

Land Information New Zealand
Crown Property & Investment
Private Bag 4721
CHRISTCHURCH 8140
Email: pastoral&tenurereview@linz.govt.nz

11 August 2017 By email

Re: Crown Pastoral Land Tenure Review – Ferintosh Station

Dear Sir/Madam,

Tourism Industry Aotearoa (TIA) welcomes the opportunity to comment as part of the consultation on the crown pastoral land tenure review of Ferintosh Station.

TIA is the peak body for the tourism industry in New Zealand. With over 1,500 members, TIA represents a range of tourism-related activities including hospitality, accommodation, adventure and other activities, attractions and retail, airports and airlines, as well as related tourism services.

Tourism 2025 (www.tourism2025.org.nz), an industry-led, government supported economic growth framework was launched in New Zealand in 2014 and has set an aspirational goal of reaching \$41 billion in annual tourism revenues by 2025. The industry's focus is on growing value faster than volume.

The Tourism 2025 growth framework is based around five key themes which are: Insight, Connectivity, Productivity, Visitor Experience and Target for Value. This framework has been reviewed ([Tourism 2025-two years on](#)) in 2016. While the five themes of the framework remain unchanged, the emphasis in some focus areas has shifted. Sustainability is one of the themes now being given greater emphasis. There is a desire and expectation that long term sustainability, from an economic, environmental, cultural, and social aspect, is becoming a core value against which all decisions are being tested.

TIA would like to provide the following feedback on the consultation on the crown pastoral land tenure review of Ferintosh Station.

TOURISM INDUSTRY AOTEAROA
Level 4, 79 Boulcott Street, PO Box 1697
Wellington 6140, New Zealand
P +64 4 499 0104 E info@tia.org.nz tia.org.nz

Strategic Partners
supporting TIA and the
tourism industry



The New Zealand tourism industry is highly reliant on the environment in which visitors immerse themselves, whether this is air, water, our unique natural environments or urban areas. As such, TIA champions the interests of the environment through its own conduct and by being a powerful voice in New Zealand's overall management of its environmental assets.

TIA is concerned about the freehold disposal of reviewable land at Ferintosh Station and advocates for all the land (including section CA1, CA2, CL and the proposed freehold land) to be restored to or retained in Crown control as Conservation Area.

The land under question at Ferintosh Station borders the drive into the Aoraki Mount Cook village and as such is an integral part of the experience for visitors to Aoraki National Park. Its value to tourism is both in its inherent and unique aesthetic qualities and in its potential to support concessioned tourism activities.

Aoraki/ Mt Cook National Park and Aoraki/Mt Cook Village are popular tourist attractions in New Zealand. Many international and domestic visitors visit this part of the country to go climbing, walking, glacier viewing, star gazing or other alpine activities. The amazing landscape, with New Zealand's highest peak, the glaciers and the permanent snow fields all nestled in against Lake Pukakai and the unique landscape of the MacKenzie basin, is the main attraction for these visitors to go to Aoraki/ Mt Cook.

The Landscape Assessment report on the Ferintosh Pastoral Lease supports this observation and clearly shows that *the property has significant and important visual and scenic values derived from the spectacular physical characteristics of the land and its location being a part of the wider landscape of the Ben Ohau Range, the Pukaki and broader Mackenzie Intermontane Basins. The Basin as a whole is recognized as nationally significant for its spectacular scenic values. Ferintosh forms part of the setting and context for Lake Pukaki and the Aoraki/Mt Cook area.*¹ The report also notes that *the landform and vegetation characteristics on Ferintosh are vulnerable to change from human endeavor and all of the property has a high level of visibility which makes it especially vulnerable to change.*

Tourism is reliant on its environment as part of the suite of resources that make up the visitor proposition 'Destination New Zealand'. This proposition includes landscapes, mountains, beaches, fresh water, and social attributes such as friendly people and visitor

¹ Source: LINZ, *Crown Pastoral Land Tenure Review, Lease name: Ferintosh, Lease number: PT 043, Landscape Assessment*, January 2012

safety. As such, in the minds of our visitors the quality of New Zealand's environmental management is inherently tied to the value proposition of tourism industry.

The environment's value to the New Zealand economy is not limited to extractive or transformative use. In the case of tourism, there is a very large economic value gained by the mere existence of unique environmental resources. This is a secondary or tertiary level of value, and we recognize that this is less tangible than some other direct or primary environmental uses (e.g. farming or irrigation), but it equally exists in its tangible value to the New Zealand economy.

TIA is concerned that LINZ is considering disposing of any of this land. TIA would prefer for all the land (including section CA1, CA2, CL and the proposed freehold land) to be restored to or retained in Crown control as Conservation Area. This would limit the likelihood of adverse human change to the landscape and would secure a focus on conservation and environmental sustainability. Turning the land into a Conservation Area would enable it to contribute to the general value proposition for this important tourism region and open it up for potential tourism opportunities.

Thank you for providing TIA with the opportunity to provide feedback on this proposal
Please do not hesitate to contact me for more information or clarification.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. m. Hanrahan', with a stylized, wavy flourish at the end.

Steve Hanrahan

Advocacy Manager - Tourism Industry Aotearoa

