



Significant Natural Area Assessment			
Project No: <i>11001/018</i>	Property Name: <i>Martin</i> Site Name: <i>Mt Iron SNA D</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 m asl</i>	Aspect: <i>Various</i>
Threatened Environment Status: <i>Chronically threatened</i>		Area Size (ha): <i>3.92</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 Martin property lacks the diversity of the original vegetation cover but remains moderately representative of this environment.			
Are there threatened species expected/identified in the survey area? If so, list species and threat status.			
Threatened Species		Threat Status	
<i>None observed</i>			
Provide onsite description of vegetation: Vegetation type: <i>Kanuka woodland.</i> Degree of Modification: <i>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, the east faces of Mt Iron have been infested with the woody weed broom, which further leads to the modification of the vegetation.</i>			
Provide onsite description of fauna habitat: The kanuka woodland may provide habitat for the following species: Birds - <i>indigenous insectivorous birds including bellbird, fantail, grey warbler, tomtit and possibly tui.</i> Herpetofauna – <i>the Common skink, McCanns skink, Southern Alps Gecko and Cromwell Gorge Gecko.</i>			

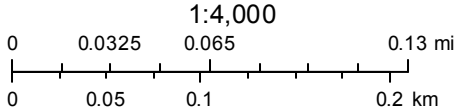
<p>Invertebrates – The kanuka woodland canopy has closed in some places and will provide the conditions for the development of a litter layer which will support a range of invertebrates.</p>
<p>Threats to vegetation and flora/fauna species? (Weeds, predators, current management practices): Key threats include the risk of inadvertent events such as fire and the invasion of woody weeds and wilding conifers.</p>
<p>Rarity: 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 RMA.</p>
<p>Area Size and Shape (degree to which the area may be or is becoming self sustaining): The kanuka woodland on the Martin 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.</p>
<p>Diversity and Pattern (is there a notable range of species and habitats, aspects, sequences?): The kanuka woodland has a generally low level of botanical diversity.</p>
<p>Distinctiveness/special ecological characteristics (unusual veg. & landform features, distribution limits?): Mt Iron is a roche moutonee and is a distinctive geological feature of the Wanaka area.</p>
<p>Connectivity (how is the site connected to surrounding communities/areas?): 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?): Within the context of the Mt Iron kanuka woodland, the area associated with the Martin property is considered a sustainable stand with key ecological processes, such as ongoing recruitment and supporting indigenous wildlife.</p>
<p>Recommendation (Accept/Decline): 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. 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 D - E18D_1&2.



November 4, 2014

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



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



Figure 2: A portion of the area of potential significance is shown in the background of the photograph on Mt Iron.