

## **Crown Pastoral Land Tenure Review**

**Lease name : MT PISA I**

**Lease number : PO 271**

**Lease name : MT PISA II**

**Lease number : PO 272**

### **Fish & Game report**

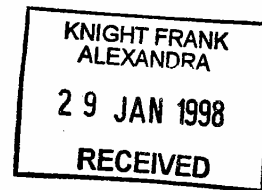
As part of the process of tenure review Fish & Game councils may provide advice on significant inherent values within the pastoral lease, and the information may be incorporated in the conservation resources report. The advice is part of the information gathered and assessed for the development of a preliminary consultation document.

The report attached is released under the Official Information Act 1982.

**OCTOBER 02**



ATTACHMENT (d)



20 January 1998

The Manager  
Knight Frank NZ Ltd  
PO Box 27  
ALEXANDRA.

Dear Sir

## TENURE REVIEW PROPOSAL MOUNT PISA STATION FISH AND GAME RESOURCE SUMMARY

### SPORTS FISHERIES

There are numerous small streams that originate from the Pisa Range and follow the sloping terrain to the South East flowing into the Clutha Arm of Lake Dunstan. These streams are influenced by seasonal flow variations and often dry up in their lower sections during the summer months. Extensive water abstraction for irrigation takes place in the headwaters to feed the Westmoreland Race.

Most of these streams are known to carry populations of Brown trout. The relationships between these streams, the Clutha River, and Lake Dunstan are unknown but it can be assumed there is some in and out migration. The level of recruitment to the Clutha River and Lake Dunstan is difficult to assess.

A small localised population of Brook char exists in the head waters of the Roaring Meg stream. These fish are small but still offer an opportunity to those anglers wishing to experience something different. Angling pressure is low. It is uncertain as to the extent of Brook char colonisation in other tributary waters.

Angling opportunities in the other streams are limited due to their size and similarly the small size of fish that they produce. To our knowledge these streams are never fished.

It would be appropriate to protect the naturalness of these small streams from future grazing and land development regardless of their limited fisheries values. However this may be difficult to achieve from a farm management perspective and therefore we don't recommend protection by way of covenant or otherwise.

### GAMEBIRD RESOURCE

The mid to lower terraces of the property and the numerous gullies provide good habitat for California Quail. Populations are stable but they vary from season to season being generally influenced by climatic change. Chukor existence on the property is unknown and no recent survey work has been undertaken on the property. Due to the size of the property it is almost certain that a remnant population remains.

*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

There are good upland gamebird hunting opportunities on the property. Some hunting is undertaken during the open season. Permission for access has been obtained through the consent of the lessee.

There is potential to investigate the possibility of an upland game access covenant along the lines of that submitted for Earnscleugh station. We will be discussing this in the near future with Mr Mc Millian to get his views.

Mallard Ducks, Grey Ducks and Paradise Shelducks visit and feed on the property on a regular basis and, as with neighbouring properties some nesting occurs annually. Irrigation races provide areas for rearing and feeding.

#### ACCESS

Access for upland gamebird hunters is important for the long term maintenance of the sport. In the past, permission has been obtained through the lessee and although this has been satisfactory we would like to see provision (an access covenant as mentioned above) put in place to provide hunters with secure access.

The old Pack Track and paper road line at the south of the property should be assessed to formalise legal unrestricted public foot access routes to the Top Conservation Area. Hunters with dogs should then be entitled to use this access at will subject to the issuing of a DOC permit and any special conditions that may apply.

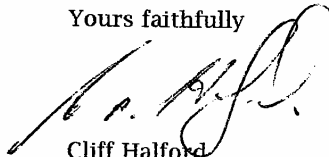
It has been recommended that a public access easement to the north will be provided in the form of a walking track linking up with the Tinwald burn. This is a suitable option which will provide access for hunters and dogs to the Northern Top Conservation Area. It is our view that hunters should not require permission from the landowner to use this track and that the DOC permitting system is all that will be required to legalise entry and monitor use.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That an upland gamebird hunter access covenant be considered as part of this tenure review along the lines of that submitted for Earnscleugh Station.
2. That the old pack track and paper road line to the south of the property be formalised to provide hunters with dogs legal access to the Top Conservation Area under the DOC permitting system.
3. A Public foot access easement be created on the North-Eastern boundary to enable hunters with dogs access to the Northern Top Conservation Area. and that the Doc permitting system is used to authorise entry. (landowner permission not required).

*Under the Tinwald Burn Station  
Mallard, Grey, Shelduck*

Yours faithfully



Cliff Halford  
Fish and Game Officer  
for Manager  
Fish and game Otago.