

10. WAIIAU/FREESTONE FLATS



LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

Flat paddocks of improved pasture and exotic shelterbelts between the Waiau River to the south and Freestone Hill to the north. Beech forests of Fiordland National Park rise up from the south bank of the Waiau to form a dramatic backdrop to these paddocks.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Flat paddocks contrast with 'island' landform of Freestone Hill

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY: MODERATELY LOW with some sensitivity at boundaries

Natural Factors: Influences from shared boundary with Waiau River, Freestone Hill and wetland

Cultural Factors: Farming patterns very dominant

Quality/Condition: Highly modified farmland

Aesthetic Factors: Attractive, 'manicured' paddocks and rural character

VISUAL SENSITIVITY: LOW

Visibility: Generally open feeling but views restricted by shelterbelts. Very short glimpses from Hillside Manapouri Rd and Home Creek Restoration area

Populations: Apart from small area visible from Hillside-Manapouri Road, viewers will generally be limited to small numbers of adjacent residents and visitors to the Home Creek restoration area.

LANDSCAPE VALUES

- Contrast of flat paddocks and strong farming patterns with adjacent landform and natural features
- Boundary with Waiau River and Freestone wetland
- Pleasant character of intensive maintained farmland

