

Crown Pastoral Land Tenure Review

Lease name: DEEP CREEK

Lease number: PO 036

Fish & Game Report

As part of the process of Tenure Review Fish & Game councils may provide advice on significant inherent values within the pastoral lease, and the information may be incorporated in the Conservation Resources Report. The advice is part of the information gathered and assessed for the development of a preliminary consultation document.

The report attached is released under the Official Information Act 1982.

December

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QVNZ - Dunedin

16 DEC 2003

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Deep Creek Station.

Otago Fish & Game Council Resource Report

General:

Deep Creek is a long rectangular shaped property located between the Clutha and Lindis Rivers. Sandy Point and Long Gully pastoral lease properties form the western boundary of the Deep Creek property. The property consists of rolling hills with deep incised gullies through which creeks flow, and a smaller amount of flatter land, which has been developed for agriculture. Many of the creeks are ephemeral by nature, while others cease to flow lower down due to water extraction for irrigation purposes. The gullies that contain permanent water are generally covered in thick scrub (eg briar, supple jack), which form a near impenetrable barrier in many places making fishery surveys difficult.

Sports Fishery Values:

West Coast Gully Stream, which flows into the Lindis River, contains large numbers of brown trout. The invertebrate fauna is indicative of a healthy waterway and the stream is important to maintaining flows in the Lindis River in times of drought. There are limited recreational fishery values within the leased land. The fishery value in this waterway lies in sports fish spawning and juvenile recruitment for the Lindis River, Clutha River, and Lake Dunstan Fisheries.

Game Bird Values:

The property contains excellent upland game-bird (California quail) habitat, although none were seen to during the survey. Anecdotal reports indicate that upland game inhabit the property. We have no information on recreational hunting on this property but access is at the discretion of the leaseholder.

Recommendations:

West Coast Gully Stream requires marginal strip and/or conservation covenant protection to prevent activities such as water takes or instream habitat modification impacting on fishery recruitment values.

Dated 14 December 2003

John Hollows
Resource Officer

Statutory managers of freshwater sports fish, game birds and their habitats

Otago Region

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