

SUBMISSION ON A COURT DIRECTED CHANGE TO A PLAN

TO: Queenstown Lakes District Council

SUBMISSION ON: Proposed alterations to the mapping and landscape classification of the Clutha River / Mata Au Outstanding Natural Feature (ONF) Corridor

NAME: Director-General of Conservation

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STATEMENT OF SUBMISSION BY THE

DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Pursuant to section 293 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) the Director-General of the Department of Conservation (the Director-General) makes the following submission regarding the proposed alterations to the mapping and landscape classification of the Clutha River / Mata Au Outstanding Natural Feature (ONF) Corridor in the proposed Queenstown Lake District Plan by the Queenstown Lakes District Council.

1. The Department of Conservation manages large areas of public conservation lands located within the Clutha River / Mata Au Outstanding Natural Feature (ONF) Corridor. This land is classified and managed as Scenic Reserve, Conservation Area, and Marginal Strip.
2. These managed areas are accessible to the public for recreation and enjoyment of the scenic and natural qualities the area retains. The river corridor within and in places outside land managed by the Department retains significant indigenous biodiversity values, including threatened land environments, and important habitats for species classified as At Risk or Threatened.
3. I support in full the proposed change to the overlay classification for the Clutha River / Mata Au Corridor from outstanding natural landscape to outstanding natural feature as directed

by the Environment Court under section 293 of the RMA. I find this to be a logical change to the planning maps and given the endorsement of landscape experts as part of the process I agree that this is necessary and will be complimentary to the management of public conservation land along this corridor.

4. I seek that the proposed change to the District Plan is made under section 293 of the RMA, as notified.



Nicola J Holmes

Pou Matarautaki Operations Manager, Central Otago

Department of Conservation

Acting pursuant to delegated authority on behalf of the Director-General of Conservation

Date: 12 October 2021