

10 Appendix 18 Draft Bird Management Plan

The Bird Management Plan (BMP) prepared by Boffa Miskell has been reviewed Liz Curry (Terrestrial Ecologist).

We understand that the BMP has been prepared as the proposed landfill is close to Dunedin airport. The plan outlines operational procedures and bird control measures to keep bird numbers low, to minimise risk of bird strike. The BMP is thorough and well thought through. As such, overall, it is considered complete with no critical gaps.

Black backed gulls are considered the species of most importance at the proposed landfill, although management measures detailed in the plan will be effective for other birds attracted to the site. The plan sufficiently considers impacts on blacked back gulls and the management measures are aligned with current best practice protocols for managing birds in this scenario.

The potentially dangerous methods included in the plan (shooting and poisoning of black backed gulls; section 3.1 and 3.2) are considered to be appropriate from an ecological perspective.

As stated in the plan (section 3), it is of utmost importance that the measures laid out in the document are adhered to at all times (but especially during breeding season; October to January) to keep bird numbers at the landfill as low as possible.

Also mentioned in the plan, it is imperative that an adaptive management approach (as detailed in section 6) is taken to monitor and control black backed gulls at the site, with a review of control techniques if required and ongoing liaison with Dunedin Airport takes place.

Response

Further work has been done on the draft bird management plan in partnership with Avisure. An updated draft will be provided as part of the draft landfill management plan (Appendix)