

OCEANAGOLD (NEW ZEALAND)
LIMITED

MACRAES PHASE FOUR (MP4)

**Wetland Ecology Effects Assessment
and Wetland Residual Effects
Management**

Evidence of Laura Ellen Dooley
Regarding Technical Assessment of
Wetland Ecology Effects and Proposed
Conditions

INTRODUCTION

1. My name is Laura Ellen Dooley
2. My role in relation to Macraes Phase 4 (“**MP4**”) has been to provide expert advice in relation to Wetland Ecology. I am the author or reviewer of the following reports
 - a. The Terrestrial and Wetland Ecology Summary (“**the Summary Report**”)
 - b. Ecological Impact Assessment for Terrestrial and Wetland Ecology Values (“**the EclA Report**”)
 - c. Residual Effects Analysis: Wetlands (“**the REA-WL Report**”)
 - d. The Wetland Management and Monitoring Plan (“**the WMMP Report**”)which is provided within *Part B – Technical Reports* of the application.
3. This evidence has been prepared to accompany the Report and the application by Oceana Gold (New Zealand) Limited (“**OGNZL**”) for approvals required for MP4 under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (“**FTAA**”).
4. Section 4.1(h) of the FTAA Panel Conveners’ Practice and Procedure note (July 2025) says all technical experts authoring reports should include a statement regarding compliance with the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses. This evidence has been prepared to fulfil this requirement, and if a hearing is not held, this evidence confirms that, relative to my area of expertise the Report provides an appropriate description of the relevant environment, the proposed activities comprising the effects of the MP4 on that environment, and the way those effects are proposed to be managed.
5. My findings are set out in full in the Summary Report, the EclA report, the REA-WL report and the WMMP, included within *Part B – Technical Reports* of the application.
6. While this application is not being considered by the Environment Court, I confirm that I have read the Code of Conduct for expert witnesses contained in the Environment Court of New Zealand Practice Note 2023 and that I have complied with it when preparing the Report. Other than when I state I am relying on the advice of another person, the Report is within my area of expertise. I have not omitted to consider material facts known to me that might alter or detract from the opinions that I express.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

7. I am currently employed as Senior Ecologist at Bioresarches and have held that position since July 2020.

8. My previous work experience includes authoring reports on freshwater and wetland ecology effects analyses, residual effects design and modelling, and management plans for the following approved Fast Track Applications:
 - a. Rangitoopuni FTAA (2025)
 - b. Kings Quarry Stage 2 FTAA (2025);
 - c. Drury Quarry, Sutton Pit FTAA (2025);
 - d. Brookby Quarry Stage 3 (Covid-19 Fast Track, 2024)
9. In providing this evidence, I have considered the following matters as relevant to that topic:
 - a. The project description provided by OGNZL as set out in Section 6 of the Substantive Application prepared by Mitchell Daysh Limited;
 - b. The description of the existing environment as set out in Section 4 of the Substantive Application, the effects of MP4 on that environment and their significance, and the proposals to manage those effects as all set out in the assessment of effects in Section 9 of the Substantive Application; and;
 - c. The technical assessments of Whirika (2026), Vegetation and Wetland Values Assessment; technical assessment of GHD (2026), Surface and Groundwater Assessment, and those of my colleagues who have prepared the following specialist technical reports and Management Plans:
 - i. Vegetation and Flora Management Plan, Ms. Bella Burgess
 - ii. Residual Effects Analysis: Terrestrial Ecology, Mr Chris Wedding
 - iii. Wetland Residual Effects Restoration Plan, Ms. Bella Burgess

CONFIRMATION OF CONTENTS OF REPORT AND PROPOSED CONDITIONS

10. I confirm that in my opinion the Report contains an accurate and appropriate description of the environment, the actual and potential effects of MP4, and the recommended actions to manage those effects within my area of expertise.
11. I confirm that in my opinion the contents of the Report may be relied on in making a decision on the approvals sought for MP4, and confirm that provided effects within my area of expertise are managed as proposed in the application those effects will not be unacceptable and will be managed to a standard that I consider meets good practice.

12. I confirm that I have reviewed the conditions that OGNZL proposes for the various approvals being sought as they relate to my area of expertise.

Laura Ellen Dooley

Dated 7th day of September 2026

