

## **Crown Pastoral Land Other Crown Land**

**Lease name: MT IDA**

**Lease number: 00 090**

## **Public Submissions - Part 11**

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

**July**

**07**

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www.or4g.org.nz

# OTAGO RECREATIONAL 4WD GROUP

WWW.OR4G.ORG.NZ

Member of the New Zealand Four Wheel Drive Association

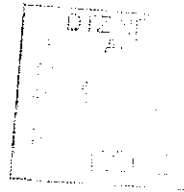
C/- 9 Wickliffe Terrace, Port Chalmers, Dunedin



Member of  
The New Zealand Four Wheel Drive Association

15<sup>th</sup> November 2006

The Commissioner of Crown Lands  
C/- DTZ New Zealand Ltd  
Land Resources Division  
P O Box 27  
Alexandra



Dear Commissioner,

The Otago Recreational Four Wheel Drive Group is a group that share an interest in recreational off-road four wheel driving and the beauty of New Zealand's natural resources. We would like to offer our support for the conditional continuation of the Mt Ida Syndicate's Tenure of Part Run 362B and Run 362C Mount Buster Survey District, as we believe that they are committed to and currently fulfilling the objectives of the review, as stated in section 83 of the CPL Act.

*Objective (a) Promote the management of Crown land in a way that is ecologically sustainable;*

We believe that the current excellent state of the area is testament to the Mt Ida Syndicate's ability and dedication to manage the land under their care in an ecologically sustainable and positive way. On the occasions that we have had the privilege to visit this area, we have been struck by the careful and responsible management of stock and resources. There is no obvious indication that the land is stressed through overstocking or careless use, and the area is predominantly weed free – this is most likely due to suppression by grazing. We have found the environment to be in one of the most well-maintained conditions that we have seen for high country farm land, and consider it one of the most pristine and untouched seeming areas we have visited.

We believe that the historical knowledge of the area held by the families should not be under-valued as a contributing factor in the on-going sustainable management of the land. As farmers on the land for generations, they have learnt that is in their best interests to carefully steward the land so as to protect the livelihood of their own and future generations. To remove stock from this area has the strong potential to lead to the un-manageable proliferation of weeds which would be totally destructive to the ecological sustainability of the land. The farmers have both the resources and the need to maintain the land, but it is unlikely that the crown could afford to commit the same resources to the on-going sustainable management of the land. We support the renewal of the Syndicate's grazing rights, but believe that they should work alongside the Crown to formulate a management plan to continue the ecologically sustainable management of the land. This could include regular inspections, limiting stock numbers, stock and land-use rotation and protection of particularly sensitive areas.

*Objective (b) to enable the protection of significant inherent values of Crown land;*

The on-going careful and sensible management of the environment by the current occupants, and the generations before them, has contributed to the preservation and protection of this beautiful (and largely untouched) area. That the inherent value and historic character of the area are still clearly evident today, indicate that the current management practices favour the protection of the significant inherent values of this land. We believe that the current occupants of the area have a greater understanding than most of the significant inherent values of this land due to their generational knowledge, but that it is important for them to work in conjunction with the Crown, and other stake holders, to share this knowledge in order to develop appropriate management plans and continue this tradition going forward.

*Objective (c) to make easier – (i) the securing of public access to and enjoyment of Crown land;*

This area is particularly remote and challenging to access due to nothing more than its terrain and geographical location. For the general public, the only feasible way to access this area is by vehicle, therefore it is imperative that vehicle access is protected and maintained. It is important that existing vehicular access points are designated through easement or legalisation to protect on-going public access to this remarkable area – for this to be achieved it is also important that regular maintenance of access tracks is carried out. It has been apparent recently some of the tracks have deteriorated due to a lack of maintenance. We believe that this is solely because of the uncertain future of the run-holders' tenure. Run-holders maintain the tracks for their own day to day access, which has the added benefit of ensuring that they are maintained for access by the general public also. It is unlikely that the Crown could dedicate sufficient resources to the quality of access preservation that the run holders currently provide.

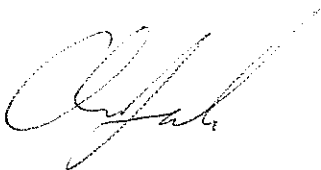
While the run holders are generally very amenable to the access to the land by the public, it is a privilege that needs to be secured by more than just the land-manager's good will. We would like to see the Syndicate's grazing rights renewed, but with caveats to ensure adequate public access is guaranteed and that appropriate management plans are in place to protect the environment for all. This would include imposing suitable ramifications on those who access the land and cause destruction, while still preserving the general public's right of access, without prejudice based on the actions of a destructive minority.

*Objective (c) to make easier – (ii) the freehold disposal of Crown land capable of economic use.*

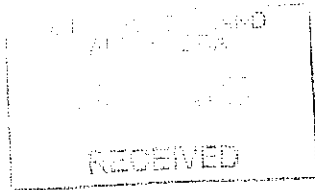
We do not support the freehold disposal of Crown land simply because it is capable of economic use. There has been a history of profitable use of this area, and we believe it is more important to safeguard the rights of both the farmers and the general public by continuing to have the land leased for grazing while still maintaining public access to a truly remarkable area – one of New Zealand's *taongas* that should be preserved for every New Zealander to have the potential to access.

As outlined above, the Otago Recreational Four Wheel Drive Group is strong in their support for the Mt Ida Syndicate to retain grazing rights to Part Run 362B and Run 362C Mount Buster Survey District. However, we also believe that in the renewal of these rights, certain changes need to be implemented to ensure that the best interests of all New Zealanders are taken into consideration.

Yours faithfully,



Tony Jack  
President  
OR4G



MtIdaPOLNov06.rtf

## Council of Outdoor Recreation Associations of New Zealand Inc

P O Box 1876 Wellington  
Tel&Fax +64 4 934 2244  
[hugh@infosmart.co.nz](mailto:hugh@infosmart.co.nz)

15 November 2006

Commissioner of Crown Lands  
C/- DTZ New Zealand Ltd  
Land Resources Division  
P O Box 27, Alexandra  
Fax (03) 448 9099  
Email: [alexandra@dtz.co.nz](mailto:alexandra@dtz.co.nz)  
Attn: Joan Gallagher

### CORANZ Submission: Mt Ida Syndicate POL

This submission is made on behalf of the Council of Outdoor Recreation Associations Incorporated (CORANZ). CORANZ promotes the common interests of outdoor recreationists. We are the national alliance of the following national and regional outdoor recreation bodies:

- New Zealand Federation of Freshwater Anglers
- New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association
- Public Access New Zealand
- New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association
- New Zealand Bowhunters Society
- Marlborough Recreational Fishers Association

The Council advocates for the common interests of the million or more New Zealanders who fish, shoot, tramp, ski, canoe, climb, walk, mountainbike, botanise, photograph, relax etc in New Zealand's great outdoors. The combined membership of our present member bodies is some 15,000 members. We also advocate for the wider New Zealand outdoor public – the more than a million people who recreate outdoors. Member bodies may also be making their own submissions.

This POL has no right of renewal, and the licence expired in 2004. It has been renewed on a year by year basis to 1 July 2007. As unleased Crown land this POL is dealt with under Part 3 of the Crown Pastoral Lands Act. It is high remote land with very high landscape, remote recreational and botanic values, but low grazing value or potential. DOC recommends it as an addition to the Hawkdun-Oteake Conservation Park. **CORANZ strongly supports this land being added to the public conservation estate** to protect its high significant inherent values, and their public recreational enjoyment. This is also in line with the Government's High Country Objectives of 9 February 2005.

We make the point that under the Crown Pastoral Lands Act, the purpose of the restoration is to allow public access to and enjoyment of the surrendered land. Consequently the Department of Conservation has a duty to allow public use of the surrendered land. This is doubly true if, as proposed by DOC, and the area becomes part of the Hawkdun Conservation Park, where recreational use is the dominant activity.

#### 1 Summary of Proposal

The **Mt Ida syndicate**, (8,401 Ha, annual rental \$1,080, expired on 30 June 2004) is on the northern side of the Mt Ida Range, with access via the Mt Buster Road, from Naseby. It is on the north-east side of the Hawkdun Range, and north of the Mt Ida Range. The western boundary is Clear Stream, the southern boundary is Boundary Creek, and its northern tributary. The eastern

boundary is the Otematata River. The small Run 362C forms a triangle between Boundary Creek and Guffies Creek in the SW corner. All tributaries on the licence drain in time to the Otematata River and the Waitaki.

This is a Pastoral Occupation Licence (POL), with no trespass rights or right of renewal. **All the licence area, 8,401 ha, is proposed for surrender to public conservation land.** This is rightly the recommendation of the LINZ Assessment. CORANZ strongly supports this outcome.

The POL is on high isolated land that has never been a pastoral lease under the 1948 Land Act. There has been a history of burnoffs with adverse consequences in the 1970s. The rental has stayed at its current level since 1978. Parts of the centre of the lease have been identified as a recommended area for protection (RAP).

There are farm tracks on the property. It would be valuable that these remain for recreational use. It would be valuable too for all huts on the property to remain, even if this costs the Crown some compensation. The northwestern end of the northern boundary has some 100 ha fenced out of the POL. Also the Tailings Creek hut is shown as outside the POL, though it is inside. There are a number of unformed legal roads to the boundary of the property, but none on it. The 5162 Ha Mt Ida Conservation Area adjoins the property on its SW boundary, and has been added to the Oteake-Hawkdun Conservation Park.

## **2 History of the POL:**

There has been significant debate on whether grazing should continue on this high land, since the POL was first issued over the land, in its transfer to the Land Act 1948, in 1955. This shows the high altitude of much of the land, and the severe winters, have always been of concern. An application to burn a large block of tussock on the dark face of the Hawkdun Range was declined in 1986, due to the very slow recovery of previous burns. A pastoral lease has never been offered.

DOC protected natural area surveys in 1991-92 and 1998 identified major areas as of high botanic value (RAP), and the 1998 survey recommended the whole area be made conservation land.

POL O90 was issued for a period of 5 years from 1 July 1999 with a stock limitation of 9,000 breeding ewes for a period of 12 weeks. It expired on 1 July 2004. But has run on on annual extensions.

## **3 Creating a network of High Country Conservation Parks:**

The Government's High Country Objectives of 9 February 2005 proposed (h) to "progressively establish a network of high country parks and reserves." Addition of this expired Mt Ida POL to the Oteake Conservation Park is in line with this Objective.

CORANZ notes that the economic value of the 8,400 Ha area is low eg the current rental of \$1080/year, and the maximum stock limitation of 9,000 breeding ewes for 12 weeks.

**4 Recreational Values:** This high remote land is valued recreationally for its sense of remoteness by both trampers/alpinists, and cross-country skiers in winter. There is also scope for the farm tracks to be used by mountain bikers and 4WD enthusiasts, with care. There is also the possibility of angling in the bigger streams.

The adjacent Oteake/Hawkdun Conservation Park contains Red deer and pigs. These probably also cross to/exist on the Mt Ida Block. Conservation parks are held primarily for recreation. So low numbers of Red deer and pigs are compatible with park recreational hunting. DOC already manages the Oteake Park as a recreational hunting block (See the DOC website). Deer numbers are likely to be much lower than the equivalent summer grazing currently allowed under the POL (equivalent to 2,500 ewes/year).

**5 Landscape and vegetation values:** Landscape unit 1, the Mesa, or high altitude tilted land, is significant because of its remoteness, size, and because of its healthy tussock cover is a unique feature of the area. It runs from 1575 metres height in the west to 1270 m in the east. This Unit makes up a large proportion of the POL. Human impact is low and minimally noticeable. Landscape unit 2 is the dissected steepplands surrounding the plateau. Landscape unit 3 is the western escarpment. All three are valued recreationally. The vegetation is an excellent example of a peneplain remnant.

**6 Public Access, and huts:** Access is via the Mt Buster Road, or across adjacent public conservation land.

**Recommendation:** CORANZ asks that current four huts on the property be kept for public use.

The public can already access the land as there are no occupation (trespass) rights attached to a POL.

**7 Conclusion:**

CORANZ strongly supports this land becoming Conservation Park. The land is already unencumbered Crown land. The only way to adequately protect its very high significant inherent values, and allow their enjoyment by the public, is by making it public conservation land, as recommended by the Commissioner. This is by far the best ecologically sustainable option for this high land.

Any disposal as fee simple or special lease cannot guarantee that the SIVs (significant inherent values) will be maintained. Or that public access will be guaranteed. Or that the area will be available for enjoyment by the public, because of New Zealand's draconian trespass laws. The area has high recreational hunting, tramping, cross country ski-ing values, that are already recognised on the adjacent Hawkdun Conservation Park.

The area also has a noted and valued sense of remoteness.

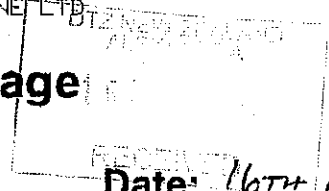
CORANZ notes that making the land part of the Conservation Park satisfies the following seven high country objectives of the ten listed in the 9 February Cabinet Policy Committee decision: a, c (ii), d, f, g, h, i.

Yours truly

Dr Hugh Barr  
Secretary

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Facsimile Message



To: DTZ NZ LTD

Date: 16th Nov 06

Attn: THE MANAGER

From: G. C. KENDALL

No. of pages: 5 includes Cover  
Fax

Subject: MT IDA SYNDICATE

DEAR SIR,

PLEASE FIND ATTACHED SUBMISSION  
ON MT IDA REVIEW.

COULD YOU PLEASE CONFIRM BY FAX THAT  
YOU HAVE RECEIVED. 03 444 9909

THANK YOU

Greg Kendall.

Mr G C Kendall  
Leven Street  
Naseby

16<sup>th</sup> November 2006

The Commissioner of Crown Lands  
C/- DTZ New Zealand Ltd  
Land Resources Division  
P O Box 27  
Alexandra

Submission: Mt Ida Syndicate Review of other Crown Land

My association with the Mt Ida Syndicate started in 1984 when I arrived in Naseby to take up the Forest Ranger position at the Naseby Forest. Keen to explore the area I approached the access and hut convenor for the Mt Ida Syndicate for permission to hunt and fish on the COL. In the past 22 years I have visited and used the huts a least 6 times a year between August/May weather and snow permitting. Upward to 130 visits over 22 years, with never a problem with access, you may have to wait the odd weekend as someone else may be in the area or the farmer group undertaking stock or maintenance work in the area.

It is mandatory to contact Laurie Inder when you return to up date information on track conditions, river crossings, hut supplies and any new hazards, then he can pass this information on to the next visitors. The group also like to know that you are home safely. Permission is always given freely and at no monetary cost which is unusual in these days of user pays.

Access

Walking, biking or 4x4 travel has been the most popular way of accessing; many use the Mt Ida to cross from the Maniototo to the Waitaki Valley and is becoming very popular with 4x4 travellers.



### User Groups I've come across on my visits to the Mt Ida Syndicate:

- 4 x 4 vehicles – by far the most popular.
- Trail Bikers – Club, Rallies, Freedom Rides, Independent Groups
- Hunters and Fisherman.
- Horse Treks including several Cavalcades.
- Mountain Bikers.
- Organised 4 x 4 Groups—Lions fund raisers.
- Film Units, 45 South, Country Calendar.
- 4 x 4 Family outings to the river or huts for picnics.
- Tramping and walking groups and individuals.
- Farmer groups.

### History

This area was under POL since 1860 and under the Mt Ida Syndicate from 1897 until today. Where should the European History of this country start and finish? The Mt Ida Syndicate has a proven track record of 110 years, remarkable and surely this must continue with a tradition and form of land management depicting the early Pastoral Farming within the Otago area. Does DOC need to be the only option for the management of resources in New Zealand?

The syndicate makes economic use of the land making down-land farming viable by spelling the home farms enabling winter feed to be grown for the return of stock from the syndicate.

The flow on effect from farmers' income spreads right throughout the community: local businesses, garages, shearers, fencers and bank managers catered for.

The Syndicate pays rates to the WDC and fees to LINZ; this would not be the case with DOC.

### Fire Prevention

By closing up these blocks the fire hazard build up in just a few years would be huge. A fire could travel very quickly from Naseby to the Waitaki valley in hours. Matagouri would extend and spread from its current sites, the damage from a summer fire in this country would be so hot and deep seated that many of the plants and animals would be lost forever. This would open the door to hieracium to claim this country which would be a major factor.

A proven track record of grazing shows that hazard reduction is achievable by grazing with only minimal stock damage to native plants. Stock also eats the yellow hieracium seed heads, if this was not done the seed would travel to other areas.

The report by DTZ for LINZ suggests grazing management was sustainable. One controlled burn off was carried out in 1986? This area could still carry a fire but controllable in gully bottoms and rivers where green areas through grazing are present.

I have read the DOC Inherent Value-Description of conservation Resources and Assessment.

This report identifies the high value sites, landscape, land forms and natural resources that need to be protected. This report is a testament to the Mt Ida Syndicates excellent management of the area where the significant natural character and integrity of the high country landscape is still intact. Waterways are in excellent heart, native fauna is plentiful, invertebrate and bird life present.

Human intervention with grazing impacts on plants and tussocks as detailed in the report however, to quote from significance of the vegetable section.

“The impact of grazing overall has been low but localised heavy stock concentrations have had a detrimental impact on three areas. Margins of the Fell Field and Clionochloa Macro Grassland at highest altitude Oreobolus Bogs and Tussock Margins above the Otematata River”.

On this question a better outcome may be possible by sitting down with the Mt Ida Syndicate and apply management practices to reduce or lessen the impact of grazing in some areas. e.g. Timing and stock numbers, it should be noted that there are some years little or no stock have been grazed on the run.

### Recommendation

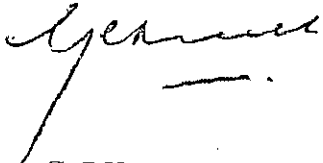
That the Mt Ida Syndicate Management Option for Run 362B and 362C Mt Buster must be retained and I am in favour of renewing the Grazing Licence until 2025 with a review at that time with right of renewal. The current management provides for visitors, recreation, access is free, and caters for the community and importantly the people who live here.

This is a living history of pastoral farming in Otago, it dates back to the miners (1860) in the same area whose destructive land use is protected by the Historic Place Act, please keep what little European history we have alive!

### NOTE:

An observation—Most Kiwi families are flat out trying to make a living, working weekends, both partners working, holding down two jobs, family commitments, sport etc. If you are lucky enough to get away for a break it is usually for the odd day only. So it is important that access to say the mountains, rivers, fishing and hunting or picnic spots can be driven to as close as possible. Tramping or cycling from locked gates and bonded car parks do not suit all. Lake Heron and Birchwood Stations are good examples—Resource Management DOC's way is not the only option for New Zealand.

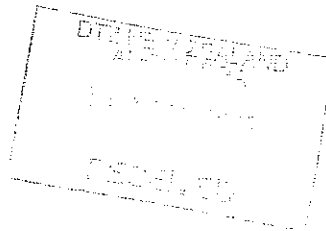
Yours faithfully



G C Kendall

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41 Glencarron St  
ALEXANDRA  
Phone 03 448 7474  
E-mail [jdouglas.alx@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jdouglas.alx@xtra.co.nz)

15<sup>th</sup> November 2006

The Manager  
DTZ (NZ) Ltd  
Lands Resources Division  
PO Box 27  
ALEXANDRA

Dear Sir

MOUNT IDA SYNDICATE RUN 362B & RUN 362C - PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL

Thank you for a copy of this preliminary proposal. I would be pleased if you would accept this submission.

I have been fortunate enough to be involved in some field research work over only part of the range and appreciate the significance of its backcountry values.

Of all reviews that I have been involved in and made submissions on so far, this particular does meet most of the aims and objects of the Crown Pasture Land (ACPL) Act 1988 but with one major omission and that is of the securing of "public access to all and enjoyment of Crown land". In the past access is mainly limited to the very fit and requires quite often an all day tramping excursion.

Though it is a good outcome for the Crown and the public of New Zealand but it does cause the loose of the Mt Ida high country farmer's their summer grazing rights and a concern that the traditional summer muster may / will be lost which has been going since 1897. Long before the Europeans occupied the land, large numbers of Moa's (now extinct) would have grazed the land so some form of grazing should now allow to be continued.

This high plateau of the Ida Range covering from 780m to the crest at 1575m, which is normally accessed by the Mt Buster Road from behind Naseby, has outstanding natural landscape features along with its significant botany inherent values, which the area will become a valuable asset as a Conservation Park.

This area is significant for its native vegetation particularly the tall *Chionochloa macra* grasslands with their herbfields, rich high altitude native insect communities and where the New Zealand falcon can be found. Wetlands, shrublands and scree communities also support important plant and insect species.

The families of the Mt Ida Syndicate with more than 100 years of good stewardship and their historic close connection to this remote part of Central Otago should not be taken away from them.

TO MEET MY CONCERNS

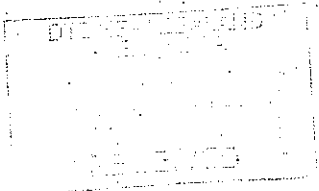
- 1) The Mt Ida Syndicate to be allowed to continue the grazing under new grazing rights of seven years with right of renewable with conditions;
  - a) Sheep grazing only – no cattle
  - b) Numbers to be limited say to a maximum of 8,000 sheep in any one-year.
  - c) Grazing only from mid January to mid March
  - d) No burn-offs
  - e) No over sowing / topdressing
  - f) Tracks to be maintained
  - g) Public vehicle access in summer / early autumn to all farm tracks after notifying the farmers
  - h) Other forms of access; tramping, mountain biking and horse trekking be allowed most of the time
  - i) Hunting and fishing access be allowed
  - j) Opportunity for cross-country skiing is allowed.
  
- 2) Mt Ida Syndicate along with DOC staff to carry out monitoring on an annual basis.

I thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Yours faithfully

  
John Douglas

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Mt Ida Syndicate Grazing Area Land Use.

As a sheep farmer and trader of stock who is also interested in tramping and 4-wheel driving, I would like to make a submission on the proposed changes in the Mt Ida Syndicate grazing area land use. I believe that the use of the land should remain status quo but with long term grazing for the farmers and vehicle access for recreational purposes guaranteed.

The Mt Ida area has been modified by grazing for over a hundred years and it is part of New Zealand's heritage. By closing this area to grazing it will again be modified, what will be the effect on plant and animal species -- are they able to survive this change in environment? The increased vegetation will create a greater risk of wild fires in dry summers.

The syndicate of farmers depend on summer grazing to relieve the pressure on low feed reserves due to summer drought on lowland properties. Syndicate grazing allows them to be able to fatten young stock with adult stock being sent off farm for grazing. Rural communities in this area need national support to be able to survive so any extra income that is generated from this grazing venture belongs in the local community. It can be the difference of having three more families stay in the area - otherwise it could lead to larger farms reducing the number of people on the land and in the community. The high country autumn muster on Mt Ida has become an important community event.

The income generated from the land can be multiplied many times over, in the 'down stream flow' created by primary production. This primary production includes... income tax, PAYE tax, freezing workers, shepherds, shearers, Hotel owners and supermarkets as the backbone of our Gross Domestic Product for the country. If grazing was stopped, instead of generating an income the land would cost New Zealand tax payers in management fees, weed control and fencing. Is this sustainable and good stewardship of our land? I don't think so.

In the past public and vehicle access have not been a problem and if farmers were given a long term lease on grazing rights, track access and maintenance could and would be improved. By encouraging mountain biking and tramping, vehicle access should be maintained for safety. Because of the exposed nature of the terrain and New Zealand's variable weather people can easily be caught unawares and if there is limited vehicle access this could lead to risky situations.

I am in favour of the status quo, but with long term grazing access to guard income for local and New Zealand farmers and allowing vehicle and foot access for Public recreational use.

Yours faithfully,

J.C Gardyne  
North Chilton  
No 3 RD  
Gore.

344218

P.O. Box 8

Hareby.

16th November 06.

To Commissioner of Crown Land  
c/o D.T.Z. New Zealand Ltd.  
Land Resources Division  
P.O. Box 27 Alexandra

Dear Sir,

Re Mt Ida Syndicate  
Mt. Buster Survey District

Being a keen Hunter & Fisherman, I have  
first had to tramp to Hut & the  
Otimatata River for our Hunting & Fishing  
& then after the tracks were formed we  
were able to Drive to our favorite  
Posies, which we really appreciated & have  
never been denied access to.

I was also a Packer for the  
Mustones in the 1960's. before all the  
tracks were formed & as far as I can  
see the whole area has been a credit  
to the current Licence Holders.

I therefore don't agree that the  
run be taken over by D.O.C. &  
must stay with the current Licence  
Holder.

Yours faithfully

R. M. Carson.

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MT IDA SYNDICATE PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL REVIEW SUBMISSION

11 ~~WE~~ Beverley H. Pitts  
ADDRESS "Gladstone Downs", Private Bag, Blenheim

SUBMIT AN OBJECTION TO YOUR PROPOSAL FOR FULL CROWN OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF THIS LAND. IT SHOULD BE DISPOSED OF (PREFERABLY AS FEE SIMPLE) IN FAVOUR OF THE PRESENT HOLDERS TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLE GRAZING CAN BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE AS BEFORE. FURTHERMORE THE FOLLOWING IS TO BE CONSIDERED:

(Legal Description of land concerned: Part Run 362B and Run 362C Mount Buster Survey District comprising 8401.2739ha.  
General description of proposal: 8401ha (approximately) to be designated as land to be retained as land in full Crown ownership and control as a conservation area pursuant to Section 86(5)(a)(i) Crown Pastoral Land Act 1998.)

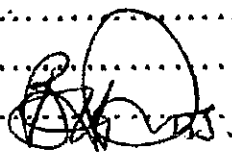
.....

To: The Manager,  
Mr. K. Taylor,  
DTZ New Zealand Ltd.  
Fax: 03-4489099

From: B H Pitts. Fx 03-5757478

Submission, 2 pages following this one.

Thankyou



.....



Interpretation of the Objects of Part 3 (CPLA 1998 ) has no provision or text in Objects a, b, c(i), c(ii), that the Crown has the power to displace the existing licence holders, in favour of the Crown or other interest parties.

The DTZ Report acknowledges the values that exist, and has given the Syndicate owners past and present recognition of their 109 years successful and sustainable grazing and management tenure. All of the above Objects have been met throughout the long history of stable tenure between the Crown and the families in the Syndicate.

So, what has changed. ???

- It is not the Crown's interest or mandate to "Boot" the existing licence holders off this land so that other "interested " parties can have a piece of territory to play with, without good reason. If it is the Crown intention, then a rather nasty element has invaded our Nation, and must STOP.

Good faith, goodwill and respect have been elements of historical behaviour between the Crown and those who lease, licence, or have permits to use Crown land since our Nation became a Sovereign State. The economic and cultural impact to the families and their community will be significant should they lose this grazing land, and they have a right to sustain and maintain themselves without penalty from the Crown

- The Syndicate families have been responsible and fully met all of the Crown requirements in their contract for an historically long time. To now be betrayed by Crown agents, who, wishing to serve current political ideology and ambiguous clauses of the CPLA1998 , will cause grievous injustice to the families.

- The DTZ report gives credit to the Syndicate in acknowledging, under the above Objects, the following:

a, Sustainable grazing and management is a fact, and freeholding is an option.

b, SIV's are present , not under threat and protection has been given by the judicious grazing control.

c(i), Access for the public is secure and enduring with the tracks and the whole package maintained and recognised by the Syndicate as important, with NO cost to the Crown.

c(ii), The sustained history of economic use contributes significantly to the down land properties it is associated with, and that the long history has been ecologically sustainable is proven by the existing quality and quantity of the tussock and shrubland eco-systems that currently exist.

The DOC, do not have the resources to fund, keep, and maintain the ever expanding Crown estates now, with serious weed, pest and human problems costing more each year. The Syndicate are funding, the public access, weeds, and pests, at no cost to the Crown, and have demonstrated that their principals and practical management of the land have served the Crown interest well.

The recommendation by the writer/s of the DTZ report "that in view of the SIV's present the most appropriate designation is as a conservation area in full Crown ownership and control" is FLAWED. It does not fit with the high praise and acknowledgments given to the history, land management practises, and the runholders. There is no argument or good reasons given, to return the land to Crown control, just a "view" that the SIV's which the writer/s state, are present, and NOT under threat, is the sole factor for the designation of this land.

Under the Objects of the Act the protection of the SIV's is fulfilled by the Syndicate. It must be so, otherwise they would not be there today.


I implore the LINZ, CCL, and MP's, DO NOT pass the Mt. Ida Syndicate land to Crown control, rather dispose as fee simple to the present holders, or, an enduring renewable lease.

I object 100% to the DTZ recommendation, as my submission, for the above reasons. I appeal to you to display fairness, justice, and to give consideration to 109 years of goodwill and trust between the Crown and the Syndicate. It will be a grievous wrong to do otherwise.

Thank you for receiving my submission.

Yours faithfully

Beverley H. Pitts  
Gladstone Downs  
Private Bag  
Blenheim.  
Ph: 03-5757471  
Fx: 03-5757478



16-11-06

To: The Manager  
DTZ New Zealand Ltd  
Land Resource Division  
PO Box 27  
Alexandra

STEWART MAHON  
PO Box 881  
Queenstown  
Ph: (03) 4425758

16/11/2006

**Objection to Mt Ida Syndicate being taken over by the Crown  
(Part Run 362B and Run 362C – Mount Buster)**

I, Stewart Mahon, strongly object to the Crown taking over the land mentioned above.

Using the scientific approach of ecologically sustainable ecosystem and significant inherent values is just a play on words.

If it was not for the conservative approach, care and love of the land in the Maniototo region by those involved with the Mt Ida Syndicate, there would not be a sustainable ecosystem as it is today.

I have been using the Mt Ida Syndicate land and adjoining land for the past thirty-something years. I have never been refused access and have always been welcomed there with open arms. My children have practically grown up on this land and have come to love the Syndicate and adjoining land as I have myself. It would be a crime to take this recreational resource away from people now and destroy past experiences and those that are yet to come.

The crown cannot manage the land that it already has and I feel that the care and attention that has been given to the land will deteriorate over time. A prime example is by not continuing the present grazing status, a huge fire hazard will eventually develop. With the right wind conditions this could turn into an environmental disaster, wiping out what is presently there and what we are aiming to protect.

I have enjoyed many fantastic hunting and fishing trips with my family and friends in the Mt Ida Syndicate over the years and the public access by vehicle is crucial as the this area is remote and sincerely hope this continues.

I support the renewal of the Mt Ida Syndicate license in favour of the present licensee's.

I wish to be notified of any further status or outcomes of the proposal.

Thank You

*Stewart Mahon*  
Stewart Mahon

MT IDA SYNDICATE PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL REVIEW SUBMISSION

11 WE Hawarden - Amuri High Country Fed Farmers  
ADDRESS Glen of Tekoa Culverdea

SUBMIT AN OBJECTION TO YOUR PROPOSAL FOR FULL CROWN OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF THIS LAND. IT SHOULD BE DISPOSED OF (PREFERABLY AS FEE SIMPLE) IN FAVOUR OF THE PRESENT HOLDERS TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLE GRAZING CAN BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE AS BEFORE. FURTHERMORE THE FOLLOWING IS TO BE CONSIDERED:

(Legal Description of land concerned: Part Run 362B and Run 362C Mount Buster Survey District comprising 8401.2739ha.

General description of proposal: 8401ha (approximately) to be designated as land to be retained as land in full Crown ownership and control as a conservation area pursuant to Section 86(5)(a)(i) Crown Pastoral Land Act 1998. )

We object to the LINZ recommendation that this area be reserved to Crown management as a conservation area.

It has proved to be ecologically sustainable so should not be taken out of production reducing National earnings and reducing opportunities for future generations.

In our area land held under DOC management has been neglected to a point where weeds are now uncontrollable. This from a starting point where weeds were a minor problem and taken care of by grazing of sheep.

We therefore see a great advantage in retaining sustainable grazing management and future opportunities.

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Geoff Clark  
10 Smacks Close  
Papanui  
Christchurch 8051  
13 th November 2006

ORIGINAL  
17  
RECORDED

DTZ New Zealand

Re: Mt Ida Syndicate  
Dear Sir,

As I have previously stated, I would like to see a conservation park between Danseys Pass and Lindis Pass, so naturally I am pleased with the recommendation in this review. Obviously it was not necessary to make any submission on this proposal due to my agreement with it, however after noting a lecturer from Dunedin criticize the proposal I decided to notify my support.

The criticism was due to the fact that the land was no longer to be grazed even though little or no damage had been done to the land, over the years, from grazing.

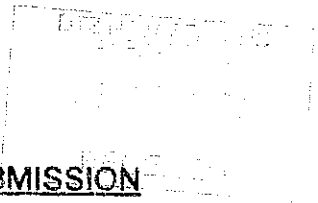
I don't believe this class of land should be grazed. Further, I feel that weeds are more likely to be carried onto the land through stock access.

All that aside, the reason for my desire for a Conservation Park from pass to pass is my belief that the entire region is of " significant inherent value " to deserve protection under the Conservation act.

Regards

*Geoff Clark*

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MT IDA SYNDICATE PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL REVIEW SUBMISSION

TO/WE CROMWELL BRANCH FEDERATED FARMERS

ADDRESS D. HENDERSON HAPPY VALLEY STATION BANNOCK BURN RD2 CROMWELL

SUBMIT AN OBJECTION TO YOUR PROPOSAL FOR FULL CROWN OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF THIS LAND. IT SHOULD BE DISPOSED OF (PREFERABLY AS FEE SIMPLE) IN FAVOUR OF THE PRESENT HOLDERS TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLE GRAZING CAN BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE AS BEFORE. FURTHERMORE THE FOLLOWING IS TO BE CONSIDERED:

*(Legal Description of land concerned: Part Run 362B and Run 362C Mount Buster Survey District comprising 8401.2739ha.*

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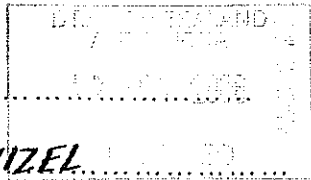
*We strongly believe sustainable grazing management is the best option available to maintain and enhance the important values associated with the Mt Ida Syndicate. It is imperative that this tussock grassland area is retained by proven methods for all to enjoy.*

*D.G. Henderson  
Secretary*

(190)

MT IDA SYNDICATE PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL REVIEW SUBMISSION

I / WE... SIMON & PRISCILLA CAMERON



ADDRESS... BEN-DHAR GLENLYON ROAD TWIZEL

SUBMIT AN OBJECTION TO YOUR PROPOSAL FOR FULL CROWN OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF THIS LAND. IT SHOULD BE DISPOSED OF (PREFERABLY AS FEE SIMPLE) IN FAVOUR OF THE PRESENT HOLDERS TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLE GRAZING CAN BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE AS BEFORE. FURTHERMORE THE FOLLOWING IS TO BE CONSIDERED:

*(Legal Description of land concerned: Part Run 362B and Run 362C Mount Buster Survey District comprising 8401.2739ha.*

*General description of proposal: 8401ha (approximately) to be designated as land to be retained as land in full Crown ownership and control as a conservation area pursuant to Section 86(5)(a)(i) Crown Pastoral Land Act 1998. )*

*We support the continued sustainable grazing management of the above lands. Both students of Holistic grazing management we believe the loss of sheep grazing on this area will change the dynamics of the area for all time. Local destocking of recently acquired land by D.O.C. has shown conclusively that there will be considerable changes to the existing flora and fauna. To destock these lands would be a folly.*

*Simon & Priscilla Cameron*

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To  
The Manager  
Land Resources Division  
DTZ New Zealand Limited  
PO BOX 27, Alexandra

From  
Mr & Mrs. R.P. & J.E. Kemp  
545 East Coast Road  
Browns Bay  
North Shore City 0630

RECEIVED  
20/11/82  
191

Dear Sir.

We are making a submission to allow Part Run 362B and Run 362C Mount Buster District comprising 8401.2739 ha.

That the two Part Runs be continued to be licensed to the present licence holders.

We were among a party that were taken over a gravel route to view this wonderful piece of the South Island last year. The licence holders took good care to inform us not to leave anything anywhere whilst on the trip, as they want to keep the area as close to nature as possible whilst allowing it to be put to good use. They have the good of the land at heart.

To take this away from them, to our minds would not achieve any good, but would deprive a lot of people from seeing a beautiful part of the South Island. So please think about what you propose to do! What will it achieve? If you take the trouble to go over the area yourself, you will see how well they are looking after the natural aspects of the area! Please allow them to carry on leasing the two Runs. We were hoping to revisit the area next year, or in 2008.

From Jean & Ron Kemp.

*R.P. Kemp* *J.E. Kemp*



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The Manager  
DTZ New Zealand  
Commissioner of Crown lands.

In respect to Part Run 362B and 362C  
Mount buster mt Ida Syndicate:

I have hunted, fished, camped on these  
properties for the last 16 years with my  
family:

I am completely against the crown taking  
over this property, properties, as the current  
owner management has as you can see  
done and still doing a great job in  
the overseeing and controlling of grazing  
the area.

If the crown do take over much to  
everybody who submits disgust I hope  
that motorised transport, dogs, hunters, camping,  
fishing will still be able to be entered.

I feel strongly about crown land that I  
once was able to go via 4WD - motorbike to  
fish and hunt + camp has now been closed  
to motorised vehicles.

I would like to also add that at  
no time have I ever been rejected entry  
into this Area.

Bob McIntosh

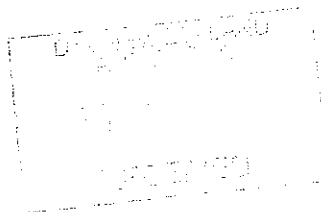
14 Hood Crescent

Arrowtown

03 4421977

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The Manager  
DTZ New Zealand Ltd,  
Land Resources Division  
PO Box 27  
Alexandra



FOREST  
& BIRD  
Dunedin Branch


PO Box 5793  
Dunedin  
15.11.06

Dear Sir,

I enclose this submissions on the preliminary proposal for the Mt Ida POL on behalf of the Dunedin Branch of Forest and Bird

Thankyou for the opportunity to make submissions on this proposal.

Yours sincerely



Janet Ledingham  
For the Management Committee of the Dunedin Branch, Forest and Bird Protection Society

Email [janet.ledingham@stonebow.otago.ac.nz](mailto:janet.ledingham@stonebow.otago.ac.nz)  
622 Highgate, Maori Hill, Dunedin.  
Phone 03 467 2960

## **Submission on the Preliminary Proposal for the Mt Ida Pastoral Occupation Licence (POL)**

**On behalf of the Dunedin Branch Management Committee of Forest and Bird.**

This submission is written on behalf of the Dunedin Branch of the Forest and Bird Protection Society which has approximately 565 members with strong interests in botany and natural history in general and in the High Country. Many of the members enjoy active recreation in the back country and are very aware of the need to ensure the protection of natural values, vegetation and landscape, historical sites and to improve public access through the tenure review process.

The submission is written with reference to the objectives of tenure review as set out in the Crown Pastoral Land (CPL) Act 1998, and 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.*

### **Introduction**

We note the objects of a Part 3 review which applies to Mt Ida as land which is under a non-renewable pastoral occupation licence.

### **Description of proposed designation**

**That 8401 ha, all the land contained in the licence to occupy, should be retained in Crown ownership and control as a Conservation Area**

This land has indeed significant inherent values as outlined in the Conservation Resources report and foreshadowed at the time of the Protected Natural Areas survey when 1,250 hectares was designated as a recommended area for protection (RAP Hawk 10 Plateau).

We note that the scoping report quotes the values stated by DOC at the 1988 review of the licence, in summary; *The vegetation of the POL is ranked by DOC as an area of outstanding natural value*.

The Scoping Report also states that in terms of the CPL Act an outcome is required and that *"the provisions of the Act suggest that the entire licence will be restored to full Crown ownership and control."* Forest and Bird fully endorses the expectation that the entire licence will be restored to full Crown ownership.

We also note the sections in both the Otago and Canterbury CMS documents referring to the landscape, natural, recreation and historical values of the Mt Ida POL and the adjoining area and the objective to create the Oteake Conservation Park through tenure review. As the scoping

report states 'The Canterbury Conservancy draft CMS Waitaki Unit Section and the Otago Conservancy CMS Special Place # 17 St Bathans-Hawkdun-Ida both highlight landscape, recreation, natural and historic features of the POL and adjoining lands. These strategies also contain a common objective to create the proposed Oteake Conservation Park through tenure review in order to give recognition and formal protection to these features.'

The Conservation Resources report notes that within Landscape Unit 1, the high tilted plateau, there is uniform intact tussock cover, *Chionocloa macra* and *C. rigida* on the eastern faces. The report notes that

"The edges of the fragile bog areas are showing signs of stock concentration which could have a long term adverse effect on the plant composition and naturalness of these inherently wet areas". It is further noted that:

"Localised impacts of sheep are apparent especially on the upper altitude margin of this community where it borders fellfield. Individual tussocks have been browsed to ground level. Faecal pellet loadings are high and pasture grasses/weeds are prevalent."

In low alpine bog areas damage has also been noted:

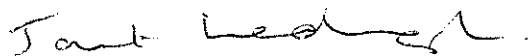
"Many *Oreobolus* bogs show signs of heavy use by sheep. Discarded comb sedge tufts lie on the surface of such areas and the native grass component is tightly cropped. Tussock margins are often heavily grazed with occasional dead tussocks evident. Wetter *Sphagnum* dominated bogs show pugging damage".

The slopes above the Otematata River at the eastern end of the area have been damaged by heavy grazing resulting in sparse tussock cover and there is an invasion of *Hieracium pilosella*.

***It is important that the grazing at current levels stops so that the detrimental effects noted above can be halted and the problems are not further exacerbated by continued grazing.***

There is an impression of outstanding natural landscape over the whole Mt Ida licence area which is worthy of being returned to the Crown and becoming part of the Oteake Conservation Park.

**The Dunedin Branch of Forest and Bird endorses the conclusions drawn in the Conservation Resources report and fully supports the proposal to retain the whole area in full Crown ownership and control.**



Janet Ledingham,  
For the Management Committee of the Dunedin Branch, Forest and Bird Protection Society.

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File Reference A/8/6  
Enquires to Lauren Clements (PA)  
Email lclements@waitaki.govt.nz



**Waitaki** DISTRICT COUNCIL

Waitaki District Council  
Private Bag 50058, Oamaru

Tel: 03-434 8060  
Fax: 03-434 8442

20 Thames Street  
Oamaru, New Zealand

16 November 2006

Commissioner of Crown Lands  
c/- DTZ New Zealand  
PO Box 27  
ALEXANDRA

Dear Commissioner

### **Mt Ida Syndicate Review**

I refer to the review which is currently underway for the block of land which is under pastoral lease to the Mt Ida Syndicate. This large area of 8,400 hectares is located within our District Council area and represents a financial contribution annually to the income of the Waitaki District Council.

**We oppose the proposition that the Lease be terminated and put under the control of the Department of Conservation as a Conservation area. Council wishes to be heard in respect of this submission.**

We have a number of points which we wish to outline in support of this particular submission:

1. Grazing

There has been considerable debate over the past few years as to the advantages and disadvantages resulting from grazing of the high country. At the High Country Landscape Management Forum held in September 2005 and co-ordinated by the Otago Regional Council, there were a number of papers presented which supported the proposition of ongoing grazing as an effective management tool for the high country.

It is clear that the practises which have been in place for over a hundred years on this particular block have not substantially changed the ecological balance of the area and our concern is that locking up this part of our District could in fact exacerbate the spread of unwanted species.

In his paper to the High Country Landscape Forum, Mr Peter Espee, a high country scientist with Ag Science Limited concluded that strategic grazing is an important tool for limiting the upright hircium species and could assist in managing conservation values. There were a number of other presenters who presented along similar lines at this forum. The publication is widely available - ISBN 1-877265-22-5 - proceedings compiled and edited by Rogers Lough.

Our own Councillor, Struan Munro will present information to you in his submission, outlining his experience as the former owner of Rugged Ridges Station – a property which bounds onto the Mt Ida run and his concerns with the spread of hircium particularly in the retired areas of Kyeburn and Sunny Peak Stations. Both areas have been returned to the DoC estate.

Council would also wish to express its concerns that lack of grazing could also lead to an over accumulation of vegetation creating a greater fire risk as a result of the lack of grazing of the area. This would pose significant risks both to existing bio-diversity and also to neighbouring properties.

2. Social Impact

Council is concerned that the impacts on the families who derive their income as a result of the availability of this large block of land has not been adequately considered. Clearly it will put a number of farming business under severe pressure; if indeed it does not force them to sell their existing farms in the Maniatoto. Our understanding is that this area has been grazed for 110 years and a number of social events which mark the annual farming cycle will be lost if the license is revoked.

3. Opportunity Cost

There does not appear to have been any major study of the cost benefit of a revocation of the Lease. From this Council's perspective, we will lose an annual rating income of over \$2,000 (2006/07 - \$2,103). This loss of rates will have to be carried by the balance of the rate payers of the District. This follows hard on the heels of the revocation of a number of other high country properties within the Waitaki District. This matter is of increasing concern to the Waitaki District Council and accordingly, on this basis alone, we wish to object to the proposal.

Notwithstanding the loss of rates however, there has been no assessment of effects of the locking up of this area. Not only will there be a significant loss of income from a national perspective but there will also be additional burdens placed on the tax payer through the requirement for maintenance costs to be met through the Department of Conservation. Thus for our rate payers we are losing both a ratepayer, and are likely to have to fund through taxes maintenance on the block via the Department of Conservation – costs which previously were covered by the licensee. Thus we have a double negative, less income generation and more costs to the country.

4. Land Management and Maintenance

A number of our rural rate payers living adjacent to the conservation estate are highly critical of DoC's lack of responsiveness in terms of meeting their obligations for both boundary fences and on-going maintenance of access tracks. If the Mt Ida block is to be retired, there will clearly be no further work done on track access which will mean that access to the high country will be limited. We have been advised by one particular farmer that repeated requests over a number of years have failed to result in DoC meeting its obligations for sharing costs on both access ways and boundary fencing. No doubt this continues to be a matter of concern for properties adjoining the DoC estates.

5. Safety Issues

Under current arrangements, members of the public do enjoy access across this particular block. To effect this access, they contact the licensees. This frequently involves access to adjoining properties and means that adjoining owners and lessees communicate in order to advise landowners of the fact that members of the public are going to be traversing land. Thus there is communication and knowledge of the activity which increases safety. In the event that DoC takes over this particular block, this liaison between property managers will create greater safety concerns.

6. Access to the Land

As mentioned in the paragraph above, the existing licensees of the Mt Ida syndicate have been willing to make access available to the public and I understand that this would be their intention for the future – should the license be renewed. If the land is transferred into the DoC estate to be managed, it will effectively be locked up and there will be no further access available by way of motorised transport. This will effectively close off the area for the vast majority of people interested in exploring the high country.

Indeed this area is huge and if it is to be accessed purely on foot, then to all intents and purposes it will be closed to the public.

7. Comments on the Objects of a Part Three Review

*Object A: - To Promote Management of the Land in a way that is ecologically sustainable.*

There has been no evidence presented as part of this review to suggest that the activities which have been carried out on this land by the current lessees for the last 110 years have adversely impacted upon the environment of the Mt Ida lease.

In terms of comments made earlier in this submission, we have concerns that by not grazing this land as has been done for the last century, may result in a number of adverse environmental affects which we are observing on adjoining blocks of land which have been returned into the DoC estate.

*Object B: - Protection of Significant Inherent Values*

Council's concern with the comment made under this section of the review is that we question whether retiring the land into the DoC Estate will enable this land to be "managed". Regrettably the consistent observation from high country farmers in our district is that DoC is not a good manager of the high country. We are advised where tenure review has recently been completed resulting in large tracks of land being transferred to the DoC estate, then this is the last that the land owner sees of the new land manager. To many, the term "Land Manager" in the context of retired high country is a complete farce.

Indeed, fences constructed as recently as 24 months ago are already damaged through snow fall and significant lengths of boundary fences have been rendered completely useless as a result. Under these conditions, therefore, how can retention of the land under DoC management achieve the outcomes you are seeking when wandering stock continues to invade these areas as a result of ineffective fence maintenance.

*Object C1: - Securing Public Access and Enjoyment to the Land*

As already pointed out in our submission, it is likely that vehicle access to the Mt Ida area will be closed off as a result of DoC taking over management of the area.



If this is case, the only access will be on foot or mountain bike and as such effective access to the majority of public of New Zealand will be denied. This access question is significant and is likely to be hotly contested by a number of submitters.

We are also concerned that existing huts may not be maintained and preserved insitu.

We agree that the area is highly valued for providing a remote experience for recreational users, However the majority of such users are all dependent on vehicle access. It is doubtful that the claimed benefit of cross-country skiing is likely to be achieved unless vehicle access is able to be continued. This matter is specifically referred to in the last part of your report. Your comment about lack of maintenance on the track is clearly understandable given the lack of certainty which the current lessees enjoy. Were a new "License to Occupy" to be granted, conditions requiring the maintenance of the tracks, huts and fencing could be included which would enable the current lessees to continue farming operations while at the same time providing for ongoing access to members of the public.

8. Conclusion

Council considers that the report prepared for the review of the Mt Ida Syndicate is flawed in a number of respects. When considering significant decisions, Local Government is charged with promoting commercial, cultural, economic and environmental well beings of its communities, both in the present and for the future. Revocation of the Mt Ida lease clearly fails on the first three of these and there is considerable evidence to suggest that it would also fail on the fourth. Thus Council believes that the situation should remain as status quo.

We suggest that a twenty-one year lease is negotiated with the existing lessees.

Yours sincerely



Michael Ross  
Chief Executive

195

①

15/11/06.

Kyeelums,  
R.D.3,  
Ramfury.

Commissioner of Crown Lands  
c/- DT2 New Zealand Ltd,  
Land Resources Division  
P.O. Box 21,  
Alexandra.

PREPARED	
DATE	
REVIEWED	

Dear Sir,

In response to your invitation to  
subside to written submissions on the  
designation of the Mt Ida syndicate as land  
retained in Full Crown ownership and  
control as a conservation area I submit  
the following: -

This land has been historically grazed  
(Summer Grazed only since 1969) by  
descendants, some now 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> generations  
of the Forefathers that realized its economic  
value 109 years ago.

The debilitating economic impact if we  
are to lose this valuable summer grazing  
on our downland properties and local  
communities is immense and much more  
critical in times of drought and low rainfall  
which the Maniototo is renowned for.

I cannot stress strongly enough the  
importance of the continued use of this  
land - both in monitored summer  
grazing and on-going public access  
These combined will contribute to the  
greater protection of this area both for the  
local communities and for a viable

## Farming Future.

Public access which is an issue of paramount importance to the people of N.Z. has been and will continue to be available and encouraged.

Many examples of this can be demonstrated and supported by the present tenants.

It is interesting to note that before this part of the high-country was tracked very few people ventured there. A wheel access now provides a large part of this enjoyment.

Are these tracks going to be maintained and access guaranteed under alternative stewardships? Therefore allowing this popular form of recreation and access to continue.

Again flow-on benefits exist through people experiencing the hospitality of our local communities.

Weed control (Wilding Pines, Broom Hyacinths etc) under the present stewardships is a cost inherently covered by the fact that grazing provides an effective alternative to the costly methods (and I suspect at the burden of the N.Z. taxpayer) of labour intensive controls and helicopter options.

It is to the ongoing prosperity of our rural communities - viability and security of our long standing farming families - wealth to the Nation - further management of our crown land that is non-irrevocably and ecologically sustainable -

protection of our S.I.V.'s and ongoing  
public access. That,

I John Murray Scott request that the  
disposal of Runs Part 362B 362c in fee  
simple be as outlined in part 3 86(5)(B)(ii)  
with proportions as the present syndicate.

Yours faithfully,

John Scott.