Addendum to Statement of Advice

Under:	Fast-track Approvals Act 2024
In the matter of:	FTAA-2605-1236 – Remarkables Ski Area Upgrade and Doolans Expansion
Addendum to Statement of advice dated 12 October 2026 of:	Jeremy Head Landscape Independent consultant
Date:	27 October 2026

Introduction

1. My full name is Jeremy Everett Head.

2. This is an Addendum to my statement of advice to the Director-General of Conservation on the Remarkables Ski Area Upgrade and Doolans Expansion Project dated 12 October 2026 (statement of advice).

3. This Addendum is provided, along with my statement of advice, to inform the expert statement of advice of Ms Jane Macleod on planning matters, being matters relevant to the Resource Management Act 1991 and standards, policy statements, and plans created under that Act.

Code of conduct

4. Whilst it is acknowledged this is not an Environment Court Proceeding, I confirm that I have read the Code of Conduct for expert witnesses contained in the Environment Court Practice Note 2023. I have complied with the Code of Conduct in the preparation of this advice. Unless I state otherwise, this advice is within my area of expertise, and I have not omitted to consider material facts known to me that might alter or detract from the opinions I express.

Alternative water source for snow making

5. The applicant proposes to take water from Doolans Creek and pump it uphill to a reservoir at Tarn 3. This will require the natural tarn landform to be modified to such an extent that there will be a 'Very high' (Significant) localised adverse effect on natural character. The applicant's landscape architect Ms Pfluger agrees that the adverse effects on natural character of forming the reservoir here will be 'Very high'. My earlier conclusion remains that at the Doolans basin-wide scale any adverse effects on overall landscape character (in which natural character is a subset of, and includes modifications to Tarn 3) would be 'High' (Significant) adverse. Ms Pfluger concluded that any landscape, visual amenity and natural character effects of the overall proposal within the Doolans Basin would be 'Low-moderate' (Minor) to 'High' (**Figure 1**).



Figure 1 Seven-point scale from *Te Tangi a te Manu Aotearoa New Zealand Landscape Assessment Guidelines* (July 2022)

Effects opinion

6. Ms Macleod asked me to consider a scenario where Tarn 3 and the proposed infrastructure between the Tarn 3 reservoir and Doolans Creek (particularly the long corridor from the intake to the Doolans Base building, water-pumping

infrastructure, and the creation of a reservoir inflow diversion to redirect intermittent flow around the proposed reservoir) would be avoided by using an alternative water source, such as Lake Alta. In addition to avoiding Tarn 3, part of the late-glacial moraine sequence, considered by Mr David Barrell (see geomorphology statement of advice to Department of Conservation) to be ‘exceptionally well-preserved’ may also be avoided where part of the proposed Doolans Access Road overlaps the moraines.

7. In my opinion, if the application was revised to avoid the loss of Tarn 3 and avoid the proposed infrastructure between it and the Doolans Creek water intake, and notwithstanding any adverse effects at an alternative water source location, levels of adverse effects on landscape character (partly informed by changes to natural character) at the Doolans Basin-wide scale would, in my opinion, reduce slightly to 'Moderate-high' (‘More than minor’) overall, but no lower than this. The moraine sequence would still be compromised by other ski field infrastructure and earthworks, with a ‘Very high’ localised adverse effect on this natural feature.

8. Any effects on landscape character and natural character arising from an alternative water source, for example at Lake Alta, were not assessed. It is acknowledged that there may be a level of adverse effects arising from an alternative water source location.

Jeremy Everett Head
Registered NZILA Landscape Architect
27 October 2026