

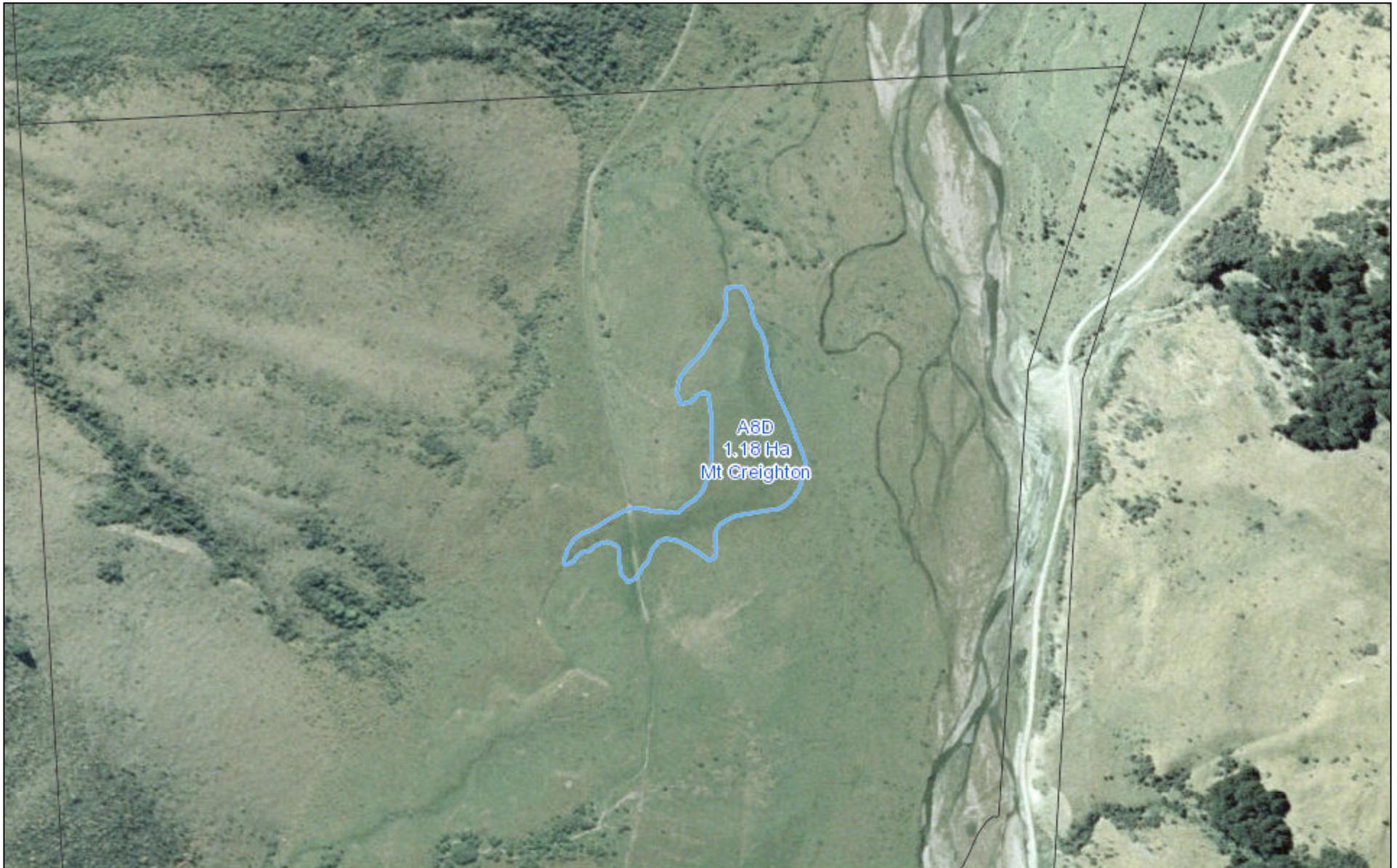


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Significant Natural Area Assessment			
Project No: 11001-008	Property Name: <i>Mt Creighton</i> Site Name: <i>Moke Creek Swamp Wetland SNA D</i>	Ecologist: <i>N. Simpson & G. Davis.</i> Date: 14/4/11	
Survey Undertaken By: <i>N. Simpson & G. Davis.</i>		Waypoint No (mid-point of survey area): <i>E: 2161130</i> <i>N: 5571000</i>	
LENZ Unit: <i>M 2.2b</i> Ecological District: <i>Shotover</i>		Photo No.(s): <i>See below.</i>	
Topography: <i>River terrace.</i>	Slope: <i>0.5</i>	Altitude: <i>519 m asl</i>	Aspect: <i>Flat</i>
Threatened Environment Status: <i>At Risk</i>		Natural Area Size (ha): <i>1.18</i>	
Representativeness: A wetland community is representative of this environment however historical pastoral activities such as drainage and grazing have significantly degraded the condition of the wetland.			
Are there threatened species expected in the survey area? If so, list species and threat status.			
Threatened Species		Threat Status	
<i>Carex berggrenii</i>		At Risk - Naturally Uncommon	
<i>Myosotis tenericaulis</i>		At Risk - Naturally Uncommon	
Provide onsite description of vegetation: Vegetation type: Wetland Marsh - Sedgeland/rushland that is largely exotic but with a range of indigenous species especially around the edges that include <i>Carex berggrenii</i> , introduced rushes, some Sphagnum moss, <i>Prunella vulgaris</i> , <i>Gnaphalium laterale</i> , <i>Acaena inermis</i> , <i>Gonocarpus micranthus</i> , <i>Hydrocotyle sulcata</i> , <i>Carex gaudichaudiana</i> and mosses. Degree of Modification: Highly modified with numerous introduced species dominating. Grazed and trampled. Degree of Recruitment: Low. Overall Health: Some drainage has occurred in the past but is no longer effective. Under present management style there is unlikely to be much change in the foreseeable future.			
Provide onsite description fauna habitat – species recorded or expected to be present: Common species of open country birds and insects.			

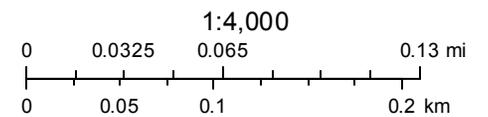
<p>Threats to vegetation and flora/fauna species? (Weeds, predators, current management practices): Threats to the site are long grazing history by cattle and further drainage.</p>
<p>Rarity: Wetlands are classed as threatened and rare. The proposed National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity recognises the importance of protecting our remaining wetlands and proposes that wetland vegetation and habitat is considered significant under regional and territorial authority regulatory documents (e.g. District Plans).</p>
<p>Area Shape and Area/Edge Ratio: The wetland is of a reasonable size and is considered self-sustaining under current hydrological regime.</p>
<p>Diversity and Pattern (is there a notable range of species and habitats, aspects, sequences?): Low diversity.</p>
<p>Distinctiveness/special ecological characteristics (unusual veg. & landform features, distribution limits?): Presence of <i>Carex berggrenii</i>, an 'At Risk' species, is a notable feature. It also occurs on the damp river terrace nearby.</p>
<p>Connectivity (how is the site connected to surrounding communities/areas?): Good connection with surrounding rough pasture.</p>
<p>Sustainability (does the site possess the resilience to maintain its ecological integrity and processes?): Providing the current hydrological regime is maintained the condition of the wetland is expected to be maintained.</p>
<p>Recommendation (Accept/Decline): Whilst we recognise the ecological values of Moke Creek wetland are degraded, wetlands are listed under the proposed National Policy Statement as significant and the wetland does have some indigenous values of note (in particular the presence of <i>Carex berggrenii</i>). The combination of the size of the wetland, the threatened nature of the wetland systems and presence of a rare plant species provide support for further consideration of the site as Significant Indigenous Vegetation and Fauna Habitat.</p>

Figure 1: The area of potential significance - Moke Creek Swamp Wetland SNA D - A8D.



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: Photo of wetland taken from helicopter.