

Except in one instance, the ground sluiced away during the year was poor, and several claims were abandoned; but others were taken up, so that the total number of claims held is not materially reduced.

The supply of water during the year has been more than sufficient for all requirements, and no time has been lost by the miners from insufficient supply of water. During the year water was running to waste over the dams on eighty-six separate days, and during that time 123½ days' water for the whole field went to waste. Twenty holidays were observed by the miners during the year.

The attached table shows the number of days in each month on which water was running over the dams, and the total quantity lost, and also the number of holidays on which no water was used for sluicing:—

Month.	Water running over Dam.	Quantity of Water lost.	Holidays.	No Water for Channel.	Dams empty.
1902.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
April	...	...	8	...	...
May	7	5	...	...	...
June	6	17½	...	...	...
July	2	½	...	...	...
August	3	1	...	...	...
September	3	3½	...	...	...
October	8	11½	...	...	...
November	10	11	...	...	...
December	16	20	7	...	...
1903.					
January	13	22½	5	...	...
February	9	11	...	...	...
March	9	20	...	...	...
Totals	86	123½	20	...	...

Besides the sales of water referred to below, free water was supplied to claims as assistance for constructing new branch tail-races, &c., under authority from the Department, and also to claims having a succession of poor washings, after due inquiry was made in each case. The total value of free water so supplied was £271 Os. 10d.

Flushing-water was supplied to each of the main tail-races without charge, in accordance with authority from the Department, to the following extent: No. 2 channel, ten sluice-heads; No. 3 channel, twenty-three sluice-heads; No. 4 channel, ten sluice-heads; No. 5 channel, twenty sluice-heads. As water was plentiful quantities much in excess of the above were supplied, as it would otherwise go to waste and benefit no one, and in no case was less than the above quantities supplied.

The Borough of Kumara was supplied with water for fire-brigade purposes, and water was supplied to the miners for washing up free of charge.

The following tabulated statement shows the receipts and cost of maintenance of the Kumara Race for the year ended the 31st March, 1903, together with the approximate quantity and value of gold obtained by parties using water from the race:—

Month.	Sales of Water.	Cash received for Sales of Water.	Expenditure.	Outstanding Moneys at the End of each Month.	Number of Men employed.	Approximate Quantity of Gold obtained.	Value of Gold obtained.
1902.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		Oz.	£ s. d.
April	111 16 1	48 17 6	149 17 1	884 19 5	33	224	873 12 0
May	161 7 4	126 10 0	126 9 6	925 14 8	36	322	1,255 16 0
June	103 12 10	97 16 0	126 14 6	925 13 7	36	208	811 4 0
July	120 2 10	163 10 0	140 2 10	882 6 5	36	240	936 0 0
August	142 19 3	105 10 0	140 7 7	919 15 8	36	286	1,115 8 0
September	135 11 8	144 0 0	135 2 10	911 7 4	40	270	1,053 0 0
October	101 9 10	135 11 0	121 17 0	877 6 2	40	204	795 12 0
November	133 2 9	235 13 0	158 16 3	780 10 11	43	266	1,037 8 0
December	131 17 1	17 0 0	164 3 0	889 13 0	50	264	1,029 12 0
1903.							
January	94 8 9	37 10 6	124 13 3	946 11 3	44	188	733 4 0
February	145 0 8	120 10 0	144 13 11	971 1 11	44	290	1,131 0 0
March	147 5 3	145 15 0	151 18 9	972 14 8	42	294	1,146 12 0
Totals	1,528 14 4	1,378 3 0	1,684 16 6	..	40 (average)	3,056	11,918 8 0

Waimea-Kumara Water-races.

The following tabulated statement shows the revenue, cost of maintenance, approximate quantity of gold obtained, and the number of men employed in sluicing on claims using water from