

# Crown Pastoral Land Review of Other Crown Land

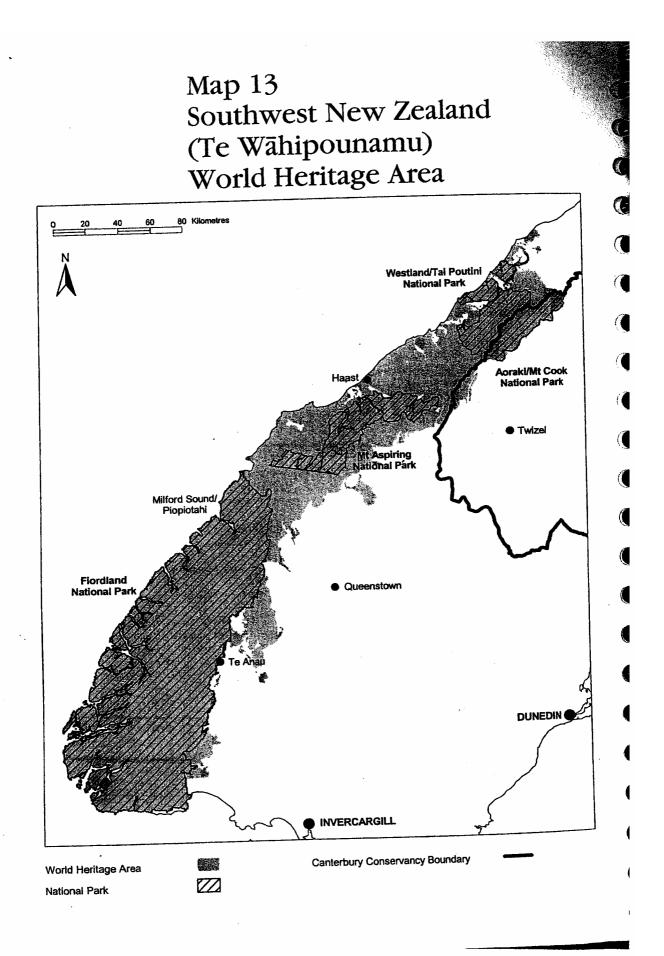
# Lease name : MT IDA SYNDICATE

# Conservation Resources Report Part 3

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.

They are released under the Official information Act 1982.

June 04





## 4.10.4 Statutory Land and Water Management Issues

The Ohau area is a focus for a variety of recreational uses. These are expanding and the area is recognised as providing good alternatives to the lower level areas at Aoraki/Mount Cook. Land managed by the Department in this area will increase substantially over the next five years with the surrender of land from Crown pastoral leases. Better integrated management and a higher public profile may be achieved by establishing a conservation park. Areas of forest within the Ahuriri and Huxley catchments are within the South West New Zealand (Te Wahipounamu) World Heritage Area (SWNZWHA) (see Map 13). Lake Ohau remains a largely unmodified high country lake in the Waitaki catchment (see Lake Ohau Coastal Reserves Investigation 1981). This is not recognised through any current protection methods.

## **Objectives**

- To investigate conservation park status for the areas of land managed by the Department in the Ohau-Ahuriri area, Two Thumb Range and Hawkdun-Öteake area and, if agreed to by the Minister, gazette relevant conservation parks.
- To increase recognition of the international status of the South West New Zealand (Te Wahipounamu) World Heritage Area.
- To legally protect Lake Ohau and its shoreline.

## Implementation

The Conservancy will:

- 1. Investigate and action conservation park status through the following procedures (in order):
  - prepare a discussion document or documents outlining the protected area options for land managed by the Department in the Ohau-Ahuriri area (Ohau and Ben Ohau Ranges, Ahuriri, Huxley, Hopkins and Dobson valleys), the Two Thumb Range, and the Hawkdun-Ōteake area (Hawkdun, Ewe, Cuthbert and St Mary's Ranges), the last in conjunction with Otago Conservancy.
  - invite public submissions for oral hearings on the discussion documents (in accordance with section 49 of the Conservation Act)
- forward the recommendations and summaries of submissions to the Minister
- implement gazette actions as required, following decisions made by the Minister
- 2. Consider adding to the SWNZWHA land managed by the Department with high natural, historic or recreational value.
- 3. Manage the parts of South West New Zealand World Heritage Area (SWNZWHA) that fall within the Conservancy, according to cross-conservancy guidelines.
- 4. Promote a Water Conservation Order and a lakeshore reserve for Lake Ohau to protect the lake's outstanding natural values and its environs from modification, while recognising current lake level management by ECNZ in accordance with the Resource Management Act.
- 5. Promote effective RMA methods to avoid adverse effects on the Lake Ohau and its catchment to maintain and enhance its natural values.

## 4.10.5 Wilding Trees

#### Issues

Wilding trees threaten natural values by displacing tussock grasslands, and enclosing open landscape values. Currently there are large areas of wilding trees establishing throughout the Waitaki, and the problem is likely to increase as new areas of exotic conifer forest are developed. At present there is no legal requirement for control and only minimal control is undertaken.

## Objectives

- To prevent the loss of natural and landscape values from wilding trees on land managed by the
- To liaise with land managers and regulatory agencies to control and contain wilding trees.

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- The Conservancy will:
- 1. Control, contain and, where possible, eradicate wilding trees on land managed by the Department, including the Kirkliston Range, Jollie and Cass, Ohau and Ruataniwha conservation areas; the proposed Braemar conservation area; the Pukaki and Bendhu Scientific Reserves; and Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park.
- 2. Assist in establishing co-operative wilding tree control programmes with landholders, Canterbury Regional Council, Mackenzie and Waitaki district councils, Office of Crown Lands, New Zealand Defence Force, other land managers and community groups to protect natural and historic resources in the Waitaki.
- 3. Advocate that district and regional plans include objectives, policies and methods to prevent increases in wilding pine spread; and that they require any proposed activity or development to avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of wilding tree spread.

#### 4.10.6 **Rabbits and Thar**

#### Issues

There are a number of introduced animals in the Waitaki; however, rabbit and thar are priorities for the Conservancy. Rabbits threaten natural values on land managed by the Department and unalienated Crown land (areas such as riverbeds and lake margins). The Waitaki is recognised as a rabbit-prone area and sustained control to maintain low numbers is essential. Since the release of rabbit calicivirus disease (RCD), the Department has actioned a response plan (Aikman, 1997) to deal with the varying potential resultant threats (see 4.10.3 Ecosystems and Species). Thar, above certain densities, are especially destructive of alpine and subalpine plants.

#### Objective

To reduce and maintain rabbit and thar densities to levels that ensure their adverse effects on natural values are minimised.

#### Implementation

The Conservancy will:

- 1. Control and monitor rabbits on land managed by the Department to below level 3 on the McLean's scale by effective control methods.
- 2. Co-operate with neighbouring landholders in rabbit control.
- 3. Advocate appropriate land management to limit the spread of rabbits.
- 4. Implement the requirements of the Himalayan Thar Control Plan 1993 (see 5.2.8 Animal Pests and Wild Animals).
- 5. Encourage research into the relationship between herbivores, vegetation condition and animal control.

#### **Recreation and Access** 4.10.7

#### Issues

Recreational use is extensive and varied, including a large number of concessionaire operations. Conflicts can arise with regard to access and between different types of recreation, both private and commercial. Conflicts can also occur with habitat conservation (for example, vehicles on braided riverbeds during the nesting season for birds).

Tenure review of pastoral leases (see 5.2.3 Land Ecosystems) is an active process in this unit, providing for formal protection of recreational opportunities.

#### Objectives

- To maintain and improve existing facilities and limit their and their users' adverse effects on natural and historic resources.
- To provide new recreational facilities and opportunities by the Department and other organisations and concessionaires where natural and historic resources and cultural values are not compromised.
- To liaise with adjacent landholders to resolve conflicts over access for recreation to land managed by the Department.

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- The Conservancy will:
- 1. Continue to upgrade existing short walking tracks to high standards suitable for national and international visitors, for example, the Hooker, Kea Point and Wakefield tracks.
- 2. Liaise with other local organisations wishing to provide walking and tramping opportunities e.g. Twizel, Tekapo and Kurow walkways and the proposed Ohau alpine walk.
- 3. Maintain the White Horse Hill (Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park) and Temple (Õhau conservation area) camping areas as standard, self-registration camping areas, while minimising any adverse environmental effects.
- 4. Recognise that heli-skiing is an appropriate use of the following areas and consider all proposals in an integrated manner (including the cumulative adverse effects of any proposal): - the Tasman Valley (AMCNP)
  - the lower Murchison Valley (AMCNP)
  - the Liebeg Range
  - the Two Thumb Range
  - the Ruataniwha Conservation Area, Ben Ōhau

Note: Ski touring is a popular activity in the upper Two Thumb Range. Any proposal to heli-ski the area will need to carefully consider its potential effects on other visitors etc. as required by Part IIIB of the Conservation Act (see 5.4.2.9 Aircraft).

- 5. Investigate the possibility of upgrading the North Temple track (Ohau Conservation Area) as a high-grade short walk opportunity.
- 6. Advocate for the appropriate establishment of access casements to all retirement areas from lands managed by the Conservancy throughout the Waitaki.
- 7. Promote the use of the Braided River Care Code in the Waitaki.
- 8. Consult with aircraft operators and all relevant agencies (including the Mackenzie District Council) to develop a strategy for managing aircraft noise. Appropriate methods will be adopted to ensure that operators avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects (including cumulative effects) of aircraft noise on

9. Liaise with West Coast Conservancy to restrict aircraft landings in the Hooker-Landsborough area to protect the natural quiet and solitude of the valleys, the Hooker Valley being in Canterbury and the Landsborough being in West Coast (see 5.4.2.9 Aircraft). The Conservancy will also liaise with the Civil Aviation Authority to avoid, remedy or mitigate the noise effects of aircraft movements in such areas.

10. Seek the provision and protection of recreational opportunities through the tenure review process.

11. Manage concessions in accordance with 5.4.2 Concessions General.

#### 4.10.8 Interpretation and Information Services

## Issues

A range of opportunities exists for the development of a number of interpretation sites and short walks in the Waitaki. As the tourism market increases this development would provide alternative and expanded opportunities outside of Aoraki/Mount Cook. The previously Conservancy-managed Twizel Visitor Centre is now run by the Twizel Community and Development Board as the Mount Cook-Mackenzie Visitor Information Centre. The Mount Cook/Aoraki Visitor Centre needs upgrading (see 4.10.9 Aoraki/Mount CookVillage).

#### **Objectives**

- To provide a limited departmental role in the Mount Cook-Mackenzie Visitor Information Centre.
- To maintain and upgrade the Aoraki/Mount Cook Visitor Centre with the assistance of the community and other interests.
- To provide quality interpretation at priority sites in the Mackenzie basin. .
- To increase public awareness of the natural, historic and cultural values of the Waitaki.
- To work with other agencies and the community to provide conservation and recreation information.

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The Conservancy will:

- 1. Support the Mount Cook-Mackenzie Visitor Information Centre by providing information and assistance with displays.
- 2. Upgrade the Aoraki/Mount Cook Visitor Centre (see 4.10.9 Aoraki/Mount Cook/Aoraki Village).
- 3. Provide fully integrated interpretation and short walk facilities at priority Mackenzie basin sites, including along State Highways 80 and 8, Lake Öhau, Lake Tekapo Scientific Reserve, Pūkaki Scientific Reserve, Lindis Pass and Lake Alexandrina (Takamoana).
- 4. Support a publication about the history of the Waitaki to identify and interpret significant historic places along local roads and highways and clearly identify these sites.
- 5. Undertake an education programme to increase awareness of threats to habitats, species, historic sites and landscapes in the Waitaki.
- 6. Maintain and interpret the historic bullock snigging track in Ohau Conservation Area (Freehold Creek).

### 4.10.9 Aoraki/Mount Cook Topuni and Village

#### Issues

An outcome of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 is the Aoraki/Mount Cook Tōpuni, covering the Mount Cook Range from the Main Divide, over Aoraki/Mount Cook to Mount Wakefield, and to the Ranges' foot along the edges of the Tasman and Hooker valleys.

Aoraki/Mount Cook Village is a major tourist destination located in the Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park, part of a World Heritage Area. The village and facilities are considered substandard and need upgrading. The current visitor centre does not adequately provide the interpretative information and retailing services expected of such a location. Alpine and climbing history and archives are poorly protected and interpreted for New Zealanders and overseas tourists.

The Mount Cook National Park Management Plan (1989) is under review (1999) and will be required to specifically address the issues of the Aoraki/Mount Cook Village management and actions required as a result of the Aoraki/Mount Cook Tōpuni status.

#### **Objectives**

- To avoid harm to, or the diminishing of, Ngāi Tahu values relating to the Aoraki/Mount Cook Topuni.
- To upgrade facilities at Aoraki/Mount Cook Village to an international standard that is consistent with the park's natural values, with the co-operation and support of Ngäi Tahu, and commercial, community and recreation groups.

#### Implementation

The Conservancy will:

- 1. Take the express actions agreed and recorded in Attachment 12.132 of the Deed of Settlement 1997 and which have been subsequently published in the New Zealand Gazette 1999 pages 845-846 (18 March 1999). See Volume 2, Land Unit H36001, Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park, for the full statement of actions directed at the Director-General of Conservation having regard to the specific principles and significance to Ngäi Tahu.
- 2. Use the Aoraki/Mount Cook Village development issues and options report (1997) as the starting point for ongoing management of the Aoraki/Mount Cook Village.
- Consider the establishment of an appropriate Aoraki/Mount Cook Village management structure in conjunction with Te Rūnanga o Ngãi Tahu, the Mackenzie District Council and concessionaires. This will include public consultation.
- 4. Fund village maintenance and development within the constraints of an operative village section of a Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park Management Plan
- 5. Monitor visitor needs within the village to aid further re-development planning.
- 6. Redevelop the Aoraki/Mount Cook Visitor Centre to meet anticipated visitor numbers and demands.
- 7. Ensure that the reviewed Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park Management Plan specifically addresses the requirements of the Aoraki/Mount Cook Topuni and other provisions of the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998, and issues arising from management of the Aoraki/Mount Cook Village. See also Volume 2, Schedule 2, (H36001) Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park.

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## Less Achievable Tasks

- Tasks the Conservancy may not be able to undertake or complete include:
- negotiated protection for all significant habitats •
- fully funded research programme on Tekapo Scientific Reserve •
- rabbit fencing for all key priority sites
  wilding pine control for all land managed by the Department

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| Table 12: Key Prid                                   | orities For Waitaki U   | nit  |   |  |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| Name<br>4.10.1 Landscape<br>Protection               | Issue<br>Developments that<br>detract from the natural<br>landscape character,<br>especially along travel<br>corridors  | Methods<br>1. RMA advocacy<br>2. Landholder and<br>community liaison,<br>and awareness<br>3. Tenure review   | Results Sought<br>landscapes protected<br>by landholders and<br>district councils   | Activity<br>5.1.4 Communicatio<br>and Liaison<br>5.2.2 Landscape   |
| 4.10.2 Ecosystems and<br>Species                     | Ongoing species and<br>habitat loss as well as<br>incomplete survey<br>coverage   | Ecological survey     Reservation     Covenant     RMA advocacy     Landholder liaison     Pest control     Fencing  | <ol> <li>The range of habitats<br/>fully surveyed and<br/>adequately protected.</li> <li>Self-sustaining<br/>species populations</li> </ol>   | 5.2.3 Land Ecosyster<br>5.2.6 Indigenous<br>Species<br>5.2.8 Animal Pests an<br>Wild Animats<br>5.2.9 Plant Pests and<br>Brotte Plants<br>5.5.4 Survey and<br>Monitoring |
| 4.10.3 Project River<br>Recovery                     | Loss of natural values<br>and inadequate legal<br>protection  | <ol> <li>Implement recovery<br/>programme objectives</li> <li>Encourage<br/>community support</li> <li>Advocacy and liaison</li> <li>Gazette riverbed areas</li> </ol>   | <ol> <li>Habitat rehabilitated</li> <li>Key riverbeds legally<br/>protected</li> </ol>  | 5.2.5 Land Ecosyster<br>5.2.4 Freshwater<br>Ecosystems<br>5.5.2 Statutory Land<br>Management   |
| 4 10.4 Statutory Land<br>and Water Management        | Legal protection and<br>integrated management<br>needed to reflect<br>natural values  | Investigate Lake<br>Ohau WCO     Investigate and, if<br>supported, implement<br>conservation park<br>status areas     Inter-conservancy<br>liaison   | 1. Lands managed by<br>the Conservancy in<br>the Ohau-Aburici,<br>Two Thumb Ranges<br>and the Hawkdun-<br>Oteake areas<br>protected and<br>proceded and<br>proc | 5.1.4 Communicatio<br>and Liaison<br>5.2.4 Freshwater<br>Recorptants<br>5.5.2 Statutory Land<br>Management   |
| 4.10.5 Wilding Trees                                 | Threat to conservation<br>and landscape values  | 1. RMA methods<br>2. Active management<br>by agencies, including<br>the Department   | consistently<br>Protection of<br>ecological, historic and<br>cultural values  | 5.1.3 Community<br>Participation<br>5.2.9 Plant Posts and<br>Exotic Plants   |
| 4.10.6 Rabbits and That                              | Threat to nature<br>conservation and<br>landscape values  | 1 Advocacy and liaison<br>2 Rabbit control<br>3 Implement that<br>control plan   | Populations maintained<br>at a level that protects<br>natural and historic<br>resources   | 5.2.8 Animal Pests a<br>Wild Animals   |
| 4 10.7 Recreation and<br>Access                      | User conflicts     Increased visitors     Allowing for     appropriate access   | <ol> <li>Improve tracks, buts,<br/>camp sites</li> <li>Manage heli-sking<br/>and aircraft access<br/>concessions</li> <li>Review Aoraki/Mount<br/>Cook National Park<br/>Management Plan</li> <li>Negotiate access<br/>agreements</li> </ol> | 1. Conflicts managed<br>2. A range of<br>recreational<br>opportunities<br>provided  | 5.3.2 Recreation<br>Opportunities<br>5.3.3 Recreation<br>Pacifities<br>5.3.4 Visitor Ampact<br>and Salety<br>5.4.2.9 Aircraft<br>5.4.2.11 Guiding                        |
| 4.10.8 Jaterpretation<br>and Information<br>Services | <ol> <li>Lack of interpretive,<br/>facilities</li> <li>Upgrating of existing<br/>facilities</li> </ol>  | Interpretation site<br>and short walk<br>developments     Community,<br>supported<br>information and<br>education  | Integrated interpretive<br>package for Waitaki  | 5.3.5 Visitor Centre<br>5.3.6 Interpretation   |
| 4.10.9 Aoraki/Mount<br>Cook Topuni and<br>Village    | <ol> <li>Substandard village<br/>and facilities.</li> <li>Lack of shared<br/>management</li> <li>Visitor Centre needs<br/>upgrading</li> <li>Topuni status for</li> </ol> | programmes<br>1. Topuni recognition<br>2. Integrated funding<br>and facilities<br>3. Upgrade Aoraki/<br>Mount Cook Visitor<br>Centre<br>4. Review Aoraki/Mount   | <ol> <li>Revised plan<br/>guidance and<br/>controls for village<br/>development</li> <li>New management<br/>structure for village</li> <li>Upgrade facilities and</li> </ol>  | 5.1/2 Treaty<br>Partnership<br>5.1 4 Communicatic<br>and Liaison<br>5.3 5 Visitor Centre<br>5.4.2.7<br>Accommodation   |

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| CONS. UNIT NO. | NAME                           | STATUS             | AREA        |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| H40 107        | Oteake (ex Two Mile PL)        | Conservation Area  | 3,988.34 ha |
| -              | Oteake (ex Blackstone Hill PL) | Conservation Area  | 3,197.00 ha |
| H 41 159       | Alien Peaks                    | Conservation Area  | 1,413.57 ha |
| I 41 050       | Mt Kyeburn                     | Conservation Area  | 437.00 ha   |
| 1 40 545       | Little Domet                   | Conservation Area  | 1,760.00 ha |
| H 41 157       | Mount Ida                      | Conservation Areas | 1,415.00 ha |
| 1 41 051       | Danseys Pass                   | Recreation Reserve | 6.20 ha     |
| H 40 101       | Upper Manuherikia River        | Conservation Area  | 9.31 ha     |
| H 40 105       | Upper Manuherikia River        | Marginal Strip     | 40.00 ha    |
| H 41 072       | Manuherikia River              | Marginal Strip     | 15.00 ha    |

## 10.17 ST BATHANS - HAWKDUN - IDA RANGES

## 10.17.1 Ecological Districts

St Bathans, Hawkdun, St Mary

## 10.17.2 Local Authority

Central Otago District Council.

## 10.17.3 Land Administered by DOC

The department administers large tracts of alpine land along the flanks and crests of the Ida and Hawkdun Ranges plus the summits of Mt Kyeburn and some peaks in the St Marys Range. Some tracts extend down to river terraces (Allen Peaks) while most are strictly high alpine. The lands listed above are those on the Otago side of the Otago-Canterbury Conservancy boundary.

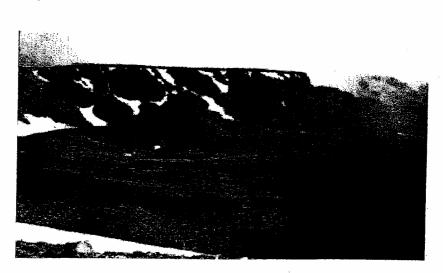
## 10.17.4 Other Land

Neighbouring land, in pastoral lease or pastoral occupation licence, also has high landscape, recreation, natural and historic values.

## 10.17.5 Description

The St Bathans-Hawkdun-Ida-St Marys Ranges form a substantial barrier of dissected mountainous land between Central Otago and South Canterbury and essentially form the broad transition zone between the Otago schist and Torlesse sandstone of Canterbury. They are characterised by steep scree slopes rising to 2,134 metres on the St Bathans Range, but with many other peaks over 1,800 metres on the Hawkdun and St Marys Ranges. A heavily dissected alpine plateau north of the Ida-Hawkdun crests is drained to the north by many creeks including the Otematata River while the southern flanks drain via the Manuherikia River and Kye Burn. Cirques and associated wetlands are a feature of the Hawkdun Range.

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Middle cirque basin, Hawkdun Range.

Mount St Bathans is the highest peak in Central Otago.

Private four wheel drive tracks traverse some of the high peaks and most of the crests of the area with key access points on the Mt Buster, Awakino Valley skifield and Omarama Saddle tracks. The metalled Danseys Pass (930 metres) public road provides magnificent views of alpine country of the St Marys Range and Kyeburn Valley.

A private skifield exists on the St Marys Range on pastoral lease in the Awakino Valley below Kohurau, the highest point (2,010 metres). This area is in Canterbury Conservancy and is just outside the scope of this CMS.

A large exposure of bare quartz gravels near Mt Buster mark an early mining site, at amongst the highest altitude of any in Otago. The extent to which the gravels are composed almost entirely of river-worn, white quartz pebbles, at 1,300 metres, is both spectacular and remarkable.

The towns of Naseby, Ranfurly, St Bathans and Oturehua are adjacent to the area, and are already or are growing in importance as holiday centres.

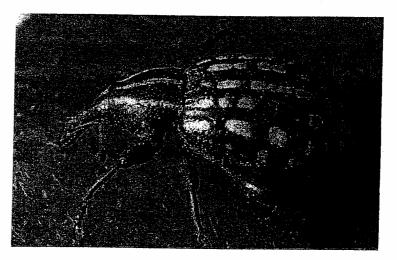
### 10.17.6 Values

The predominant values of this large mountainous area are its natural and historic resources. At high altitude the biota is almost totally indigenous and forms a continuous uninterrupted system from the St Bathans to the St Mary Ranges. The summits of the various ranges are characteristically scree or fellfield with often dense snow tussock covering the flanks. There is an impressive development of patterned ground (caused by freeze/thaw activity) on the summit, which is currently active. The cirques of the Hawkdun Range are a special feature and have tarns and large wetlands. Fellfield crests and the extensive screes of all the ranges are also special features and contain distinctive biota. The Hawkdun Range was surveyed under the PNAP in 1992 and 13 areas were recommended for protection. Four areas or parts of them have now been protected.

The expansive, remote character of this landscape is highly valued by those seeking solitude. The area forms the northern backdrop of Central Otago. There is limited scarring from farm tracks on the range faces. The Hawkdun, in

particular, is essentially unmarked. The near level summit ridgelines of the St Bathans and the Hawkdun Ranges, when viewed from a distance, are striking landscape features.

Altitudinal sequences on the southern flanks of the Ida and Hawkdun Ranges encapsulate a diverse grassland flora and fauna with important shrubland, scree and rockfield components.



Lyperobius budsont, one of the giant weevils of these mountains.

The transitional nature of the geology of the area has led to a distinct biota. Apart from the usual range of native plants and animals, an assemblage of species endemic or characteristic to the zone is found including a whipcord daisy *Raoulia petriensis*, a giant undescribed weevil *Lyperobius* n.sp. and a diurnal moth *Notoreas* n.sp. Additionally other species are found that are rare or local in occurrence include good populations of scree skinks, the only ones in Otago, the herbs *Swainsonia novae zelandiae, Ranunculus haastii* and *Aciphylla gracilis* and the giant weta *Deinacrida connectens*.

That same transitional geology has resulted in two sites of international geopreservation significance being located in the area. The entire Dansey's Pass area contains the transition from metagreywacke to schist, and a more localised site of bedding structures in zone 3A schist, which is very rare, is found on the true right bank of the Kye Burn. Neither site is considered vulnerable.

The Otago galaxias (*Galaxius anomalus*), newly "resurrected" as a species, is found in tributaries of the Kyeburn as is a new species of galaxid yet to be named. The latter species has only been found in the Taieri system whereas the former is also found in the Nevis catchment. These kinds of fragmented populations seem to occur only in tributary streams protected from brown trout invasion by impassable waterfalls and cascades.

Recreation values are also high with vast areas suitable for cross-country or nordic skiing provided permission is obtained where necessary. Summertime four wheel driving and tramping are popular with a variety of mountain passes and routes available. Privately owned huts, are sparse, and mostly on pastoral lease land, as are many of the tracks. The recreation settings are back country drive-in (4WD) and walk-in, surrounding a core of remote mountain land that is very difficult to access in the winter. Parts of the ranges are used for upland game bird hunting.

Historic resources are present near Mt Buster, the site of a high-altitude gold mining venture. Dams, pipes and exposed quartz gravels are visible although nature has camouflaged much of the workings. The Mt Buster dry weather road is still in use. The area is fringed on its lower southern flanks by the large Mount Ida water race, which is still operated for irrigation and town supply purposes. Remains of other races criss-cross the slopes on their way to the Naseby gold workings.

At both lower and higher altitudes there are tracts of copper tussock grassland, albeit modified and much reduced from its former extent at low altitude. The Kai Tahu name for the area, Maniatoto (toto = blood) reflects the colour of this landscape. Oteake is a traditional name also associated with the area.

### 10.17.7 Management Issues

• Implementation of the findings of the Hawkdun PNA survey.

- At present the department manages disparate conservation units that do not facilitate easy management, and some contiguous areas are divided by conservancy boundaries.
- There are key POLs in this area, the future of which is unresolved.
- Ongoing fence maintenance stock exclusion problems.
- Public access at key points is lacking, particularly from Naseby.
- Grazing of lands administered by the department as part of transitional tenure review arrangements.
- Wilding conifers from Naseby and other forest plantations, eg, Falls Dam area.
- Siting of hill top installations and access roads.
- Commercial tourism and recreation, and use of ORVs in fragile areas.
- Wild animal control for goats, pigs and deer.
- The possibility of trout invasion of galaxid habitat.
- Grazing damage to eroding slopes.
  - Possible adverse effects on galaxid habitat of mining, gravel extraction, roading, farm tracking and unsustainable land uses in catchments.
  - · Applications to mine on sites previously mined.

### Objective for St Bathans - Hawkdun - Ida Ranges

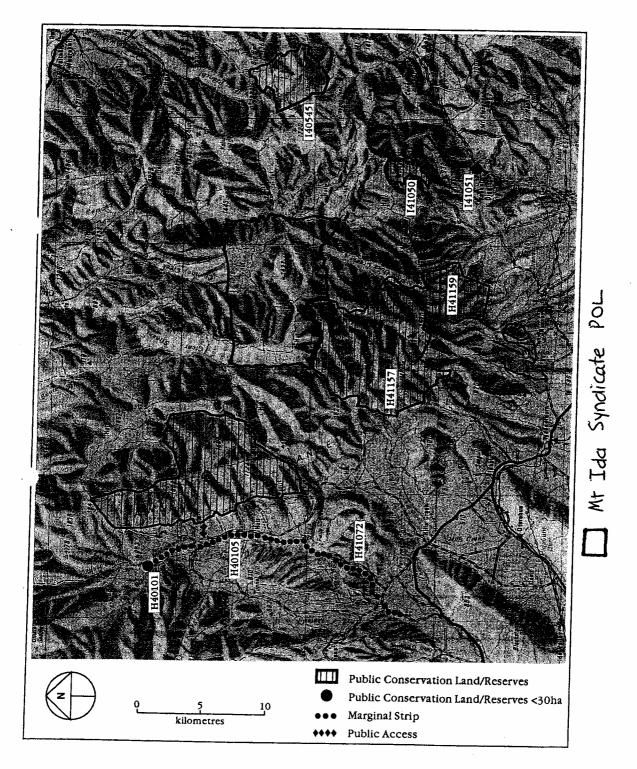
To protect, on an extensive scale, the high altitude landscape, nature conservation and historic resources of the area, principally by acquiring adjoining lands of high natural, historic and recreational value, through pastoral lease or occupation licence tenure reviews, to link existing areas of land administered by the department thus providing for more recreational opportunities, better protection of values and efficient integrated management of those values.

- (a) Wilding conifers will be controlled on lands administered by the department and cooperation and advocacy directed at preventing their spread from neighbouring lands.
- (b) Tourism and recreation concessions may be allowed where the proposed activities can be shown to have no adverse effect on identified values, including the remoteness of the range crests in winter, or where conditions can be attached to a concession to adequately or reasonably avoid, remedy or mitigate any potential adverse effects.
- (c) The development of additional prominent access roads or mountain top facilities are likely to have an adverse effect on natural and landscape values and is considered inappropriate. Potential developers of facilities will be encouraged to better utilise existing facilities by co-siting.
- (d) Pastoral lease and occupation licence tenure review on adjacent properties will provide opportunities to negotiate the acquisition of areas of similar or complementary natural and historic values and significant recreational opportunities. Overall management of these new areas, together with existing conservation areas, will confer net conservation and management benefits.
- (e) Integration of management of large continguous areas administered by the department will centre on the concept of a conservation park. The park will be named "Oteake Conservation Park".
- (f) Signs will be erected at key access points once cohesive units of estate and access have been acquired/negotiated.
- (g) Appropriate wild animal control work will be carried out, including feral sheep.
- (h) Advocacy, management and further survey work will be directed at protecting the special galaxid populations in the streams in terms of water and habitat quality and continued exclusion of trout.
- (i) The protection of significant natural and historic resources of the area will be advocated through Resource Management Act and other statutory processes.

## Priorities for St Batbans - Hawkdun - Ida Ranges

Pastoral lease and pastoral occupation licence tenure review negotiations will be the priority method for implementation of the objective, along with continued vigilance with regard to the spread of wilding trees.

Map 17 St Bathans - Hawkdun - Ida



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