

Crown Pastoral Land Tenure Review

Lease name: MATAURA VALLEY

Lease number: PS 090

Public Submissions

These submissions were received as a result of the public advertising of the Preliminary Proposal for Tenure Review.

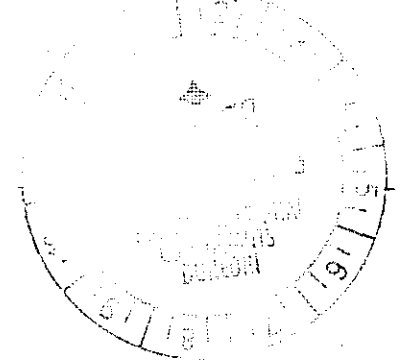
March

05

9.8.03

Wakatu Tramping
Mountaineering Club
P.O. Box 137
Queenstown.

Opus International
Consultants Ltd.
Private Bag 1913
Dunedin

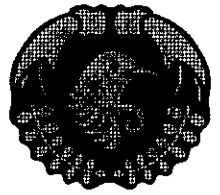


Attention: Mr. David Payton

Resource Review - Matuara Valley St.

The club has studied the land
resource review proposal and are
in favour of it. We are pleased to
see that public access will be area
provided for to the conservation via
the two marginal strips being
proposed.

Yours faithfully
Irene Dunstall
(Secretary)

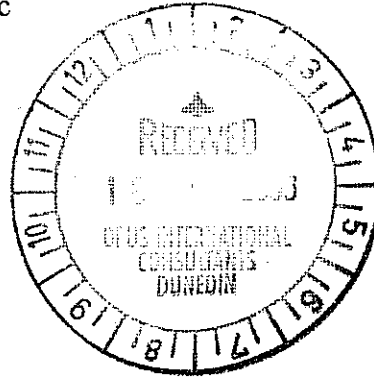


FOREST
& BIRD

Upper Clutha Branch
Royal Forest and Bird Society of New Zealand Inc
PO Box 38
LAKE HAWEA

17 September 2003

The Commissioner of Crown Lands
C/- David Payton
Tenure Review Contract Manager
Opus International Consultants Ltd
Private Bag 1913
DUNEDIN



Dear Sir

Submission on Preliminary Proposal Mataura Valley Pastoral Lease

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission on behalf of our branch which has a current membership of 184. The wider membership of our Society is 55,000 nationally, with 57 branches. Our Society is well recognised for its work protecting the natural values of New Zealand and we feel very strongly that submissions on pastoral lease tenure reviews are an important part of our Society's environmental advocacy role.

The Government has recently reviewed and updated its objectives for Tenure Review. Particularly relevant to this tenure review is the New Complementary Objective #9.8 "to... progressively establish a network of high country parks and reserves;" as the adjoining land is part of the Eyre Creek Conservation Area. This pastoral lease is a boundary where more developed farmland blends with the adjoining conservation land.

We inspected the property by 4WD on 8th September 2003 with permission of the Parkers and the assistance of the Farm Manager Ian Chalmers and on foot on the 14th September.

The proposal as presented:

Land to be retained in Crown ownership and control and proposed designations:

3700 hectares (approximately) to be designated as conservation area

Land to be freeholded

4175 hectares (approximately)

Proposed Easements

To provide for foot, horse or vehicle access to four entry points to the proposed conservation lands for management purposes generally via existing farm access from the boundary of the proposed freehold at the Mataura River bridge; using a combination of marginal strips and the following designations on the supplied map; a-b, c-d, e-f, f-g, g-h, g-i, f-j, k-l, m-n

ROYAL FOREST AND
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Public access to conservation land

Via the marginal strip of Mataura River, Pig and Thomson Creeks.

There is an existing public access from Cainard Road via Cainard Run to the boundary of the existing conservation land at the "Bowels of the Earth" on the true left of the Mataura River.

Land proposed for freeholding

Upper Clutha Forest and Bird generally support the proposed areas to be freeholded and feel the proposed fence lines are practical and reasonably divide land with significant inherent values from modified land suitable for freeholding.

Futtah Gully – top south-west area

On inspection however our one exception to the previous paragraph being that area in the top south-west of Futtah Gully should also be included in the land to become part of the conservation area. Our reasons for this are that it has mostly indigenous plant cover consisting of some beech forest, widespread shrubland and tall tussock. (See photo # 1) This area could be fenced by using the same manner as proposed for the rest of the property – by using ridges – see suggested fence line on Map #1. We agree that most of the remainder of Futtah Gully is too modified to be considered as future conservation land.

The creek bed in the Futtah Gully contained very little gravel and flood burden compared with Pig and Thomson's Creek beds and we noted that the top part of the catchment had very little visible erosion compared with Pig and Thomson's. By restoring this section of the Futtah catchment to full Crown ownership and control, erosion in the top of one part of this catchment could be avoided.

Land proposed for returning to full Crown ownership and control

Upper Clutha Forest and Bird support the restoring to full Crown Ownership and control 3700 hectares (approximately) of "narrow-leaved snow tussocklands, with pockets of beech forest and shrublands in the gullies" (Conservation Resources Report P12).

Burning

We note that fire is used extensively as a management tool on this property. In the *Report on consultation – Phase 7 Standard 8* released to Forest and Bird under the Official Information Act (File Ref CON/50214/09/12664/A) point 6.3 contains the information that the current lessees indicate "that if over burning should occur to the Conservation boundary, the Director General of Conservation should be accommodating and flexible on this." The response in the same section of the report being "The Director General of Conservation through his delegate has responded favourably and is prepared to formalise the arrangement in a restrictive covenant, and has prepared a draft for the holders consideration. This covenant is directed towards imposing general conditions to be followed when burning on the proposed freehold land."

There is no information on a restrictive covenant in the Preliminary Proposal documents for Mataura Valley received by Upper Clutha Forest and Bird. Should such a covenant exist we feel that it unfairly lessens the responsibility of the land owner to prevent fire spreading to and damaging conservation land. Should the lessees not be able to control their use of fire they should be subject to the same conditions as any other landholder whose fire has damaged

Crown owned conservation land. We would suggest that a buffer of one kilometer be established around the conservation land where there is no burning allowed to prevent any 'over burning' intruding into conservation land.

Riparian protection

The Mataura River bed is currently being grazed by cattle and sheep. We would like to see the riparian strip fenced on the true right and stock excluded from the river bed. Stock is damaging vegetation on the true left of the river and preventing regeneration of matagouri on the river flats.

The Conservation Resources Report found good populations of native fish. Protection of all riparian/marginal strips in the property from grazing would be desirable to encourage the continuation of appropriate habitat.

Weed control

There are small patches of gorse and broom in Mataura River bed that need to be dealt with immediately while it is still only isolated bushes. Should this spread it would be unfortunate as the area is relatively weedfree.

Remnant low-altitude shrublands

A characteristic of this property are the remnant shrublands along the steeper sides of Futtah Gully and Thomson and Pig Creeks. In Futtah Gully there are some large Olearia that do not appear to be represented in the proposed conservation areas in the Pig and Thomson catchments. (See photo # 2) There are kowhai on the true right of Pig Creek. (See photo #3)

The current Government Cabinet Policy Committee on 6 August 2003 (POL Min(03) 19/7) reviewed and added to the objectives for Tenure Review. One of the four new 'Complementary Objectives' for Tenure Review - #9.7 - is that the outcomes must "ensure that conservation outcomes for the high country are consistent with the New Zealand Biodiversity strategy;" Lower altitude habitats and species are under-represented in protected conservation areas in New Zealand. These remnants no doubt exist because of the protection from burning and grazing afforded by the river and surrounding rock. Some mechanism needs to be used to ensure these small but crucial areas to not only survive but thrive even though there will be inevitable intensification of the farm management on freeholded land after the completion of Tenure Review. We suggest a conservation covenant in combination with fencing (possibly using marginal strips) around shrubland corridors where they exist.

Futtah Gully -- marginal strip

The creek in Futtah Gully is wide enough to require a marginal strip to be laid off. This marginal strip would provide access for fishing. The Conservation Resources Report (p26) identifies that there is a "healthy trout population' in this creek. The marginal strip could be fenced in parts to protect the remnant shrublands as mentioned above.

Forestry

There have been very extensive plantings of Douglas firs from the valley floor to approximately 800 masl on the property across the valley – Cainard Run. Grey shrublands have been root raked and windrowed on some very steep country to provide clear ground for planting. We understand that Mataura Valley run would also be highly suitable for growing Douglas Firs. We would be concerned that any planting on the proposed freehold areas would provide a seed source for dispersal on to the proposed and existing conservation lands. This is particularly critical as the area is in the path of the north-west wind which will lift and drop the seed on to the conservation land behind. We only need to look at hills around Queenstown and Mt Aurum in the Shotover to appreciate that Douglas Fir is a very aggressive and successful coloniser of our local high country. The Mid-Dome area stands out as a warning of how well conifers spread and grow in this area in regard to seed dispersal by north-west winds. A covenant preventing future conifer plantings on the proposed freehold is critical to the protection of the surrounding existing and proposed conservation land.

Proposed access provisions

There is an existing public vehicle access up the true right of the Mataura River as far as the "Bowels of the Earth" resulting from Cairnard Run tenure review. This will serve for public access to the conservation land from Mullocky Gully onwards.

There does not appear to be a provision for the public parking for those wishing to walk up the marginal strips of Pig and Thomson's Creeks. We would like to see public car parking area on the true right of the Mataura above the Cainard Bridge.

Upper Clutha Forest and Bird has attempted to walk up the marginal strip of Thomson Creek to the proposed conservation area. It is not practicable as a route, the creek becoming too rocky, deep and broken and the sides too steep and close to the creek to provide reasonable access. Apart from marginal strips on Pig and Thomson Creeks there are no public access provisions proposed as part of this tenure review. We feel that the proposed access provisions do not meet the objective of Part 2, 24 (c) "to make easier ... the securing of public access to and enjoyment of reviewable land". "Securing of public access" would be achieved by providing a public access easement access up the proposed Razorback Ridge management easement a-b, e-f, f-j, k to Point C on fenceline (not currently part of the proposed management access). "Enjoyment of reviewable land" would be achieved by also providing a public access easement up the proposed Wether Ridge management easement a-b, e-f, f-g, g-h which would allow a round trip if used in combination with the suggested Razorback Ridge public access easement.

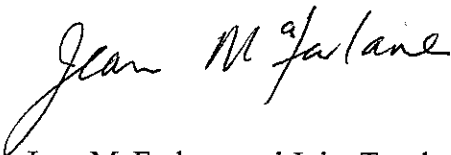
There is no need in our opinion to close the easement area for lambing from 25 September to 30 November inclusive. Public access would be restricted to the actual route/track over the freeholded land. This will cause very little disruption to any stock in these areas. Similar access provisions on other freehold land resulting from tenure review of pastoral leases do not have such a restriction on access.

Summary of amendments sought

- 1 Restore top south-west area of Futtah Gully to full Crown ownership and control as a conservation area. ✓
- 2 Impose a one kilometre zone around the proposed conservation land where no burning may occur. Done ✓
- 3 Provide protection for riparian strips. X
- 4 Provide protection for low altitude remnant shrublands ✓
- 5 Lay off a marginal strip on Futtah Creek. X
- 6 Prohibit forestry as a land use on the proposed freehold. ✓
- 7 Provide for public access up Razorback and Wether Ridges. ✓

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission. We look forward to being notified of the outcome of this pastoral lease tenure review.

Yours faithfully



Jean McFarlane and John Turnbull
(On behalf of the Upper Clutha Branch of Forest and Bird.)

Enclosed:

Map #1

List of photographs

- #1 Top south-west area of Futtah Gully
- #2 Mature Olearia on sides of Futtah Gully
- #3 Kowhai on slopes above Pig Creek

Mataura Valley – Tenure Review

Map #1

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






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Eyre SD

Pt Run 585

Sec 219
Eyre SD

Sec 217
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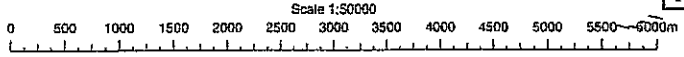
-  Land to be Freeholded
-  Conservation Area – Full Crown Ownership and Control
-  Vehicles for Management Purposes Easement One
-  Vehicles for Management Purposes Easement Two
-  New Fencelines
-  New Stressmater Cyclone Gates
-  New Taranaki Gates

*fullan jully
- top south-west
corner.*

Marginal Strip Subject to Section 218 Conservation Act 1987

Version	1	2	3	4	5
Southland Land District					Sheet 1 of 3
NZMS 260 E43					Date 9/11/1997

Mataura Valley



OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

Photo #1

Top south-west area of
Fattan gully.



Photo #2 Mature Oleaia in Futtan Gully



Photo #3 Kowhai in Pig Creek



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Public Access New Zealand

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19 September 2003

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FAXED

Submission on Maitara Valley Tenure Review Preliminary Proposal

Boundaries of proposed conservation area

We are generally happy with the boundaries of the proposed conservation area, however there may need to be slight amendments in the lower Pig and Thomson Creeks to ensure practical public access.

A round trip Pig Creek to tops and return via Thomson Creek, or vice versa, has potential for an interesting day tramp. This is the only real opportunity for recreational use of the proposed conservation area. Although there is probably no history of upland recreation on this property, that situation would apply to many places in the pastoral high country. Tenure review provides opportunity for recreation as yet unrealised. The Commissioner has a duty to ensure that public access to and enjoyment of the reviewed land is provided for, either present or future.

The lower Pig Creek eastern conservation area boundary traverses a hillside above a ribbon of beech forest. The boundary should be up-slope of the beech with sufficient margin to enable ease of foot passage across and up the slope to gain the ridge crest. DOC's negotiation of access for "management purposes" up an existing track on a nearby ridge indicates that the proposed boundary is unsatisfactory for access. This must be rectified for public access.

The "northern" conservation area boundary in Pig Creek is up a prominent spur leading from the creek bed. The boundary fence should be located back from a steep escarpment overlooking the creek so as to ensure practical foot access.

We note that the Thomson Creek boundaries have been extended downstream to abut the existing marginal strip. It is good to see this provision. However we note that the creek is very incised in this reach and if the bed cannot be easily traversed on foot then the proposed conservation area boundaries should be located so as to permit ease of access along the hillsides.

Public Access New Zealand is a charitable trust formed in 1992. Objects are the preservation and improvement of public access to public lands, waters, and the countryside, through retention in public ownership of resources of value for recreation. PANZ is supported by a diverse range of land, freshwater, marine, and conservation groups and individuals.

PANZ is committed to resist private predation of the public estate.

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Marginal strips

There is conflicting cadastral information as to the existence or status of marginal strips on the property.

While there is unambiguous information that marginal strips ex section 58 Land Act 1948 exist along the banks of the lower Pig and Thomson Creeks, and the south bank of the Maitaura River to approximately mid-way between the Roberts Creek and the "Bowels of the Earth" Creek confluences, the reach further upstream is uncertain. SO 8291 (1972) depicts parallel boundaries for "CL reserved from sale under section 58 Land Act 1948", however SO 12009 (1994) has no such boundaries. It has a notation between arrows "Subject to S24 Conservation Act 1987 (Marginal Strip) upon disposition". The latter qualification implies that a marginal strip is yet to be established, contradicting SO 8291.

We wish to register our concern that DOSLI appears to have disestablished a s58 strip, and that this will have to be rectified during freeholding resulting from this tenure review. Given LINZ's current disinterest in marginal strip creation, it would be an act of faith to believe that a marginal strip will be created this time around. As part and parcel of this review we submit that marginal strips are created along all qualifying waterways where they do not currently exist, and existing fixed position strips be exchanged for new movable strips to ensure practical access.

We note that official reliance is being placed on existing fixed marginal strips for provision of access to the proposed conservation area. If these strips do not provide assured access due to river movement (highly likely along the Maitaura), then alternative arrangements must be made. We reject absolutely LINZ's refusal to deal with marginal strips as part of tenure review. They are not doing their reputation any good by ignoring such obvious public need.

No public access provision has been made

Despite the securing of public access and enjoyment of reviewable land being an object of tenure review (section 24(c)(i) Crown Pastoral Land Act), no provision has been made in this review.

The official explanation for this is that "public access to the conservation land is provided via the marginal strip of the Maitaura River, Pig and Thom[p]son Creeks and the existing public access easement from Cairnard Road via Cairnard Run to the boundary of the existing conservation land at the "Bowels of the Earth". Also the Submission and Drafting Instructions, p8, records that "public access to the conservation area is not part of this review, with existing access on adjoining properties or through marginal strip being sufficient".

The marginal strips referred to are on the south bank of the Maitaura, the Maitaura Valley pastoral lease side. These are separated from the formed legal road on the north bank utilised by the lessee for access to the property by Crown land riverbed. There are no legal rights of public access across the riverbed (being a trespass under section 176 of the Land Act 1948). There are no statutory bars to LINZ flogging off the riverbed tomorrow if they so chose to do so. Therefore contrary to the official explanation there is no provision for public access to the reviewable land, let alone the portion proposed as conservation area, unless everyone is expected to climb over the mountain tops from Eyre Creek via an adjoining conservation area.

The "existing public access easement" (document 222640.1) is up the north bank of the Maitaura from the end of the legal road, however this does not "secure public access" as required by the CPLA. Firstly Landcorp freehold and the Crown land river bed separates the easement from the Maitaura Valley PL and any marginal

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strips leading to the conservation area. Secondly the terms of the easement only provides for "invitees" of DOC to use it and the easement may be closed at any time by agreement between the parties. Therefore there are no rights of public access and the privilege could be terminated at any time without public consultation. The terms of this easement are considerably worse than the easements normally arranged during tenure review to which we object to as not providing secure access. Therefore the official explanation, as made in the Summary of the Preliminary Proposal, lacks substance.

While there is a statutory duty to secure public access, there is no such duty to provide private access. Whilst LINZ and DOC have failed in their responsibility to the public, they are going out of their way to provide for private access for the lessee.

The Report on Consultation records that DOC is prepared to address lessee concerns about access from the Mataura River bridge (at the legal road end) and across marginal strips, as a direct result of tenure review proposals. They are arranging easements for this purpose. LINZ has also agreed to easements over creek beds (UCL) to provide this private access. If there were rights of access, as implicit in official dependence on such for public provision, there would be no need for LINZ to issue easements for the runholder. However the fact that easements are being arranged is proof of a lack of rights of access.

We don't deny the merit of arranging legal access for the runholder. However what this case illustrates is that while LINZ in particular refuses to take actions of benefit to the public, such as ensuring marginal strips are created and dealing with related adjoining access provisions, by using an excuse that such matters are beyond its jurisdiction under the Crown Pastoral Land Act, they have no compunction in taking action during tenure review of benefit to others under other enactments such as the Land Act. Similarly DOC has no difficulty in making arrangements under the Conservation Act directly related to tenure review, but outside of the "official" CPLA process.

Officials clearly have plenty of discretion to accommodate public needs during tenure review if they so wish. The partiality of LINZ and DOC in their dealings is reprehensible. This amounts to an abject failure to fulfil their public responsibilities.

We submit that the access objects of the CPLA have not been fulfilled by these proposals and the Preliminary Proposal must not proceed. Proposals that do secure public access and enjoyment of the reviewable land, either inside or outside of the provisions of the CPLA, should be prepared and submitters consulted on their adequacy before any draft Substantive Proposal is put to the holder.

Yours faithfully



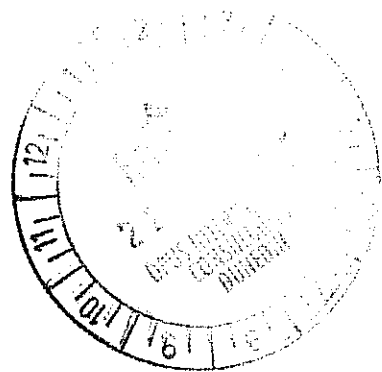
Bruce Mason
Researcher and Co-Spokesman



FEDERATED MOUNTAIN CLUBS OF NEW ZEALAND (Inc.)
P.O. Box 1604, Wellington.

15 September 2003

The Commissioner of Crown Lands
C/- Opus International Consultants Ltd.
Private Bag 1913
Dunedin



Dear Sir,

Re: Preliminary Proposal for Tenure Review: Mataura Valley Pastoral Lease

I write on behalf of Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ Inc. (FMC) which represents some 15,000 members of tramping, mountaineering, climbing and other outdoor clubs throughout New Zealand, and indirectly represents the interests and concerns of many thousands of private individuals who may not currently be members of clubs but who enjoy recreation in the back country.

On their behalf, FMC aims to formalise and enhance recreation opportunities, to protect public interest values, and to ensure public access on high country pastoral leases through the tenure review process.

FMC fully supports the recently stated government objectives for the South Island high country especially the following:-

- *“to promote the management of the Crown’s high country in a way that is ecologically sustainable.*
- *to protect significant inherent values of reviewable land by the creation of protective measures; or preferably by restoration of the land concerned to full Crown ownership and control.*
- *to secure public access to and enjoyment of high country land.*
- *To ensure that conservation outcomes for the high country are consistent with the NZ Biodiversity Strategy.*
- *To progressively establish a network of high country parks and reserves.*

[EDC Min (03) 5/3; CAB Min (03) 11/5 refer]

FMC appreciates this opportunity to comment on the preliminary proposal for Mataura Valley Pastoral Lease.

The Preliminary Proposal

In general, FMC finds the preliminary proposal to be satisfactory, inasmuch that the review generally apportions the land as fits its best use.

FMC is pleased to note that the marginal strips up Thomson Creek and Pig Creek connect the proposed Conservation Lands with the Mataura River where there is existing access. This is an important feature which FMC considers necessary.

FMC is very concerned that the two proposed appurtenant easements on Wether and Razorback Ridges and Ewe Ridge are for management access only and would not be available for recreationalists.

Access

FMC has long regarded the Eyre Mountains as a prime recreational area that has been enjoyed less than it ought by trampers and climbers for a variety of reasons, but which can in the main be attributed to generally poor access and a lack of awareness by the general public.

Of long concern to FMC is that a review of tramping areas in and around Southland show that there are relatively few areas that provide for worthwhile intermediate weekend tramps, or even three day tramps, outside of the Great Walks which are expensive and no longer offer traditional tramping experiences. FMC feels that there is a need to extend the tramping opportunities to Southland trampers in particular, and trampers in general. The Eyre Mountains offers significant potential for expanded tramping experience, especially as the high country pastoral tenure review process will improve access.

FMC expects that the landscape in the Mataura Valley Station alone is unlikely to attract many trampers in the near future, but that as the tops recover, and as pressure from growing Queenstown based trampers grows, areas such as the Mataura Valley Station are very likely to become highly valued. FMC reiterates that it is essential to recognise the tenure review as part of the long term strategic process it is. It is thus important to allow for long term recreation developments when allocating land, even if it is not clear at this stage in what form, or what extent, the future demand will take. In short, freeholding is forever, and appropriate provision for public interests must be made during tenure review.

In the shorter term, travel through the present Mataura Valley Station provides access to Peak 1522 metres which is a commanding feature, especially in winter conditions. The station also offers access to the Mataura headwaters from Eyre Creek. It is thus sensible to consider the existing station as providing access for trampers completing round trips up the Mataura Valley and returning via Eyre Creek and *vice versa*, as well as providing recreational values in its own right.

In both the short and long terms, the valley systems in the upper Pig and Thomson Creeks are quite rugged and ill-suited to fast travel. Most trampers and climbers would much prefer to travel on the ridges in such country than to follow up the valleys. This is especially so for winter travel, where keeping boots dry to avoid frostbite is an important consideration, in which case routes that stay on ridge-lines are much preferred over valley floors where side-streams and river-crossings become more than just an irritant. Unfortunately, the fence lines between H-F and G-I preclude easy tops travel and the proposed lack of automatic access down Ewe and Wether ridges means such travel cannot be guaranteed.

Mitigation

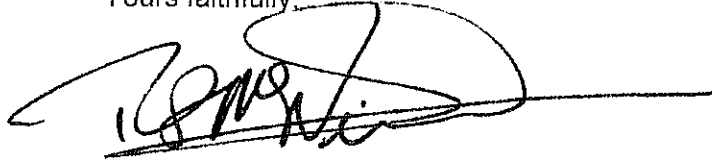
FMC requests that the Proposal incorporate provisions to:

1. allow recreationalists to traverse the proposed management easements on foot, and in particular the Wether Ridge easement h-g-f-e b-a, accepting conditions in line with those proposed for the Department of Conservation.
2. regardless of 1., ensure that fence E-F is sited to allow straightforward foot access on the proposed Conservation Estate from Wether Ridge into easily negotiable parts of the Pig and Thomson Creeks.

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These requests are small but non-trivial and one of two results can be expected: either recreationalists will choose other areas to tramp and climb, or usage of the easements will become significant. In the former case, there will be little harm done by including recreation access over the easements as the easements are to be formed anyway for management access, and should the latter eventuate, this would be proof that the access is indeed important to recreationalists.

Yours faithfully,

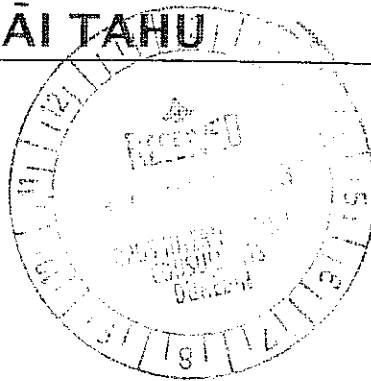
A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Marshall', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

PP Barbara Marshall
Secretary



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Office of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu



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13 October 2003

Dave Payton
Opus International Consultants
Private Bag 1913
DUNEDIN

Tēnā koe Dave

Preliminary Proposal for Mataura Valley

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and the relevant Papatipu Rūnanga; Te Rūnanga o Hokonui, Te Rūnanga o Oraka-Aparima, Te Rūnanga o Awarua and Te Rūnanga o Waihopai have considered the information provided in the Mataura Valley Preliminary Proposal, and have the following comments:

The Mataura River

The Mataura River is classified as a Statutory Acknowledgement under the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act (1998). The river is of immense cultural, spiritual and traditional importance to Ngāi Tahu. The following is an extract from the NTCSA 1998.

“The Mataura River was an important mahinga kai, noted for its indigenous fishery. The Mataura Falls were particularly associated with the taking of kanakana (lamprey). The Tūpuna had considerable knowledge of Whakapapa, traditional trails and tauranga waka, places for gathering kai and other taonga, ways in which to use the resources of Mataura, the relationship of people with the river and their dependence on it, and tikanga for the proper and sustainable utilisation of resources. All of these values remain important to Ngāi Tahu”.

Since there is a marginal strip already located alongside the river then this will provide for adequate protection of the cultural values of the Mataura River. A marginal strip is 20 metres on either side of the river. The associated streams of the Mataura River (i.e. Thompson River and Pig Creek) also seems to be protected since there are marginal strips located along these rivers as well.

Ara Tawhito

According to the NTCSA (1998) there is a pounamu trail associated with the Mataura River. Since there is a marginal strip that runs along the Matarau River this will provide for access along the river so people can walk alongside the ara tawhito.

There are also access easements that run through proposed freehold land that I believe that Ngāi Tahu should also have vehicle access across. This would also provide an opportunity for Ngāi Tahu to walk along these access easements to experience what it would be like to walk along the pounamu trail.

Access to Proposed Conservation Land

The preliminary proposal states that public can access the proposed conservation areas via the marginal strips along the Pig Creek, and Thompson Creek. While this is suitable for some people there are other people who are unable to walk along these easements. In particular, cultural activities for Ngāi Tahu Whānui involve people of all ages, especially kaumātua and rangatahi. It is essential that kaumātua and rangatahi are able to access these Conservation Areas for cultural purposes.

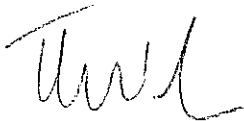
"RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT"

Recommendation: That a process is developed with DoC and the lessee to provide for vehicle access for members of Ngāi Tahu Whānui to access the proposed Conservation Areas.

Recommendation: That Ngāi Tahu has the same vehicle access arrangements as those of the Department of Conservation.

I would appreciate if LINZ could provide a written response to myself outlining whether the recommendations within this submission are going to be included in the substantive proposal.

Heoi anō



Takerei Norton
Kairuruku Pūrero Ngā Rawa Taiao
Natural Resources Unit Project Co-ordinator

cc *Te Rūnanga o Hokonui*
 Te Rūnanga o Oraka-Aparima
 Te Rūnanga o Awarua
 Te Rūnanga o Waihopai