

Crown Pastoral Land Tenure Review

Lease name: BENDROSE

Lease number: PT 097

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.

April

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COPY-140

14 June 2000

RECEIVED
5 JUN 2000

Ray Ward-Smith
Knight Frank
PO Box 564
TIMARU

Dear Sir

TENURE REVIEW – BENDROSE STATION

Please find attached Central South Island Fish and Game's Tenure Review Report on Bendrose Station.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Frank Scarf".

Frank Scarf
Fish and Game Officer

TENURE REVIEW REPORT

PROPERTY: BENDROSE

LOCATION: TWIZEL

1. Brief Description of Property

Bendrose, located 1 km north of Twizel's comprises two blocks. The Home Block occupies that land bounded by SH 8, and the Pukaki and Twizel rivers, while the Hill Block is some 15 km west of Twizel on the eastern side of Lake Ohau. This block is bounded by Greta and Darcy Streams.

The former has been developed through cultivation, oversowing, and topdressing while the steep hill block remains largely in unimproved native pastures and scrublands.

2. Rivers, Lakes, and Streams

The Twizel River has a mean flow of about 3.9 cumecs but each year can be expected to deplete to a minimum flow of about 1.8 cumecs. The river is a typical Mackenzie Basin river, primarily single channel lined either side with willow and native vegetation. Large willow trees in the active riverbed influence the braiding and subsequent channelisation of water following flood events.

All water previously flowing down the Pukaki riverbed has since the late 1970's been diverted into the Pukaki-Ohau canal for hydro-power generation purposes.

The only stream of significance on the Home Block is Bendrose Stream which is generated from springs within neighbouring Omahau Station property. This has a flow of about 100-300 l/s.

Rainbow and brown trout inhabit the Twizel River. The river is more noted for its spawning and nursery values than for the size of the adult fish stock. Adult stock from Lake Benmore move upstream into the Twizel and other tributary rivers in April-June each year and may remain in these rivers through to December when they move back to the lake for the summer.

The Twizel is quite popular with anglers; firstly the tourist angler who tend to fish the river around the SH 8 bridge because of its ready access, and secondly the more experienced local angler who venture further afield. These anglers are typically dry fly adherents who practise 'catch and release' where the 'high country angling experience' is more important than the success rate.

A National Angler Survey conducted by NIWA (National Institute of Water and Atmosphere Sciences) during the 1993/94 angler season records 612 angler days spent fishing the Twizel River. This compared favourably with the Ahuriri (4,478 anglers days), the Tekapo (2,225 angler days) and the Ohau (636 angler days).

The nationally renown Lake Benmore trout fishery is reliant upon rivers such as the Twizel, Tekapo, and Ahuriri which provide the spawning and juvenile habitat necessary to sustain the lake fishery.

Little is known about Bendrose Stream. It is probable the stream contains some trout but as what can be described as little more than a water race, the stream has little angler value.

The Pukaki River has no fishery values any more, while Greta Stream and Darcy Stream on the Hill Block are too steep and rough to provide any sportsfish habitat values. There is some limited spawning potential at the point where those streams enter the lake. However any spawning in those areas is likely to be vulnerable to the 'flashy' nature of flooding typical of these mountain torrent streams.

3. Gamebirds

Mallard and grey duck are present in the area but confined to the Twizel River. Paradise shelduck and Canada geese are present but Bendrose Station is comparatively free of greenfeed predation problems attributed to these gamebird species.

4. Recommendation

4.1 Access

The Twizel River and possibly Greta Stream would legally qualify for marginal strips. Habitat associated with the Twizel is valued and is in our opinion deserving of marginal strip protection. Greta Stream on the other hand is also important but for reasons other than any sportsfishery habitat values.

We wish to see foot access preserved for anglers along the Twizel River. Anglers now either walk downstream from SH 8 or upstream from the Ohau-Pukaki river junction.

With regard to the Hill Block and boundary with Lake Ohau, we also seek marginal strip provision along that boundary. This will enable angler, boatees, and other recreational use of that foreshore as of right.