



Significant Natural Area Assessment

Project No: <i>11001/018</i>	Property Name: <i>Dunphy</i> Site Name: <i>Mt Iron SNA H</i>	Ecologist: <i>Glenn Davis</i> Date: <i>17 November 2011</i>
---------------------------------	---	--

Survey Undertaken By: <i>Glenn Davis and Ralph Henderson</i>	Waypoint No (mid-point of survey area): <i>See plans attached for location information.</i>
--	--

LENZ Units: <i>N4.1d</i> Ecological District: <i>Wanaka Ecological District</i>	Photo No.(s): <i>See attached.</i>
--	---------------------------------------

Topography: <i>Hill slopes</i>	Slope: <i>Variable</i>	Altitude: <i>400 masl</i>	Aspect: <i>Various</i>
--------------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------	------------------------

Threatened Environment Status: <i>Chronically threatened</i>	Area Size (ha): <i>4.87</i>
---	-----------------------------

Representativeness:
 Pre-settlement vegetation representative of N4 LENZ environments is understood to have consisted of kanuka, matagouri, coprosmas, olearias, native brooms and kowhai. The vegetation on the Dunphy property lacks the diversity of the original vegetation cover, but is still considered representative of the original vegetation cover.

Are there threatened species expected/identified in the survey area? If so, list species and threat status.

Threatened Species	Threat Status
None observed.	

Provide onsite description of vegetation:

Vegetation type: *Kanuka woodland.*

Degree of Modification: *The area has experienced extensive historical disturbance with the lack of woodland diversity a clear indication species have been lost through multiple disturbance events. Notwithstanding this point, the kanuka woodland remains a representative example of a community within the N4 LENZ unit. In addition to the disturbance history, east faces of Mt Iron have been infested with the woody weed broom, which further leads to the modification of the vegetation.*

Overall health: *The area is in good overall health.*

Provide onsite description of fauna habitat:
 The kanuka woodland is expected to provide habitat for the following species:
 Birds – indigenous insectivorous birds including bellbird, fantail, grey warbler, tomtit and possibly tui.

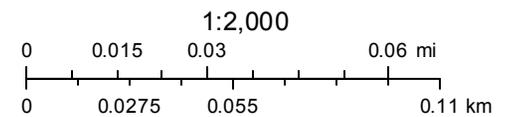
<p>Herpetofauna – the Common skink, McCanns skink, Southern Alps Gecko and Cromwell Gorge Gecko.</p> <p>Invertebrates – the kanuka woodland canopy has closed in some places and will provide the conditions for the development of a litter layer which will support a range of invertebrates.</p>
<p>Threats to vegetation and flora/fauna species? (Weeds, predators, current management practices):</p> <p>Key threats include the risk of inadvertent events such as fire and the invasion of woody weeds and wilding conifers.</p>
<p>Rarity:</p> <p>The threatened environment classification identifies indigenous vegetation cover associated with the N4.1d environment to be chronically threatened, with only 18.6% indigenous vegetation cover remaining and 2.3% formally protected. The Proposed National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity considers indigenous vegetation within this environment should be considered significant under section 6c of the Resource Management Act.</p>
<p>Area Size and Shape (degree to which the area may be or is becoming self-sustaining):</p> <p>The kanuka woodland on the Dunphy property is directly connected to the kanuka woodland that is the dominant vegetative cover of Mt Iron and should be viewed in the context of the overall cover of Mt Iron rather than the coverage on the Dunphy property alone.</p>
<p>Diversity and Pattern (is there a notable range of species and habitats, aspects, sequences?):</p> <p>The kanuka woodland has a generally low level of botanical diversity.</p>
<p>Distinctiveness/special ecological characteristics (unusual veg. & landform features, distribution limits?):</p> <p>Mt Iron is a roche moutonee that is a distinctive geological feature of the Wanaka area.</p>
<p>Connectivity (how is the site connected to surrounding communities/areas?):</p> <p>The woodland is directly connected to the vegetation covering of Mt Iron and is also in close proximity to kanuka woodland adjacent to Lake Wanaka.</p>
<p>Sustainability (does the site possess the resilience to maintain its ecological integrity and processes?):</p> <p>Within the context of the Mt Iron kanuka woodland, the area associated with the Dunphy property is considered a sustainable stand with key ecological processes, such as ongoing recruitment and the support of indigenous wildlife.</p>
<p>Recommendation (Accept/Decline):</p> <p>The vegetation and habitat is a degraded representation of the original vegetation cover of Mt Iron. Notwithstanding this point, the kanuka woodland is representative of this environment and forms part of a relatively extensive area of indigenous vegetation within a chronically threatened environment.</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 - Mt Iron SNA H - E18H.



June 22, 2015

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



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



Figure 2: The area of potential significance in the background of the photography on the Dunphy property.



Figure 3: The area of potential significance in the background of the photography on the Dunphy property.