

Crown Pastoral Land Tenure Review

Lease name : HAPPY VALLEY

Lease number : PO 361

Conservation Resources Report - Part 4

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.

August 06

APPENDIX 2

Landscape Photographs



LUI – Looking north across the upland plateau where the ground cover comprises a subtle mosaic of alpine fescue, blue tussock and the occasional tuft of tall tussock. Tundra-like areas are a special feature along with alpine bogs that commonly form the origins of the small watercourses. Castellated tors that often display distinctive silhouettes stud the ridgelines.



LUI – Looking west from near Duffers Saddle where the tussock cover is more depleted across the drier lower slopes. The wide distribution of golden spaniard could be a result of early burn-offs. The historic Carrick Range Water Race threads its way around the mid slopes.



SLU 2A – The upper section of the Bannock Burn catchment contained within the property. The landscape values complement the inherent values possessed within LUI especially the uniformity in the vegetation that is superimposed over subdued topography. In a landscape context this sub unit forms a small component of a larger high country landscape notable for its sense of vastness making it an ideal setting for recreation pursuits such as cross country skiing.



SLU 2B – Looking north down the deep valley that contains the Bannock Burn. Note the assortment of the vegetative cover that includes matagrori-sweet briar shrublands, modified grasslands and other weedy species such as wild gooseberry. Groupings of Lombardy poplars have been established at certain points along the water race while crack willow infests the Bannock Burn.



A panoramic view looking down from the Nevis Road towards the lower Duffers Gully (LU1) where tangible evidence of early gold mining is evident. The prominent landform in the lower left corner is a part of Round Hill (LU3) while the background is dominated by the parched slopes that overlook the Bannock Burn (LUs 2A & 2B). The landscape is distinctively patterned with the shrublands contrasting markedly with the depleted short grasslands that clothe the moisture deficient slopes.



LU3 – A relatively typical view of the front hill country that depicts the aridity of the farmland unless irrigation water is available via the water races. Generally the original ground cover has been replaced by dryland pasture species with a wide infestation of sweet briar being evident.



LUI – A panoramic view looking southeast from the Nevis Road towards the mid slopes of Duffers Gully and across towards the Bannock Burn catchment. Note the expansive band of matagouri-sweet briar shrublands that clad the mid slopes that abruptly change to “clean” tussocklands at about 1,100m.asl.