

Crown Pastoral Land Tenure Review

Lease name : CLOUDY PEAK

Lease number : PO 104

Conservation Resources Report - Part 5

As part of the process of Tenure Review, advice on significant inherent values within the pastoral lease is provided by Department of Conservation officials in the form of a Conservation Resources Report. This report is the result of outdoor survey and inspection. It is a key piece of information for the development of a preliminary consultation document.

Note: Plans which form part of the Conservation Resources Report are published separately.

These documents are all released under the Official information Act 1982.

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Fig. 9 The higher parts of Cloudy Peak are characterised by Dunstan Steepland soils which cannot support ecologically sustainable pastoral use because of the losses of essential nutrients in animal products. Areas like the upper Dry Creek catchment, with significant landscape values and extensive tussock grasslands are better returned to full Crown ownership to be managed for conservation and recreation purposes.



Fig. 10 Much of the mid-altitude country has been classified LUC Class VI or better and is capable of being managed in a way that is ecologically sustainable. Such country is therefore suitable for freeholding.



Fig. 11 In the vicinity of Cloudy Peak itself is an area of alpine herbfield with occasional plants of fine leaved snow tussock and drachophyllum. Such areas are not common on the Dunstan Mountains and therefore deserve to be protected especially as they cannot support ecologically sustainable pastoral use.



Fig. 12 Shrublands occur in deeply incised gullies where they are relatively protected from burning and grazing. Native shrublands below Mt Kamaka, near the head of Dry Creek, add to the biodiversity and significant inherent value of this area. They have the potential to recover their former ecological glory, and could be added to the adjoining conservation land which was formerly part of Ardgour pastoral lease.



Fig. 13 One or more of the best examples of lowland shrubland, like this area near the Wainui Creek forks, could be protected under a binding conservation covenant registered on the freehold title. When allowed to recover it would demonstrate the former extensive shrubland cover.



Fig. 14 Occasional 'Old Man' matagouri bushes show something of the stature of former shrublands on the lower slopes. Areas protected under covenant could eventually reach a similar stature.