

# Protected Area Management Plan

## HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FOREST AREA

### Protected Area: Berwick Forest – Halfway Road Native Reserve Cmpt 7 & 8

**Reference: E503, N104**

#### **Regulatory Requirements:**

Clutha District Council H249, NES-PF

This reserve is in the process of being established as a Reserve Act covenant area. The covenant conditions will be attached when formalised.

#### **Environmental Values:**

1. Water and soil values – Water and soil conservation, managing run off and maintaining hydrological values.
2. Scenic values – Not visible from any public highways.
3. Recreational values – Linked by walking track to the Berwick Forest Lodge. Short walking tracks within the reserve. Used for educational field trips by lodge users.
4. Cultural/Historical values – Has been identified by Ngai Tahu as a Wāhi Taoka (treasured area).
5. Scientific and ecological values – 2 ha patch of mature native bush containing matai, rimu, mahoe, broadleaf, three finger, lancewood, totara, manuka and kanuka. This is the best example of its kind within the Wenita estate. Has been used as a seed source for the Sinclair Wetlands.

#### **Affected Stakeholders:**

OYATI

Ngai Tahu

Glenn Riley, Sinclair Wetlands

Clutha District Council H249 – see designation in CDC Plan

University of Otago - Botany Dept - John Steel

### **Management Objectives:**

Protection of the reserve to allow regeneration of indigenous species and expansion to link up with the Boundary creek riparian vegetation.

### **Management Guidelines:**

1. Plant to the stumpline, except on the downhill margins where allowance should be considered for the expansion towards the Boundary Creek riparian margin.
2. Exclude grazing animals: sheep and cattle and continue pest control.
3. When harvesting exclude track, cable and drag damage to this site.
4. Fell away from the protected area. Where trees accidentally fall into the protected area the whole tree is to be removed before limbing or left (whatever is to cause the least damage).
5. Use of chemicals within this site is to be strictly controlled to limit damage to indigenous vegetation and is only to be used after considering alternatives to control pest plants and animals.
6. Tracked and wheeled vehicles are not permitted within the protected area except on the road and grassed area.
7. Liaise with OYATI over the maintenance of tracks.
8. When thinning to waste remove all non-crop trees on the downhill margins to allow the area to expand towards Boundary creek.
9. The Harvesting Plan shall be submitted to the Production Manager and the EMS Co-ordinator for approval and in sufficient time for stakeholders to be consulted before harvesting commences.

### **Monitoring Requirements:**

Monitor HCVF sites annually, assessing for general condition, pest animal browsing damage and presence of wildings.

### **References:**

John Steel Species Survey Ref: [Berk 007/008](#)

Kai Tahu: [Assessment of the cultural values of Berwick Forest, 2001](#). CDC Plan Designation H249.

Monitoring report [2013](#), [2014](#), [2015](#), [2017](#), [2019](#)