



Significant Natural Area Assessment			
Project No: <i>11001/011</i>	Property Name: <i>Minaret Station</i> Site Name: <i>Minaret Burn SNA D</i>	Ecologist: <i>Glenn Davis</i> Date: <i>12 May 2011</i>	
Survey Undertaken By: <i>Glenn Davis and Ralph Henderson</i>		<u>Waypoint No (mid-point of survey area):</u> <i>1. E: 2198500 N: 5624500</i>	
LENZ Units: <i>Q2.2b</i> Ecological District: <i>Wanaka Ecological District</i>		Photo No.(s): <i>See below.</i>	
Topography: <i>Lower hillslope</i>	Slope: <i>30°</i>	Altitude: <i>300 masl</i>	Aspect: <i>E</i>
Threatened Environment Status: <i>Critically Underprotected</i>		Area Size (ha): <i>91.4</i>	
Representativeness: Historically the vegetation on the lake faces adjacent to Minaret Burn comprised a beech forest. The communities associated with this assessment are regenerating broadleaved indigenous hardwoods and manuka woodland. These communities are both representative of mid successional vegetation development within this environment.			
Are there threatened species expected/identified in the survey area? If so, list species and threat status.			
Threatened Species		Threat Status	
<i>None observed.</i>			
Provide onsite description of vegetation: Vegetation type: Shrubland mosaic consisting of manuka/kanuka woodland and broadleaved indigenous hardwoods and beech forest. Site only viewed from helicopter. Degree of Modification: The area has experienced extensive disturbance (mainly fires), but has had a prolonged spell from clearing activities given the regenerating nature of the vegetation.			
Provide onsite description of fauna habitat: The vegetation is expected to support a range of indigenous invertebrate and bird species.			
Threats/Risks to vegetation and flora/fauna species? (Weeds, predators, current management practices): Key threats include grazing of regenerating shrubland and the risk of inadvertent events such as fire given the proximity to the lake.			
Rarity: The threatened environment classification identifies indigenous vegetation cover associated with the Q2.2b environment to be at critically underprotected, with 44.68% indigenous vegetation cover remaining and 1.96% formally protected.			

<p>Area Size and Shape (degree to which the area may be or is becoming self-sustaining): The site is regenerating strongly and will continue to develop providing the area is not affected by inadvertent fire or pastoral clearing activities.</p>
<p>Diversity and Pattern (is there a notable range of species and habitats, aspects, sequences?): The area consists of two vegetation communities including kanuka/manuka woodland and broadleaved indigenous hardwoods and is part of an uninterrupted sequence of indigenous vegetation from the lakeshore to alpine environment.</p>
<p>Distinctiveness/special ecological characteristics (unusual veg. & landform features, distribution limits?): The area does not contain any known distinctive ecological characteristics.</p>
<p>Connectivity (how is the site connected to surrounding communities/areas?): The shrubland is connected to the lakeshore kanuka woodland and patches of beech forest in the Minaret Burn.</p>
<p>Sustainability (does the site possess the resilience to maintain its ecological integrity and processes?): The site is of an area that is sufficient to provide a permanent habitat for a range of indigenous invertebrate and bird species. Ecological processes such as vegetation development and succession, disturbance events and recruitment will all be viable within this site.</p>
<p>Recommendation (Accept/Decline): The vegetation and habitat is a good example of vegetation that is representative of mid successional development of vegetation in this critically underprotected environment. Although the vegetation is mid successional, the site is significant in that it provides the opportunity to maintain a lakeshore to alpine environment vegetation sequence.</p> <p>Based on the above considerations we recommend this area for inclusion as an area of Significant Indigenous Vegetation and Fauna Habitat.</p>

Figure 1: The area of potential significance - Minaret Burn SNA D - B11D.

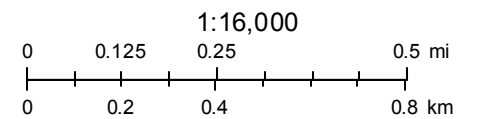


September 30, 2014

Proposed Significant Natural Area

Parcels

Proposed Significant Natural Area



Please note the area shown is indicative and only for discussion purposes.



Figure 2: Minaret Burn - photo taken from the south side of Minaret Burn within the Minaret Burn valley – shows the vegetation on the lower slopes with beech forest at the toe of the slopes.



Figure 3: Photo looking southwest toward Minaret Burn – shows the development of the broadleaved forest.