



<b>Significant Natural Area Assessment</b>			
Project No:  11001/006	Property Name: <i>Walter Peak</i>  Site Name: <i>Von-White Burn SNA B</i>	Ecologist: <i>N. Simpson</i>  Date: 26/04/11	
Survey Undertaken By: <i>N. Simpson, D. Palmer and R. Henderson.</i>		Waypoint No (mid point of survey area): <i>E: 345 Topo50 CC10</i> <i>N: 825</i>	
LENZ Unit: <i>O 1.4a, P 5.2</i>  Ecological District: <i>Eyre</i>		Photo No.(s): <i>No Photos.</i>	
Topography: <i>Gently rolling.</i>	Slope: <i>5 – 20 %</i>	Altitude: <i>700 m</i>	Aspect: <i>South</i>
Threatened Environment Status: <i>Comparatively safe from clearance.</i>		Natural Area Size (ha): <i>31.12</i>	
Representativeness: Excellent example of high country wetland containing a number of threatened plants and high diversity.			
Are there threatened species expected in the survey area? If so, list species and threat status.			
Threatened Species		Threat Status	
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>		At Risk - Declining	
<i>Carex carsei</i>		At Risk – Naturally Uncommon	
<i>Ranunculus ternatifolius</i>		Threatened – Naturally Vulnerable	
<i>Ranunculus maculatus</i>		At Risk – Naturally Uncommon	
<i>Kirkianella novae-zelandiae</i>		Threatened – Naturally Vulnerable	
Provide onsite description of vegetation:			
Vegetation type: Wetland and hard tussock land.			
Structural Class: Bog.			
A series of extensive ponds and bogs with red tussock merging into dryland hard tussockland. Sphagnum moss, rushes and sedges common with <i>Dracophyllum prostratum</i> and small herbs, mosses and liverworts as well as several threatened plants. Surrounding dryland with hard tussock, <i>Hebe propinqua</i> , <i>Coprosma cheesemanii</i> , blue tussock and various small shrubs and herbs. Exotic grasses also present.			
Degree of Modification: Slight modification but exotic species only a minor component generally. Area is grazed.			
Degree of Recruitment: Self-sustaining communities.			
Overall Health: Healthy.			

<p>Provide onsite description fauna habitat –species recorded or expected to be present: Open country and wetland fauna present.</p>
<p>Threats to vegetation and flora/fauna species? (Weeds, predators, current management practices): Grey willow has encroached on the wetland and will continue to increase unless it is removed. Increase stock numbers would also present a threat to the vegetation.</p>
<p>Rarity: Wetland communities are severely restricted nationally from their original extent and distribution. This wetland complex also includes a number of rare plant species.</p>
<p>Area Shape and Area/Edge Ratio: Extensive area melding into the further adjacent wetland and dry tussock land (i.e. proposed <i>North Von, Lower wetlands SNA A</i>).</p>
<p>Diversity and Pattern (is there a notable range of species and habitats, aspects, sequences?): Very good diversity of plant species and communities.</p>
<p>Distinctiveness/special ecological characteristics (unusual veg. &amp; landform features, distribution limits?) This site is distinctive given the presence of a threatened community (i.e. wetlands) and threatened plants.</p>
<p>Connectivity (how is the site connected to surrounding communities/areas?) Well connected to the surrounding wetland and dry tussock land, which adds to its biodiversity.</p>
<p>Sustainability (does the site possess the resilience to maintain its ecological integrity and processes?) The area is sustainable and would be improved by the removal of grey willow.</p>
<p>Recommendation: We recommend the area is considered for designation as a SNA based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The wetland is highly representative of this environment;</li> <li>• Nationally, the extent and distribution of wetlands is severely restricted, which is supported by the proposed National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity that includes wetlands in the description of significant vegetation and habitat; and</li> <li>• The wetland contains a number of rare plant species.</li> </ul>

Figure 1: The area of potential significance - Von-White Burn SNA B - D6B.

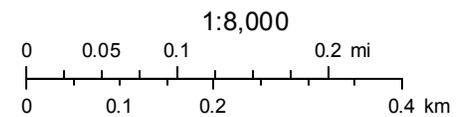


June 22, 2015

Proposed Significant Natural Area

Parcels

Proposed Significant Natural Area



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