

Our Ref: PRY-C60-12766-SLM-Pc067-Z

Your Ref:

27 January 2020

David and Rosemary Gunn
Lake Taylor
Via email: [s 9(2)(a)]



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Dear David and Rosemary

Rehearing on Cultivation – Lake Taylor

Your request for a rehearing and my emails of 25 February and 20 December 2019 refer.

I apologise for the delay in finalising this rehearing. As I advised in my email I asked John Hook to investigate this matter and prepare a report and recommendation on the rehearing. John has completed his investigation and provided me with a report. While John has now departed LINZ, I have taken the opportunity to review all the material on the rehearing, including the original decision papers, submissions and advice from the Director-General of Conservation.

As part of his investigation John met with yourselves, and was shown around the property including what has been termed "Area B," the area covered by the application for cultivation.

You provided John with a description of the cultivation proposed for Area B and explained the situation regarding the road alignment with Hurunui District Council, and the area to be retired. John was able to walk through Area A and observe some of the rubbish left behind by members of the public using the area without permission.

John also sought the views of the Department of Conservation who confirmed their original position that it is desirable to protect Area B.

John's recommendation to me was to uphold the original decision and decline cultivation over Area B. I have reviewed this and consider that the desirability of protecting the inherent values present in Area B does outweigh the benefits to farming of the cultivation. Given the size of the area I consider that any farming benefit would be small, and to achieve that benefit cultivation would likely require the removal of most of the kanuka shrubs within the area. While depleted, the area does have significant ecological values and represents one of the few alluvial fans where indigenous vegetation is still dominant.

I have therefore decided to **confirm** the decision of my delegate of 1 November 2018 to decline consent to cultivate Area B.

John also suggested that a farm management plan, including an independent section that addresses the biodiversity and ecology aspects of the Lake Taylor pastoral lease, could assist with the management of this area and support any future applications for this area

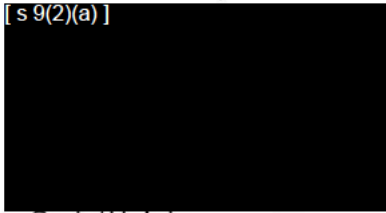
or elsewhere on the lease.

However, I cannot prejudge how any future application would be determined ahead of time and how such a plan would affect that application. I would suggest that you talk to your LINZ portfolio manager about any future your plans for this area, and how a farm management plan or similar could assist.

I have informed your portfolio manager on the outcome of the rehearing.

Yours sincerely

[s 9(2)(a)]



Craig Harris
Commissioner of Crown Lands

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