

Panel Draft Conditions

Wildlife Authority

Draft Condition

Schedule 1A

Authorised Activity: ~~For the purpose of the activity authorised in Fast-track Approval (insert reference) on the Land identified in Schedule 1B, Capturing,~~ Holding, ~~liberating,~~ ~~incidentally~~ Harming or Killing the following lizard species:

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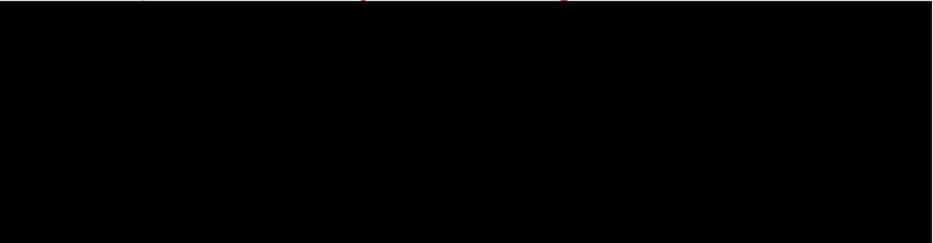
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- 1. McCann's skink (*Oligosoma maccanni*)
- 2. Southern grass skink (*Oligosoma chionocholescens*)
- 3. Southern Alps gecko (*Woodworthia "Southern Alps"*)
- 4. Mackenzie skink (*Oligosoma prasinum*)

Schedule 1B

The Land:

~~To catch alive, hold and incidentally kill at the following sites identified in the LMP at~~



~~To liberate:~~

- ~~1. At the relocation site identified in the LMP at~~

Schedule 1C

Term: [date of Authority] to [date 35 years from date of Authority]

Schedule 1D

~~Authorised Personnel:~~

- ~~1. Graham Ussher~~

**Schedule 1E**

Authority Holder: Meridian Energy Limited

**Schedule 1F**

Authority Holder's address for notices:

Environment Team

Meridian Energy Limited

Level 2, 98 Customhouse Quay

Wellington 6011.

**Schedule 1G**

Director-General's address for notices and all other correspondence:

Permissions Team Level 4

73 Rostrevor Street

Hamilton 3204

Email: [permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz](mailto:permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz)

**Conditions**

1. This Authority applies only to the lizard species specified in Schedule 1A.
2. If, in the course of any lizard survey or salvage activity, all reasonable effort has been made to meet all of the conditions expressed and implied in this Authority, and wildlife is killed by the Authority Holder, then that will be permitted under this Authority.
3. DOC Operations Manager(s) are to be contacted immediately for further advice if species of protected wildlife other than those listed in Schedule 1A, including other than lizards are located within the footprint of a planned activity. A separate application in relation to non-authorised species will be required.
4. This Authority gives the Authority Holder the right to hold absolutely protected wildlife in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Authorisation, but the wildlife remains the property of the Crown. This includes any dead wildlife, live

wildlife, any parts thereof, any eggs or progeny of the wildlife, genetic material and any replicated genetic material.

5. Unless expressly authorised by the Director-General in writing, the Authority Holder must not donate, sell or otherwise transfer to any third party any wildlife, material, including any genetic material, or any material propagated or cloned from such material, collected under this Authority.

**Note:** *The exception to this is the collection of eDNA which will be sent to a third party for genetic analysis to assess species presence.*

6. ~~The Authorised~~ activities must be undertaken in accordance with the approved Lizard Management Plan for the project annexed to this Authority (*Lake Pūkaki Fast Track Consent Substantive Application – Lizard Management Plan, Version 3, April 2026: Tonkin and Taylor Limited*) (LMP).

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7. Lizards must only be handled by ~~Authorised Personnel listed in Schedule 1D, or~~ under the direct supervision of Authorised Personnel, ~~unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Director-General of Conservation.~~

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- ~~8. Lizard capture, handling and relocation should be undertaken at a suitable time of year when lizards are active. October to April inclusive is the usual duration, but this will vary by location and altitude.~~

9. Capture and handling of lizards must involve only techniques that minimise the risk of infection or injury to the animal.

10. The Authority Holder is only permitted to release wildlife that are listed in Schedule 1A using methods described in the LMP written for the particular lizard salvage operation.

11. Capture and handling methods shall follow those described in the Herpetofauna inventory and monitoring toolbox ~~Herpetofauna: Modules for biodiversity inventory and monitoring~~

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12. The Authority Holder must ensure all live capture traps are covered to protect lizards from exposure and minimise stress. Damp leaf litter or other material must be provided to reduce desiccation risk and the bottom of the pit-fall trap must be perforated to allow drainage of water. The Authority Holder must ensure that all live capture traps contain retreats to minimise risk of predation events within the trap.

13. If any mortality is detected, due consideration shall be made, and documented, that show measures have been taken to reduce mortality. Measures may include, but are not limited to, providing additional protection from weather, undertaking rodent suppression by trapping and/or poisoning at the site; not conducting live-trapping where mouse numbers have irrupted following grass seeding (where predation has been the cause of mortality); twice-daily trap checks, switching catching devices, or some combination of these measures.
14. The Authority Holder must ensure all live capture traps, (e.g. pitfall traps), are checked at least every 24 hours.
15. The Authority Holder must sterilise any instruments that come in contact with the lizards and/or are used to collect or measure lizards between each location. A separate holding bag must be used for each animal. All gear should be thoroughly cleaned and dried between sites.
16. The Authority Holder must ensure lizards are temporarily held individually in a suitable container (e.g. breathable cloth bag) and held out of direct sunlight to minimise the risk of overheating, stress and death.
17. If any lizards should die during the authorised activities of catch, transfer or liberate, the Authority Holder must:
  - a. inform the Director-General within 48 hours;
  - b. If requested by the Director-General, chill the body if it can be delivered within 72 hours, or freeze the body if delivery will take longer than 72 hours;
  - c. send the body to Massey University Wildlife Post-mortem Service for necropsy, along with details of the animal's history;
  - d. pay for any costs incurred in investigation of the death of any lizard, if required to do so by the Director-General; and
  - e. If required by the Director-General, cease the Authorised Activity for a period determined by the Grantor.
18. If any lizards are found injured as part of the Authorised Activity, the Authority Holder shall seek advice from the Authority holder on management of the lizard(s).
19. The Authority Holder must not euthanise any wildlife unless:
  - a. The Authority Holder obtains authority from the Director-General; or
  - b. A veterinarian recommends euthanasia on animal welfare grounds; or

c. The Authority Holder euthanises the wildlife under direction from the Director-General.

20. The Authority Holder must provide an annual report or reports to the Director-General on any additional lizard surveys undertaken. These must be electronically forwarded to the Director-General at [permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz](mailto:permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz) and the DOC Operations Manager for Twizel at [twizel@doc.govt.nz](mailto:twizel@doc.govt.nz) citing the Project Name. These reports must be submitted by 30 June each year.

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21. For all salvage operations a report on each salvage operation is to be submitted in writing to [permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz](mailto:permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz) and to the DOC Operations Manager for Twizel at [twizel@doc.govt.nz](mailto:twizel@doc.govt.nz) by 30 June each year for the life of this Authorisation, summarising outcomes in accordance with any specific Lizard Management Plan. Each report must include:

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- a. The project name number; and
- b. the species and number of any animals collected and released;
- c. the GPS location (or a detailed map) of the collection point(s) and release point(s);
- d. results of all surveys, monitoring or research; and
- e. description of how the Lizard Management Plan was implemented including any difficulties encountered with capture and handling, how release sites were assessed, post release monitoring and what contingency actions were required.

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22. For all survey and salvage operations undertaken, completed Amphibian and Reptile Distribution System (ARDS) cards for all herpetofauna sightings and captures ([Amphibian and Reptile Distribution Scheme: Herpetofauna data collection](#)).

must be sent to Herpetofauna, Department of Conservation, National Office, PO Box 10420 Wellington 6143 or [herpetofauna@doc.govt.nz](mailto:herpetofauna@doc.govt.nz). For more information refer to: [Species sightings and reptile species information](#).

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23. All reports submitted under Conditions 20 and 21 above must contain any implications of the results for conservation management.

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24. The Authority Holder acknowledges that the Director-General may provide copies of the reports referred-to in Conditions 20 and 21 above to tangata whenua and the general public if requested.

25. Didymo biosecurity - The Authority Holder must comply with the Ministry for Primary Industries' (MPI)'s "Check, Clean, Dry" cleaning methods to prevent the spread of didymo (*Didymosphenia geminata*) and other freshwater pests when moving between waterways. "Check, Clean, Dry" cleaning methods can be found at - <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/cleaning>.

#### COMPENSATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

26. Prior to works commencing an updated Compensation Management Plan (CMP) shall be submitted to the Director-General at [permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz](mailto:permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz).

#### LIZARD FENCE

27. A Lizard exclusion fence must be installed to separate known Mackenzie skink habitat from the North stockpile to prevent Mackenzie skink from entering the North stockpile.

28. The fence must be constructed so that it extends a minimum of 500 mm above the ground level and be buried approximately 50-100 mm below ground level with a return or lip to prevent lizards burrowing under the fence. Stakes must be installed at approximately 2 m intervals to support the fence. A lizard proof gate may form part of the fence to allow access to the rock material.

29. The fence must be maintained until all rock material from the North stockpile has been utilised. Annual inspections are to be undertaken to ensure the fence continues to function as intended.

30. The fence must be designed and constructed in accordance with the specifications set out in the certified LMP and must incorporate polythene to deter skinks from climbing the fence.

#### ONGOING MANAGEMENT

31. On or prior to the 10<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the approval of this Authority the Authority Holder must undertake a lizard survey across the stockpile, laydown and temporary building areas to review and quantify any change to the lizard population on site.

32. For any lizards are identified in the Northern stockpile an additional salvage operation shall be undertaken at that location in accordance with the LMP.

33. Following the completion of the above survey the LMP shall be reviewed and updated to include the results of the survey and any updated threat classifications. The updated Lizard Management Plan shall be submitted to the Director-General at

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[permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz](mailto:permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz) citing the Authority Number XXXXXXXX for confirmation that it meets the requirements of this Authority.

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## VARIATIONS

34. The Authority Holder may apply to the Director General for variations to this Authority in accordance with clause (7)(2) of Schedule 7 of the Fast-Track Approvals Act 2024.

## REVOCATION

35. The Director-General may revoke this Authority in whole or in part at any time (pursuant to clause 7(4) of Schedule 7 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 if:
- The Authority Holder breaches any of the conditions of this Authority.
  - In the Director-General's opinion, the exercise of this Authority has caused or is likely to cause any unforeseen adverse effects on lizards.

If the Director-General intends to revoke this Authority in whole or in part, the Director-General must give the Authority Holder such prior notice as is reasonable and necessary in the circumstances.

## COSTS

36. The Authority Holder must pay the standard Department of Conservation charge-out rates for any staff time and mileage required to monitor compliance with this Authority and to investigate any alleged breaches of the terms and conditions of it.

## LIABILITIES

37. The Authority Holder agrees to exercise the Authority at its own risk and releases to the full extent permitted by law, the Director-General and Director-General's employees and agents from all claims and demands of any kind and from all liability which may arise in respect of any accident, damage or injury occurring to any person or property arising from the Authority Holder's exercise of this Authority.

## COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION AND DIRECTOR GENERAL'S NOTICES AND DIRECTIONS

38. The Authority Holder must comply with all statutes, bylaws, and regulations, and all notices, directions, and requisitions of the Director-General and any competent authority relating to the exercise of the Authority.

#### **EMPLOYEES, CONTRACTORS, OR AGENTS**

39. The Authority Holder is responsible for the acts and omissions of its employees, contractors, and agents. The Authority Holder is liable under the Authority for any breach of its terms by employees, contractors, or agents, as if the breach were committed by the Authority Holder. Where obligations bind more than one person, those obligations bind those persons jointly and separately.