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<b>Significant Natural Area Assessment</b>			
Project No:  <i>11001/030</i>	Property Name: <i>Lake McKay Station</i>  Site Name: <i>Alice Burn SNA F</i>	Ecologist: <i>Glenn Davis</i>  Date: <i>2 February 2012</i>	
Survey Undertaken By: <i>Glenn Davis, 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>No photos</i>	
Topography: <i>Lower reaches of Alice Burn</i>	Slope: <i>Steep</i>	Altitude: <i>approx. 570 m asl</i>	Aspect: <i>Various</i>
Threatened Environment Status: <i>Chronically Threatened</i>		Area Size (ha): <i>63.07</i>	
Representativeness: Kanuka woodland. Highly representative of the pre-settlement vegetation.			
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	
<i>Olearea lineata</i>		At Risk – Declining	
Provide onsite description of vegetation:			
Vegetation type: Kanuka woodland – kanuka woodland is dominated by kanuka but also includes a range of other shrubland species such as matagouri, native broom, <i>Coprosma propinqua</i> and the lianes: <i>Rubus</i> spp and <i>Muehlenbeckia</i> spp.			
Degree of Modification: The area will have been disturbed by fire historically, but has not been disturbed for a long period given the presence of a well-developed kanuka cover.			
Overall Health: The area is in good health and is sustainable.			
Provide onsite description of fauna habitat:			
A range of passerines will be present such as grey warbler, brown creeper, fantail and tomtit. This vegetation is also expected to provide good habitat for a range of lizard species including the threatened jewelled gecko.			

<p>Threats to vegetation and flora/fauna species? (Weeds, predators, current management practices):</p> <p>Existing farming management practices are clearly sympathetic to the kanuka woodland, therefore there is a low risk of intentional disturbance to the woodland. There is however a threat of inadvertent fire.</p>
<p>Rarity:</p> <p>The threatened environment classification identifies the N4.1d environment to have 18.6% indigenous vegetation cover remaining and 2.3% under formal protection.</p>
<p>Area Size and Shape (degree to which the area may be or is becoming self-sustaining):</p> <p>The area is contained on the steep faces of the gully system and is self-sustaining.</p>
<p>Diversity and Pattern (is there a notable range of species and habitats, aspects, sequences?):</p> <p>The kanuka has a range of shrubland species representative of the area and will also provide habitat for a range of bird and lizard species.</p>
<p>Distinctiveness/special ecological characteristics (unusual veg. &amp; landform features, distribution limits?):</p> <p>The size of the kanuka woodland is distinctive and is a good representation of pre-settlement vegetation.</p>
<p>Connectivity (how is the site connected to surrounding communities/areas?):</p> <p>The area of SNA F is adjacent to the DOC administered Fallburn Scientific Reserve. The area is directly connected to shrubland on the lower north faces of the Pisa Range and is also directly connected to kanuka woodland in Luggate Creek.</p>
<p>Sustainability (does the site possess the resilience to maintain its ecological integrity and processes?):</p> <p>The management of the site is clearly sympathetic to the maintenance of the indigenous vegetation and the site is adjacent to the Fallburn Scientific Reserve, therefore the area should be sustainable.</p>
<p>Recommendation (Accept/Decline):</p> <p>Highly representative vegetation in a chronically threatened environment that is self-sustaining and providing excellent habitat for a range of bird, lizard and invertebrate species. We recommend this area is considered as a Significant Indigenous Vegetation and Fauna Habitat.</p>

Figure 1: The area of potential significance - Alice Burn SNA F - E30F.



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