

Roberta Preston, Rhoborough Downs. Pukaki

Good morning, As a land owner I oppose plan change 13 and request it be withdrawn and the existing plan revamped to accommodate each property on its own merit.

The effect it could have on our property is devastating, with the restrictions you are suggesting.

Going into the 4th generation of Prestons on the property we made a long term plan through having an opportunity to enter into a process called Land Tenure.

We choose to do this for a number of reasons after a lot of thought and consideration.

To have the flats free holded at a huge cost we sacrificed our beautiful hill country on the Ben Ohau's .above 3.000 feet where our flock of merinos passed away the summer and grew quality fine wool.

, Financially as well as mentally this was a grueling process.

The Minister of Crown lands directed this process, to enable reviewable land capable of economic use to be freed from the management constraints and help runholders in the Mackenzie become more viable. Also to allow more access for the public into the mountains.

The property had been a crown pastoral lease since it was taken up in 1856, and we could see opportunity's to free up prime land by Lake Pukaki and the Pukaki Ohau canal, which had been sort after for many years, by investors.

This area had already been taken over by wilding trees and of no use for grazing purposes.

We believe that parts of our property lends itself to development, the rolling, forested terrain with water views is different to other parts of the basin, definitely not a natural landscape.

We also believe it is totally inapproiate for N.G.O.s and other so called experts to control our livelihoods.

Your proposed plan 13 makes a total mockery of Rhoborough going through land tenure.

Is rather contradictory to what government had in mind for us.

Having been in the tourism industry for 30 odd years have a little understanding what tourists like to view, photograph, and paint always mountains, lakes, farm buildings, irrigators, hay bales, machinery animals.

Iminagine if you can a rural landscape devoid of signs of human occupation. For example. Driving through in a storm, breaking down no signs of anywhere to go for help.

The Mackenzie is a working rural area that must develop, and evolve or it will be confined to bankruptcy.

Council have been allowed to potentially destroy one of the finest views in the Mackenzie by allowing an airfield development to be plonked on state highway 8 just north of Twizel where there is an unobstructed view of Mt Cook for many kms, the only change in natural landscape would be the poplar trees my late mother in law planted in the 1930's. As well as to the East toward the Holden road.

We enjoy living here as our family before us since 1919. It would be very sad to see your proposed plan stop the diversity of this property along with the rest of the Mackenzie.

Maybe Council could renegotiate with Gov. and get our High Country back, if they choose to continue to attempt to have such tight controls on diversity.

I ask you to withdraw the plan and start again this time with consultation, site visits and understanding.