

# DRAFT

## ecoLogical Solutions

Environmental Consultants



September 2026

## SL1 Residential South Development Lizard Management Plan

Prepared for:  
Saxby Rd JV Limited



water



fauna



flora



land

## Quality Assurance

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## 1.0 Introduction

### 1.1 Background

Ecological Solutions Limited has prepared the following Lizard Management Plan (LMP) in accordance with the SL1 Residential South Development Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) prepared by Ecological Solutions (Ecological Solutions 2026a). The EclA and associated suite of ecological management plans have been prepared as part of a Fast-track Approvals Act (FTAA) substantive application for the SL1 Residential South Development. The SL1 Residential South Development comprises c. 46 ha of pastoral farm land at 37a, 71 and 129 Saxbys Road, Hamilton (the 'Residential South Site') (Figure 1).

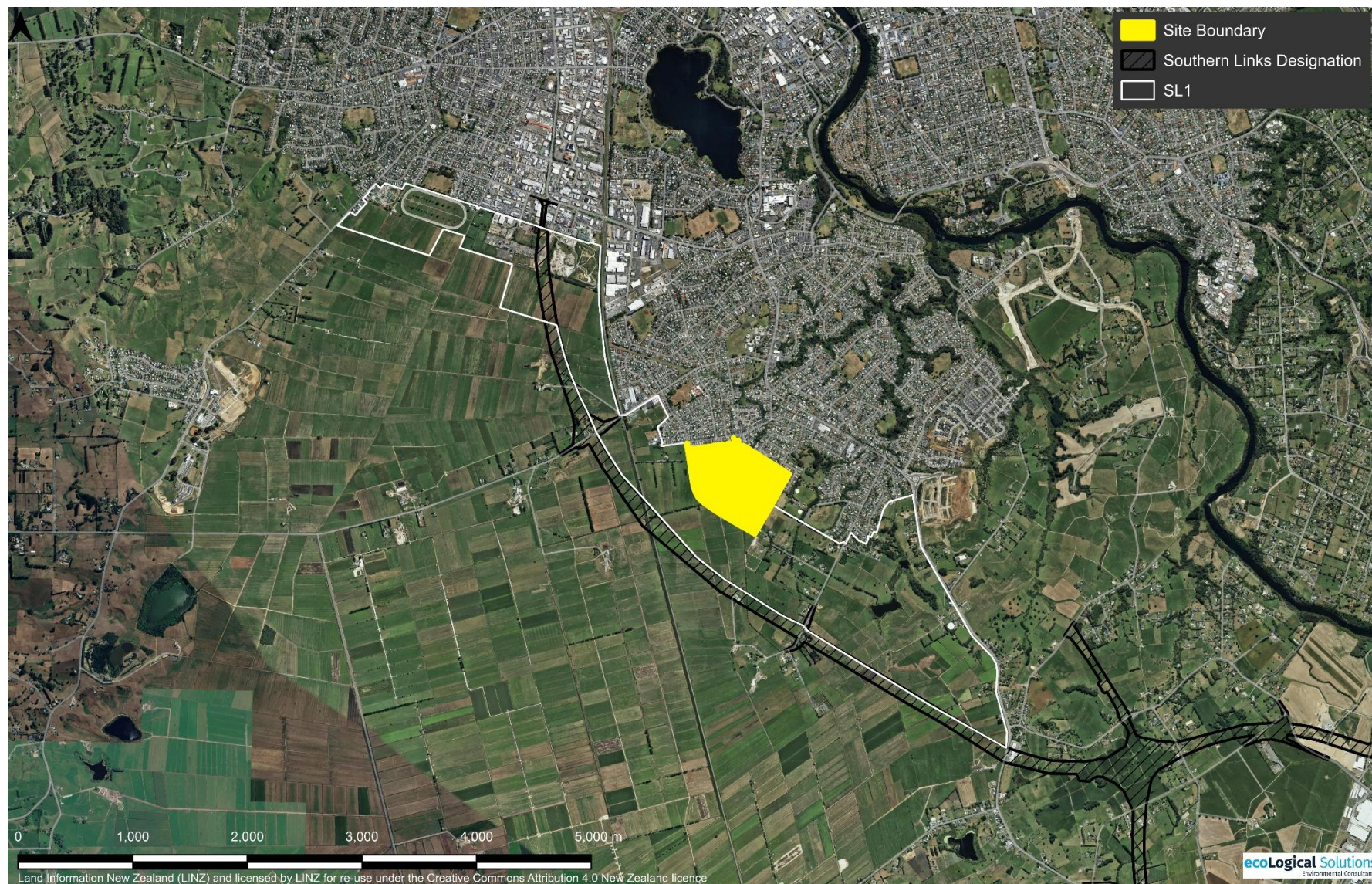
The SL1 Residential South Site is exclusively within Waipa District and is contiguous with Hamilton City Council's southwestern boundary.

This Lizard Management Plan (LMP) sets out the framework for managing the adverse effects of the SL1 Residential South Development on indigenous lizards within the project area, located on the western edge of Hamilton City as shown in Figure 1. The Residential South Development provides for the establishment of c. 938 residential units, together with a neighbourhood commercial node, open spaces, waterbodies, and infrastructure devices including wetlands and roading. The proposal includes substantial enabling works to establish developable land, including bulk earthworks across the site.

The EclA prepared by Ecological Solutions (2026a) indicates that copper skink (*Oligosoma aeneum*) listed as 'At Risk – Declining' (Hitchmough et al. 2026) are known to occur within the area and habitat on the site is consistent with habitats used by copper skink more broadly in the Waikato rural region. Parts of the site potentially provide habitat for ornate skink (*Oligosoma ornatum*); however, it is unlikely ornate skink are present. There is no habitat on the site that could support native geckos.

Bulk earthworks and the removal of vegetation may adversely affect indigenous skinks via direct injury/death, and habitat loss. Indigenous lizards are absolutely protected under the Wildlife Act 1953. This LMP outlines that pre-clearance survey, salvage capture and relocation, and post-clearance management measures be in place to address any indigenous lizards that may be present.

The management framework follows the Department of Conservation's key principles for lizard salvage and transfer in New Zealand (DOC 2019). Specific Wildlife Approval requirements under Section 42(4)(h) of the FTAA and how the substantive application complies with these requirements are outlined in the SL1 Residential South Wildlife Act Approval FTAA information requirements memo (Ecological Solutions 2026b) in Appendix A.



**Figure 1:** Location of the site.

## 1.2 Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of this LMP is to ensure adverse effects on native lizards at the site are minimised during vegetation clearance and earthworks.

This LMP outlines the timing and methods to achieve:

- The pre-clearance capture of native lizards within the development footprint from identified lizard habitat areas to be affected by vegetation clearance and their relocation to the release site.
- Enhance/augment lizard habitat within the release site through the construction of one artificial refuge (e.g., eco-stack/ piles of logs/branches/stones) for every 1 lizard captured and released. Five artificial refuge(s) to be constructed in advance of lizard salvage, with any additional refuge required to be established concurrently with lizard release.

## 1.3 Permits

This LMP is to be submitted to support an application for a Wildlife Approval under Section 42(4)(h) of the FTAA. Any capture, relocation or incidental killing of native lizards will be carried out in accordance with a valid Wildlife Approval.

## 2.0 Lizard Habitat

### 2.1 Site Description

Historic and existing land use on site is agricultural, characterised by pasture grass and active grazing management. There is a network of native riparian planting and rank pasture along artificial watercourses which provide potential copper skink and ornate skink habitat within the site. Manual habitat searches were undertaken by Ecological Solutions (2026a) on 8 to 10 July 2025 to identify areas of potentially suitable habitat for lizards.

Suitable habitat for ground dwelling lizard species was identified and mapped within the site and included organic and inorganic debris in the paddocks, riparian planting, and patches of rank grassland along artificial drains. The majority of the site is characterised by grazed paddocks which are unlikely to be utilised by ground dwelling lizards. There is no arboreal gecko habitat within the site itself. Typical habitat that may be utilised by copper skinks at the site is summarised in Table 1 and presented in Figures 2 and 3. A map of the spatial distribution of potential copper skink habitat across the site is presented in Figure 4. No 'Threatened' or 'Data Deficient' species are anticipated to be on site.

**Table 1: Coverage of potential copper skink habitat area on-site.**

| Habitat Type             | Quality of habitat for copper skink on-site | Area (m <sup>2</sup> ) of lizard habitat proposed to be cleared | Likelihood of presence |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Riparian planting        | Moderate                                    | 16,359                                                          | Moderate               |
| Rank grass               | Low                                         | 2,709                                                           | Low                    |
| Blackberry               | Low                                         | 40                                                              | Low                    |
| Organic/Inorganic Debris | Low                                         | 90                                                              | Low                    |

**Figure 2: Rank grass edges along artificial drain providing potential skink habitat.**



**Figure 3: Blackberry area providing potential skink habitat.**



**Figure 4: Pampas providing potential skink habitat**



**Figure 5: Skink habitat distribution across the site.**

## 2.2 Lizard Survey

Manual habitat searches across the site located no native lizards. Due to the land use, active grazing management and expected presence of a large and diverse introduced mammalian predator population, copper skinks are anticipated to be present at a low density across the site. Ornate skink may also be present, but this is considered less likely. Less than 20 individuals of each species are expected to be on site, accounting for what is expected to be less than 0.1% of their respective local populations.

## 3.0 Managing Effects on Lizards

### 3.1 Introduction

The approach to lizard management will follow the key principles for lizard salvage and transfer in New Zealand (DOC 2019).

Complete avoidance of actual or potential adverse effects on indigenous lizards and their habitats cannot be achieved due to the proposed extent of the project design and the practical difficulty of searching for and capturing lizards at low densities. Therefore, managing adverse effects will involve the implementation of a lizard capture and relocation (salvage) campaign in accordance with a Wildlife Approval, combined with release site habitat enhancement and augmentation as a means of providing additional resources for released and resident indigenous lizards.

The lizard salvage methods described in this report are reflective of best practice and are designed to capture ground dwelling lizards.

### 3.2 Methodology

#### 3.2.1 Site Demarcation

Prior to undertaking any lizard salvage activities, the extent of the vegetation clearance and earthworks will be clearly marked (e.g., flagging tape, tree dazzle or pegs) to ensure the project herpetologist clearly understands the full extent of the area of impact. Lizard salvage will be required where vegetation clearance is to be undertaken within identified lizard habitat (Figure 5).

#### 3.2.2 Lizard Salvage

A DOC authorised herpetologist and suitably qualified assistant ecologist(s) will undertake targeted search and salvage campaigns prior to and during vegetation clearance.

Vegetation clearance within lizard habitat areas, and therefore lizard search and salvage campaigns, are to be undertaken between October and April inclusive. The search and salvage campaigns will be undertaken in two phases.

- *Phase 1:* Pre-vegetation clearance systematic manual habitat searches and a live capture and relocation programme.
- *Phase 2:* Within Phase 1 areas where native lizards are detected, machine assisted destructive search (vegetation clearance supervision).

The specific salvage methods for each of the phases are detailed below.

### **Phase 1: Pre-vegetation clearance systematic searches**

Diurnal (day) searches will be undertaken.

- Day time systematic manual habitat searches will be undertaken within lizard habitat areas to be cleared on days when temperatures are expected to be between 12–20°C, and there is no rain. Manual searches will include lifting debris (e.g., organic and inorganic material), searching through vegetation foliage, scrub/rank grass and rock piles by hand or with the assistance of rakes (Hare 2012).

### **Phase 2. Vegetation clearance supervision and machine-assisted searches**

Vegetation clearance supervision and machine assisted searching is a contingency measure, recognising that not every lizard may be captured during Phase 1.

- Destructive searches will involve searching through potential habitat during vegetation removal, and with the assistance of an excavator fitted with a toothed bucket or rake.
- Searches will cover all habitat where native lizards have been detected during Phase 1 works, within the vegetation clearance area and continue until the supervising ecologist is satisfied that the potential habitats are sufficiently removed or degraded that lizards are unlikely to be present. Also included will be areas of blackberry plants even if no lizards are found via hand searching, as these areas cannot be searched well by hand.

Coordination and communication between the supervising ecologist and vegetation clearance contractors will be important to ensure injury to lizards, and the supervising ecologist, is avoided.

#### **3.2.3 Lizard Handling and Temporary Containment**

All lizards will be placed in a temporary containment box, which will be filled with local vegetation matter and leaf litter and misted with water. Lizards will only be held temporarily for the period of the active searches or retreat inspections, or in all cases less than two hours, after which the lizards will be transported to and released at the approved relocation site set out in Section 4.0 below.

It is not anticipated that any lizard taxa with threat classifications higher than 'At Risk' will be encountered within the site. However, if this were to occur, the individual(s) will be captured and held temporarily in a containment box, and work will cease while DOC (Waikato Office) is notified, and further advice and instruction is given to the herpetologist.

#### **3.2.4 Morphometrics**

When a native lizard has been captured, the following morphometric and geospatial information will be recorded:

- Species of native lizard;
- Sex;
- Time and date of capture;
- Age class (adult, sub-adult, juvenile);
- Net weight (minus holding container);

- Length – snout-vent, regenerating tail and original tail;
- Reproductive status;
- Photograph taken of animal (dorsal and ventral view to record colour and scale patterns) and habitat; and
- GPS coordinates of capture site and physical mark on high-definition aerial map of location.

In addition, the total time spent searching and number of personnel involved will be recorded to obtain an estimate of captures per unit search effort across days, habitats, and species.

### 3.2.5 Unintentional Lizard Injury or Death

Injured lizards will be kept in an appropriate portable enclosure (i.e., a clean, well-ventilated plastic container) under the direction of the project herpetologist to ensure the animal is handled appropriately until the lizard(s) can be assessed and treated.

The following steps will be implemented if any injured or dead lizards are found during the salvage campaign:

- The project herpetologist will notify DOC (0800 DOC HOT (0800 362 468) at the earliest opportunity within 24 hours after any injured or dead lizard is found;
- Injured lizards found during salvage will be assessed by the Authorised Personnel named on the Authority, and a decision made to either euthanise the individual on site, or for the injured lizard to be taken to the Hamilton Zoo Native Wildlife Rehabilitation team (07 838 6720 - 183 Brymer Road, Hamilton) as soon as possible for assessment and treatment.
- Any 'Threatened', 'At Risk' lizard species death shall be sent to Massey University Wildlife Post-mortem Service for necropsy, or alternatively – subject to mana whenua approval - will be buried on the site or at a site nominated by mana whenua in keeping with tikanga.
- Appropriate measures will be undertaken to minimise any further lizard deaths.

### 3.2.6 Lizard Salvage Timeframe

The duration of the pre-clearance manual habitat searches will be undertaken over a period of four days of suitable weather (i.e., temperatures between 12–20°C). However, the following contingency plan is proposed to ensure that all reasonable effort is made to salvage every lizard. If:

- No lizards have been caught over the 4-day search period or the herpetologist has determined that the habitat is no longer suitable to support lizards, the salvage operation will cease, OR
- Lizards are still being caught on day four, searching will continue until no lizards are captured within a 24-hour period employing the same search effort.

### 3.2.7 Capture rates contingency

In the unlikely event that capture rates greatly exceed the expected number of native skinks (up to 20 individuals of copper skink and/or ornate skink) works will cease and DOC will be contacted to determine an appropriate course of action. Discussion will include whether the methods proposed are suitable for the number of lizards being captured, and if the

secondary release site (outlined in Section 4.1 below) is necessary to accommodate the number of lizards.

## 4.0 Lizard Release

### 4.1 Release Site

The successful transfer, re-establishment, and sustainability of relocated lizards is dependent on the quality and suitability of the relocation site. A relocation site should offer equal or greater opportunity (i.e., shelter, food resources, access to mates) for survival and long-term health of lizards compared to the habitat of origin.

The primary release site is Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park, an approximately 60ha area of native forest, with well-developed leaf litter and debris. It is approximately 13km from the site (Figure 6). Lizard habitat at Waiwhakareke is well developed, with several log stacks constructed for other release projects (Figure 7), and a predator proof fence proposed in the near future<sup>1</sup>. Discussions with Hamilton City Council are currently ongoing on how to best contribute to lizard habitat within Waiwhakareke, but we propose the construction of one eco-stack for every lizard captured.

The proposed release site location is identified in Figure 6 and an example of the current habitat is presented in Figure 7.

The specific suitability factors assessed to evaluate the suitability of the proposed release site are outlined in Table 2 below.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://hamiltonzoo.co.nz/about/stories/predator-proof-fence-at-waiwhakareke-natural-heritage-park>



**Figure 6: Release site relative to salvage site**



**Figure 7: Eco-stack constructed at Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park**



**Figure 8: Natural lizard refuge at Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park.**

**Table 2: Proposed release site suitability**

| Suitability factor                                                     | Release site description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Suitability of existing habitat                                        | Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park includes large areas of indigenous forest, with well-developed leaf litter with woody debris and several pre-constructed eco-stacks.                                                                                                                                                              |
| Long-term protection of the site                                       | Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park is secured by the Reserves Act 1977 and the protection principles associated with the overlay classification.                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Accessibility for release                                              | There are several walking tracks and predator control trails, as well as vehicle accessways, providing easy access to much of the available habitat.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Size of the release site and its connectivity to other habitat         | The release site is approximately 60 hectares of indigenous forest. It is expected that the habitat available is more than large enough to accommodate the relocated lizards (and any resident lizards).                                                                                                                             |
| Existing lizard populations                                            | The existing population of lizards at the proposed release site is unknown; however, the abundance of available habitat and the low number of lizards expected to be captured provides confidence that the carrying capacity will be adequate.                                                                                       |
| Existing predator control or opportunities to enhance predator control | There is existing predator control at the release site as well as a proposed predator proof fence. In 2023, TrapNZ data showed catches of nearly 400 rats, over 20 possums, and nearly 20 hedgehogs. Predator control is intended to continue until a switch to an eradication scheme post-construction of the predator proof fence. |

Based on the abundance of available copper skink habitat, existing/ongoing predator control, and security of the primary release site at Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park, the need for a secondary release site is unlikely. However, Te Miro Reserve has been designated as the secondary release site in case such a contingency is necessary.

## 4.2 Release strategy

All lizards will be hard released (i.e., no staging pens) into appropriate indigenous forest habitat within the release site. It is expected that the abundance of available natural habitat and ongoing predator control will assist in achieving high survival and sustainability of relocated lizards at the release site. Lizards will be released in groups of no more than five, with gaps of at least 100m between groups.

All relocated lizard species will be recorded and measured with basic morphometric features photographed where possible.

## 4.3 Department of Conservation Principles of Salvage

Table 3 details how the lizard management described in this plan addresses the Department of Conservation's Nine Principles of Lizard Salvage (Department of Conservation Lizard Technical Advisory Group, 2019).

**Table 3: Department of Conservation Principles of Lizard Salvage**

| Principle                                                                                                              | Steps to address principle                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principle 1: Lizard species' values and site significance must be assessed at both the development and receiving sites | As part of the ecological assessment of the site, surveys to determine lizard populations at the impact site were undertaken (though no lizards were found). Suitability, carrying capacity, area, habitat improvements, and long-term management required at the release site were also considered.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Principle 2: Actual and potential development-related effects and their significance must be assessed                  | Effects have been assessed in the Ecological Impact Assessment undertaken by Ecological Solutions (2026a) and included with the Fast Track application associated with this proposed development. This included an assessment of the values, significance, and adverse effects of the development proposal.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Principle 3: Alternatives to moving lizards must be considered                                                         | Alternatives to moving are inappropriate in this instance, due to the potential for mortality if lizards are not moved. However, the release site has been selected so lizards can be moved into a nearby, protected suitable habitat.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Principle 4: Threatened lizard species require more careful consideration than less-threatened species                 | It is not anticipated that any 'Threatened' species will be found on this site. However, if any are found, DOC will be contacted immediately for advice on how to proceed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Principle 5: Lizard salvage, transfer and release must use the best available methodology                              | Methods will be applied in accordance with the DOC handbook on salvage methods, as well as developing refinements to these for specific environments where pre-clearance salvage methods can be used to extract a greater number of lizards than the DOC methods assume. ACOs, manual search, machine assisted search (log rolling), and machine assisted clearance are proposed to be used. Lizards caught will be held in pre-prepared terraria with damp leaf litter, and are kept out of sun. Release will happen in shortest possible time. |
| Principle 6: Receiving sites and their carrying capacity must be suitable in the long term                             | The release site is protected in perpetuity under the Reserve Act 1977. Given the small number of lizards expected to be found, the release site's carrying capacity is expected to be suitable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Principle 7: Monitoring is required to                                                                                 | Measures of success or failure with a relocation is inherently difficult, and this is                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

evaluate the salvage operation

particularly true with the expected number of lizards to be captured at this site. Monitoring of existing pest control being undertaken is ongoing. However, monitoring techniques for a small lizard population will involve a large amount of habitat destruction. If the population relocated is large enough for a reliable and non-destructive monitoring scheme, then a monitoring plan will be developed in that eventuality.

Principle 8: Reporting is required to communicate outcomes of salvage operations and encourage process improvements

Results of lizard salvage including the methods applied, number of lizards salvaged and where they were released and will be reported to the DOC by way of an Amphibian and Reptile Distribution Scheme (ARDS) card and in accordance with any specific Wildlife Approval conditions

Principle 9: Contingency actions are required when lizard salvage and transfer activities fail

Contingency actions are relevant only if monitoring can be undertaken.

## 5.0 Reporting and Closure

The project herpetologist will report the results of the lizard relocation work to Saxby Rd JV Limited and Waikato Regional Council within 20-days of completion. Results of lizard salvage including the methods applied, number of lizards salvaged and where they were released and will be reported to the DOC by way of an Amphibian and Reptile Distribution Scheme (ARDS) card and in accordance with any specific Wildlife Approval conditions.

Results will include the following information:

- Date and time of capture.
- Capture method(s).
- Lizard species caught.
- Number caught (including any accidentally killed).
- Length range.
- Health/condition (i.e., visible disease or injury).
- Location of release.

The Project herpetologist will notify DOC at the earliest opportunity within 24 hours after any injured or dead lizard is found. All lizard capture data will be uploaded to the DOC Herpetofauna Database.

## 6.0 References

- Department of Conservation Lizard Technical Advisory Group (2019). Key principles for lizard salvage and transfer in New Zealand. Department of Conservation, Wellington.
- Ecological Solutions. 2026a. SL1 Residential South Ecological Impact Assessment. Prepared for Saxby Road JV Limited Ltd.
- Ecological Solutions. 2026b. SL1 Residential South Wildlife Act Approval FTAA information requirements. Memo prepared for Sam Le Heron (Barker and Associates). CC Saxby Rd JV Limited
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## APPENDIX A

### Wildlife Act Approval FTAA information requirement

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**Attention:** Sam Le Heron (Barker and Associates)

**CC:** Saxby Rd JV Limited

**Date:** 19 August 2026

**From:** Chad Croft

**RE:** **SL1 Residential South Wildlife Act Approval FTAA information requirements**

---

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The SL1 Residential South Development Substantive application seeks a Wildlife Act approval for the management and incidental killing of native lizards. This memo outlines how the documents prepared for the proposed SL1 Residential South Development fulfil the Wildlife Act approval requirements under Section 42(4)(h) of the Fast Track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA).

Specifically, the substantive application documents referred to in Table 1 below contain the relevant information required by 'Checklist E – Wildlife approval', of the FTAA Substantive Application Form. with responses presented in Table 2 below. For each response in Table 2, the document and section number that fulfils the information required is provided in bold, and a short summary is also provided where appropriate.

**Table 1: Documents referred to in Checklist E (Table 2) and supplied with this Wildlife Act approval application**

| Document                                                                       | Acronym | Document Number |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Ecological Impact Assessment<br>(Ecological Solutions 2026a)                   | EclA    | Appendix 2Q     |
| Lizard Management Plan<br>(Ecological Solutions 2026b)                         | LMP     | Appendix 2Ra    |
| Cultural Values and Effects Assessment<br>(Pouwhenua Consultancy Limited 2026) | CVEA    | Appendix 1H     |

## 2. CHECKLIST E – WILDLIFE APPROVAL APPLICATION

Table 2: Information required for Wildlife Act approval application

| Schedule 7, Clause | 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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p><b>EclA – Section 1.2</b></p> <p>The proposal is to develop c. 46 ha of rural farmland for residential purposes including c. 938 residential units, together with a neighbourhood commercial node, open spaces, waterbodies, and infrastructure devices including roading and stormwater ponds.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2(1)(b)            | <p>Identify the actions the applicant wishes to carry out involving protected wildlife and where they will be carried out (whether on or off public conservation land)</p> <p><i>Guidance note: Under clause 2(2) if the substantive application is to be lodged by more than 1 authorised person, the reference to the applicant in subclause (1)(b) is to the authorised person who is identified in the application as the proposed holder of the wildlife approval.</i></p> | <p><b>EclA – Sections 1.2, 5.3, and 10.2.3</b></p> <p><b>LMP – Sections 3.0 and 4.0</b></p> <p>This Wildlife Approval application does not involve any public conservation land.</p> <p>Vegetation clearance and earthworks within the Residential South Site (private land) will result in the removal of low – moderate quality native ground dwelling skink habitat. There is no gecko habitat on site. Unidentified skinks were seen during site visits, and a database search showed copper skink (<i>Oligosoma aeneum</i>) to be present in similar habitat nearby. Parts of the site potentially provide habitat for ornate skink (<i>Oligosoma ornatum</i>) as well. Prior to commencement of vegetation clearance native skinks will be salvaged from the Residential South Site and relocated to Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park (reserve). Native skinks will be captured using a combination of systematic searches, artificial cover objects, and machine assisted searches. Habitat enhancement will be performed at the release site.</p> |
| 2(1)(c)            | An assessment of the activity and its impacts against the purpose of the Wildlife Act                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p><b>EclA Section 8.1.3 and 10.2.3</b></p> <p>Section 8.1.3 summarises the native lizard and lizard habitat values. Section 10.2.3 summarises the effects assessment.</p> <p>Native lizards are absolutely protected under the Wildlife Act. This project proposes to remove vegetation that could be providing habitat to native lizards. Native lizards could therefore be killed or injured if lizards are not properly managed during vegetation removal. Other protected wildlife (e.g. birds) potentially using the same habitat will be avoided through site-specific controls.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p><b>EclA Section 5.3</b></p> <p><b>LMP Section 2.0</b></p> <p>No skinks were seen during manual habitat searches, though a database search showed copper skink (<i>Oligosoma aeneum</i>) to be present</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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|         |                                                                                                                                                                                                       | in similar habitat nearby. Parts of the site could also potentially provide habitat for ornate skink ( <i>Oligosoma ornatum</i> ). Less than 20 individuals of each species are expected to be impacted.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 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)                                                        | <p><b>EclA Section 5.3</b></p> <p><b>LMP Section 2.0</b></p> <p>See above. No Threatened and or 'Data Deficient' species are suspected to be on site; however, both copper and ornate skink are 'At Risk' and are potentially present.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 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                                               | <p><b>LMP Section 3.0 and 4.3</b></p> <p>The approach to lizard management will follow the key principles for lizard salvage and transfer in New Zealand (DOC 2019).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 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:                                          | <p><b>LMP Section 3.2</b></p> <p>All lizard handling will be performed by suitably qualified and experienced ecologists/herpetologists. Methods of salvage are systematic manual searches, artificial cover objects, and machine assisted searches. Lizards will be held in appropriate temporary containment boxes, before being moved to the release site within two hours of capture. The LMP also details measures to be undertaken in case of accidental lizard injury or death, as well as discovery of unexpected 'Threatened' taxa.</p>                                                                                                                                    |
| 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)                                                                | <p><b>EclA Section 1.1</b></p> <p><b>LMP Section 1.1</b></p> <p>Site maps are provided in the above sections. SL1 Residential South site is located at 5811038, 1800628 (NZTMM).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 2(1)(i) | A statement of whether authorisation is sought to temporarily hold or relocate wildlife                                                                                                               | <p><b>LMP Sections 3.0 and 4.0</b></p> <p>Authorisation is sought for salvage, relocation and incidental killing of native skinks.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 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 | <p><b>EclA Section 10.0, in particular 10.2.3</b></p> <p>Ecological effects of the development at SL1 Residential South are outlined in the EclA. This includes potential and actual effects on native skinks, with and without the proposed management measures. Potential impacts on native skinks without management are injury and incidental killing, as well as the loss of low-moderate quality habitat. Implementation of pre-clearance salvage and relocation and habitat enhancement at the release site will ensure the potential effects on lizards and lizard habitat are 'low'. Due to the cryptic nature of native skinks, incidental killing is a possibility.</p> |
| 2(1)(k) | Where adverse effects are identified, state what methods will be used to avoid and minimise those effects, and                                                                                        | <p><b>EclA Section 10.0, in particular 10.2.3</b></p> <p><b>LMP Sections 2.0 and 3.0</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

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|         | 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)           | The salvage and relocation programme proposed in the EclA and described in the LMP will be used to minimise effects on lizards. No offsetting or compensation measures are proposed, as residual effects are considered low.                                                                                                                          |
| 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                       | None of the listed parties have been convicted of any offence 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 | None of the listed parties has any current criminal charges under the Wildlife Act pending before a court.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 2(1)(n) | Provision of proof and details of all consultation, including with hapū or iwi, on the application specific to wildlife impacts                                                                             | <p><b>CVEA – Section 6.4.4</b></p> <p>The CVEA summarises inputs from the Southern Links 1 Tangata Whenua Working Group (SL1 TWWG). Specifically, for native lizards (mokomoko), the SL1 TWWG highlights the importance of these species as taonga and recognises the precautionary approach taken in the LMP to the management of these species.</p> |
| 2(1)(o) | Provision of any additional written expert views, advice, or opinions the applicant has obtained concerning their proposal                                                                                  | None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

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### 3. REFERENCES

Department of Conservation Lizard Technical Advisory Group (2019). Key principles for lizard salvage and transfer in New Zealand. Department of Conservation, Wellington.

Ecological Solutions. 2026a. SL1 Residential South Development: Ecological Impact Assessment. Prepared for Saxby Rd JV Limited. January 2026.

Ecological Solutions. 2026b. SL1 Residential South Development: Lizard Management Plan. Prepared for Saxby Rd JV Limited. January 2026.

Pouwhenua Consultancy Limited on behalf of the SL 1 Tangata Whenua Working Group. 2026. SL 1 - Stage 1 Cultural Values and Effects Assessment. Prepared for Southern Links 1 Consortium