

## **Crown Pastoral Land Tenure Review**

**Lease name: DUNSTAN BURN**

**Lease number: PO 064**

### **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.

**July**

**05**



## **Fish and Game Resources Report for the Dunstan Burn Pastoral Lease**

Prepared by the  
Otago Fish and Game Council

### **Section One – Introduction**

#### *1.1 Purpose*

The purpose of this report is to advise the Commissioner of Crown Lands on the sports fish and game bird values present on the land included in the Dunstan Burn Crown pastoral lease. The lease is being considered for land tenure review and disposal under the provisions of the Crown Pastoral Land Act. As well as habitat values the report covers angling and hunting values and associated access issues.

Information for this report has been researched and prepared by Otago Fish and Game Council staff.

#### *1.2 Location*

The main portion of Dunstan Burn pastoral lease is located North of St. Bathans and bordered by the Dunstan Burn in the West and Hawkdun Runs Road in the East. The lease block extends to the Southeast of St. Bathans with an additional parcel of land adjacent to Fish Pond Road.

### **Section Two - General Resources Information**

#### *2.1 Sports Fisheries Habitat Values*

Within the lease block there are many small streams, which have limited fishery values, partially due to the elevation and ephemeral nature of the waters.

Mata Creek contains brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) and, whilst limited in adult habitat value during low flows, contains adult spawning and juvenile rearing waters which are of importance to the Manuherikia River.

Dunstan Creek contains important adult spawning waters and juvenile rearing waters for brown trout and possibly brook char (*Salvelinus fontinalis*). During summer low flows Dunstan Creek can be several degrees cooler than the Manuherikia River with sports fish migrating into the cooler waters to find refuge.

#### *2.2 Sports Fisheries Recreation Values*

Dunstan Creek is as an important backcountry fishery utilised by local and non-resident anglers.

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

**Otago Region**

*2.3 Gamebird Habitat Values*

The leasehold land contains limited areas suitable for California quail. Paradise shelducks and Canada geese nest and raise their broods in this area.

*2.4 Gamebird Recreation Values*

There are likely to be small coveys of California quail living within the lease area. In general, there is limited recreational gamebird hunting values within the pastoral lease.

**Section Three - Fish and Game Recommendations**

*3.1 Fisheries Habitat Values*

Mata Creek and Dustan Burn should have formal protection. A section 24 marginal strip is required on these waters where applicable or conservation covenants where the stream width is less than 3m.

All current marginal strips within the pastoral lease property should be replaced with section 24 marginal strips.

*3.2 Fisheries Recreation Values*

Recreational fishery values would be adequately protected by the measures outlined in 3.1.

*3.3 Game Bird Habitat Values*

The limited game bird habitat values existing within the lease property would be adequately protected by the measures outlined in 3.1.

*3.4 Recreational Game Bird Values*

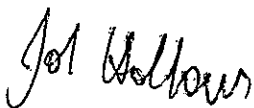
Limited value to game bird hunters with what values exist able to be protected by measures out lined in 3.1.

*3.4 Access Views*

No issues identified.

Dated: Wednesday, 6 November 2002

Signed



John Hollows  
Resource Officer  
Otago Fish and Game Council