

Native Vegetation Reserve Inspection Report

Client: Wenita Forest Products

Liaison Officer: James McEwan

Date: 7/7/2017

Site: Galloway Road

Compartments: R135

Size: Unknown

Criteria: 3.5 - 4 Very Good

Comments:

This is a large steep gully with a fenced agricultural pasture in the southern boundary and production forestry on the remaining surrounds. Several small creeks run through the site and this combines into an important tributary creek to adjacent wetlands on the Taieri Ferry Road and Taieri River.

The central core and south-western part of the block show significant Totara growth in a range of ages from pre-colonial to recent regeneration. There is a strong sub canopy of typical eastern Otago lowland forest which is in good condition. The understorey and forest floor is good in places.

Weed Species:

There is predominantly Gorse and Himalayan Honeysuckle on the boundaries.

Conclusions:

This is a valuable site in terms of the wider landscape context and its proximity to another significant area to the west. The large population of Totara is another aspect of the sites uniqueness.

Recommendations:

1. Ensuring edge damage of pinus felling is limited to ensure the integrity of the forest fringes.
2. Protecting the bush fringes from invasive weed species once felling is completed and re-sowing is undertaken as part of that activity.
3. Issuing regular hunting permits to keep browsing animal numbers down.



Figure 1 overview of the site from the top of Galloway Road.



Figure 2 The strong Totara growth in the site on the South-western boundary.