

Crown Pastoral Land Tenure Review

Lease name: THE LAKES

**Lease number: PC 073
-Part 2**

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

05

Appendix One

Fish and Game Monitoring Data for Sports Fish & Game Bird Species in and Around the Lakes Station Pastoral Lease

(A) Sports Fish Related

Figure 1.

Brown Trout Drift Dive Data- Hurunui River 2000 - 1999

	Small Fish			Medium Fish			Large Fish		
	2001	2000	1999	2001	2000	1999	2001	2000	1999
Site 1 1.0 km stretch of river from Lake Sumner outlet down	58	7	58	145	64	141	100	50	127
Site 2 1.5 km upstream of Sisters confluence	72	27	264	60	57	307	45	42	47

Chinook Salmon Spawning Data
- Hurunui River 1997 - 2001

Year	Number of Fish
1997	329
1998	114
1999	129
2000	64
2001	20

(B) Game Bird Related

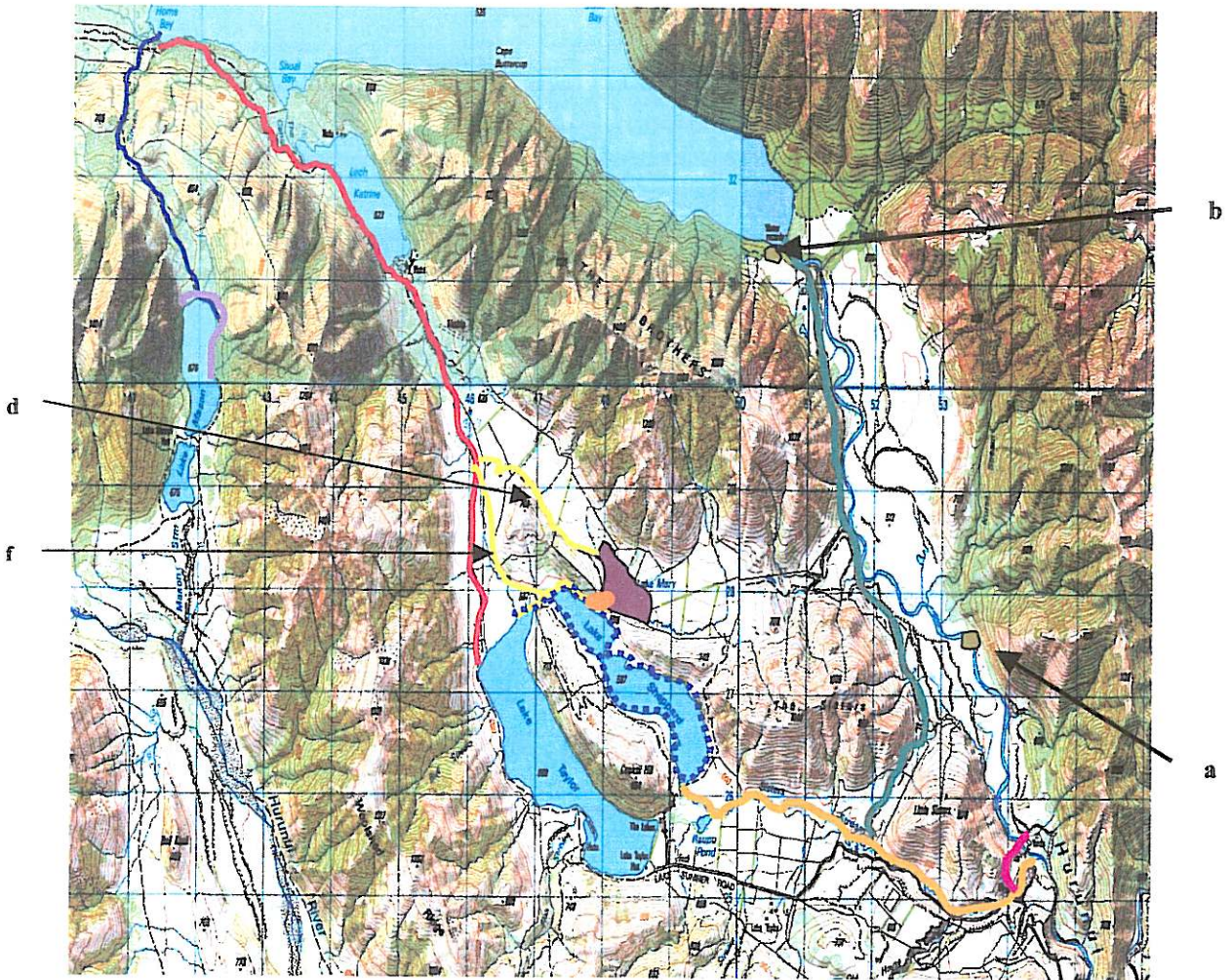
Paradise Shelduck Counts in the Area of Lakes Station Pastoral Lease 2001 - 1998












Area	2001	2000	1999	1998
Lake Mason	30	0	20	0
Upper Hurunui River	16	10	2	0
Lake Sumner	0	0	30	0
Lake Sheppard	0	350	250	300
Loch Katrine	0	0	0	5
Lake Taylor	0	0	0	8

Canada Geese Counts in the Area of Lakes Station Pastoral Lease 2001 - 1998

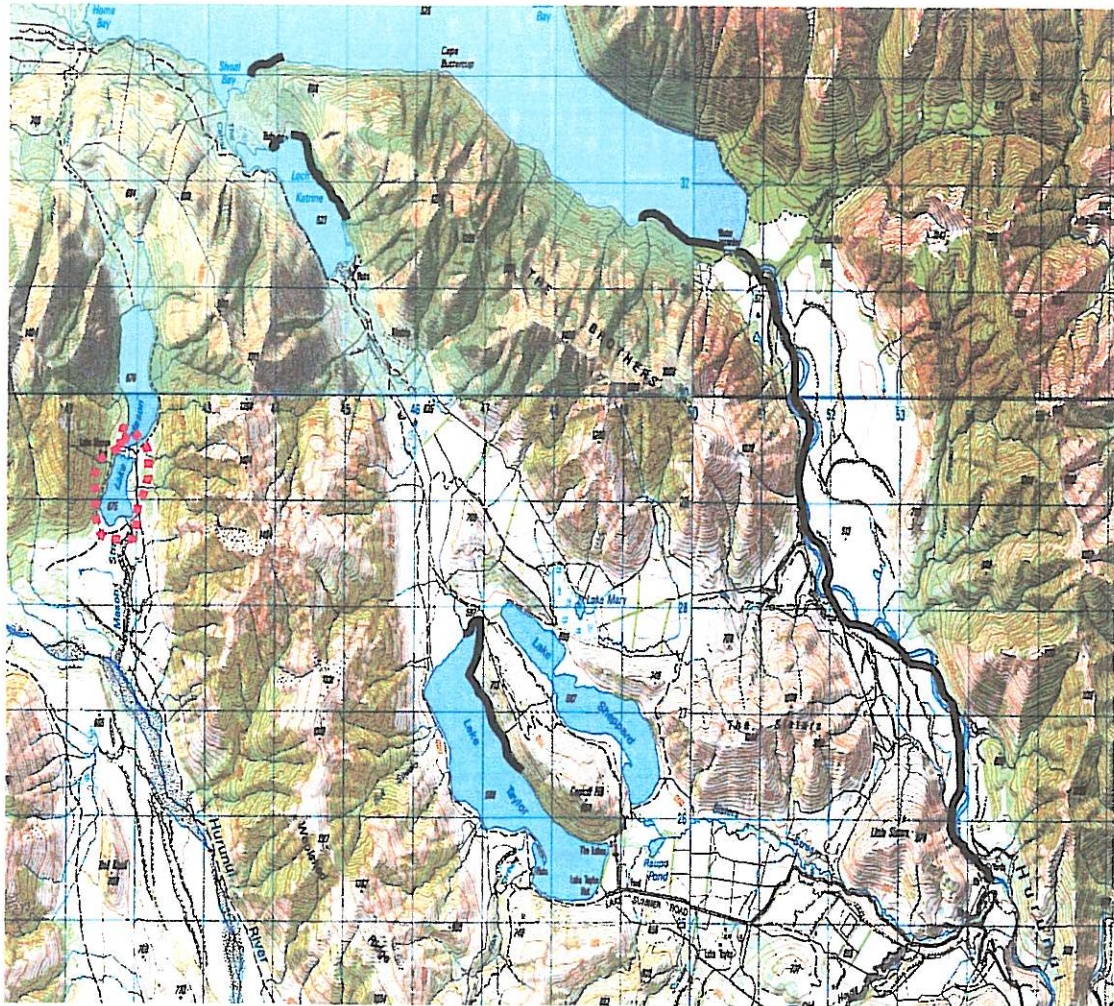
Area	2001	2000	1999	1998
South Branch (Hurunui River)	84	105	110	0
Lake Mason	60	0	4	0
Upper Hurunui (River)	0	40	0	15
Loch Katrine	6	0	0	0
Lake Taylor	0	45	0	100
Raupo Pond	0	25	40	0
Lake Sheppard	0	0	0	260
Lake Mary/Paddocks	0	0	0	0
Lake Sumner	8	40	0	220

Tenure Review: Lakes Station Recommendation Map 1



-  Track to Lake Mason – Home Bay to Lake Mason, align legal road & walking track
-  Marginal strip around Lake Mason – On portions of lease abutting the lake
-  Road to Lake Sumner (Home Bay) – Align legal road & formed vehicle track
-  Lake Mary – Access for Fish and Game designated vehicles.
-  Lake Mary – Protection of wetland from human activities (eg. drainage) & livestock. Legal access to public
-  Lake Sheppard – Public access to and around the lake from lease boundary (as marked)
-  Sisters Stream – Marginal strip along both sides of stream & protection from cattle & deer
-  Lake Sumner Road to Lake Sumner outlet – Legal walking and biking access for public along formed track. Legal vehicle access for Fish & Game staff undertaking management duties
-  Sisters Track – walking access from Lake Sumner Road to Lake Outlet track
-  Camping Areas – Designated camping areas. Lake Sumner outlet & Hurunui River terraces.
-  Lake Sheppard / Lake Taylor - Legal access between the two lake bodies.

Tenure Review: Lakes Station Recommendation Map 2



Marginal strip provisions – Marginal strips set aside for public access



Lake Mason – measures undertaken to prevent stock (cattle and deer) damage to Little Lake Mason.

Tenure Review Meeting

Tuesday 27th November 2001

Held: Fish and Game offices, 3 Horatio Street, Christchurch

Purpose: To obtain angler and game bird hunter input on the values of the Crown pastoral leases of Glenthorne, Castle Hill and The Lakes.

Attendees:

1. Rob Murfitt Castle Hill Village Community Association
2. Mike Hann Castle Hill Village
3. Douglas Adams
4. Greg Kemp Canterbury Anglers Club
5. Allan Fife Canterbury Fly-Fishers club
6. Bob Brown
7. Fish & Game Staff Wayne McCallum (facilitator and minute taker), Rochelle Hardy

Meeting Details

1. Introduction

The meeting began with the introduction of those attending. Attendees were asked to identify themselves and whether they were present as a representative of a club.

This was followed by a brief introduction of the tenure view process by Wayne McCallum. In this discussion Wayne pointed out that tenure review occurs under the Crown Pastoral Lands Act (1998) and is a process which allows for the exchange of rights between the lease-holder(s) and the Crown. As a consequence of this process the lease holder has the opportunity to freehold land. The Crown, meanwhile, is able to acquire the protection of certain habitats and recreational resources; this can occur either through agreements with the leaseholder (eg. covenants) or through the removal of sections of the lease from the run.

It was emphasised that tenure review is a voluntary process that is initiated by either the Crown or a lease holder and that either party can chose to stop the process at any time. It was pointed out that tenure review is a balancing process that seeks to maximise the benefits for both parties (ie. the Crown and lease holder) in the process.

Fish and Game's involvement in the process was described to the audience; this task being the assistance of the Crown in developing a resource report for the leases being considered under the review process.

1.2 Values and Issues Raised by Participants

1.2.1 General Comments

As a general comment a number of the participants at the meeting noted the wish to maintain and increase public access into the region's high country margins. Greg Kemp, for example, noted that anglers and hunters had been "lucky in the past", but that he had concerns about future access to areas of the high country. Alan Fife similarly noted that there was increasing concern amongst the members of his club about access into the high country. He also noted an issue arising from the increased availability and use of four wheel drive vehicles, which it was considered by some attendees to pose a threat to aspects of the high country experience. Alan emphasised that there was a need for some places in the high country that could only be accessed by foot.

One or two participants noted there was concern about the respect that certain segments of the hunting and fishing fraternity show to lease hold properties and that there was a need for both sets of users to show respect to runholder property.

1.2.2 Glenthorne Pastoral Lease

The following values were recognised as significant on this lease.

* Alan Fife - The Harper, Wilberforce and Avoca rivers are all fished with some regularity and are recognised by his club's members as important fly-fishing waters. Small spring streams feeding near the confluence of the Avoca and Harper rivers contain significant levels of rainbow trout that are actively sought by anglers.

Lake Lillian was recognised by Alan as an important lake fishery on the lease, although the use rates of the lake were not known to him. However, exposure of the lake at club meetings was thought likely to have increased angler awareness of the values of the lake to fishers.

* One attendee noted that a stream near the Wilberforce barrier contained some big rainbow trout.

1.2.3 Castle Hill Pastoral Lease

The following values were recognised as significant on this lease.

* Rob Murfitt & Mike Hann - the Porter and Broken rivers were recognised as important to anglers and there was a necessity to ensure continued access to these for the public who wish to use them.

The Thomas River provides access to other waterways, therefore there was the need to ensure public access along this.

There is a concern about damage done to the forest area surrounding the Thomas River by cattle. It was felt that these animals should be removed from the area or the grazing of them controlled.

* Greg Kemp - Broken River contains a number of fish and is significant because of its capacity to handle high levels of fishing pressure. The river also has diverse morphological character as well as a unique landscape. The Porter River has good fishing from its confluence with the Broken River and on up to the State Highway.

* Alan Fife - Broken River had improved as a fishery with the introduction of catch and release, "*one of the finest fisheries in a couple of hours drive of Christchurch*". He noted that this river was "good for junior anglers" as its waters were not too big or deep. Alan also noted that this river provides a "day tramp" experience.

The lower part of Porters River, to its confluence with the Thomas River, was recognised by Alan as containing good fishing. Access to the former was either via a track starting near the power substation or from the Cave Stream reserve car park.

1.2.4 Lakes Station Pastoral Lease

The following values were recognised as significant on this lease.

* Alan Fife - All waters are significant to Fly-Fishing Club members. Provide some of the best angling waters within a day trip to Christchurch.

* Dougal Adams - Public foot access to the Hurunui River was considered important.

* Greg Kemp - Hurunui River considered by club members as an important trout fishery. Aspects contributing to this include: foot access, stability of the river, run/riffle opportunities. Often the only good major water after heavy rain.

Lake Sheppard (*"to die for"*) provides an easy shoreline fishery (from fishing point of view). A poled route from top end of Lake Taylor together with stiles would be ideal. A number of club days are held around the lake.

Lake Taylor is a popular lake for club members. Road access to it means it is easily accessible. Winter fishing is popular, especially in August and September.

Loch Katrine - marginal fishing values but important for boat access to Lake Sumner.

Attendees were asked about the merits of camping sites along the Hurunui River portion of the lease. There was support of this idea from several of the attendees, particularly at the site of the Lake Sumner outlet.

This meeting closed at 8:45 pm.

Wayne McCallum
Contract Environment Officer