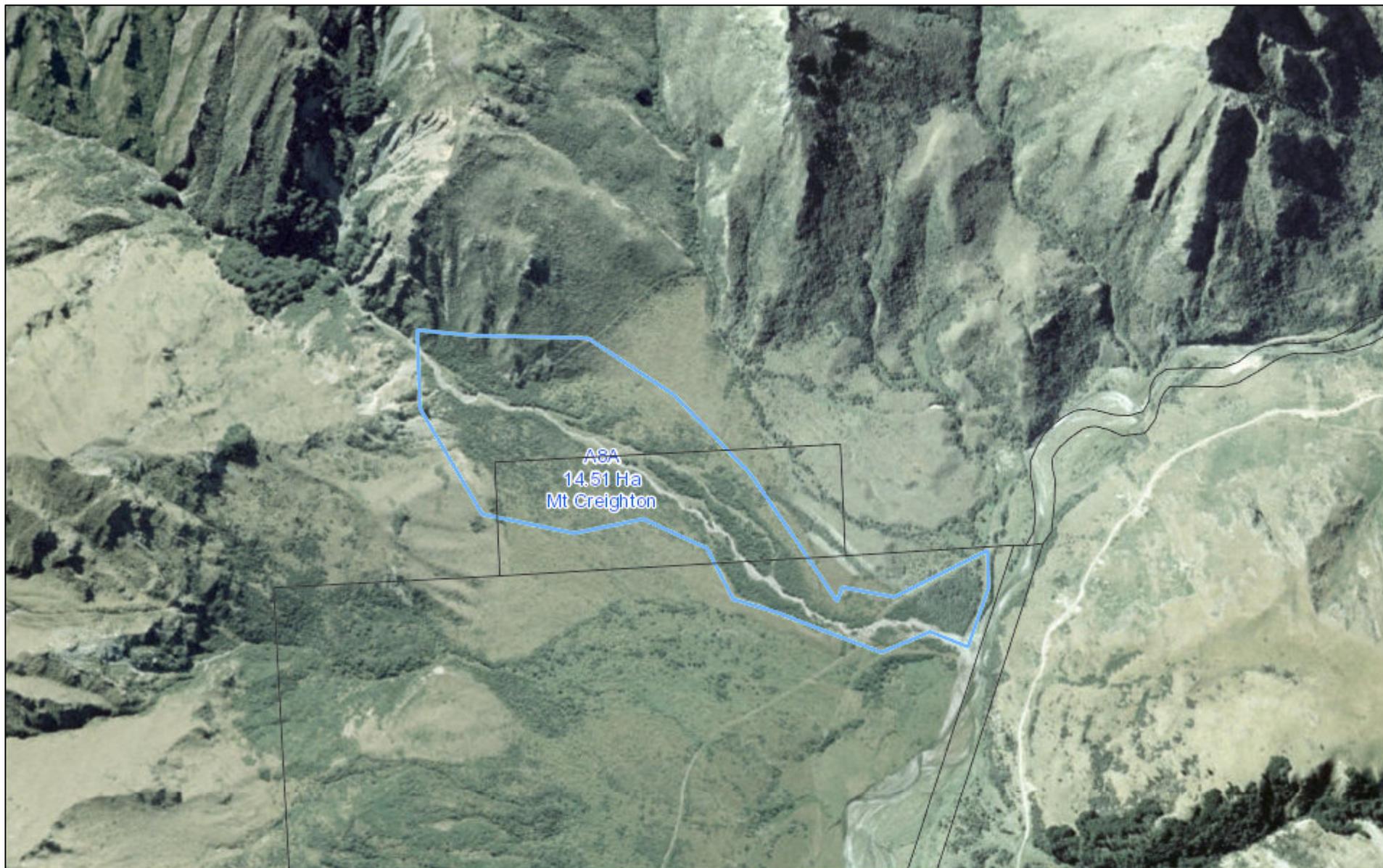




<b>Significant Natural Area Assessment</b>			
Project No:  11001/008	Property Name: <i>Mt. Creighton</i>  Site Name: <i>Fan Creek Shrublands SNA A</i>	Ecologist: <i>N. Simpson</i>  Date: 14/04/11	
Survey Undertaken By: <i>N. Simpson and G. Davis.</i>		Waypoint No (mid-point of survey area): <i>E: 510 Topo50 CB 10 N: 098</i>	
LENZ Unit: <i>K3.2a</i>  Ecological District: <i>Shotover</i>		Photo No.(s): <i>See attached.</i>	
Topography: <i>Toe slope and fan.</i>	Slope: <i>10 – 30 %</i>	Altitude: <i>540 m</i>	Aspect: <i>East</i>
Threatened Environment Status: <i>At Risk (20-30% left)</i>		Natural Area Size (ha): <i>14.51</i>	
Representativeness: Representative of grey shrubland on alluvial fan.			
Are there threatened species expected in the survey area? If so, list species and threat status.			
Threatened Species		Threat Status	
<i>Leonohebe cupressoides</i>		Threatened - Nationally Endangered	
<i>Falco novaeseelandiae</i> "eastern" (eastern NZ falcon)		At Risk - Recovering	
Provide onsite description of vegetation:			
Vegetation type: Grey shrubland. Old matagouri with <i>Olearia odorata</i> , <i>Coprosma propinqua</i> , <i>Aristotelia fruticosa</i> , <i>Carmichaelia petriei</i> , briar. Very little old matagouri left in the district.			
Degree of Modification: Modified by fire and grazing, but good example of this shrubland.			
Degree of Recruitment: Little evidence of regeneration of indigenous species i.e. slow recruitment. Influenced by an understorey of introduced grasses.			
Overall Health: Healthy, still grazed.			
Provide onsite description fauna habitat –species recorded or expected to be present: Fauna typical of open shrubland in grassland. Expect a variety of indigenous bird species such as silvereye, tomtit and fantail, in addition to a range of introduced species. All will support falcon populations. In addition, <i>Olearia</i> is present, which is a host plant to a specific suite of indigenous invertebrates.			

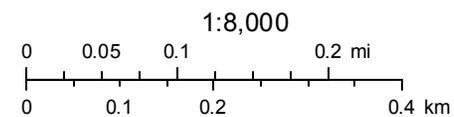
<p>Threats to vegetation and flora/fauna species? (Weeds, predators, current management practices):</p> <p>Threats include increased grazing pressure, fire and wild conifers.</p>
<p>Rarity:</p> <p>This community with its old, large-trunked matagouri is quite rare. Indigenous vegetation within this LENZ environment covers 20-30% of its original extent and is listed as "at risk" under the threatened environment classification.</p>
<p>Area Shape and Area/Edge Ratio:</p> <p>Fan is connected to good shrubland on steep hill slopes behind with mountain beech nearby.</p>
<p>Diversity and Pattern (is there a notable range of species and habitats, aspects, sequences?):</p> <p>Typical grey shrubland species. Not particularly diverse.</p>
<p>Distinctiveness/special ecological characteristics (unusual veg. &amp; landform features, distribution limits?):</p> <p>Distinct because of its age.</p>
<p>Connectivity (how is the site connected to surrounding communities/areas?):</p> <p>Connected to surrounding shrubland and beech forest.</p>
<p>Sustainability (does the site possess the resilience to maintain its ecological integrity and processes?):</p> <p>Sustainable.</p>
<p>Recommendations (Accept/Decline):</p> <p>We consider this area should be considered for designation as an SNA based on the following values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Important passerine habitat that is critical for maintenance of falcon populations.</li> <li>• Contains species that are specific hosts to a range of indigenous invertebrates (e.g. Olearia).</li> <li>• Contains a good population of old mature matagouri.</li> </ul>

Figure 1: The area of potential significance - Fan Creek Shrublands SNA A - A8A



September 29, 2014

- Proposed Significant Natural Area
- ▭ Parcels
- ▭ Proposed Significant Natural Area



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



**Figure 2:** Fan Creek Shrublands.