Fast-track

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

Your Comment on the Hunua Quarry Development project draft conditions

Please include all the contact details listed below with your comments and indicate whether you can receive further communications from us by email at substantive@fastrack.govt.nz

1. Contact Details			
Please ensure that you have authority to comment on the application on behalf of those named on this form.			
Organisation name (if relevant)	Department of Conservation		
First name	Emily		
Last name	Bayliss		
Postal address	PO Box 10420, Wellington 6140		
Home phone / Mobile phone		**Work phone**	[redacted]
Email	fast-track@doc.govt.nz and [redacted]		

☒	**I can receive emails and my email address is correct**	☐	**I cannot receive emails and my postal address is correct**

Please provide your comments below, include additional pages as needed.

Please find comments attached

Linda Kirk
Fast Track Applications Manager

Acting pursuant to delegated authority on behalf of the Director-General of Conservation.

Date: 29/09/2026

Note: A copy of the Instrument of Delegation may be inspected at the Director-General's office at Conservation House Whare Kaupapa Atawhai, 18/32 Manners Street, Wellington 6011

Comments on draft conditions for a fast-track consenting application

Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 section 70

To: The Expert Panel

From: Department of Conservation

Regarding fast-track project: **Hunua Quarry Development**

Fast track Reference: FTAA –2603–1185

Notes for use:

1. The Department of Conservation (the Department) has appreciated the applicant's willingness to participate in discussions on this application. It has helped the Department better understand the conservation values that are present on the site.
2. The Department also appreciates the request from the Panel to provide it with a WORD version of the draft decision resource consent conditions. However, since the applicant has resolved most of the Department's concerns through changes in resource consent conditions and amendments to the Wildlife Act and Freshwater Fisheries Regulation approval, it considers that the few outstanding comments on draft conditions can be made within the below comments form.
3. The Department is willing to answer any questions that the Panel or the applicant has on these comments.

Comments on draft conditions of Wildlife Act approval

Condition #	*Draft condition with marked up suggestions*	*Comments and reasoning*
1	All works relating to lizard fauna, including capture, handling, marking and relocation must occur in accordance with the Lizard Management Plan dated 11 September 2026 and submitted with the application.	The Department is satisfied with the condition as drafted but has two final comments on the LMP: - Section 6.4.3.1 omits Pacific geckos from the release site. DOC suggests amending the LMP to say "Forest geckos

		and Pacific geckos (if present) will be released into arboreal AR's in the same…." - Appendix 1 is missing from the LMP. As Appendix 1 is a cross-reference table identifying where wildlife approval information requirements are addressed in the document and is not material to lizard management, DOC has no concerns with its omission.
19	The DOC Operations Manager for Auckland [aucklandpermissions@doc.govt.nz] must be contacted immediately for further advice if lizard species other than those listed in Condition 2 above are located within the clearance area or within the release site.	Email address for Auckland Operations team added.
20	If any lizards should incidentally die during the approved activities of catch, transfer or liberation, the Approval Holder must: a. inform the Auckland DOC Operations Manager [aucklandpermissions@doc.govt.nz] 48 hours, chill the body if it can be delivered within 72 hours, or freeze the body if delivery will take longer than 72 hours; and b. send the body to Massey University Wildlife Post Mortem Service for necropsy OR as otherwise advised by the Auckland DOC Operations Manager, along with details of the animal's history; and c. pay for any costs incurred in investigation of the incidental death of any lizard; and d. if required by the DOC Operations Manager, cease the Authorised Activity for a period determined by the DOC Operations Manager	Email address for Auckland Operations team added.
22	A report summarising the salvage and relocation results must be prepared and submitted to DOC [aucklandpermissions@doc.govt.nz] and	Email address for Auckland Operations team added.

permissionshamilton@doc.gov.nz within 30 working days from the completion date of the salvage. Specifically, this report will include:

a. details and results of lizard salvage and relocation work. Should native lizards be found, then the following will also be included in the report:
    i. photos of lizard salvage methods utilised;
    ii. photos of lizards captured (including photos of the salvage and relocation areas);
    iii. a map showing the location of lizard upon capture and upon release;
    iv. the species and number of any lizards detected, captured, and released, and
    v. the results of all surveys and monitoring.
b. descriptions of how lizard management activities outlined in the LMP were followed, including conditions detailed in the WAA permit and associated resource consent conditions;
c. an Amphibian and Reptile Distribution Scheme (ARDS) card detailing information relating to captured lizards (also to be provided to herpetofauna@doc.govt.nz); and,
d. a brief summary regarding the outcomes of the LMP, including any improvements/changes that should be implemented in future.

Comments on draft Lizard Management Plan

Condition #	*Draft condition with marked up suggestions*	*Comments and reasoning*
6.4.3.1	Further release site details are provided below and in Table 6. • […]	• Section 6.4.3.1 omits Pacific geckos from the release site. DOC suggests amending the LMP to say “Forest geckos

• Forest geckos and pacific geckos (if present) will be released into arboreal ARs in the same intensive local mouse control area.	**and Pacific geckos** (if present) will be released into arboreal AR's in the same…."

Comments on draft conditions of Complex Freshwater Fisheries approval

Condition #	*Draft condition with marked up suggestions*	*Comments and reasoning*
1	**Aquatic Fauna Salvage and Relocation Plan** The objective of the Aquatic Fauna Salvage and Relocation Plan (AFSRP) is to detail the measures and procedures to avoid or minimise potential adverse effects on native aquatic fauna (fish and kōura) by way of relocating native aquatic fauna prior to any works being undertaken within watercourses at the Site. The AFSRP must include: a. a description of the aquatic fauna values to be addressed by the AFSRP; b. Measures to avoid or minimise time instream works during key fish spawning and migration periods; c. plans identifying the locations where salvage of fish and kōura will be undertaken and in Tributary 3 restrict salvage to culvert installation sites only at Stage 2; and culvert installation sites and upstream reaches of Tributary 4 during Stage 2; d. procedures for pre-stream works site visits prior to any works commencing within any streams, with each site visit addressing at a minimum: i. the extent of works proposed;	Suggested inclusion of additional specification for the Aquatic Fauna Salvage and Relocation Plan "Measures to avoid or minimise time instream works during key fish spawning and migration periods". It is standard practice for complex freshwater fisheries approvals to include conditions containing timing restrictions or exclusions for in-stream works during fish spawning and migration periods. Including this information in the management plan provides assurance to DOC as the administering agency of this approval that works will be undertaken in accordance with recognised good practice and minimises effects on freshwater fish populations.

ii. the timing and methods proposed for stream works;
iii. the methods proposed for fish salvage;
iv. monitoring methods;
v. locations for relocation sites;
vi. information necessary to inform the Relocation Event Salvage Plan;

e. a description of the process for developing and content of Relocation Event Salvage Plans;
f. a description of methods to be used for fish salvage activities;
g. timeframes for the implementation of the AFSRP;
h. procedures to ensure compliance with all other permits and approvals required for fish salvage activities;
i. a description of how salvage and relocation actions will be monitored and reported, including timeframes, and measures of success;
j. and a process for review of the AFSRP to adapt to any changes in the receiving environment.

Comments on draft conditions of resource consent

Condition #	*Draft condition with marked up suggestions*	*Comments and reasoning*
62	[…] plans identifying the locations where salvage of fish and kōura will be undertaken, and in Tributaries~~y~~ 3 and 4 restrict salvage to culvert installation sites only at Stage 2; ~~and culvert installation sites and upstream reaches of Tributary 4 during Stage 2;~~	At the ecology workshop, Dr. Boothroyd and Dr. McEwan agreed that it was unnecessary to salvage fish from the upstream reach of Tributary 4. The fish that are upstream will most likely be able to migrate downstream when they need to, therefore salvaging beyond the culvert install sites is unnecessary, and poses more risk to fish safety than not disturbing them. Amendments are proposed to align with the intention dictated at the ecology workshop.

66	The purpose of the Pest Management Plan (PMP) is to detail the measures and procedures ~~for 35 years~~ to control pest animals and pest plants to protect new plantings and existing mature bush areas within the Site and the offset and compensation sites and ensure compliance with Conditions 167 to 169.	Please see paragraphs 4-7 below this table for reasoning.
68	No changes requested.	Support the inclusion of indicative thresholds as a compromise finding between the Department and the applicant.
68A	No changes requested.	Support the inclusion that DOC has the opportunity to review the plan prior to lodgement with the Council.
69A	No changes requested.	Support the inclusion that DOC will receive a copy of the report.
120 – 124	No changes requested to the "Stream Works associated with Stream Realignment" conditions.	Support.
136	[…] (b) undertaken using native plants sourced from the Manukau Ecological District~~, where practicable~~. […]	Remove the section "where practicable". There is adequate lead up time ahead of the needed planting season as the planting should be implemented immediately following the completion of construction or potentially be postponed until the next planting season. If it is postponed until the next planting season, there is sufficient time for the consent holder to plan for adequate supply of native plants. Otherwise, the condition is supported.
137 – 139	No changes requested to the remainder of "Rehabilitation of Mangapū Stream Tributary Realignment" conditions.	Support.
161	No changes requested.	Support.
163	No changes requested.	Support.
167	No changes requested.	Support.
168	Pest plant management must manage plants that are compiled from the Auckland Council Regional Pest Management Plan 2020-2030, or any other subsequent version, and updated accordingly on proposed baseline monitoring required in Condition ~~1~~67.	Amended to refer to the correct condition. Otherwise, the condition is supported.

230	In the event that more than 5% drop below ~~in~~ the recognised MALF of the gauging stations on Mangapū Stream, Waipokapu Stream and the diverted stream, the Consent Holder must augment flows upstream of the following stations: […]	Amended the sentence to include "below" rather than "in" as "in" could be interpreted as the MALF figure itself being revised based on the data ascertained, rather than the flow dropping below a certain level. Otherwise, the condition is supported.
234 – 239	No changes requested.	Support.

Condition 66 – Purpose of the Pest Management Plan

4. Condition 66 states that the purpose of the Pest Management Plan (PMP) is to control pest animals and pest plants to protect new plantings and existing mature bush areas within the Site and the offset and compensation sites for 35 years. The Department broadly agrees with this purpose but wants the duration for the life of the consent (if different).
5. The Department stated in its section 53 comments that the 35 year timeframe is inappropriate because the PMP is required in the resource consent conditions to manage the adverse effects on indigenous flora and fauna for the duration of the activity, i.e. the vegetation clearance and rehabilitation of the site.[1] To ensure the best possible chance for the offsetting and compensation sites to achieve a future mature forest functioning to replace what was cleared, weed and animal control will assist the plants to grow into a healthier ecosystem, and will assist in ensuring that Appendix 3 of the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity 2023 is implemented to the extent possible (understanding that it is overly onerous on the consent holder to achieve the same functioning of the ecosystem lost within the timeframe of the consent).
6. The objectives in condition 67 clarify that the PMP will be implemented over the life of the consent (with emphasis added):

    a. to protect and enhance ecological values and connectivity at Winstone's Hunua Quarry and adjacent sites in Hunua Road and Judge Richardson Drive, and at the Meremere Quarry, through achieving sustained suppression of key target predators / pests at or below desired abundance targets within set timeframes over the lifespan of the consent;
    b. to protect new enhancement plantings from target pest animal browsers during establishment of the enhancement planting areas, from the initial enhancement planting installation until 5 years after final planting is completed by management area;

[1] Section 53 comments from the Department, paragraphs 4.15 – 4.17.

c. to achieve removal of target invasive pest plants within enhancement planting prior to planting installations; and

d. pest management areas within set timeframes over the lifespan of the consent.

7. It is requested that condition 66 removes the reference to 35 years.