

HĀWEA-WĀNAKA

SOUTH ISLAND LANDLESS NATIVES ACT 1906 (SILNA)

This information sheet provides an overview of processes to enable the owners of the Hāwea-Wānaka substitute block to determine the future for this block of land.

BACKGROUND

In 1906, approximately 4000 individuals of Māori descent received approximately 57 000 hectares of land under the South Island Landless Natives Act (SILNA). From 1886 to 1906, the Crown investigated the interests of these Māori, surveyed most of the blocks of land, and conducted allocation ballots for individuals put forward by iwi leaders.

The Crown completed their work on most of these blocks before SILNA was repealed in 1909, but there remained four blocks of land for which ownership was not finalised. Section 15 of the Ngāi Tahu Deed of Settlement acknowledged this failure by the Crown, and provided processes for the redress of the remaining SILNA land. The first step in providing this redress was the identification of the owners of the four remaining blocks.

In November 2010, the Māori Land Court finalised its identification of the owners of one of these blocks, the Hāwea-Wānaka block. Since the original Hāwea-Wānaka block was no longer available for inclusion in settlement redress in 1998, it had been agreed that a substitute block of land be provided for the Ngāi Tahu settlement. The Hāwea-Wānaka substitute block (Section 2 of 5, Block XIV, Lower Wānaka Survey District) has an area of approximately 50.7 hectares, and is located near Wānaka Lake (see maps on next page).

There are other blocks of SILNA land that were successfully allocated to owners prior to 1909. The process described in this information sheet considers only the Hāwea-Wānaka block, which is separate and distinct to other SILNA lands (including, for example, those involved in The Waimumu Trust Waitangi Tribunal Report, 2005).

VESTING THE HĀWEA-WĀNAKA SUBSTITUTE BLOCK

Part 15 of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 describes processes through which SILNA land can be vested. Currently, the Crown holds this land in trust for the owners and their descendants, but owners of the Hāwea-Wānaka Substitute block, as identified by the Māori Land Court, will need to decide how this land will be vested.

To confirm how the land will be vested, there are two key decisions that will have to be made:

1. Whether the land will be vested as Māori Land or General Land.
2. The manner in which the land will be held, and who will look after the land – the owners or trustees.

To help the owners make these decisions, the Māori Land Court with the assistance of Te Puni Kōkiri, will host a number of assembled owners meetings. Three preliminary hui will be held in December 2011 to provide information for owners of the Hāwea-Wānaka substitute block. Later, you will be notified about additional assembled owners meetings in which the owners will make the decisions listed above.

The preliminary hui will be held in the locations listed below:

Date	Time	Location
Sunday 04 Dec 2011	11am	Marlborough Convention Centre, 42 Alfred Street BLENHEIM
Saturday 10 Dec 2011	11am	Murihiku Marae, 408 Tramway Road, INVERCARGILL
Sunday 11 Dec 2011	10am	Aoraki House, 76 Peterborough Street, CHRISTCHURCH

CURRENT MANAGEMENT OF THE HĀWEA-WĀNAKA SUBSTITUTE BLOCK

The block contains approximately 40 hectares of forests, and is called Sticky Forest. The land contains several bicycle tracks and is a popular recreation spot. The forest is also subject to the Emissions Trading Scheme. For more information on the Emissions Trading Scheme and other forest-related liabilities, obligations and rights, please visit the following websites:

www.doc.govt.nz (The Department of Conservation: write 'SILNA' in the search bar.)

www.maf.govt.nz (The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries: write 'SILNA ETS' in the search bar.)

Currently, the Crown engages a contractor to manage the Hāwea-Wānaka substitute block. In 2011, the block was valued at \$6 million. As well as the contractor's fee to manage the land, there are associated costs totalling approximately \$7,500 per annum. These costs include approximately \$7,000 for rates, as well as other expenses such as road and forest signs and insurance. To access publicly available rates information, please visit the following websites:

www.qldc.govt.nz/rates (Queenstown Lakes District Council)

www.orc.govt.nz/Information-and-Services/Rates (Otago Regional Council)



Clockwise from top left: The Hāwea-Wānaka block is located in the greater Otago region; the block contains approximately 40 hectares of forests and is located north of the Wānaka Township; the Hāwea-Wānaka substitute block is surrounded on all sides by privately-owned land

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information, please contact the Māori Land Court, Te Waipounamu District on (03) 9624900, or visit their temporary office at Rehua Marae, 79 Springfield Road, Christchurch.

The documents listed below are also available on the websites for

- Te Puni Kōkiri: www.tpk.govt.nz

- Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu: www.ngaitahu.iwi.nz

- the Māori Land Court: www.justice.govt.nz/courts/maori-land-court

- Public notice of the information hui.
- The list of owners for the block.
- Section 15 of the Ngāi Tahu Deed of Settlement.
- Part 15 of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998.
- The Computer Freehold Register and maps for the Hāwea- Wānaka substitute block and surrounding blocks.
- Rating information on the Hāwea-Wānaka substitute block.
- Hāwea-Wānaka zoning restrictions.