

PC13 SECTION 293 REPORT

DESKTOP ASSESSMENT OF FARM BASE AREAS

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5th February 2016

Background and Method

The purpose of this assessment is to determine the accuracy of the Farm Base Areas identified in Attachment C (Landscape Map) of Mackenzie District Council's PC13 Section 293 Report. This desk-top assessment identifies areas within the mapped Farm Base Areas that appear undeveloped and that may support significant ecological values (i.e. significant indigenous vegetation and/or significant habitats of indigenous fauna). This assessment was undertaken at the request of David Caldwell (Tavendale and Partners) and Toni Morrison (Mackenzie District Council).

This assessment is based on analysis of aerial images photographed in 2014, overlain with boundaries of proposed Farm Base Areas. It is limited in some areas by the difficulty distinguishing between natural seepage wetlands and tall pasture; the presence of trees (especially crack willow) obscuring views of streams and wetlands, and the difficulty determining species composition of shrublands and grasslands. Areas which appear undeveloped or which possibly support wetland or woody indigenous vegetation are identified for field checking or re-mapping.

Assessment

The results of this assessment are presented in the table below. Properties are listed in alphabetical order. Property names are as identified on topographical maps.

Property	Assessment of Farm Base Area (FBA)	Recommended Action
Balmoral	All parts of FBA appear developed.	
Bendrose	Willow-infested stream along E boundary of FBA; unlikely to be significant.	
Ben Ohau	All parts of FBA appear developed.	
Black Forest	SW corner of FBA includes small part of Lake Benmore.	Re-map
Braemar	Willow infested ephemeral stream channels (?); One very small ephemeral tarn within developed pasture: unlikely to be significant.	
Curraghmore	All parts of FBA appear developed.	
Ferintosh	One area of sparse shrubland at S part of FBA: unlikely to be significant.	
Ferintosh South	(FBA south of Ferintosh) Extensive areas of shrubland and scrub on moraine; may be areas of seepage wetland.	Field check

Glen Lyon	Small tarn on moraine terrace at S part of FBA; Forest (beech?) in main gully at central part of FBA.	Field check
Glenmore	One very small ephemeral tarn within developed pasture: unlikely to be significant.	
Glentanner (N)	Small areas of scrub (matagouri?) on alluvium, adjacent to buildings: unlikely to be significant.	
Glentanner (S)	All parts of FBA appear developed.	
Glen Rock	All parts of FBA appear developed.	
Godley Peaks	SE corner of FBA overlaps with SONS boundary; Small area of willow-infested wetland at east side of FBA, south of farm buildings; NW part of FBA is on moraine which appears undeveloped.	Field check
Grampians	Small ephemeral tarn at N part of FBA; appears very modified: unlikely to be significant; Willow-infested stream within FBA: unlikely to be significant.	
Grays Hill	Small area of willow-infested ephemeral stream: unlikely to be significant.	
Guide Hill	East boundary of FBA overlaps with SONS (lake and wetland).	Re-map or field check
Haldon	Small area of wetland (?) along stream at E part of FBA: unlikely to be significant; One small ephemeral tarn at S end of FBA; appears modified: unlikely to be significant; FBA includes Stony Stream.	Re-map to exclude Stony Stream?
Holbrook	All parts of FBA appear developed.	
Irishman Creek	Parts of Irishman Creek (water body) within E part of FBA: should be excluded from FBA.	Re-map
Lilybank	Small area of shrubland (matagouri?) on moraine at NE corner of FBA: unlikely to be significant.	
Maryburn	Pond (artificial?) adjacent to homestead: unlikely to be significant.	
Mt Cook Station	Areas of shrubland/scrub (matagouri) near buildings and plantation: unlikely to be significant; One very small ephemeral tarn at N part of FBA; appears modified.	Field check
Mt Gerald	Small area of scrub (matagouri?) on alluvial flats near homestead: unlikely to be significant; Areas of shrubland/scrub near road, with small stream channels: unlikely to be significant; Ephemeral tarn at NW corner of FBA, with willow-infested wetland (?) to south.	Field check
Mt Hay	Small areas of wetland/pasture (?) at west and northeast parts of FBA, adjacent to road.	Field check
Omahau	Meandering stream along NE part of FBA, possibly with small areas of wetland vegetation; Wetland (?) at N part of FBA.	Field check
Pukaki Downs	Small pond with wetland margin (may be artificial) at N part of FBA.	Re-map or field check

Rhoborough	Small stream within FBA, with modified margins: unlikely to be significant.	
Richmond	Small areas of seepage/stream infested with willow: unlikely to be significant.	
Sawdon	Pond (probably artificial) near road at S part of FBA; Willow-infested stream near farm buildings; Areas of wetland at N and NE edge of FBA.	Re-map to exclude N and NE wetlands
Simons Hill	Small ephemeral meandering stream at E part of FBA: unlikely to be significant.	
Simons Pass	Small wetland seepage (?) on hill slope; appears modified: unlikely to be significant.	
Streamlands	Small area of wetland vegetation (?) at centre of FBA; appears highly modified: unlikely to be significant.	
Tasman Downs	On moraine but all parts of FBA appear developed.	
The Wolds	Willow-infested stream along W boundary of FBA; Undeveloped (?) outwash surface at S part of FBA.	Field check

Notes:

Re-map = re-draw FBA boundaries to exclude the possibly significant area.

Field check = ground survey of that part of the FBA to confirm presence or absence of significant ecological values

FBA = Farm Base Area

N = North (S = south etc.)

SONS = Site of Natural Significance (as mapped in District Plan)