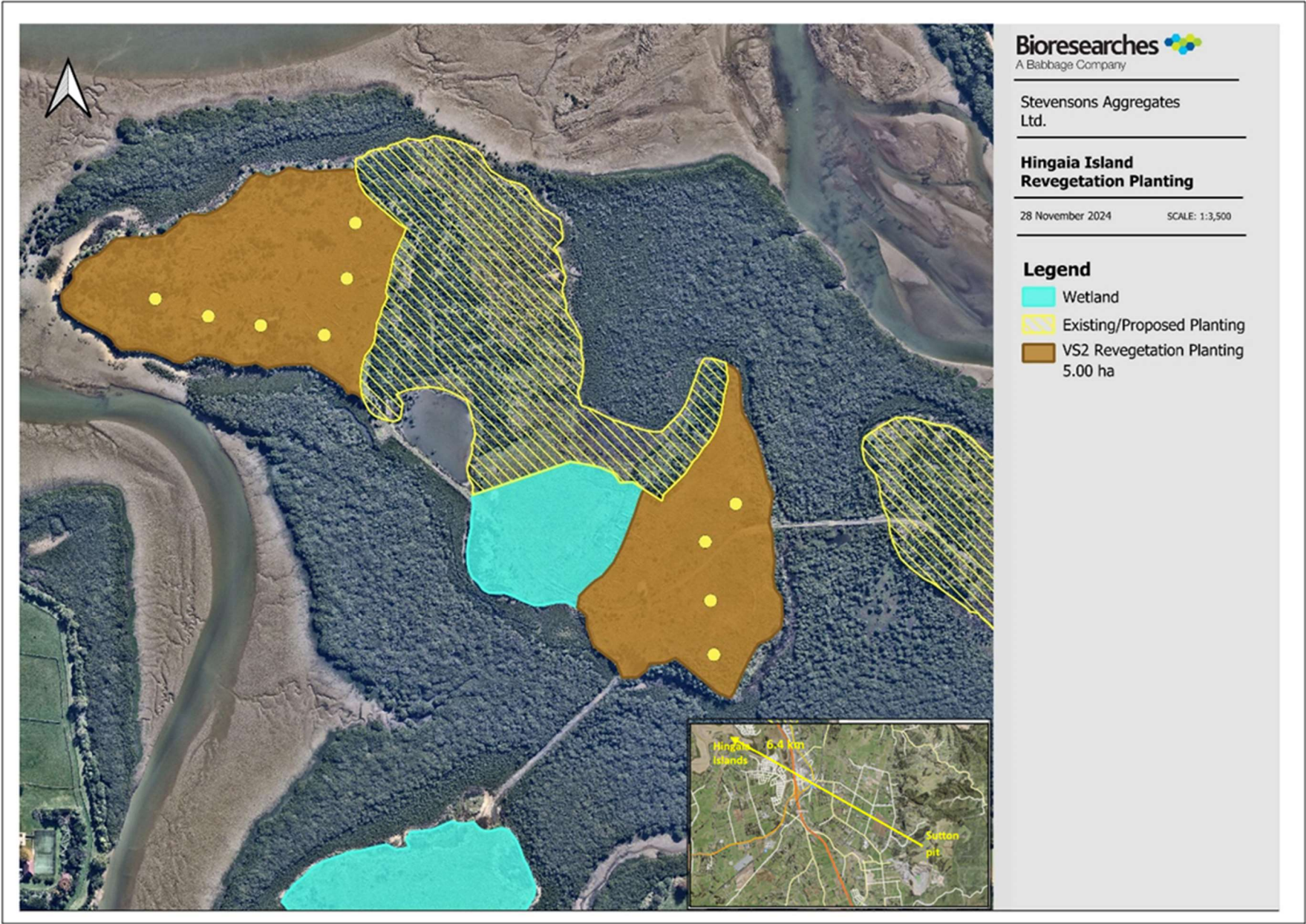




Figure 4

Tuakau Offset Opportunities

Drury Quarry Sutton Block
Date: 10/02/25 Drawn By: CG Scale: 1:4000 @ A4

Legend

- Stream
- Riparian Offset Planting
- Existing Kahikatea
- Proposed Wetland Offset Site

