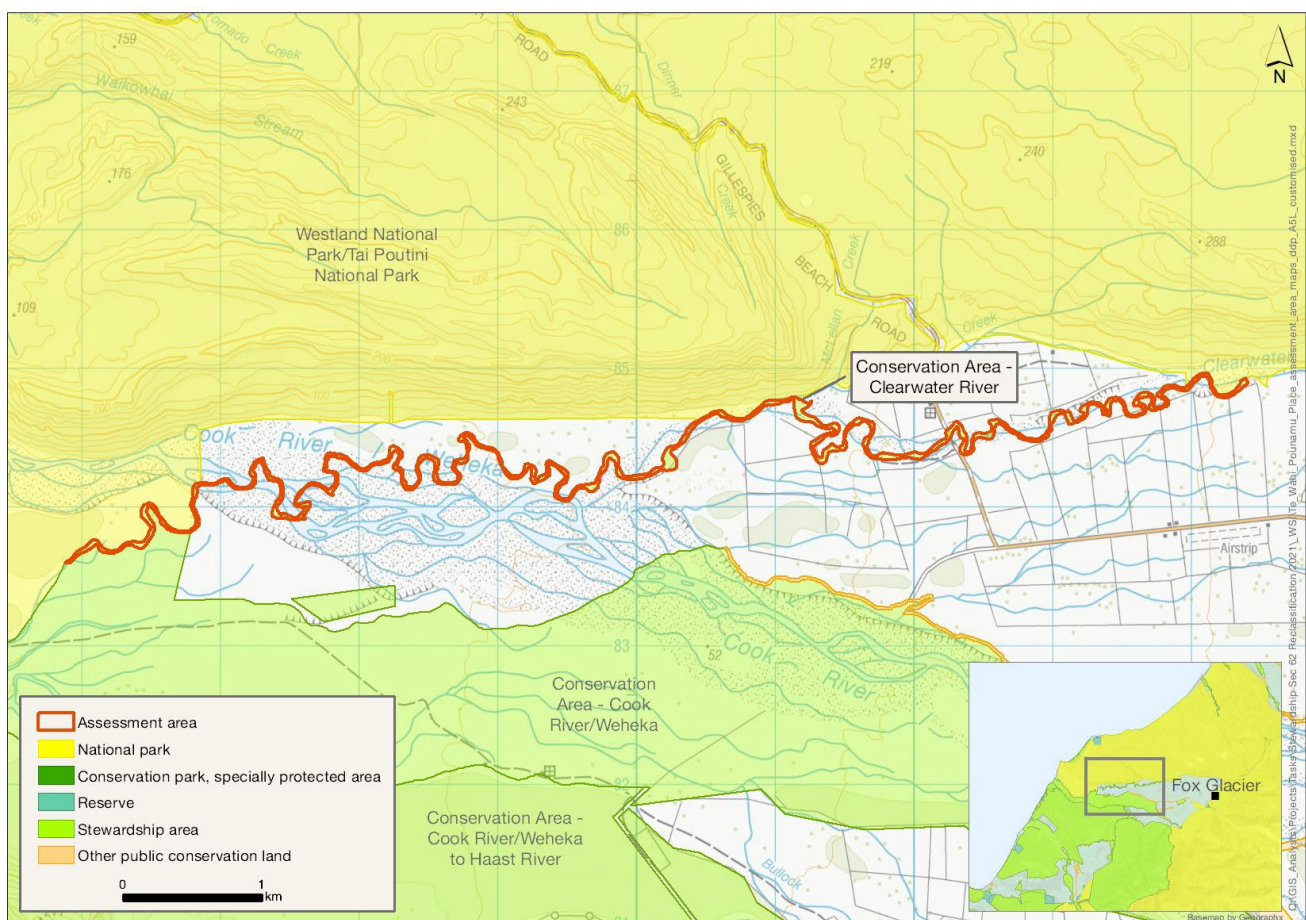


# Stewardship Land Review: Recommendation

## TWP\_32 – Clearwater River

Departmental Region	Management Place	Technical report	Assessment #	Held Under
Western South Island	Te Wāhi Pounamu	<a href="#">DOC-6913453</a>	TWP_32	s62

### Clearwater River



Protected Areas	Area(ha)	NaPALIS #	# of Primary Parcels
Conservation Area – Clearwater River	37.9141	2805317	1

## **Recommendation on Reclassification**

### ***Western South Island National Panel Recommendation***

The Western South Island national panel recommends:

- The Conservation Area 'Clearwater River' (NaPALIS #2805317) is declared to be held for conservation purposes, pursuant to section 7(1) of the Conservation Act 1987, and is classified pursuant to section 16 of the Reserves Act 1977 as a section 23 Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.
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### ***Mana Whenua Panel Recommendation***

The Mana Whenua Panel does not seek to make its own recommendation for Conservation Area 'Clearwater River' (NaPALIS #2805317) and does not either support or oppose the Western South Island National Panel's recommendation.

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## **Western South Island National Panel Justification for Recommendation – Executive Summary**

This conservation area contains riverbed and alluvial land along Clearwater River, including riparian vegetation, developed pasture and shrubland. This area supports a diversity of freshwater species including kōaro and longfin eel (both At Risk: Declining). Parts of the area appear to be grazed although no concessions are recorded. There is a proposal to develop a lookout within this conservation area. Mana Whenua have indicated that this area is used for mahinga kai.

The classification of local purpose (river conservation) reserve is considered to reflect the identified values.

## **Mana Whenua Panel Justification for Recommendation**

The Mana Whenua Panel has been provided with the opportunity to review the Western South Island National Panel's reclassification recommendation for Conservation Area 'Clearwater River' (NaPALIS #2805317) and does not either support or oppose the Western South Island National Panel's recommendation.

Notwithstanding this, the Mana Whenua Panel expressly reserves the right of Ngāi Tahu to seek to have the classification of this area reviewed in the future. There is a deep connection between Ngāi Tahu and all of the whenua in the Ngāi Tahu takiwā. The interests of Ngāi Tahu in this area may change over time which may require the classification to be revisited. In addition, more appropriate forms of protected area classifications from a Ngāi Tahu perspective may be developed through conservation law reform.

# **Western South Island National Panel Justification for Recommendation**

## ***1. Treaty of Waitangi/Te Tiriti o Waitangi Obligations***

The Western South Island National Panel is required to give effect to the principles of The Treaty of Waitangi/Te Tiriti o Waitangi, in accordance with section (4) of the Conservation Act 1987.

The panel acknowledges that the assessment area is within the Ngāi Tahu takiwā and the rohe of Poutini Ngāi Tahu, and as such appreciates the connection between Ngāi Tahu and the whenua. In making the above recommendation the panel has considered the values and interests of Ngāi Tahu as presented to them. This information has been considered in conjunction with the content provided in the corresponding technical reports.

The panel acknowledges Ngāi Tahu's interest in this whenua for mahinga kai. In forming the above recommendation, the panel has endeavoured to take the identified values into account.

## ***2. Treaty Settlement Obligations***

No Treaty/Tiriti settlement obligations are identified in the West Coast Te Tai o Poutini Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) that specifically relate to this assessment area.

## ***3. Consideration of Adjoining Land Classification***

The panels are required to consider the classification(s) of adjacent and nearby public conservation land, enabling a 'landscape' approach to the reclassification work to be implemented.

This conservation area borders the Westland Tai Poutini National Park. It is not considered to contain sufficiently complementary conservation values to warrant classifying it consistently with that area.

## ***4. Conservation Justifications***

The panel recommendation is required to include clear conservation justifications. These conservation justifications are addressed in sections 4 (a), (b), (c) and (d), based on information identified in the corresponding technical reports.

### ***a. Identified Landscape Values***

This conservation area is a riparian area following Clearwater River as it meanders across the Weheka flood plain. It provides for riverbed and riparian connectivity.

## ***b. Identified Ecological Values***

This conservation area contains riverbed and alluvial land along Clearwater River, including riparian vegetation, developed pasture and shrubland. This area supports a diversity of freshwater species including kōaro and longfin eel (both At Risk: Declining). Parts of the area are grazed. The classification of local purpose (river conservation) reserve is considered appropriate to protect the identified ecological values.

## ***c. Identified Recreation Values***

Although the area is not currently used recreationally, there is a proposal to extend the walking and cycling track from Fox Glacier, Cook Flat Road down Clearwater River to the Peak View Lookout, passing through this area.

## ***d. Identified Heritage Values***

No known heritage values are identified.

## ***5. Current Land Use***

Parts of this conservation area appear to be grazed although no concessions are recorded.

## ***6. Consideration of the Climate Change Commission Report***

The panel gave consideration to the objectives of the [Climate Change Commission report](#) and the recommended policy direction. The key focus of the advice is ensuring a shift to a low carbon and resilient Aotearoa. The panel does not consider the recommended land classification to limit future decision making over the land to mitigate emissions, adapt to climate change and sequester carbon.

## ***7. Strategic Policy Direction***

The assessment area is governed by the West Coast Te Tai o Poutini CMS. The CMS has been reviewed to identify all relevant provisions and conservation area-specific treaty settlement obligations when formulating the above recommendation, and the recommended land classification is considered to be consistent with the aims of the strategy.

The above recommendation has also been considered in conjunction with the Conservation General Policy and conforms with policy 6(b) regarding reclassification and 6(c) & (d) regarding disposal.