

Crown Pastoral Land Tenure Review

Lease name: SHORTLANDS STATION

Lease number: PO 293

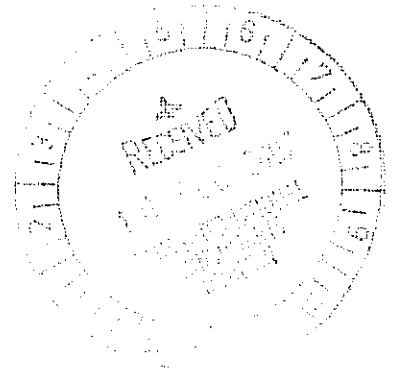
Fish & Game Report

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.

August

07



Shortland Station Crown Pastoral Lease Resource Report

Prepared by the Otago Fish and Game Council

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to advise the Commissioner of Crown Lands on the sports fish and game values present on the land included in the Shortland Station Crown pastoral lease. The lease is being considered for land tenure review and disposal under the provisions of the Crown Pastoral Land Act.

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

The Shortland Station pastoral lease is situated at the western end of the Kakanui Mountains. The lease land comprises of five thousand hectares of rolling hill tussock grasslands with pastoral developed land lower down and native vegetation in many of the gullies.

Streams on this property flow into the Kye Burn which in turn flows into the Taieri River. The Kye Burn receives approximately 96 angler visit per annum (National Angler survey 2002). This number reflects the lack of water in the river over summer due to irrigation takes rather than a fishery not favoured by anglers. The Taieri River receives approximately 19 thousand angler visits annually (National Angler Survey 2002) and is the second most popular river fishery in Otago.

Sports fisheries are maintained by annual recruitment from tributary streams and hence they often have value far exceeding their size. In addition, water quality and quantity is important even in streams that do not contain sports fish as they invariably flow into areas where there are sports fish.

Both the Nobbler Creek and Old Hut Creek catchments within the lease property contain sports fish spawning, juvenile recruitment and some adult habitat. Habitat protection in this area is of importance given these are recruitment stream for the Kye Burn and the Taieri River fisheries.

A small number of Paradise Shelducks, Mallard Ducks, Chukor, and California quail inhabit the lease land. The modified flat land is preferred by duck species whilst dry scrubby land and relatively unmodified higher areas are favoured by Quail and Chukor respectively.

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

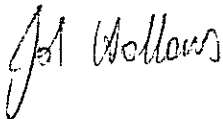
Otago Region

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Recommendations

1. All marginal strips on the property should become section 24 strips if they do not already have this status.
2. Provisions should be included to allow for hunter, firearms and dog across land designated free-hold to Conservation administered land for game bird hunting.
3. Access for Fish & Game staff is provided to areas of free-hold land for sports fish and game bird management purposes

Dated: August 15 2007



John Hollows
Environmental Officer
Otago Fish & Game Council