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<b>Significant Natural Area Assessment</b>			
Project No: <i>11001/026</i>	Property Name: <i>Avalon Station</i> Site Name: <i>Avalon Station SNA B</i>	Ecologist: <i>Glenn Davis and Neill Simpson</i> Date: <i>29 March 2012</i>	
Survey Undertaken By: <i>Glenn Davis, Neill Simpson and Ralph Henderson</i>		Waypoint No (mid-point of survey area): <i>See attached plan for location</i>	
LENZ Unit: <i>N4.1d</i> Ecological District: <i>Wanaka Ecological District</i>		Photo No.(s): <i>See attached.</i>	
Topography: <i>Steep valley slope.</i>	Slope: <i>Steep</i>	Altitude: <i>approx.490 masl</i>	Aspect: <i>West</i>
Threatened Environment Status: <i>Chronically threatened</i>		Area Size (ha): <i>11.59</i>	
Representativeness: <i>Grey shrubland – dominant indigenous vegetation cover in the drier areas of the Wanaka Ecological District and Lakes Ecological Region.</i>			
Are there threatened species expected/identified in the survey area? If so, list species and threat status.			
Threatened Species		Threat Status	
<i>Falco novaezealandiae</i> "eastern" (eastern NZ Falcon)		At Risk - Recovering	
Provide onsite description of vegetation:			
Vegetation type: The vegetation was only viewed from the air, but the vegetation composition is dominated by good populations of <i>Olearia</i> spp., <i>Coprosma propinqua</i> , <i>matagouri</i> and <i>Corokia cotoneaster</i> , in addition to the native lianes <i>Rubus schmidelioides</i> and <i>Meuhlenbeckia australis</i> .			
Degree of Modification: The area has experienced historical disturbance (e.g. fire) and is fragmented. Given the age and development of the mature vegetation it appears the site hasn't been disturbed by any extensive fire, or other means, for a prolonged period in excess of 10-15 years.			
Overall Health: A closed canopy stand has developed in parts although the subject area is also fragmented and is part of a working pastoral operation.			
Provide onsite description of fauna habitat: The shrubland provides habitat for a variety of passerines that are prey for the eastern falcon that is expected to hunt in the area. The population of mature olearia is expected to support a unique, diverse and abundant invertebrate fauna.			

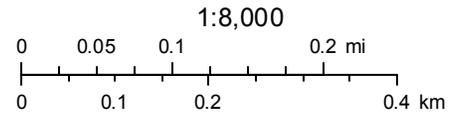
<p>Threats to vegetation and flora/fauna species? (Weeds, predators, current management practices):</p> <p>The woody weed population appeared to be relatively low in the subject site, although the briar cover is high on the hillslopes adjacent to the site. Current management is sympathetic to this vegetation.</p>
<p>Rarity:</p> <p>The threatened environment classification identifies the N4.1d environment to have 18.6% indigenous vegetation cover remaining, with 2.3% protected.</p>
<p>Area Size and Shape (degree to which the area may be or is becoming self-sustaining):</p> <p>The size and shape of the vegetation is elongated being situated adjacent to a creek line.</p>
<p>Diversity and Pattern (is there a notable range of species and habitats, aspects, sequences?):</p> <p>The shrubland contains a range of grey shrubland species and is notable for the presence of a good population of mature tree daisys.</p>
<p>Distinctiveness/special ecological characteristics (unusual veg. &amp; landform features, distribution limits?):</p> <p>The shrubland is distinctive within the ecological district for the population of olearia. Many of these shrublands are dominated by matagouri and briar.</p>
<p>Connectivity (how is the site connected to surrounding communities/areas?):</p> <p>The site is directly connected to vegetation and habitats on neighbouring hillslopes that are dominated by bracken fern and briar.</p>
<p>Sustainability (does the site possess the resilience to maintain its ecological integrity and processes?):</p> <p>While the area is stocked, the area will lack the ability to naturally regenerate. Key ecological processes are therefore lacking to ensure the long-term sustainability of the stand.</p>
<p>Recommendation (Accept/Decline):</p> <p>The riparian shrubland is a good example of vegetation that is representative of this environment and has become rare, particularly within the drier areas of the Lakes District. It is also important as habitat for a diverse and abundant invertebrate fauna, and passerines that are critical for the maintenance of the eastern falcon population. Given the high level of representativeness and rarity of quality grey shrubland in these LENZ environments we consider the area should be considered for designation as a Significant Indigenous Vegetation and Fauna Habitat.</p>

Figure 1: The area of potential significance - Avalon Station SNA B - F26B.



October 3, 2014

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



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



**Figure 2:** Photographic representation of the SNA B site.



**Figure 3:** Photographic representation of the SNA B site.