

Crown Pastoral Land Tenure Review

Lease name: ALPHABURN

Lease number: PO 380

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.

January 05



NEW ZEALAND
Fish & Game Resources Report
for the
Alphaburn Pastoral Lease.



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Prepared by the
Otago Fish & Game Council.

Section One - Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise the Commissioner of Crown Lands of the sports fish and game habitat present on the land included in the Alphaburn 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

Alphaburn Station is located on the shores of Lake Wanaka and takes in the Fern Burn and Alpha Burn catchments.

Section Two - General Resource Information

2.1 Sports Fisheries Values

The Fern Burn and Alpha Burn streams both support healthy populations of river resident Brown and Rainbow trout and support an annual spawning run of adult trout from Lake Wanaka.

Angling opportunities in the Alpha Burn are limited due to its small catchment. The Fern Burn provides better angling opportunities but generally they are restricted to the lower section of river between the Motatapu road crossing and Lake Wanaka.

2.2 Game-bird Values

There are scattered populations of California quail on the middle and lower slopes of the property with the possibility of Chukor partridge on the higher terrain. To our knowledge hunting pressure is low. Scaifes lagoon is an important waterfowl breeding, feeding and resting area, and has been used by waterfowl hunters for many years.

2.3 Other Recreational Values

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

Otago Region

Cnr Hanover & Harrow Sts, PO Box 76, Dunedin, New Zealand. Telephone (03) 477 9076 Facsimile (03) 477 0146

2.4 Access information

There is considerable recreational opportunity in Lake Wanaka, around Damper Bay but there is currently no formal public access.

Section Three - Consultation

3.1 Consultation Undertaken

Not applicable.

3.2 Issues Identified Through Consultation.

Not applicable.

Section Four - Fish & Game Perspective.

4.1 Habitat Views

Fish and Game consider that Scaifies Lagoon should be given Wildlife Management Reserve status with game-bird hunting allowed within the reserve. Also the spawning, rearing and adult trout habitat values of the Alpha Burn and Fern Burn streams should be protected by way of Marginal Strip or Covenants.

4.2 Access Views

Access along the Alpha Burn and Fern Burn would benefit anglers and hunters. Fish and Game consider that changing the Fern Burn Marginal Strip, reserved under Section 58 of the Land Act 1948 to a Marginal Strip reserved under Section 24 of the Conservation Act 1987 would be beneficial for angling and hunting activities in this area.

We consider the establishment of a legal foot access way to Damper bay would be advantageous to recreational opportunities, including angling in Lake Wanaka.

We do not consider a formal access agreement is required for hunting in the higher terrain due to the lower hunting pressure and opportunities.

Section Five - Bibliography

Tenure Review Document.

Crown Pastoral Lands Act. (1998)

Dated : Monday, 21 June 1999

Signed



Mark Nelson

Resource Officer

For: The Otago Fish and Game Council