

Crown Pastoral Land Tenure Review

Lease name : LOCH LINNHE

Lease number : PO 230

Conservation Resources Report - Part 15

As part of the process of Tenure Review, advice on significant inherent values within the pastoral lease is provided by Department of Conservation officials in the form of a Conservation Resources Report. This report is the result of outdoor survey and inspection. It is a key piece of information for the development of a preliminary consultation document.

Note: Plans which form part of the Conservation Resources Report are published separately.

These documents are all released under the Official information Act 1982.

June

08



Photo 5: Lake Wakatipu faces. Devils Staircase to left; developed pasture on south side of Staircase Creek.



Photo 6: Wakatipu lake faces become more modified towards the south of the property.



Photo 7: “Beech Remnant Creek” just south of Loch Linnhe homestead supports numerous plant species that are uncommon on the Lease including Halls totara, mountain ribbonwood, lancewood, and the hemi-parasitic yellow mistletoe *Alepis flavida*.

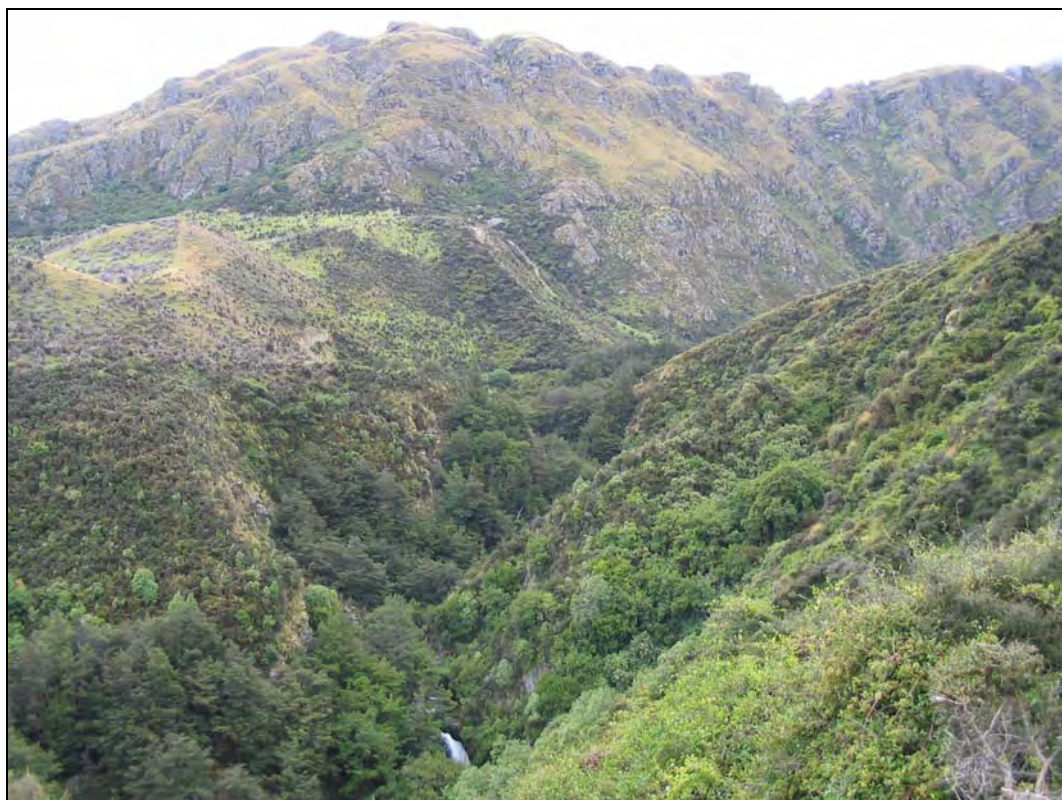


Photo 8: Lower Staircase Creek is steeply incised, supporting beech forest and mixed shrubland, with extensive rockland cliffs present.



Photo 9: The threatened tree daisy *Olearia fimbriata*.



Photo 10: A population of about 45 *Olearia fimbriata* is present in the lower Staircase Creek catchment, amongst grey shrubland -briar- short tussockland - exotic pasture grassland.



Photo 11: Mid Staircase Creek, looking towards the confluence of the two branches.



Photo 12: Pockets of sub-alpine shrubland become increasingly common amongst tussockland below 1500 m in Staircase Creek. Common species include *Hebe propinqua*, *H. odora*, *Dracophyllum rosmarifolium*, *D. longifolium* and *Aciphylla* aff. *borida*.



Photo 13: Tarn in upper Staircase Creek below James Peak.



Photo 14: From James Peak, looking northwards along Nevis Mountain crest.



Photo 15: From James Peak, looking northeastwards into headwaters of Sproules Creek



Photo 16: Snow tussockland dominates Sproules Creek at c. 1000 m asl.



Photo 17: A small string mire patterned wetland is present in an upper basin of Whittens Creek at c. 1600 m. It is habitat for two wetland species of restricted distribution: *Plantago obconica* and *Myosotis* aff. *tenericaulis*.

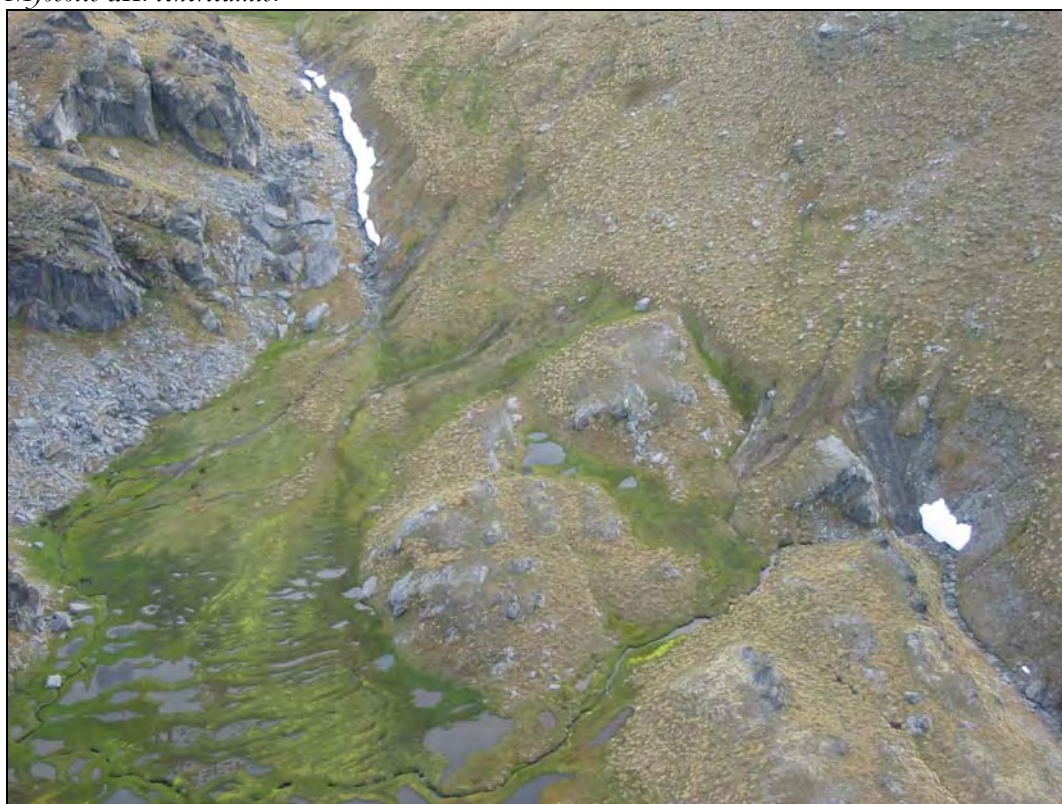


Photo 18: The upper part (>1400 m) of Drummonds Creek is within the Lease. It exhibits similar vegetation patterns as other headwater basins on the property, including a string mire patterned wetland, and talus slopes.



Photo 19: The Nevis River gorge and Nevis Road, located at the base of slopes between Sproules Creek and Commissioners Creek (to the north).



Photo 20: Nevis Faces, from Whittens Creek, northwards to Sproules Creek. There are numerous historic sites (huts, water races, dams and tailings) in the lower to mid Whittens Creek.

Photo 21: Invertebrates

Top; *Neoramia alta*; L-R: *Lyperobius hudsoni*; *L. cupiendus*; *L. montanus*; *Mecodema chiltoni*; *Peripatoides novaezealandiae*; An unnamed tarn, west side James Peak.





Photo 22: Large boulder fellfield in Whittens Creek where alpine gecko was found at 1400 m



Photo 23 Alpine gecko found in Whittens Creek 1400 m. Tentatively identified as Roys Peak gecko (*Hoplodactylus* aff. *granulatus*).



Photo 24: Stacked rock fireplace (F42/246) located on the Wakatipu face below the beech forest remnant.



Photo 25: Small structure associated with F42/245, either a dog kennel or bakery, located c.15 m south of the stacked rock fireplace in the background.



Photo 26: Stacked fireplace (F42/245) located within the beech forest remnant on the Wakatipu face of the Lease.



Photo 27: Hut site (F42/250) located on the true right bank of Whittens Creek.