



Crown Pastoral Land Tenure Review

Property: Woodbank

Property number: Sc 079

Fish & Game report

As part of the process of tenure review Fish & Game councils may provide advice on significant inherent values within the property, 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.

Copied September 2003

Fish & game resources of the Woodbank Pastoral Lease, North Canterbury

Prepared by the North Canterbury Fish and Game Council as a Contribution to the Drafting of a Preliminary Proposal for a Tenure Review Project Plan

April 2000

Preamble

This report has been prepared under the provisions of the Crown Pastoral Lands Act (1998), Part 2, Tenure Review.

Part 1- Introduction

1.1 Woodbank.

Woodbank Pastoral Lease (PL) consists of a small sized run. The pastoral lease is in two sections. Most of the pastoral lease lies on the southern slopes of Grey Hill with a small part of the lease on the southern slopes of Mount Rodney. The two sections of the pastoral lease are separated by the Grantham River. The PL consists of steep mountain slopes. The mountains have some *Notofagus*- beech forest and secondary shrub covering them. Patches of beech forest characterise the stream valleys. All of the streams on the Woodbank PL have short, steep and unstable riverbeds of less than 0.3 cumecs. The only watercourse of any note on Woodbank is the Empson River. All the other streams are ephemeral mountain streams.

1.2 Physical Description.

1.2.1

Woodbank PL is located approximately 10 kilometres west of Hamner Springs. The small streams on Woodbank PL flow from mountain ranges on the northern side of the Waiiau River catchment.

An ATV drive track goes south- north through the centre of Woodbank PL along a ridge line.

1.2.2 Geology.

The mountains on Woodbank PL are composed of undifferentiated greywacke.

1.2.3 Climate.

Rainfall predominantly comes from south easterly north westerly directions. Snowfall is common from May to August. North westerly winds predominate.

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Part 2- Fish and game values on the Woodbank Pastoral Lease- North Canterbury fish and game region.

2.1 Sports Fish.

Woodbank PL has no waterways of significant fisheries values. The waterways run off steep mountain sides and do not support any notable introduced salmonid populations. Empson River stream supports the occasional brown trout smolt (*Salmo trutta*).

Empson River and underground alluvial water flow in the area identified in Attachment 2 contributes water towards the total flow of the Waiiau River, so it is likely that land use activities in the catchment area identified in Attachment 2 (for example conifer afforestation), would result in a decrease water flow into the Waiiau River.

2.2 Gamebirds

Woodbank PL is comprised entirely of steep mountain sides with no habitat for waterfowl. It is possible that the area supports low numbers of Californian Quail (an upland gamebird species).

2.3 Recreational Values

Woodbank PL has no recreational fisheries values.

Woodbank PL is not a targeted gamebird hunting area and this relates to the relatively low numbers of gamebirds on the station compared to other areas within the Waiiau Catchment. There is a lack of suitable habitat for waterfowl and the steep relief explains the lack of suitable habitat. The steep relief also means that the area is of marginal habitat value for Californian quail and the area is unlikely to attract any attention from quail hunters.

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Concluding Statement

This report summarises the sports fish, game bird habitat and recreational values identified as significant on Woodbank Pastoral Lease. It also presents the recommendations of the North Canterbury Fish and Game Council for the protection of these values.

Attachments:

- 1- Area identified for riparian protection buffers of 20 metres.
- 2- Catchment areas recognised as providing notable drainage into the Waiiau River.

Peter Langlands,
consultant for
Wayne McCallum
Environment Officer
North Canterbury Fish and Game Council

17 April 2000

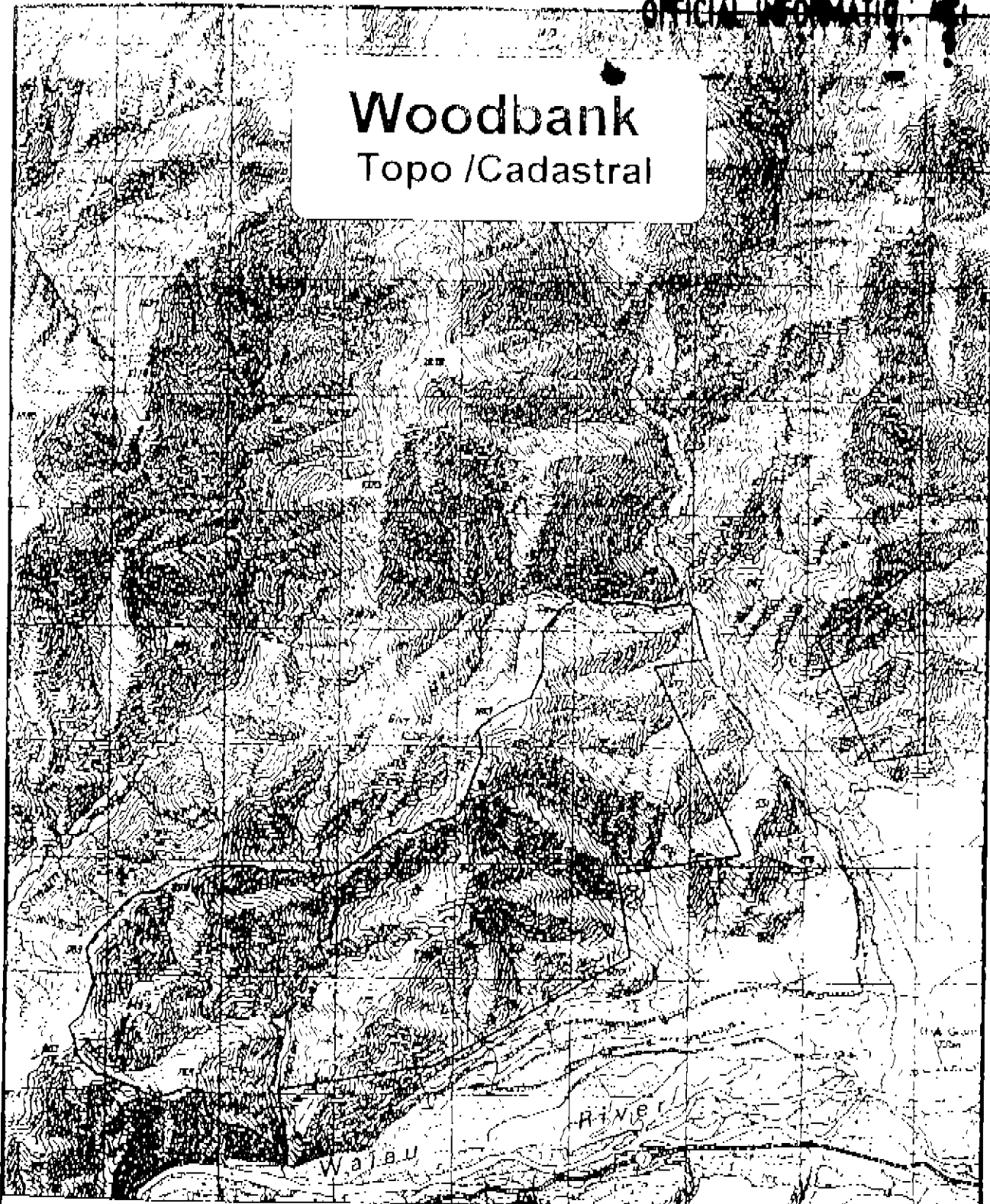
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Attachment 1:

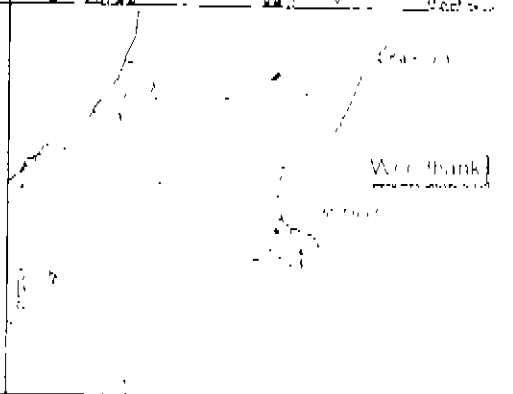
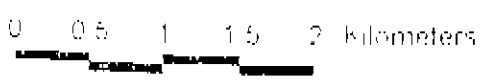
1 - Area identified for riparian protection buffers of 20 metres on either side of the streambed.

Woodbank

Topo / Cadastral



 Woodbank



Map prepared 1 March 1976
Cadastral map sheet 15 00 00 N 2200 M 01

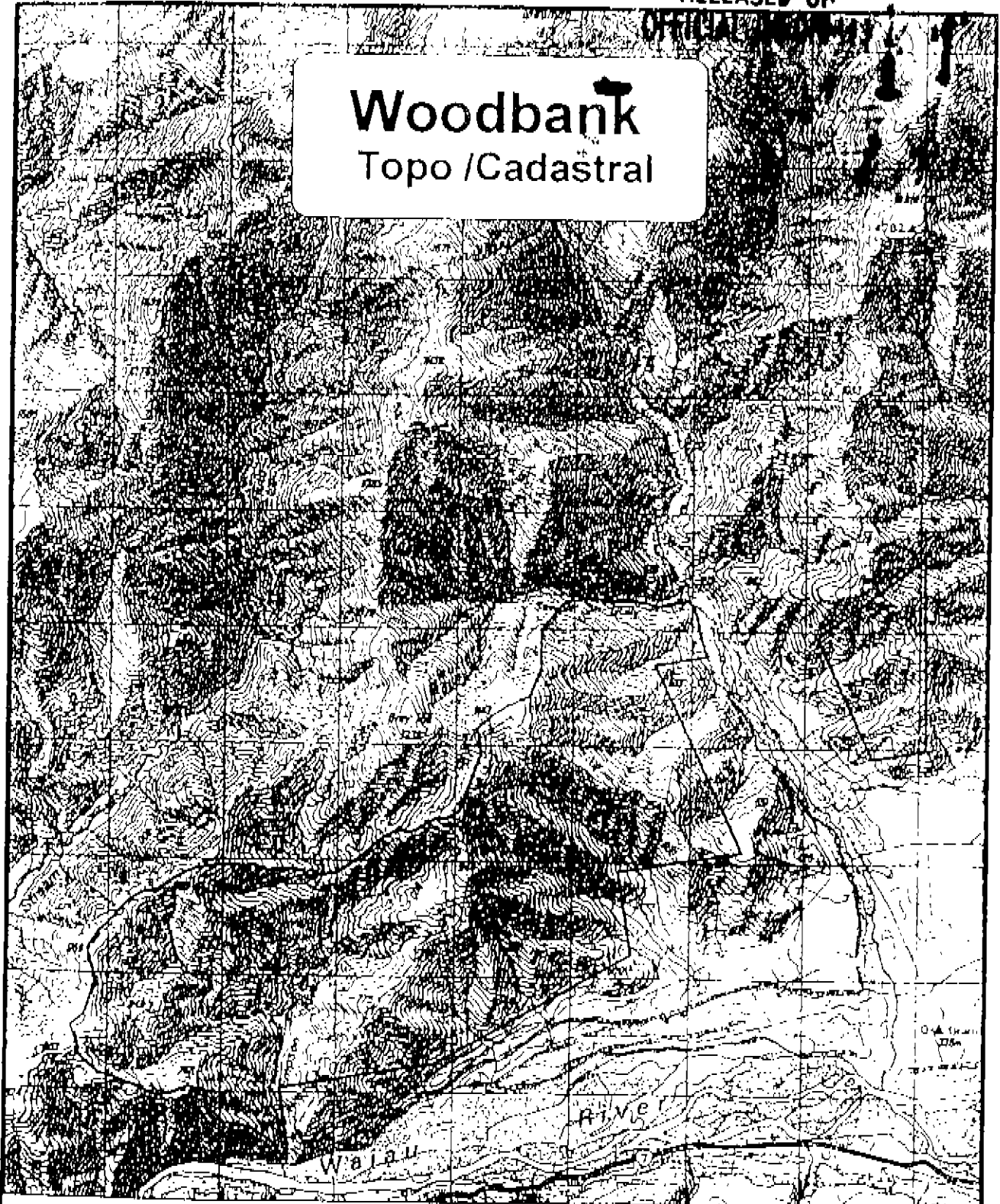
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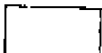
Attachment 2-Catchment areas recognised as providing notable drainage into the Waiau River.

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Woodbank

Topo / Cadastral



 Woodbank

0 0.5 1 1.5 2 Kilometers

Map prepared 5 March 1959
Topographical map sheet 1:50,000 NZMS 260 M32

