F45/9 – Whisky Creek water race

NZTM E1278840 N4890471

Site type:	Mining – Gold
Features:	Water race
First Recorded:	20/12/2012
Last Updated:	20/04/2022
Location:	Whisky Creek Track/Hidden Valley Track
Legal Description:	Lot 1 DP 14773
Summary:	This race was identified during its original recording as the Whisky Creek Race. The water race was reported to be just under three kilometres in length and around 500 mm wide. The race originates in Whisky Creek (intake location identified 2022) and reportedly leads to a broken earth reservoir in the stream that comes out of the hills around Nicholson Road, although its termination was unable to be inspected during 2022. The race is believed to have supplied water to gold dredging and sluicing operations on the flats, now farmland, below Croydon Bush from around 1898-1902.
Condition:	The race is in variable condition throughout its length, and a large stretch of the race (approximately 550 m) appears to have been destroyed by formation of the track through the forest.

2022 Field Work

F45/9 was inspected in the field by Chris Jennings and Tristan Russell on 28 and 29 April 2022. All site information was updated on ArchSite, including NZTM coordinates. The source of the race was located, although a section of the race and its termination point were unable to be inspected due to time constraints. This section was extrapolated based on the land contour and included in the ArchSite update (See Appendix A).

Management recommendations

The race is in variable condition throughout its length and a large section has been destroyed by track formation. Any future track construction or major maintenance projects that may damage additional sections of the track should be undertaken under an archaeological authority obtained under the HNZPTA.