



Significant Natural Area Assessment			
Project No: 11001/015	Property Name: <i>Mt Albert Station</i> Site Name: <i>Mt Albert Burn & Craigie Burn Kanuka Woodlands SNA A</i>	Ecologist: <i>Glenn Davis & Neill Simpson</i> Date: <i>15 December 2011</i>	
Survey Undertaken By: <i>Glenn Davis, Neill Simpson & Ralph Henderson</i>		Waypoint No (mid-point of survey area): <i>See attached plans.</i>	
LENZ Unit: <i>M2.2b Lakeshore fans</i> Ecological District: <i>Arawata Ecological District.</i>		Photo No.(s): <i>See attached.</i>	
Topography: <i>Lakeside fans</i>	Slope: <i>Flat</i>	Altitude: <i>300 m asl</i>	Aspect: <i>East facing</i>
Threatened Environment Status: <i>At Risk</i>		Natural Area Size (ha): <i>94.25</i>	
Representativeness: Lakeshore fan communities, highly representative of this LENZ environment.			
Are there threatened species expected in the survey area? If so, list species and threat status.			
Threatened Species		Threat Status	
<i>Olearia lineata</i>		<i>At Risk - Declining</i>	
Provide onsite description of vegetation: <i>Lakeshore fan communities</i> - dense kanuka forest on flat river fans where the Craigie Burn and Albert Burn flow into the lake. The wet flats on the north side of the Albert Burn contain an excellent population of <i>Olearia lineata</i> growing along a small stream. Both old, mature trees and young plants are present.			
Degree of Modification: Some modification has occurred, but the kanuka stands are developing strongly.			
Degree of Recruitment: Strong recruitment over much of the land adjacent to the lake.			
Overall Health: Good health overall, regenerating and mature communities.			
Provide onsite description fauna habitat – species recorded or expected to be present: Fauna is typical of shrubland and forest communities (i.e. birds, lizards and invertebrates), as well as many open-land birds and insects.			
Threats to vegetation and flora/fauna species? (Weeds, predators, current management practices): Threats to the vegetation are fire and possible weed infestation.			

<p>Rarity: Indigenous vegetation cover on the M2.2b environment is 22%, of which 8% is formally protected. In our view, the kanuka forest on lakeshore fans is rare in the Lakes District. <i>Olearia lineata</i> is listed as “At Risk - declining”.</p>
<p>Area Shape and Area/Edge Ratio: The areas have a relatively low edge – area ratio, which indicates the edge effects on the kanuka stands are reduced and provides for a larger area of habitat that is sheltered from external influences such as climatic effects, weeds and pests.</p>
<p>Diversity and Pattern (is there a notable range of species and habitats, aspects, sequences?): Good range of species present and clear evidence of a functioning ecosystem with regeneration of species in tree gaps and open areas.</p>
<p>Distinctiveness/special ecological characteristics (unusual veg. & landform features, distribution limits?): The distinctive ecological characteristics are the rare lakeshore kanuka and <i>Olearia lineata</i>, as mentioned above.</p>
<p>Connectivity (how is the site connected to surrounding communities/areas?): The areas are well connected to beech forests in the Craigie Burn and Albert Burn, and are part of a relatively intact sequence of lakeshore to alpine indigenous cover.</p>
<p>Sustainability (does the site possess the resilience to maintain its ecological integrity and processes?): The areas are sustainable and likely to return, more or less, to its original state over time if no longer farmed.</p>
<p>Recommendation (Accept/Decline): These stands are highly representative of lakeshore communities, appear to have a full range of ecosystem functions and will provide excellent habitat for birds, lizards and invertebrates. These areas should be taken forward for further consideration as Significant Indigenous Vegetation and Fauna Habitat.</p>

Figure 1a: Area of potential significance - Craigie Burn Kanuka Woodlands SNA A - B15A_1-2.

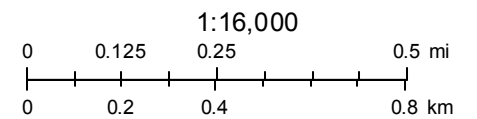


September 30, 2014

Proposed Significant Natural Area

Parcels

Proposed Significant Natural Area



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

Figure 1b: Area of potential significance - Mt Albert Burn Kanuka Woodlands SNA A - B15A_3

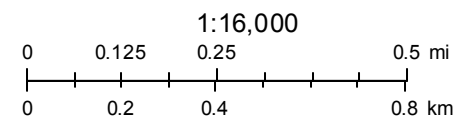


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Figure 2: The Albert Burn kanuka woodland.



Figure 3: The Craigie Burn kanuka woodland.