CENTRAL OTAGO DISTRICT COUNCIL CENTRAL OTAGO DISTRICT PLAN REPORT OF CONSULTANT PLANNER

APPLICATION	RC 230328
APPLICANT	CLUTHA PLAINS TRUST
ADDRESS	5 MAORI POINT ROAD, TARRAS
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	LOT 2 DP 476419, HELD IN RECORD OF TITLE 658254
ACTIVITY STATUS	NON-COMPLYING

STATUS OF THIS REPORT

1. The attention of the applicants is drawn to the fact that the purpose of this report is to bring to the attention of the Hearings Panel all relevant factual information or issues which should be considered in deliberating on the proposal. It must be emphasised that any conclusions reached or recommendations made in this report are not binding on the Hearings Panel, and it should not be assumed that the Hearings Panel will reach the same conclusion or decision having considered all the evidence.

AUTHOR

- 2. My name is Kirstyn Jane Royce and I am the sole director and employee of Southern Planning Solutions Limited. I hold a Masters in Planning with distinction from the University of Otago. I am an accredited RMA commissioner (Chairs endorsement) and hold full NZPI membership. I have 20 years' experience in district and regional planning. I currently provide planning assistance to a number of southern Councils, including CODC, and I also assist a number of private clients with planning work.
- 3. I have been contracted by Central Otago District Council to report on this application.
- 4. I confirm that I have read the Environment Court's Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses 2023 and, while this is not an Environment Court hearing, I agree to comply with the code. I confirm that I have considered all the material facts that I am aware of that might alter or detract from the opinions that I express, and that this evidence is within my area of expertise, except where I state that I am relying on the evidence of another person.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

5. Since being allocated this application by CODC in October 2023, I entered into a contract with Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki in July 2024 to provide RMA advice to their Komiti Kaupapa Taiao. I identified this application to them as one that I could not provide advice for and I excluded myself from acting on behalf of the Komiti Kaupapa Taiao (KKT) in this instance. I have not provided any assistance to KKT in respect of this application. I can confirm that my assessment and recommendation are not influenced by my relationship with Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

6. Submitters Duncan Kenderdine, Greenlight Land Limited and David Arthur and Christine Anne Cannan initially requested an independent Commissioner, but subsequently withdrew this request.

PROPOSAL

- 7. Resource consent is sought to undertake a "farm park" style subdivision comprising 16 residential sized lots and one productive lot at 5 Māori Point Road, Tarras.
- 8. The site comprises an upper and lower terrace. Lots 1-16 will be located within the upper terrace setback some 18m from the terrace edge. The subdivision will be configured as follows:
 - Lots 1 − 16 will each have an area of 2,000m² and will be developed for rural residential purposes.
 - Lot 100 is the balance lot and will be retained as the productive farm use.
- 9. The applicant proposes that Lots 1 16 hold an undivided 1/16th share of Lot 100 hereon and individual Records of Title be issued for each lot. LINZ consider the amalgamation condition to be practicable.
- 10. The applicant proposes low profile dwellings for Lots1-16 which are intended to merge with the wider landscape. The building areas are setback from the terrace edge and when coupled with landscaping, are intended to reduce the visual impact of the built form. Development restrictions are proposed on each of the Lot 1 16 to control building height to 6.0m above ground level. Building materials and colours will fall within with the District Plan requirements. Dwellings on each of the sites 1 16 will be located to ensure that the terrace edge is protected and maintained. A 10m wide land covenant within each lot is proposed along the terrace edge. Each Lot 1 16 will have a 5m yard, except abutting the covenant area on the terrace edge, which will be 10m.
- 11. The applicant states that a new water bore will be constructed dedicated to supplying potable water to each dwelling. The bore is in situ (ORC RM14.281.01) and the volume of water falls within the ORC permitted activity volume and rate of take. The water supply and subsequent on-site storage will be suitable to provide firefighting provision to Fire Emergency New Zealand standards. A water supply company will be setup to provide management and compliance with Taumata Arowai.
- 12. The Mt Iron Geodrill report indicates that on site disposal of stormwater and wastewater is considered geotechnically achievable for the site subject to careful consideration relating to the placement of disposal fields. Access will be from a new entrance from Maori Point Road from Rights of Way M, N and P.
- 13. The applicant proposes that a management company / trust will be formed and will be responsible for the:
 - Maintenance of the main access off Māori Point Road.
 - Maintenance of water servicing infrastructure for domestic and irrigation purposes
 - Daily operations of the working farm within Lot 100, including landscaping on road boundaries.
- 14. The applicant intends that a detailed management operation plan will be developed in respect of the above responsibilities.

- 15. A 10-year lapse period is sought. It is noted that the applicant is not applying for a land use consent at this time to authorise development on Lots 1-16.
- 16. Following a further information request, the application provided a response to that request on 24 July 2024. This information included:
 - Appendix A updated scheme plan C3001_SCM_4B
 - Appendix B correspondence from NES confirming that the overhead power can be rerouted
 - Appendix C Copy of RC 210142
 - Appendix D Correspondence from NZTA confirming approval of the proposed access to the site.
 - Appendix E A copy of the Tarras Community Plan
 - Appendix F Draft consent notice referring to the landscaping and building controls
 - Appendix G Response from Align Ltd Landscape Architects responding to the landscaping request.
- 17. This information is now considered to form part of the application.



Figure 1: Proposed Plan of Subdivision (Source: Application)

SITE DESCRIPTION

- 18. The subject site is located at 5 Māori Point Road, Tarras and is legally described as Lot 2 DP 476419, held in Record of Title 658254 and comprising an area of 133.119ha.
- 19. The subject site is well described in the application and is considered to accurately identify the key features of the site. Notably, the subject site at 5 Māori Point Road, Tarras, is a 133-hectare rural lot located between the Clutha River, Māori Point Road and State Highway 8, with the Lindis River to the south and Trevathan Way to the north. A legal road abuts the southern and western boundary of the site separating the site from the Clutha and Lindis Rivers.
- 20. The land has two distinct terraces, the lower level extending approximately 600-700m from the western marginal strip adjacent to the Clutha River/Mata Au. Another smaller section of land and at a similar elevation, abuts the southern marginal strip, adjacent to the Lindis River. This land gradually slopes from the toe of the terrace towards the Clutha River/Mata Au.
- 21. The southern portion of the site is protected by a land covenant of approximately 4Ha, to the QEII Trust. A second two Ha QEII Land Covenant is in the process of being finalised by the applicant. A Minerals Mining Permit for the right to mine sand has been granted for a site located at the southern end of the property.
- 22. The current land use is cattle grazing with the majority of the land covered by grazing grass. The land is irrigated by both pivot and k-line irrigation systems serviced by a consented bore RM13.451.02. A row of Old Man pines serves as wind protection along a section of the northern boundary.

REASONS FOR APPLICATION

Central Otago District Plan

23. The subject site is zoned Rural Resource Area. within the Central Otago District Plan (the District Plan). The site has a mapped flood hazard annotation. The zoning map is shown at Figure 2.

24. For completeness:

- The site shows a mapped flood hazard on the Otago Natural Hazards Portal (See Figure 3); and;
- The site is classified as LUC4 soils on the Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research Mapping (see Figure 4)

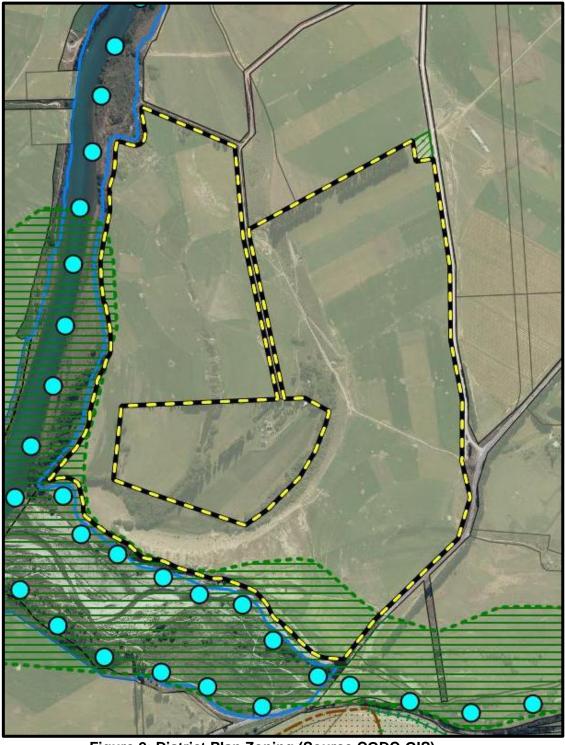


Figure 2: District Plan Zoning (Source CODC-GIS)

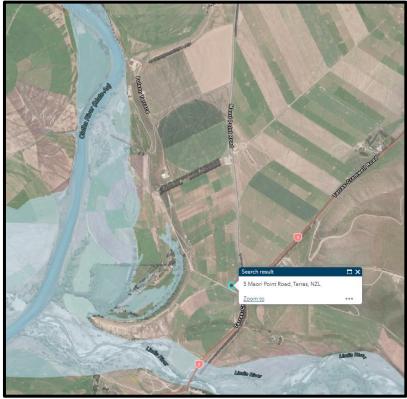


Figure 3: Otago Natural Hazards (Source: Otago Natural Hazards Portal (orc.govt.nz))

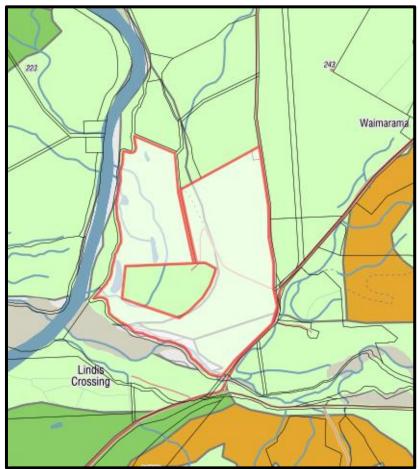


Figure 4: Land Use Capability Map (Source: <u>Land Use Capability » Maps » Our Environment (scinfo.org.nz)</u>

Central Otago District Plan

- 25. Rule 4.7.4(iii)(b) of the District Plan states that where a subdivision will create lots with an average size of no less than 8 hectares (ha) and a minimum lot size of no less than 2ha within the Rural Resource Area, then, this is a discretionary activity. In this instance, Lots 1-16 will have an area of 2000m² and will not meet the 2ha minimum or 8ha average¹ lot area. The application is assessed as a non-complying activity, in accordance with Rule 4.7.5(iii) of the Plan.
- 26. Rule 4.7.4(iii)(d) of the District Plan states that where a subdivision involves land that is subject to or potentially subject to, the effects of any hazard as identified on the planning maps, or land that is or is likely to be subject to material damage by erosion, falling debris, subsidence, slippage, or inundation from any source, then, this is a discretionary activity. In this instance, the site has a mapped flood hazard which affects Lot 100.
- 27. General Standard 4.7.6A(a) requires a minimum set back of 25m for a side and rear yard breach. In this instance, future development on Lots 1-16 will breach the new internal side yards. Each Lot 1 16 will have a 5m yard, except abutting the covenant area on the terrace edge, which will be 10m. Breaches of General Standard 4.7.6A(a) are assessed as restricted discretionary activities pursuant to Rule 4.7.3(i).
- 28. For completeness, it is noted that future dwellings on Lots 1-16 have the potential to breach the skyline when viewed from the margins along the Clutha River/Mata Au and will likely breach Rule 4.7.6D(ii), however, land use consent for a skyline breach is not being sought at this time.

National Environmental Standards

- 29. The Resource Management (National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health) Regulations 2011 (NESCS) came into effect on 1 January 2012. The National Environmental Standard applies to any piece of land on which an activity or industry described in the current edition of the Hazardous Activities and Industries List (HAIL) is being undertaken, has been undertaken or is more likely than not to have been undertaken. Activities on HAIL sites may need to comply with permitted activity conditions specified in the National Environmental Standard and/or might require resource consent.
- 30. The applicant has obtained a search of ORC Council records which demonstrates that the site has not or is not likely to have had HAIL use in accordance with Regulation 6 of the NES-CS. I consider that the NESCS is not triggered by this application.
- 31. There are no other National Environmental Standards relevant to this application.

Overall Status

- 32. Where an activity requires resource consent under more than one rule, and the effects of the activity are inextricably linked, the general principle from case law is that the different components should be bundled and the most restrictive activity classification applied to the whole proposal.
- 33. In this case, there is more than one rule involved, and the effects are linked. As such, I consider it appropriate that the bundling principle established in *Locke v Avon Motor Lodge* (1973) is applied, and that the application be considered, in the round, as a non-complying activity pursuant to sections 104, 104B and 104D of the Resource Management Act 1991 ('the Act').

¹ Note: the aera of Lot 100 is capped at 16ha for averaging purposes. Without the cap, the average lot area would be 7.8ha

SECTION 104(1)

- 34. This application must be considered in terms of Section 104 of the RMA. Subject to Part 2 of the RMA, Section 104(1) sets out those matters to be considered by the consent authority when considering a resource consent application. Considerations of relevance to this application are:
 - (a) any actual and potential effects on the environment of allowing the activity; and
 - (b) any relevant provisions of:
 - (i) A national environmental standards;
 - (ii) Other regulations;
 - (iii) a national policy statement
 - (iv) a New Zealand coastal policy statement
 - (v) a regional policy statement or proposed regional policy statement
 - (vi) a plan or proposed plan; and
 - (c) any other matters the consent authority considers relevant and reasonably necessary to determine the application.

SECTION 104D

- 35. As noted above that the proposed subdivision land use has status as a non-complying activity in the Rural Resource Area of the Operative Central Otago District Plan. It is therefore appropriate that the proposal be considered as an application for a non-complying activity pursuant to sections 104, 104B and 104D of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- 36. In terms of section 104D (as amended by the Resource Management Amendment Act 2003) the Hearings Panel may grant resource consent for a non-complying activity only if it is satisfied that either: -
 - (a) The adverse effects of the activity on the environment will be minor; or
 - (b) The application is for an activity that will not be contrary to the objectives and policies of the relevant plan or relevant proposed plan or both the relevant plan and the relevant proposed plan.

SECTION 108

37. Sections 108 and 220 empowers the Hearings Panel to impose conditions on a resource consent should it be of a mind to grant consent.

WRITTEN APPROVALS AND SUBMISSIONS

Affected Persons

38. In accordance with section 95E(3) of the Act, a person is not an affected person in relation to an application for a resource consent for an activity if they have given their written approval to the application, or, the consent authority considers that it is unreasonable in the circumstances for the applicant to seek the person's written approval.

Table 1: Affected Party Approvals

Party		Address	Date
Scott and Worthington – Alluvions Ltd	Susan Directors	86 Bowman Road	8 October 2023

Sam Rosenberg – Perpetual Guardian	Part Lot 1 426163, Lot 3 DP 386756, 2226 Tarras-Cromwell Road, Tarras	12 October 2023
Jaclyn and Brett O'Sullivan	33 Polson Terrace	12 October 2023

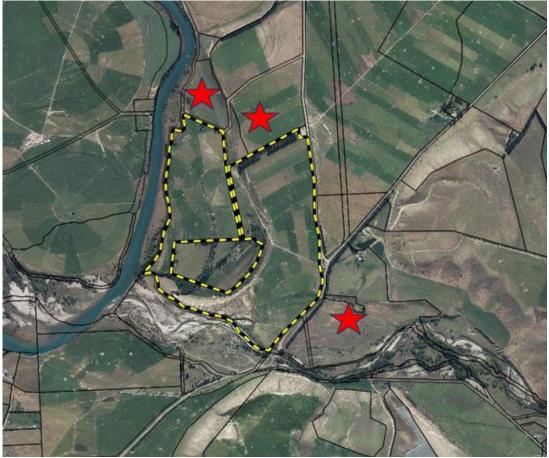


Figure 5: Affected party approvals

39. No other affected party approvals were submitted with the application.

Submissions

40. The application was publicly notified on 16 January 2025. The submission period closed on 14 February 2025 and 18 submissions were received: five in opposition, one neutral and twelve in support. The submissions are summarised at Appendix B.

EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Permitted Baseline (s104(2))

41. Under section 104(2) of the RMA, an adverse effect of the activity on the environment may be disregarded if the plan permits an activity with that effect. That is, an application can be assessed by comparing it to the existing lawful and consented on the site and development that could take place on the site as of right, without a resource consent, but excluding development that is fanciful. In this situation, subdivision on land subject to natural hazards is not provided for as a permitted activity under the District Plan or the NES and there is no permitted baseline to be applied.

ASSESSMENT MATTERS

42. Consideration is required of the relevant assessment matters in the District Plan, along with the matters in any relevant national environmental standard. No regard has been given to any trade competition or any effects of trade competition.

Effects on Visual Amenity, Rural Amenity and Natural Character Values

- 43. The District Plan provides for rural residential subdivision and development within the Rural Residential Resource Area. This lot sizes proposed by this subdivision fall well below the minimum lot size envisioned by the District Plan, being 2000m² instead of 2ha, although physically an underlying average of 7.8ha is achieved per lot. I note that assessment matter 15 of Rule 4.7.4(iii) directs Council to consider whether clustering should be implemented as a means of mitigating potential effects of rural subdivision and, in this regard, some clustering is anticipated by the District Plan.
- 44. The most noticeable effects on the rural character arising from subdivision generally arise as a consequence of the additional domestic activity and associated buildings, and infrastructure that are preceded by the subdivision. In this instance, the proposal has the potential to introduce 16 new residential dwellings into the rural environment. The proposed design will result in a concentration of built form on the upper terrace of the site. The required 50m separation distances between future dwellings will not be able to be achieved as a result of the configuration of the subdivision. Future built form will also breach the setback distances within the lots although setbacks to external boundaries will be maintained to the minimum anticipated by the District Plan.
- 45. A number of submitters support the proposal and consider that the lot sizes are appropriate and will provide much needed rural style housing. The supporting submitters support the premise of the application where the lots retain ownership of the productive lots which will be operated through a management company.
- 46. The submitters in opposition raise concerns regarding the adverse effects of the proposal on the rural landscape. They consider that the configuration of the subdivision means that the strip of houses will be clearly visible from the Clutha River/Mata Au, parts of Bowman Road and the submitters property. The linier form of the subdivision is not supported by these submitters. Some of the submitters in opposition also raise concerns regarding the potential effectiveness of the landscape mitigation.
- 47. The submitters also note that the row of houses will be visible for the proposed cycle trail intended for along the river front. I note that as the cycle trail extension is only proposed and is not consented at this time, no consideration can be given to effects on this.
- 48. The application is supported by a Landscape and Visual Assessment (LVA) prepared by Align dated 27 September 2023 and Response to Further Information Request (LVA Addendum) dated 9 February 2024. Further assessment was provided in response to the peer review on 31 October 2024. Both the LVA and Addendums have been prepared by Julie Greenslade, Senior Landscape Architect, Align Ltd.
- 49. The LVA has measured the effects of the proposal against the 7-point scale recommended in *Te Tangi a te Manu: Aotearoa New Zealand Landscape Assessment Guidelines* when undertaking its assessment.
- 50. The LVA recommends the following mitigation measures:
 - Instead of having solid lines, a clustering approach is used which enables the subdivision to have open space and edible specimen trees amongst each cluster.

- Setting the building platform areas back from the top terrace edge. This provided less impact on the neighbouring property of 165 Bowman Road and visual effects to SH6.
- Including fencing types that are currently used on site and what is commonly used within other rural subdivisions around the area.
- Mitigation planting of Cupressus leylandii along the northern and eastern boundaries, in addition to the central driveway.
- Removal of pine along the northern boundary (staged)
 - Stage 1: approximately 2 rows of pine (to be determined onsite) closest to the northern fence line to be removed first (stumps included) and planted with 1 row of Cupressus leylandii 1.8m apart.
 - Stage 2: Once the hedge is established (after 3-5 years) the remaining pine can be removed, and the native shrub planting can be implemented.
- Ecological planting along escarpment to compensate for development (can be done over a 3-5 year period.
- Proposed covenants (refer to planner's report for more information)
- House and roof colour
- Reflectivity of buildings
- Height restriction (6m)
- Lighting restrictions
- Building setbacks (minimum 18m from top of escarpment)
- 51. The LVA considers that the main effect of the proposal will be the introduction of built form and concludes that there will be short term effects with the amount of built form visible, particularly for transient viewers. The LVA recognises that the surrounding landscape character is open and expansive rural landscape, with low density and sparse built form, with agricultural activities visible across the wider landscape and vegetation in the form of shelterbelts.
- 52. The LVA notes that the effects the proposal will have on the rural character, openness, and amenity values will range depending on when the mitigation is implemented. Once fully established, the LVA concludes that the mitigation planting will be very much in keeping with the rural character of the area and will still allow for the open views when viewed at a further distance. The LVA concludes that the views to the natural and topographical features will be maintained and enhanced for the lots as planting will not block views of the Clutha and Lindis Rivers, nor the mountain ranges.
- 53. The LVA considers that if no mitigation is implemented, then there will be Moderate (negative) effects on the development and surrounding area. However, if all the mitigation measures are considered then the effects would range from Very Low to Low depending on where viewed from within the surrounding area. With the introduction of *Cupressus leylandii* along the northern and eastern boundaries, the LVA considers that the effect in the long-term will be Very Low, while the view at a considerable distance from SH6 will be Low in the long-term once the subdivision has had time to settle into the landscape.
- 54. The LVA also concludes that the proposed development there is a positive outcome regarding biodiversity within the site as well as the surrounding area. The LVA suggests that the proposed ecological planting of the escarpment will enable a rocky and unproductive part of the site to be enhanced and improved with native plants which are common in the surrounding area and will thrive in such harsh conditions. The LVA notes that this planting will hopefully, in turn, bring a range of fauna (such as birds) and other plants, fungi and even microorganisms to the site. I note that the LVA does not include evidence to add weight to this assertion.

- 55. In response to the further information request, Align provided the following further assessment:
 - The site will have moderate-adverse effects if the screen planting is not planted before the development commences. However, the applicant has recently begun planting a small section of the proposed species along Māori Point Road and recommends a condition of consent which would require that proposed planting along Māori Point Road be undertaken within the first planting season following the commencement of construction.
 - The subdivision is taking a clustering approach and breaking up the dwellings by having large gaps between every three lots excluding Lots 1-4 where it's a cluster of four. The empty lots will have no structures on them, only vegetation therefore creating a clustering effect. From a distance, large gaps will be viewed between every 3-4 dwellings which means the development will not present as a solid line (roof line) for these dwellings
 - Cupressus leylandii has been chosen as a screening plants as it is a fast-growing dense and even shelter belt species that tolerates a vast variety of soil and climate conditions. It has also been proposed to match that of recent developments within the area. It is not intended that the Cupressus leylandii will need to stay in place long term as it is intended for the native planting in front of the Cupressus leylandii (roadside) to in the long-term act as the mitigation planting and buffer to the development. However, the Cupressus leylandii will provide shelter and screening whilst the native planting is established. In the long term the native planting will provide the mitigation and buffer to the development.
 - The use of shelterbelts in the immediate and wider area is in keeping
 with the surrounding landscape and that this will not disrupt the open
 vistas of the mountains. The *Cupressus leylandii* on the northern and
 eastern boundary still maintains a sense of openness for the site as the
 views of the site are not the immediate views but rather the views in the
 distance.
 - The dwelling's rooftops will likely encroach the skyline when viewed from the margins along the Clutha River/Mata Au. Views from the river itself have not been tested. The impact of the skyline breach has been assessed by Align as 'Low'.
- 56. While the LVA notes that there will be moderate-adverse effects if the screen planting is not planted before the development commences it only recommends that proposed planting along Māori Point Road be undertaken within the first planting season following the commencement of construction. However, I consider that it is unclear whether "construction' in this regard is subdivision construction or dwelling construction. If it is dwelling construction then there is likely to be a significant delay in the effectiveness of the mitigation to be achieved by the planting.
- 57. The LVA and addendum was peer reviewed by Rachael Annan of SLR Consulting on behalf of the Central Otago District Council. The peer review is dated 4 October 2024.
- 58. Ms Annan considers that the Align summary of the existing landscape does not address what is distinctive of the landscape setting, as set out by *'Te Tangi a te Manu'*. This is noted particularly at the expense of appropriate consideration of landscape sensitivity

and prominence associated with the upper terrace, near its edge to the escarpment. Ms Annan considers that the assessment's findings in support of the application draw on generic rural character and derived landscape values, which enables the development to be more readily supported on the basis of mitigation measures provided. Robust consideration of distinct landscape sensitivity (alongside the nature and magnitude of the application proposed) is lost to this approach.

- 59. Ms Annan advises that terraces and prominent locations are referenced in landscape relevant matters of the District Plan². As a recognised landscape feature in the landscape setting, the terrace is a highly legible lineal and horizontal landform. She considers it is a sculptural and aesthetic landform which expresses valley formation, and contributes to the distinct landscape character and amenity of the setting. Associated visual prominence is also afforded to these landform features, (also noting the provisions for skyline effects in the District Plan, where relevant).
- 60. Ms Annan notes that the proposed arrangement of the sixteen 2000m² allotments is set out to extend in a linear arrangement just back from the escarpment on the upper terrace. Described in the assessment as a cluster development, this arrangement will read as a row of dwellings, with slight gaps between allotment groups of 3-4 along its length. This is evidenced in the landscape visuals provided with the assessment and the pattern is also observable with height poles set out onsite.
- 61. Ms Annan considers that the nature and magnitude of the proposed built form row is an extensive arrangement, heightening the apparent density proposed, and overtly domesticating the upper terrace. Ms Annan considers that the pattern of 16 extensively arranged dwellings, on a terrace row is a concern from a landscape perspective and may present as an overdevelopment of the site.
- 62. Furthermore, Ms Annan confirms that she did not observe the proposed lineal built development pattern elsewhere within the existing landscape setting, with neighbouring dwellings in the vicinity of the site, predominantly set out as singular dwellings. It is her opinion that the proposed arrangement is incongruous with the surrounding rural environment.
- 63. While the applicant's intent to retain workable farmland and to provide amenity, mitigation and (escarpment) restoration planting as part of this application is understood, it is Ms Annan's assessment that planting mitigation should be a secondary consideration to an appropriate development approach and that the proposed planting will not robustly offset the landscape character and visual effects of the proposed built form arrangement. The outlook that would be offered by each of the future dwelling set out is also indicative of their prominence arranged atop the terrace.
- 64. Ms Annan does not support the application's landscape assessment findings and in her review following a site visit of the site and surrounds, she considers that the landscape effects have not been demonstrated as less than moderate to moderate-high.
- 65. Given the linier configuration of the subdivision, the significantly reduced separation between dwellings, proximity to the terrace edge, potential for skyline breaches associated with future development and reliance of screen planting to mitigate effects over time, I agree with the findings of Ms Annan. Overall, I consider that the potential effects on rural character, landscape and amenity values will be adverse, more than minor and unable to be adequately mitigated to an acceptable degree.

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² Policy 4.4.2.g of the Central Otago District Plan

Sustainable use of productive land and soil resource

- 66. The site is identified as having LUC 4 category soils. The proposed subdivision occurs at the highest elevation of the subject site, with direct access to Māori Point Road. The applicant states that the site is not identified as containing productive soils and the current rural use of the proposed subdivision extent is limited in productive viability. The applicant suggests that the land proposed for the farm park lots has not been capable of effective productive use over a long period of time but does not provide any supporting evidence to support this.
- 67. The applicant notes that the development can be described as a 'farm park' type subdivision where residents are able to live amongst an operational farm and have access to fruit and nut trees within the developments covenant areas. The proposed development will occupy an area of land of approximately 13.26ha (including mitigation planting), with the remaining farm still being 119.86ha (11%). The applicant suggests that by tightly clustering the development and limiting the lot sizes to 2000m² the development is still able to maintain a productive / working farm.
- 68. The proposed development will be fully fenced and set 20m back from any productive / grazed land including the pivot irrigator on the upper terrace. The fenced off areas include the new right of ways and ecological planted area which is located on the escarpment as mentioned above and will form a new development covenant. The remaining land area excluding the QEII covenant will remain as is and continue to have cattle and sheep grazing upon it. The two pivot irrigators and k-lines are still able to be operational in their current locations.
- 69. The applicant assesses that while "the development takes up usable productive farmland, it takes up far less if the development was scattered throughout the 133.1190 hectares (i.e. if it were developed into 8ha blocks which is the minimum allowed in this zone)". The applicant also notes that "16 lots would be permitted on the site if the number of lots were determined by the density of subdivision if a discretionary rule status of an average of 8ha had been used".
- 70. As a point of clarification, I note that subdivision into 8ha lots should not be treated as a permitted baseline as subdivision is not a permitted activity under the district plan rather 8ha is a threshold for a discretionary activity subdivision. Discretionary activity subdivisions should only be granted where the effects on environment, including the effects on the sustainable use of productive land and soil resource, are deemed to be acceptable.
- 71. That said, I recognise the productive benefits of clustering of residential lots and retention of a single productive block. The residential lots will be located centrally within the site which has the potential to impact the productive potential of the land, but in this instance, the lots are to be arranged along the terrace edge outside of the existing irrigated area, which appears to be logical from a productive perspective. Furthermore, the creation of a management company to operate the farm will ensure cohesion in the way the productive land is managed.
- 72. Overall, I consider that the style of subdivision appears to be an efficient way of managing the productive land and attempts to reduce the effects of land fragmentation. Each smaller lot (Lots 1-16) will own part of the productive land area of the balance lot meaning that future development of the balance lot away from a productive use or further subdivision of this lot will not be straightforward.
- 73. Overall, when considering the percentage of land diverted from productive use comparative to that diverted under a traditional discretionary subdivision, I consider that the farm park approach seeks to reduce the potential fragmentation of land and assess that the effects on the capacity of the productive soils to be no more than minor overall.

Reverse Sensitivity Effects

- 74. Future dwellings on lots 1- 16 will be within a rural setting and surrounded by a working farm of which each lot will have partial ownership. To alleviate concerns around reverse sensitivity between the farm park lots and working farm, a 20m wide right of way is included between the residential property boundary and the working farm and a 20m buffer between Lot 1 and the southern pivot. All lots will be setback at least 25m from the external boundaries and the neighbouring properties to the north and east have provided written approval to the proposal and all effects on these parties are to be disregarded. In addition to the ownership model, the applicant volunteers a reverse sensitivity effects condition.
- 75. Overall, given that all lots will hold a share of the working farm, all future purchasers will be cognisant of the working rural environment they are entering into. Furthermore, I consider that given the nature of the development, purchasers of these lots are likely to have actively sought out a rural environment. When considering the factors above, I consider that reverse sensitivity effects can be managed such that these are assessed as no more than minor.

Effects of Natural Hazards

76. The property is subject to flooding as on the lower terrace as shown on both the CODC and ORC hazard mapping. The proposed rural residential lots are on the upper terrace outside of the mapped hazard area. No change will occur to the land use of Lot 100. Overall, I consider that the proposal will not unduly increase the risk arising from natural hazards nor will it exacerbate any natural hazard effect.

The adequacy of the allotment

- 77. The proposed servicing for the development is set out in the application. A number of submitters have raised concerns with adverse effects on effluent disposal and groundwater.
- 78. The applicant confirms that the water supply will be from an existing water bore which will be dedicated to supplying potable water to each dwelling. The water supply and subsequent on-site storage will be suitable to provide firefighting provision to Fire Emergency New Zealand standards. A water supply company will be setup to provide management and compliance with Taumata Arowai. A water test and laboratory report will be supplied to Council, prior to Sec 224(c) certification including an outline of any treatment required to comply with Taumata Arowai. Any treatment required will be at the point of use (i.e., the dwelling) and be subject to a consent notice condition for Lots 1 16.
- 79. With regard to wastewater disposal, Kā Rūnaka raise concerns with the lack of reticulation for stormwater and wastewater.
- 80. The applicant has provided a Geotech wastewater report prepared by Mt Iron Geodrill dated 11 December 2023. The report confirms that the the site is suited for onsite stormwater disposal. Careful placement and design of stormwater soak pits away from the wastewater disposal field is highly recommended. The base of the soak pit(s) shall be installed into the underlying sandy gravel materials. If the base of the soak pit(s) encounters sand then re-testing of the ground conditions will be required to confirm the infiltration rate.
- 81. The report considers that the site is suitable for onsite wastewater disposal as long as the following issues are considered during the design phase:

- The soils are considered to be soil Category 1 (sandy Gravels), massive, as per AS/NZS1547:2012 Table 5.1
- All treatment systems are suitable provided good design is undertaken
- Highly recommended that a dosing system is used
- Careful consideration regarding setbacks from other disposal fields and stormwater soaks.
- 82. The report also notes that AS/NZS1547:2012 recommends a set back of 20m between disposal fields and also from disposal fields to stormwater soak pits. Given that each section is approximately 40m by 40m these set backs could be achieved by having the stormwater soak pits located at the front (western side) of the lots and the wastewater disposal fields at the rear as long as the placement of the disposal fields are located in the same position on each lot.
- 83. With regard to electricity supply, the applicant has provided an email from Aurora Energy which confirms that the existing 66kv line but that it is Aurora's preference not to underground such a short section of the line within the wider line network. Initial design works by an Aurora approved consultant proposes the 66Kv overhead lines through the property can be realigned along Māori Point Road from the substation at the north-eastern corner of the property and re-joining onto the overhead line along the current access to the property. An existing 110Kv overhead line is currently located along the western side of Māori Point Road.
- 84. Overall, I have assessed that the lots are fit for the purpose for which they are intended and are able to be serviced acceptable effects on the environment.

Access

- 85. The applicant has proposed that Lots 1 to 16 gain access over Lot 100 via a ROW from Maori Point Road. A new entrance will be created and a ROW networks will be created within the site over Lot 100. ROW M will benefit Lot 1-16, ROW N will benefit Lot 1-4 and ROW P will benefit Lots 5-16.
- 86. The applicant proposes that ROW M serving all Lots (10m legal width), which branches off to ROW N serving Lots 1-4 (20m legal width) and ROW P serving Lots 5-16 (20m legal width).
- 87. The applicant intends to upgrade the section of right of way easement M from Māori Point Road to RoW easements P and N to a 4.5m wide gravel road. This will maintain the rural amenity when viewed from Māori Point Road, but as it bisects the balance Lot 100, any road seal will be destroyed by effluent from cattle as well as heavy machinery on the access between the two paddocks either side of the access.
- 88. The applicant proposes that the access for the proposed farm style development is not conducive nor practical to be constructed to a formed road standard and vested.
- 89. The applicant does not want the internal road to be vested. The RoW width is sought to be reduced as it serves only those lots that access their property from it. Apart from the intersection with Māori Point Road, the new access is not intended to connect onto the existing roading network in the region. The applicant acknowledges that a right of way services many lots can result in issues of maintenance, however, in this instance, the lot owners will have a share of the balance Lot 100 and be managed by a body corporate style company/working farm style subdivision. The applicant states that maintenance will be addressed in the management documentation. A vested road would burden CODC with this maintenance. It is intended that the access be a private right of way with a gated entrance and Fob access at the Māori Point Road entrance.

- 90. I recognise the farm park development where all lot owners hold part ownership of the balance lots over which the access is formed and note that this sets the proposal apart from other subdivisions which the ROW is not jointly owned by all users and maintained under joint management. I note that, technically, given the shared ownership of Lot 100, Lots 1-16 have the right to pass and repass over any portion of Lot 100 and a formal easement is likely not required. Engineering confirms that there is scope to permit the proposed road to be a private ROW rather than a vested road. Any decision not to vest the access as formal road would by consistent with the approach taken to the approved farm park subdivision at Jolly's Road (RC210142V1).
- 91. Regardless of the vesting, the CODC Engineers confirms that the accesses will still be required to be constructed to appropriate Council standards. This construction standard can reasonably be addressed through conditions of consent as recognised in the application. Overall, providing the access is formed to an appropriate standard and the responsibility of maintenance is formalised through the management company, the lack of vesting is not expected to have an adverse effect on the transportation network.
- 92. The applicant has also sought advice from NZTA Waka Kotahi due to the proximity of the proposed intersection of Maori Point Road and State Highway 8. NZTA Waka Kotahi has reviewed the proposal and determined that conditions would manage potential effects on the State Highway network. They note that the following conditions will need to be volunteered by the applicant, so they become a substantive part of the resource consent application.
 - Prior to the issuing of a certificate pursuant to Section 224(c) of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Consent Holder shall provide to Council confirmation that New Zealand Transport Agency has been advised of relevant documentation (such as proposed title references, draft LT (Land Transfer) plan, ML plan (for Māori Land) or SO (Survey Office) plan) to facilitate the registration of any new Crossing Place (CP) Notices against those new titles, under Section 91 of the Government Roading Powers Act 1989.
 - A consent notice pursuant to Section 221 of the Resource Management Act 1991 shall be registered against the title of proposed Lot 17 (the balance lot) of the subdivision of land shown on Scheme Plan Lots 1-16, 100 Being a Subdivision of Lot 2 DP 476419, dated 25/09/2023 (reference: C3001_SCM) that addresses potential reverse sensitivity effects resulting from the normal operation of State Highway 8. This consent notice shall read as follows:

Any dwelling or other noise sensitive location on the site in or partly within 100 meters of the edge of State Highway 8 carriageway must be designed, constructed and maintained to achieve an indoor design noise level of 40 dB LAeq(24hr) inside all habitable spaces.

93. I agree with the CODC Engineers and NZTA Waka Kotahi that any transport issues can be adequately resolved, subject to conditions of consent, without adverse effects on the transportation network.

Cultural Effects

94. The site is adjacent to the Clutha River/Mata Au and Lindis River which are Statutory Acknowledgment Areas under the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998. The applicant states that no aspects of the proposed subdivision area are deemed of cultural value and no further assessment by applicant is made.

- 95. The submission by Kā Rūnaka identifies that cultural mapping has been undertaken to identify particularly significant wāhi tūpuna areas in the Central Otago District. While in draft form and not yet incorporated into the Central Otago District Plan, Kā Rūnaka record that the proposal affects a wāhi tūpuna area known as the Mata-au Trail, with values that include but are not limited to: Mahika kai, Nohoaka, and ara tawhito.
- 96. Kā Rūnaka holds concerns regarding the actual and potential adverse effects and cumulative effects of the proposed development upon the cultural landscape in which the Applicant's proposal is situated.
- 97. Kā Rūnaka recommends that the application be declined in its entirety but request that should consent be granted that the following conditions be imposed:
 - locally sourced indigenous plant species be required for all landscape planting.
 - an accidental discovery protocol must be adhered to for all earthworks. I support this recommendation.
- 98. I do not presume to speak with authority with regard to this application and how it fits with Te ao Māori. However, given the concerns raised within the Aukaha submission on behalf of the rūnaka whose takiwā the proposal falls within, I consider that the cultural impacts of the proposal have not been adequately addressed in the application. As such, I reserve my position on the extent of adverse cultural effects and any potential mitigation available until all evidence is presented at the hearing.

Heritage Effects

- 99. Heritage New Zealand submitted on the application and seeks that an assessment of the proposed works be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced consultant archaeologist prior to the commencement of any works. The archaeological assessment should cover the history of occupation within the development area, the scope of the development and the likelihood of modifying, damaging, or destroying any archaeological sites.
- 100. Heritage New Zealand also advises that an archaeological assessment will determine whether an archaeological authority is required for the proposed works.
- 101. There are no mapped heritage items or sites within the subject property. While I understand Heritage New Zealand are cautious regarding development of this site, I consider that any archaeological assessment should be triggered by the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga 2014 requirement for an archaeological authority rather than duplicated by the resource consent process. That said, I have recommended that an accidental discovery protocol condition be imposed on the application should the Panel be of a mind to grant consent.
- 102. Given that the site is not identified as being historically significant and the alternative legislative pathways to manage effects on historic heritage should any items of value be discovered during development, I consider the effects of the proposal on heritage values to be no more than minor.

Earthworks Effects

103. No earthworks are proposed as part of this application beyond formation of the access and any services installation. The small scale of any earthworks required the effects of these are assessed as less than minor.

Effects on the proposed Tarras Airport

104. The proposed subdivision is positioned at the southern end of the runway for the proposed Tarras Airport. The Tarras Airport is only proposed at this stage and there is no application before Council to consider. As such, the land earmarked for the Tarras Airport is considered to have a rural productive land status only and no regard is given to the effects on any future airport at this time.

Esplanade reserves and strips

- 105. There is an existing Crown Land Reserve land that runs between the Clutha River/ Mata Au and the subject site. No additional esplanade reserve or strip is required for the Clutha River/Mata au.
- 106. I note that the Lindis River runs along the Southern Boundary and is identified in Schedule 19.9 of the District Plan. Policy 15.4.10 directs that where public access to the resource is all that is required, an esplanade strip will generally suffice. It is assessed that an esplanade Strip will be required in this instance.

Financial Contributions

107. Financial Contributions have been calculated in accordance with Council's Policy on Development and Financial Contributions July 2021

Activity	Payment
Water Supply	\$Nil
Wastewater	\$Nil
Reserves	\$15,521.70 +GST
Roading	\$22,420.20 +GST
Total	\$37,941.90 +GST

Amalgamations and easements

108. Pursuant to s220(1)(b), the applicant asks for the following amalgamation condition:

"That Lots 1 – 16 Hereon hold an undivided 1/16th share of Lot 100 Hereon and individual Records of Title be issued for each lot".

- 109. The condition has been reviewed by Land Information New Zealand and it is confirmed as practicable (see CSN Request 1882709).
- 110. Should the Panel be of a mind to grant consent, I recommend that a standard condition of consent be imposed which provides for easements identified in the application to protect access or access to services and any additional easements identified at the time of survey.

Other matters pursuant to section 220 of the RMA

111. There are no other matters under S220 of the RMA which require consideration.

SUBSTANTIVE RECOMMENDATION ASSESSMENT

Environmental Effects

- 112. In accordance with section 104(1)(a) of the Resource Management Act 1991, the actual and potential adverse effects associated with the proposed activity have been assessed and outlined above. I have assessed that, subject to the conditions offered by the applicant, that the adverse effects on the environment arising from the proposal are not more than minor, except in regard to the adverse effects on rural character and amenity and landscape values and visual effects which are assessed as more than minor.
- 113. In particular, I note that while farm park style development is an unorthodox approach inn terms of the District Plan, it is an approach which has the potential to mitigate the adverse effects of land fragmentation and protect the productive capacity of land. However, this style of development needs to carefully designed and managed to ensure that rural character, rural amenity and landscape values are not adversely compromised. I do not consider that the applicant has achieved an acceptable balance for this application.
- 114. Furthermore, given the concerns raised by Kā Rūnaka on the potential effects on of the proposed development upon the cultural landscape, I consider that the applicant has not demonstrated the cultural effects of the proposal will be no more than minor.

Objectives and Policies

115. In accordance with section 104(1)(b) of the Resource Management Act 1991, the objectives and policies of the Central Otago District Plan were taken into account when assessing the application.

	Rural Resource Area
4.3.1	Objective – Needs of the District's People and Communities To processing that communities people for their conicles
	To recognise that communities need to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing, and for their health and safety at the same time as ensuring environmental quality is maintained and enhanced.
4.3.3	Objective – Landscape and Amenity Values
	To maintain and where practicable enhance rural amenity values created by the open space, landscape, natural character and built environment values of the District's rural environment, and to maintain the open natural character of the hills and ranges.
4.3.5	Objective – Water Resources
	To maintain and enhance the quality of the District's water resources by avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of land use activities adjacent to water bodies.
4.3.7	Objective - Soil Resource
	To maintain the life-supporting capacity of the District's soil resource to ensure that the needs of present and future generations are met.
4.4.2	Policy – Landscape and Amenity Values

To manage the effects of land use activities and subdivision to ensure that adverse effects on the open space, landscape, natural character and amenity values of the rural environment are avoided, remedied or mitigated through:

- (a) The design and location of structures and works, particularly in respect of the open natural character of hills and ranges, skylines, prominent places and natural features,
- (b) Development which is compatible with the surrounding environment including the amenity values of adjoining properties, I The ability to adequately dispose of effluent on site,
- (d) Controlling the generation of noise in back country areas,
- (e) The location of tree planting, particularly in respect of landscape values, natural features and ecological values,
- (f) Controlling the spread of wilding trees.
- (g) Encouraging the location and design of buildings to maintain the open natural character of hills and ranges without compromising the landscape and amenity values of prominent hillsides and terraces.

4.4.3 Policy Sustainable Management of Infrastructure

To ensure that the development of infrastructure in the rural environment promotes sustainable management by:

- (a) Requiring developers to contribute a fair and reasonable proportion of the costs involved, and
- (b) Maintaining and enhancing the safe and efficient operation of the infrastructure network (including roading), while avoiding, remedying or mitigating adverse effects.

4.4.5 Policy - Effects on Water Quality

To assist the Otago Regional Council in it's role of maintaining and enhancing water quality, by ensuring allotments are adequate for effluent disposal requirements and encouraging the use of land management techniques that maintain and/or enhance the life supporting capacity of water.

4.4.6 Policy – Adverse Effects on the Soil Resource

To ensure that the location, construction and/or operation of land use activities and subdivision make adequate provision for the protection of the soil resource by avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of practices which may cause:

- (a) Erosion, instability or loss of topsoil,
- (b) Loss of nutrient or incidence of soil contamination,
- (c) Loss of soils with special qualities,
- (d) A reduction in vegetation and moisture holding capacity,
- (e) Soil compaction

4.4.7 Policy – Significant Indigenous Vegetation, Wetlands and Wildlife

To protect areas of:

- a. Significant indigenous vegetation,
- b. Significant habitats of indigenous fauna,
- c. Significant wetlands,
- d. Indigenous vegetation or habitats that support a significant indigenous fresh water fishery, and
- e. Habitats of statutorily managed sports fish and game.

from the adverse effects of land use activities and subdivision and to promote and encourage, where practicable, the retention, enhancement and reinstatement of indigenous ecosystems within the District.

4.4.8 <u>Policy - Adverse Effects on the Amenity Values of Neighbouring</u> Properties.

To ensure that the effects associated with some activities including (but not limited to):

- (a) Noise (including noise associated with traffic generation, night time operations), and vibration,
- (b) The generation of a high level of traffic, in particular heavy vehicles.
- (c) Glare, particularly from building finish,
- (d) A reduction in visual amenity due to excessive signage and the storage of goods or waste products on the site,
- (e) The generation of odour, dusts, wastes and hazardous substances, and
- (f) The use and/or storage of hazardous goods or substances do not significantly adversely affect the amenity values and privacy of neighbouring properties or the safe and efficient operation of the roading network.

4.4.9 Policy - Effects of Rural Activities

To recognise that some rural activities, particularly those of a short duration or seasonal nature, often generate noise and other effects that can disturb neighbours by ensuring that new developments locating near such activities recognise and accept the prevailing environmental characteristics associated with production and other activities found in the Rural Resource Area.

4.4.10 Policy – Rural Subdivision and Development

To ensure that the subdivision and use of land in the Rural Resource Area avoids, remedies or mitigates adverse effects on:

- (a) The open space, landscape and natural character amenity values of the rural environment in particular the hills and ranges,
- (b) The natural character and values of the District's wetlands, lakes, rivers and the margins,
- (c) The production and amenity values of neighbouring properties,
- (d) The safety and efficiency of the roalg network,
- (e) The loss of soils with special qualities,
- (f) The ecological values of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna,

- (g) The heritage and cultural values of the District,
- (h) The water quality of the District's surface and groundwater resources, and
- (i) Public access to or along the rivers and lakes of the District, particularly through the use of minimum (and average) allotment sizes.
- 116. In respect of Policy 4.4.2, I do not consider that the applicant has established that the proposal is consistent with this policy. In particular, the linier configuration of the subdivision, the significantly reduced separation between dwellings, proximity to the terrace edge, potential for skyline breaches associated with future development and reliance of screen planting to mitigate effects over time, I consider that the potential effects on rural character, landscape and amenity values will be adverse and unable to be adequately mitigate to an acceptable degree. I consider that the proposal is inconsistent with this policy.
- 117. When considering Policy 4.4.3, the site is able to be adequately serviced, subject to recommended conditions of consent. I assess that the proposal is consistent with this policy.
- 118. With regard to Policy 4.4.6, I consider that the retention of the large productive block will be sufficient to ensure that the proposal will not adversely affect the productive capacity of the soil and the proposal is consistent with the above policy.
- 119. In respect of Policy 4.4.7, the proposal is not located within a mapped area of Significant indigenous vegetation, significant habitats of indigenous fauna, or a significant wetland.
- 120. When considering Policy 4.4.8, residential lots setback from external boundaries and is not expected to significantly adversely affect the amenity values of neighbouring properties in respect of those specific matters defined in the policy.
- 121. With regard to Policy 4.4.9, I expect that reverse sensitivity effects are able to be adequately managed, given that the residential lots will each own a share of the productive balance lot and will be setback from external boundaries.
- 122. In respect of Policy 4.4.10, I consider that the proposal is somewhat inconsistent with this policy:
 - I consider that the applicant has not established that the effects on the landscape to the natural character and values at any river margin are unable to be adequately mitigated (4.4.10a and 4.4.10.(b)).
 - Submissions from neighbouring properties have raised concerns regarding the effect of the proposal on their amenity which have not been resolved at this time. (4.4.10(c)).
 - The access to the lots has been assessed and is considered acceptable subject to conditions of consent (4.4.10(d)).
 - The site is not identified as have soils with special qualities (4.4.10.(e))
 - The site is currently in a productive use and a large portion of the site will be retained in this use (4.4.10.(f)).
 - No heritage areas have been identified on the site. An accidental discovery protocol condition is recommended. (4.4.10.(g)).
 - Servicing of the site has been assessed as achievable. Discharges which may affect water quality are addressed through conditions of consent (4.4.10(h)).

- Existing public access to or along the rivers and lakes of the District will be unaffected (4.4.10.i).
- 123. When assessing the subdivision in light of what the relevant objectives and policies are trying to achieve, I consider that the proposed subdivision application, is inconsistent with key objectives and policies namely Objective 4.3.3 and Policies 4.4.2 and 4.2.10. The proposal is deemed to be consistent with the other relevant objectives and policies subject to recommended conditions of consent.
- 124. With regard to those policies set out in the subdivision section of the plan, I consider that the subdivision is designed in a manner which is consistent with those objectives and policies set out below:

Subdivision			
16.3.9	Objective - Physical Works Involved in Subdivision		
	To ensure that the physical works involved in preparing land that is part of the subdivision avoids, remedies or mitigates adverse effects on: (a) The stability of land. (b) Water quality within natural watercourses and the stability of their margins. (c) Neighbouring properties in respect of the effects of noise, dust and		
	vibration.		
16.3.11	Objective - Effluent Disposal		
	To ensure that subdivision in areas without reticulated foul sewage services does not facilitate development that has an adverse effect on soil, surface and groundwater resources, and public health.		
16.4.1	Policy - Adequate Access		
	To require that all subdivisions have legal and physical access that:		
	(a) Is of a standard that is adequate for the intended use of allotments having regard to current and likely future traffic levels and the safe and convenient movement of vehicles and pedestrians, and		
	(b) That integrates with the existing roading network in a safe and efficient manner, except in circumstances where Council is satisfied that section 321(2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 1974 is to apply or where no new lots are to be created		
16.4.3	Policy - Adequate Infrastructure		
	To require that the land to be subdivided is supplied with services and infrastructure that are adequate for the intended use of the land to be subdivided without the public interest being adversely affected		
16.4.4	Policy – Unreticulated Areas		
	To require that subdivisions within unreticulated areas are designed to ensure that each allotment:		

	 (a) Has the ability to adequately dispose of effluent and stormwater on site without compromising health, the life-supporting capacity of soil resources, the quality of ground and surface water resources, and the drainage and amenity values of adjoining properties: and that, (b) An adequate supply of water can be provided, where this is appropriate to the intended use of the allotment.
16.4.6	Policy – Construction Standards To require that all physical works within subdivisions are designed and constructed in accordance with NZS 4404:1981 which is the Council's Subdivision Code of Practice unless Council determines modification of this code is necessary given the local conditions and particular circumstances affecting the subdivision.

125. With regard to Chapter 17 Hazards of the District Plan, the objectives and policies below are assessed, along with Objective 16.3.3 and Policy 16.4.8:

Subdivision		
16.3.3	Objective - Hazards	
	To ensure that subdivision does not facilitate development that may potentially be at risk from hazards.	
16.4.8	Policy - Sites Subject to Hazards	
	With respect to land that is, or is likely to be, subject to the effects of hazards (including the circumstances set out in section 106 of the Act) Council may only grant a subdivision consent where either:	
	(a) The area of the subdivision to be used for building or other development purposes will not be subject to material damage from the hazard; or (b) The subdivision is not materially changing the status quo (eg. boundary adjustment); or	
	(c) The subdivision is to facilitate land stabilisation, erosion protection, flood protection or some other method of avoiding, remedying or mitigating the effects of the hazard; or (d) The adverse effects of the hazard can be avoided, remedied	
	or mitigated by conditions attached to the consent including the provision of appropriate works; or (e) Other exceptional circumstances exist; and/or	
	(f) The subdivider is willing to accept any potential risk and is prepared to have the resultant certificate of titles registered accordingly.	

Hazards		
17.3.1	Objective - Avoidance or Mitigation of Hazards	
	To avoid or mitigate the adverse effects of hazards, both natural and human induced, to limits acceptable to the community.	

17.4.2	Policy - Control of Land Use in Hazard Areas	
	To take into account the vulnerability of land and activities to hazard events when managing land uses in a particular area	
17.4.3	Policy - Subdivision and the Erection of Buildings	
	To restrict subdivision and the erection of buildings in areas where there is a reasonable probability that a hazard may cause material damage.	

126. The property is subject to flooding as on the lower terrace as shown on both the CODC and ORC hazard mapping. The proposed rural residential lots are on the upper terrace outside of the mapped hazard area. No change will occur to the land use of Lot 100. Overall, I consider that the proposal will not unduly increase the risk arising from natural hazards nor will it exacerbate any natural hazard effect. The proposal is considered to be consistent with the relevant objectives and policies as these relate to hazards.

Regional Policy Statements

127. The Operative Regional Policy Statement for Otago 2019 (RPS 2019) was made fully operative on 4 March 2024. Specific to this proposal are the following policy:

Objective	Supporting policies	Assessment
Objective 3.1 The values (including intrinsic values) of ecosystems and natural resources are recognised and maintained, or enhanced where degraded	Safeguard the life-supporting capacity of soil and manage soil to: a) Maintain or enhance as far as practicable i. Soil biological diversity; ii. Biological activity in soils; iii. Soil function in the storage and cycling of water, nutrients, and other elements through the biosphere; iv. Soil function as a buffer or filter for contaminants resulting from human activities, including aquifers at risk of leachate contamination; v. Soil fertility where soil is used for primary production; b) Where a) is not practicable, minimise adverse effects; c) Recognise that urban and infrastructure development may result in loss of soil values. d) Control the adverse effects of pest species, prevent their introduction and reduce their spread;	The soil on this land has not been classified as highly productive. The purpose of the application is to cluster the residential activity so as to leave the productive land in a single and cohesive productive balance block. I consider that this this is a positive approach when comparing the potential effect on productivity of dividing the land into sixteen 8-hectare blocks which the subdivision rules in the District Plan anticipate. The applicant also advises that the area of land to be converted to residential is the least productive portion of the larger land holding. Overall, I consider that the approach of this

e) Retain the soil mantle where it acts as a repository of historic heritage objects unless an archaeological authority has been obtained.

subdivision will help minimise the subdivision of productive rural land into smaller lots that may result in a loss of its productive capacity or productive efficiency. I consider that there will be no significant loss of productive capacity as a result of this proposal.

I consider that the proposal is generally consistent with this objective and policy.

Objective 4.1 Risks that natural hazards pose to Otago's communities are minimised

Policy 4.1.3 Natural hazard consequence

Assess the consequences of natural hazard events, by considering all of the following:

- a) The nature of activities in the area;
- b) Individual and community vulnerability;
- c) Impacts on individual and community health and safety;
- d) Impacts on social, cultural and economic wellbeing; e) Impacts on infrastructure and property, including access and services;
- e) Risk reduction and hazard mitigation measures;
- f) Lifeline utilities, essential and emergency services, and their codependence;
- g) Implications for civil defence agencies and emergency services;
- h) Cumulative effects;
- Factors that may exacerbate a hazard event.

The property is subject to flooding as on the lower terrace as shown on both the CODC and ORC mapping. hazard The proposed rural residential lots are on the upper terrace outside of the mapped hazard area. No change will occur to the land use of Lot 100. Overall. I consider that the proposal will not unduly increase the risk arising from natural hazards nor will it exacerbate any natural hazard effect.

The proposal is considered to be consistent with the relevant objective and policy as these relate to hazards.

Policy 4.1.4 Assessing activities for natural hazard risk

Assess activities for natural hazard risk to people, property and communities, by considering all of the following:

- a) The natural hazard risk identified, including residual risk;
- Any measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate those risks, including relocation and recovery methods;
- c) The long-term viability and affordability of those measures;
- d) Flow-on effects of the risk to other activities, individuals and communities;
- e) The availability of, and ability to provide, lifeline utilities, and essential and emergency services, during and after a natural hazard event.

Policy 4.1.6 Minimising increase in natural hazard risk

Minimise natural hazard risk to people, communities, property and other aspects of the environment by:

- a) Avoiding activities that result in significant risk from natural hazard;
- b) Enabling activities that result in no or low residual risk from natural hazard;
- c) Avoiding activities that increase risk in areas potentially affected by coastal hazards over at least the next 100 years;
- d) Encouraging the location of infrastructure away from areas of hazard risk where practicable;
- e) Minimising any other risk from natural hazard.

Objective 5.3 Sufficient land is managed and protected for economic production.

Policy 5.3.1 Rural activities

Manage activities in rural areas, to support the region's economy and communities, by:

- a) Enabling primary production and other rural activities that support that production;
- b) Providing for mineral exploration, extraction and processing;
- c) Minimising the loss of significant soils:
- d) Restricting the establishment of incompatible activities in rural areas that are likely to lead to reverse sensitivity effects;
- e) Minimising the subdivision of productive rural land into smaller lots that may result in a loss of its productive capacity or productive efficiency;
- f) Providing for other activities that have a functional need to locate in rural areas.

The approach of this subdivision will help minimise the subdivision of productive rural land into smaller lots that may result in a loss of its productive capacity productive efficiency. consider that there will be no significant loss of productive capacity as a result of this proposal.

Furthermore, the balance lot will be owned by the owners of Lots 1-16 meaning that it could be argued that they have a need or tenure to establish in close proximity to the balance lot. While, this is a rural lifestyle development to some degree, it is also inherently rural development with the retention of balance lot and the shared management of this lot.

I consider that the proposal is consistent with this objective and policy.

- 128. Overall, I consider that the proposal is generally consistent with the key objectives and policies of the poRPS 2019.
- 129. Decisions were release on the Proposed Regional Policy Statement 2021 (pRPS 2021) on 27 March 2024. The pRPS 2021 is currently under appeal.

IM- 03 - Environmentally sustainable impact

Otago's communities carry out their activities in a way that preserves environmental integrity, form, function, and resilience, so that the life-supporting capacities of air, water, soil, ecosystems, and indigenous biodiversity endure for future generations.

IM-P14 - Human impact

Preserve opportunities for future generations by:

- identifying limits to both growth and adverse effects of human activities beyond which the environment will be degraded,
- requiring that activities are established in places, and carried out in ways, that are within those limits and are compatible with the natural capabilities and capacities of the resources they rely on, and

 regularly assessing and adjusting limits and thresholds for activities over time in light of the actual and potential environmental impacts.

LF-FW-O10 - Natural character

The natural character of wetlands, lakes and rivers and their margins is preserved and protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.

LF-FW-P15 - Stormwater and wastewater discharges

Minimise the adverse effects of direct and indirect discharges of stormwater and wastewater to fresh water by:

- 1. except as required by LF–VM–O2 and LF–VM–O4, preferring discharges of wastewater to land over discharges to water, unles s adverse effects associated with a discharge to land are greater than a discharge to water, and
- 2. requiring:
 - a. all sewage, industrial or trade waste to be discharged into a reticulated wastewater system, where one is available,
 - b. all stormwater to be discharged into a reticulated system, where one is available, implementation of methods to progressively reduce the frequency and volume of wet weather overflows and minimise the likelihood of dry weather overflows occurring for reticulated stormwater and wastewater systems,
 - c. on-site wastewater systems to be designed and operated in accordance with best practice standards.
 - d. stormwater and wastewater discharges to meet any applicable water quality standards set for FMUs and/or rohe, and the use of water sensitive urban design techniques to avoid or mitigate the potential adverse effects of contaminants on receiving water bodies from the subdivision, use or development of land, wherever practicable, and
- 3. promoting the reticulation of stormwater and wastewater in urban areas.

LF-LS-O11 - Land and soil

The life-supporting capacity of Otago's soil resources is safeguarded and the availability and productive capacity of highly productive land for primary production is maintained now and for future generations.

LF-LS-P17 - Soil values

Maintain the mauri, health and productive potential of soils by managing the use and development of land in a way that is suited to the natural soil characteristics and that sustains healthy:

- 1. soil biological activity and biodiversity,
- 2. soil structure, and
- 3. soil fertility.

UFD-O4 - Development in rural areas

Development in Otago's rural areas occurs in a way that:

- 1. avoids impacts on significant values and features identified in this RPS.
- 2. avoids as the first priority, land and soils identified as highly productive by LF-LS-P19 unless there is an operational need for the development to be located in rural areas,
- 3. only provides for urban expansion, rural lifestyle and rural residential development and the establishment of sensitive activities, in locations identified through strategic planning or zoned within district plans as suitable for such development, and
- 4. outside of areas identified in (3), maintains and enhances the natural and physical resources that support the productive capacity, rural character, and long-term viability of the rural sector and rural communities.

UFD-P7 - Rural Areas

The management of rural areas:

- 1. provides for the maintenance and, wherever possible, enhancement of important features and values identified by this RPS,
- 2. outside areas identified in (1), maintains the productive capacity, amenity and character of rural areas,
- 3. enables primary production particularly on land or soils identified as highly productive in accordance with LF–LS–P19,
- 4. facilitates rural industry and supporting activities;
- 5. directs rural residential and rural lifestyle development to areas zoned for that purpose in accordance with UFD–P8.
- 6. restricts the establishment of residential activities, sensitive activities, and non-rural businesses which could adversely affect, including by way of reverse sensitivity, the productive capacity of highly productive land, primary production and rural industry activities, and
- 7. otherwise limits the establishment of residential activities, sensitive activities, and non-rural businesses to those that can demonstrate an operational need to be located in rural areas.
- 130. I consider that the applicant has not established that the proposal is consistent with the pRPS2021 and, in particular, based on the preceding assessment set out in this report, consider that the application is assessed as inconstant with some parts, or all, of the following policies: IM-P14 Human impact, UFD-P7 Rural Areas, UFD-O4 Development in rural areas.

National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land

131. The National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land (NPS-HPL) came into effect on 17 October 2022. All general rural zoned land within Land Use Categories 1-3 are covered by the NPSHPL. In this instance, the land is identified as LUC 4 and no further consideration of the NPS-HPL is given in this report.

Part 2 of the RMA

132. The purpose of the RMA to promote the sustainable management of the natural and physical resources detailed below:

managing the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources in a way or at a rate which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural well being and for their health and safety while:

- (a) Sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources (excluding minerals) to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations: and
- (b) Safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil and ecosystems: and
- (c) Avoiding, remedying, or mitigating any adverse effect of activities on the environment.
- 133. With regard to matters of national importance as identified in Section 6 of the Act, section 6(h) requires that the management of significant risks from natural hazards in respect of use, development, and protection of natural and physical resources is to be recognised and provided for.
- 134. The property is subject to flooding as on the lower terrace as shown on both the CODC and ORC hazard mapping. The proposed rural residential lots are on the upper terrace outside of the mapped hazard area. No change will occur to the land use of Lot 100. Overall, I consider that the proposal will not unduly increase the risk arising from natural hazards nor will it exacerbate any natural hazard effect. In this regard, the hazard risk is not considered to be significant.
- 135. In respect of the other matters set out in Section 7:
 - 7(b) the efficient use and development of natural and physical resources:
 - 7(c) the maintenance and enhancement of amenity values:
 - 7(f) maintenance and enhancement of the quality of the environment:
 - 7(g) any finite characteristics of natural and physical resources:
- 136. I consider that the proposal has not established that it will provide for the maintenance and enhancement of amenity values or the maintenance and enhancement of the quality of the environment. However, the above assessment is consistent with the conclusions reached in this report where the proposal was previously assessed against the lower order objectives and policies. In this regard, Part 2 introduces no additional matters which have not been previously considered.

Section 104D

- 137. Section 104D of the Resource Management Act 1991 specifies that resource consent for a non-complying activity must not be granted unless the proposal can meet at least one of two limbs. The limbs of Section 104D require that the adverse effects on the environment will be no more than minor, or that the proposal will not be contrary to the objectives and policies of both the district plan and the proposed district plan.
- 138. In this instance, I do not consider that the proposal passes the first limb of S104D but is assessed as inconsistent with the relevant objectives and policies rather than contrary to these. In this regard, consideration can be given to granting of consent.

Offsetting or Compensation Measures

139. In accordance with Section 104(1)(ab) of the RMA, consideration for offsetting or compensation measures is required. The applicant has not offered offsetting or compensation measures.

Other Matters

- 140. Section 104(1)(c) of the Resource Management Act 1991 requires the Hearings Panel to have regard to any other matters considered relevant and reasonably necessary to determine the application. Matters of precedent and plan integrity are relevant here.
- 141. With respect to the precedent and plan integrity, the Court has since confirmed that cases should be assessed on their merits to avoid affecting plan integrity. In this regard, I consider that the Hearings Panel should have little concern for precedent and make a decision on the facts of the application.
- 142. That said, one of the original intentions of the density requirements for rural subdivision were to enable a range of allotment sizes, while maintaining the overall pattern of development, with larger lots balancing out the establishment of smaller lots. While this application takes this approach by retaining the larger balance lot, the number and size of the smaller of lots are not anticipated by the District Plan. The application takes an unorthodox (in the context of Central Otago) and overall, I consider that the "farm park" approach taken by the applicant within this terraced site does set this proposal apart from other rural subdivisions in the District.

Lapse Period

143. The Applicant seeks to stage the development depending upon market conditions. The applicant confirms that delays are not uncommon in this type of subdivision and are often outside the consent holder's control; therefore, a 10-year lapse period is sought. I agree that giving effect to a subdivision of this scale may take longer than the standard period and I consider that a 10-year lapse period is not unreasonable in this instance.

RECOMMENDATION

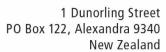
- 144. After having regard to the above planning assessment, I recommend that the Hearing Panel refuse consent to the proposed activity under delegated authority, in accordance with sections 104, 104B and 104D of the Resource Management Act 1991 for the following reasons:
 - a) The proposal is for a non-complying activity and does not pass the first limb of s104D of the RMA.
 - b) The application is assessed as inconsistent with Objective 4.3.3 and Policies 4.4.2 and 4.4.10.
 - c) The applicant has not established that the adverse effects of the proposal on the rural character and amenity and landscape and visual amenity are no more than minor and that the proposed mitigation will be effective within a reasonable timeframe.
- 145. Should the Panel reach a different determination, I have attached a draft suite of condition for the Panel to consider.

Kirstyn Royce

PLANNING CONSULTANT

Date: 11 March 2024







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APPENDIX 1

Draft conditions of consent

Consent Type: Subdivision Consent

Consent Number: RC 230328

To undertake a seventeen lot subdivision Purpose:

Location of Activity: 5 Maori Point Road, Tarras

Legal Description: Lot 2 DP 476419, held in Record of Title 658254

Lapse Date: [Day and Month] 2030, unless the consent has been given effect to

before this date.

CONDITIONS:

General

- 1. The proposed activity must be undertaken in general accordance with the approved plans attached to this certificate as Appendix One, and the information provided with the resource consent application received by the Council on 27 October 2023, and further information provided on 24 July 2024, except where modified by the following conditions.
- 2. The consent holder is responsible for all contracted operations relating to the exercise of this consent and must ensure that all personnel (contractors) working on the site are made aware of the conditions of this consent, have access to the contents of consent documents and must ensure compliance with land use consent conditions.
- 3. The consent holder must pay to the Council all required administration charges fixed by the Council pursuant to section 36 of the Act in relation to:
 - Administration, monitoring and inspection relating to this consent; and a)
 - b) Charges authorised by regulations.
- 4. If during any site disturbance, the consent holder or subsequent owners:
 - discovers koiwi tangata (human skeletal remains), waahi taoka (resources of i) importance), waahi tapu (places or features of special significance) or other Maori artefact material, the consent holder or subsequent owner must without delay:
 - a) notify the Consent Authority, Tangata whenua and Heritage New Zealand and in the case of skeletal remains, the New Zealand Police.
 - b) stop work within the immediate vicinity of the discovery to allow a site inspection by Heritage New Zealand and the appropriate runanga and their advisors, who must determine whether the discovery is likely to be

extensive, if a thorough site investigation is required, and whether an Archaeological Authority is required.

Site work may recommence following consultation with the Consent Authority, Heritage New Zealand, Tangata whenua, and in the case of skeletal remains, the New Zealand Police, provided that any relevant statutory permissions have been obtained.

- ii) discovers any feature or archaeological material that predates 1900, or heritage material, or disturbs a previously unidentified archaeological or heritage site, the consent holder must without delay:
 - a) stop work within the immediate vicinity of the discovery or disturbance; and
 - advise the Consent Authority, Heritage New Zealand, and in the case of Maori features or materials, the Tangata whenua, and if required, must make an application for an Archaeological Authority pursuant to Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014; and
 - c) arrange for a suitably qualified archaeologist to undertake a survey of the site.

Site work may recommence following consultation with the Consent Authority.

- 5. Prior to the commencement of works occurring on site approved by this subdivision consent, the consent holder must:
 - a) Provide a letter to Council advising who the supervisor must be for the design and supervision of the subdivision works.
 - b) Provide notice to the Planning and Regulatory Services Manager by email to resource.consents@codc.govt.nz of the start date of the works. This notice must be provided at least five (5) working days before the works are to commence.
 - c) Provide copies of design: reports, calculations, specifications, schedules, and drawings, as applicable.
 - d) Receive council Engineering Approval of the design/s as applicable.
 - e) Prepare an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan. The Plan must be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person and must be submitted to the Planning and Regulatory Services Manager at resource.consents@codc.govt.nz for certification.
 - f) Install all measures identified in the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan to mitigate erosion and to control and contain sediment-laden stormwater run-off and dust from the site and to water (including the wetland) during any stages of site disturbance that may be associated with this subdivision.

- g) Provide evidence to the Planning and Regulatory Services Manager at resource.consents@codc.govt.nz that any relevant and necessary consents have been obtained from the Otago Regional Council.
- 6. Prior to certification of the survey plan, pursuant to section 223 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the subdivider must ensure the following:
 - a) If a requirement for any easements for services, including private drainage and access, is incurred during the survey then those easements must be granted or reserved and included in a Memorandum of Easements on the cadastral dataset.
 - b) Show an Esplanade strip to the Lindis River within Lot 100 on the survey plan.
 - c) Shown a defined 10m wide land covenant area within each Lot 1-`16 along the terrace edge on the survey plan.
- 7. Pursuant to s220(1)(b), the applicant asks for the following amalgamation condition:
 - "That Lots 1 16 Hereon hold an undivided 1/16th share of Lot 100 Hereon and individual Records of Title be issued for each lot" (See CSN Request 1882709).
- 8. Prior to certification pursuant to section 224(c) of the Resource Management Act 1991, the subdivider must complete the following:
 - a) Unless modified by other conditions, all designs and approvals must be in accordance with NZS 4404:2004 and the July 2008 CODC Addendum. Together these two documents form the Council's Code of Practice for subdivision.
 - b) Provide evidence that a Management Company has been legally established which is responsible for:
 - i) The farming operation of Lot 100,
 - ii) All landscaping planting and maintenance within Lot 100 and the covenant areas of Lots 1-16,
 - iii) The network water supply, and
 - iv) The development and maintenance of all accesses constructed within Lot 100

Water

- c) An adequate working water supply shall be provided individually to each of the proposed Lots 1 to 16 from the new network water supply in accordance with the CODC Addendum, including Clause 6.3.15 Small Rural Water Supplies, and other relevant provisions of NZS 4404:2004, with the following specific requirements:
- d) A consent notice must be registered on the titles of proposed Lots 1 to 16 describing any non-compliant aspects of the water supply and detailing installation of point-of-

use remedial treatment required, and that the adequacy of such treatment must be confirmed through retesting as fully compliant, prior to any domestic use of the water supply or occupation of any connected dwelling.

Note: The laboratory report must be attached to the consent notice for Lots 1-16.

- e) Individual standard water connections shall be installed to the boundary of each of proposed Lots 1 to 16 including a standard valve and meter and/or restrictor assembly located at or within the Lot boundary.
- f) A new operation and maintenance manual including a description of the water supply system and as-built drawings of the reticulation layout, and formal ownership and management documentation, must be provided to Council for each network water supply system.
- g) The proposed bore shall be designed and constructed by a suitably qualified person, and a description of the design along with as-built drawings must be submitted to Council.
- h) Necessary easements must be in place for pipework and access to water sources to, or within the boundary of, each lot.

Electricity and telecommunications

- i) Operational underground power connections must be provided to the boundary of Lot 1-16, and:
 - i) Supply evidence of the consent from the network utility providers to the Chief Executive.
 - ii) Meet all the costs associated with the installation of electricity services necessary to serve the needs of the subdivision.
- j) Operational underground telecommunications connections must be provided to the boundary of Lot 1-16 or alternatively a consent notice must be registered on the Record of Title for each lot which confirms that telecommunications may be by wireless technology.

Access

- k) Confirmation must be provided to the Planning and Regulatory Services Manager that that New Zealand Transport Agency has been advised of relevant documentation (such as proposed title references, draft LT (Land Transfer) plan, ML plan (for Māori Land) or SO (Survey Office) plan) to facilitate the registration of any new Crossing Place (CP) Notices against those new titles, under Section 91 of the Government Roading Powers Act 1989, if required.
- The access extending off Maori Point Road to serve proposed Lots 1 to 16, and 100 must be constructed in accordance with the Local Gravelled category requirements of Table 3.2 (a) of Council's July 2008 Addendum to NZS4404:2004, with the following specific requirements and modifications:

- Design in accordance with Austroads Guide for Geometric Design of Rural Roads.
- ii) Road intersections to be appropriately designed.
- iii) Minimum legal road reserve width of 15 metres in Flat terrain and minimum 20 metres width in Rolling terrain.
- iv) Minimum 6.0 metre top metal width with widening on curves where the road serves greater than 15 Lots.
- v) Minimum 5.5 metre top metal width with widening on curves where the road serves 14 Lots or fewer.
- vi) 5-8% normal camber and designed super-elevation.
- vii) Subgrade >CBR of 7
- viii) Shallow trafficable side-drains / water channels over level sections.
- ix) Rock armouring to be provided to side-channels along steeper sections.
- x) A well bound durable surfacing metal to be provided that is resistant to ravelling and provides good all-weather traction. Material to be subject to testing and approval from Council's Roading Manager. Source testing to include Particle Size Analysis, and Material Classification and Expected Behaviour.
- xi) Suitably sized culverts in water courses if present.
- xii) Individual entranceways/crossings from the proposed road to serve each of proposed Lots 1 to 16, and 100 must be constructed in compliance with the requirements of Part 29 of Council's Roading Policies January 2015.
- xiii) Subgrade requirements and metal depths to NZS4404:2004 and Council's July 2008 Addendum standards.

Landscaping and biodiversity

- m) A landscaping plan, prepared by a suitably qualified professional, must be submitted to the Planning and Regulatory Services Manager for certification at resource.consents@codc.govt.nz. at a minimum, the landscape plan must include:
 - i) The predominant use of locally sourced indigenous species.
 - ii) A methodology/rationale which demonstrates that the species used will promoted the biodiversity of the land within the site
 - iii) Fencing of the 20m buffer area around the residential lots
 - iv) Structure planting

- v) Planting of the covenant areas
- vi) Removal and replacement planting timing and methodology for the existing pine shelterbelts
- vii) On-going maintenance and replacement policy for plants which sicken or die.
- viii) Pest management and protection of plants
- ix) Planting spacing and sizing
- x) Irrigation system
- xi) Planting themes within the residential lots
- n) Landscape Planting, except for planting within the residential lots outside of the covenant areas, and an appropriate irrigation system must be established in accordance with the certified landscape plan.

Engineering Design and Assets

- o) Provide Producer Statements in an approved format from a suitably qualified professional certifying the engineering adequacy and compliance with Council consent conditions relating to:
 - i) engineering design of subdivision works.
 - ii) construction and construction review of subdivision works.
- p) Asset information with associated costings (priced schedule) for assets to be vested in Council.
- q) As built information for new services in CAD format to the normal standards and any existing as built information held by Council and relating to existing services to be taken over by Council shall be updated to CAD format and certified by a suitably qualified professional.

Financial Contributions

- r) Payment of a reserves contribution of \$15,521.70 (exclusive of Goods and Services Tax) calculated in terms of Rule 15.6.1(1)(a)(i) of the Operative District Plan on the basis of one additional dwelling equivalent.
- 9. Pursuant to Section 221 of the Resource Management Act 1991, consent notices must be prepared for registration on the records of title for Lots 1-16 and Lot 100 the following ongoing conditions:
 - a) Lot 100 is an unserviced rural lot and residential activity is not permitted on this lot.

<u>Water</u>

- b) At the time of dwelling construction for Lots 1-16, minimum domestic water and firefighting storage is to be provided by a standard 30,000 litre tank. Of this total capacity, a minimum of 20,000 litres must be always maintained as a static firefighting reserve. Alternatively, an 11,000-litre firefighting reserve must be made available to the building in association with a domestic sprinkler system installed in the building to an approved standard. A firefighting connection must be located within 90 metres of any proposed building on the site. To ensure that connections are compatible with Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) equipment the fittings must comply with the following standards:
 - i) Either: For flooded sources, a 70 mm Instantaneous Couplings (Female) NZS 4505 or, for suction sources, a 100 mm and 140 mm Suction Coupling (Female) NZS 4505 (hose tail is to be the same diameter as the threaded coupling e.g. 100 mm coupling has 100 mm hose tail), provided that the consent holder shall provide written approval of Fire and Emergency New Zealand to confirm that the couplings are appropriate for firefighting purposes.
 - ii) All connections shall be capable of providing a flow rate of 25 litres per second at the connection point.
 - iii) The connection shall have a hardstand area adjacent to it to allow a Fire and Emergency New Zealand appliance to park on it. The hardstand area shall be located at the centre of a clear working space with a minimum width of 4.5 metres. Access shall be always maintained to the hardstand area.

Wastewater

c) At the time that a new dwelling is constructed on Lots 1-16, the developer must install an on-site wastewater disposal system designed by a suitably qualified professional :in compliance with Clause 5.5 b), c), d), and e) of Council's Addendum July2008 to NZS4404:2004 (note compliance with 2012 version of AS/NZS1547 required), and the following recommendations of the Onsite Wastewater Disposal Site and Soils Assessment 11 December 2023 prepared by Mt Iron Geodrill.

Note: The Onsite Wastewater Disposal Site and Soils Assessment 11 December 2023 prepared by Mt Iron Geodrill mudt be attached to the consent notice.

- d) Disposal areas must be located more than 50 metres from any water course, any existing water supply bore, or the proposed water supply bore.
- e) Construction of any wastewater system for Lots 1-16 must not commence on the dwelling until the design of the on-site wastewater disposal system, producer statement and evidence of any required consents from the Otago Regional Council have been supplied to the Chief Executive.

f) The wastewater treatment system must be maintained in good working order at all times.

Stormwater

g) At the time a residential dwelling or other buildings are established on Lot 1-16, the stormwater from the roof areas must be captured and stored for beneficial re-use and must not cause a nuisance to any other property. Confirmation of the new stormwater discharge system must be confirmed in writing to the Chief Executive each time a new dwelling is constructed on Lot 1-16.

Telecommunications

h) If operational underground telecommunication connections are not established as per condition 8(i) above, then a consent notice must be registered on the Record of Title for Lot 1-16 which confirms that telecommunications will be via wireless technology.

Development conditions

- Residential dwellings and accessory buildings must not exceed 6.0 metres in height from existing ground level, providing that chimneys may exceed this height by up to 1 metre.
- j) The external cladding of future dwellings will be in accordance with the following:
 - i) External materials are limited to timber, corrugated / metal cladding, local stone e.g. schist and stucco plaster type finish.
 - ii) Exterior colours will be dark and recessive with a maximum light reflectivity value (LRV) of 20% in the range of browns, greens and greys; and
 - Natural timbers will be left to weather, or stain colours shall be of a natural hue or black, rather than bright or non 'natural' looking colours; and
 - iv) Roof cladding will have a maximum LRV of 20%, in the range of browns and greys, and finished with a matte surface.
 - v) Window trim, gutters and downpipes will be the same colour as the roof, and have a maximum LRV of 20%, in the range of browns and greys.
- k) Buildings must be setback a minimum 18m from top of escarpment.
- Curtains, blinds, tinted windows or similar must be placed on all west facing windows. Curtain and blind linings must be muted colours of low reflectivity.
- m) All external lighting will be low intensity, down lighting only and will not be used to highlight buildings or landscape features. External lighting will be located within the residential lots only. All exterior lighting attached to

buildings, will be at a height no greater than 1.8m above finished ground level, and will not create light spill beyond the residential lot. External lighting not attached to buildings will not exceed 1.2m above ground level. Flood lighting or accent lighting is not permitted.

- n) Fences shall be transparent rural fencing, such as post-and-wire, post-and-rail fences. Monumental fencing and gates are not permitted.
- The owners of Lots 1 -16 must undertake landscaping in accordance with the themes set out in the certified landscape plan, prior to the completion of the respective dwellings.

Note: The certified landscape plan prepared under Condition 8(k) must be attached to the consent notice

- p) The owners of Lots 1 -16 must not plant exotic species with wilding potential or brightly coloured species (excluding those species that display spring or autumn colours in those seasons) of trees or plants. Trees and plants must be predominantly locally sourced indigenous species or species typical of and sympathetic to the landscape and surrounding rural area.
- q) The Lot 1 16 and 100 Landscape Covenant Areas must be maintained in perpetuity. Any dead plantings must be replaced during the next planting season.
- r) Underground tanks or tanks that are partially buried (provided the tank is no more than 1 metre above ground) may be accessed by an opening in the top of the tank, removing the need for couplings.
- s) Any new water tank must be coloured dark green/grey/brown or similar, and located to ensure it is not visible against the skyline when viewed from any public place.
- t) Any dwelling or other noise sensitive location on the site in or partly within 100 metres of the edge of State Highway 8 carriageway must be designed, constructed and maintained to achieve an indoor design noise level of 40 dB LAeq(24hr) inside all habitable spaces.
- u) All purchasers, lessees, licences or tenants and any other users having an interest in Lot 1 -16 are advised that:
- i) Horticultural, viticultural and agricultural activities can occur as of right in the Rural Resource Area, and
- ii) The usual incidence of these activities including (but not limited to) stock handling, hay making, chemical spraying, pest control (including by use of poison, night shooting and helicopters) deer stag roaring, irrigations, frost control and bird scaring may have amenity effects beyond the boundaries of adjoining properties, and

- iii) Appropriate siting, design, and screening of dwellings and other sensitive land uses to mitigate adverse effects associated with noise (including frost fans) and spray drift from adjacent horticultural activities is required.
- v) If during any site disturbance, the consent holder or subsequent owners:
 - i) discovers koiwi tangata (human skeletal remains), waahi taoka (resources of importance), waahi tapu (places or features of special significance) or other Maori artefact material, the consent holder or subsequent owner must without delay:
 - a) notify the Consent Authority, Tangata whenua and Heritage New Zealand and in the case of skeletal remains, the New Zealand Police.
 - b) stop work within the immediate vicinity of the discovery to allow a site inspection by Heritage New Zealand and the appropriate runanga and their advisors, who must determine whether the discovery is likely to be extensive, if a thorough site investigation is required, and whether an Archaeological Authority is required.

Site work may recommence following consultation with the Consent Authority, Heritage New Zealand, Tangata whenua, and in the case of skeletal remains, the New Zealand Police, provided that any relevant statutory permissions have been obtained.

- ii) discovers any feature or archaeological material that predates 1900, or heritage material, or disturbs a previously unidentified archaeological or heritage site, the consent holder must without delay:
 - a) stop work within the immediate vicinity of the discovery or disturbance;
 and
 - b) advise the Consent Authority, Heritage New Zealand, and in the case of Maori features or materials, the Tangata whenua, and if required, must make an application for an Archaeological Authority pursuant to Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014; and
 - c) arrange for a suitably qualified archaeologist to undertake a survey of the site.

Site work may recommence following consultation with the Consent Authority.

LAND USE CONSENT

1. The residential activity for Lots 1-16 is authorised to have reduced yard setbacks in general accordance with the approved plans attached to this certificate as Appendix One, and the information provided with the resource consent application received by the Council on 27 October 2023, and further information provided on 24 July 2024, except where modified by the following conditions.

- 2. Pursuant to 116 of the Resource Management Act 1991, this land use consent cannot be given effect to until records of title for RC230394 have been issued.
- 3. The consent holder must pay to the Council all required administration charges fixed by the Council pursuant to section 36 of the Act in relation to:
 - a) Administration, monitoring and inspection relating to this consent; and
 - b) Charges authorised by regulations.

ADVICE NOTES:

Earthworks

- 1. All earthworks to develop and/or landscape each lot shall comply with Rule 4.7.6J of the Central Otago District Plan or additional resource consent will be required.
- 2. Existing ground level to calculate approved building height will need to be established at the time of survey.
- 3. Where there is a risk that sediment may enter a watercourse at any stage during the earthworks, it is advised that the Otago Regional Council be consulted before works commence, to determine if the discharge of sediment will enter any watercourse and what level of treatment and/or discharge permit, if any, may be required.

Water, Wastewater and Firefighting

- 4. As the potable water supply will be a network supply, the supplier should be aware of the requirements of, and their obligations under, the Water Services Act 2021.
- 5. If water toby boxes must be within vehicle accessway/crossings, because other solutions are not feasible, they shall be all-metal so as to support sustained traffic.
- 6. It is strongly recommended that additional treatment be included for all water supply to provide wholesome water by achieving compliance with any Guideline Values (GVs) shown to be exceeded in the laboratory reports.
- 7. On-site disposal shall comply with the Otago Regional Council requirements.
- 8. Firefighting and domestic water storage will be required at the time Lot 1 is developed. For more information on how to comply with Condition 8 above or on how to provide for FENZ operational requirements refer to the Fire and Emergency New Zealand Fire Fighting Water Supplies Code of Practice SNZ PAS 4509:2008 retrieved from http://www.fire.org.nz/CMS_media/pdf/da516e706c1bc49d4440cc1e83f09964.pdf. In particular, the following should be noted:
 - For more information on suction sources see Appendix B, SNZ PAS 4509:2008, Section B2.
 - For more information on flooded sources see Appendix B, SNZ PAS 4509:2008, Section B3.

Financial Contributions

- 9. All charges incurred by the Council relating to the administration, inspection and supervision of conditions of subdivision consent must be paid prior to Section 224(c) certification.
- 10. Development contributions for roading of \$22,420.20 (exclusive of goods and services tax) are payable for pursuant to the Council's Policy on Development and Financial Contributions contained in the Long Term Council Community Plan. Payment is due upon application under the Resource Management Act 1991 for certification pursuant to Section 224(c). The Council may withhold a certificate under Section 224(c) of the Resource Management Act 1991 if the required Development and Financial Contributions have not been paid, pursuant to section 208 of the Local Government Act 2002 and Section 15.5.1 of the Operative District Plan.

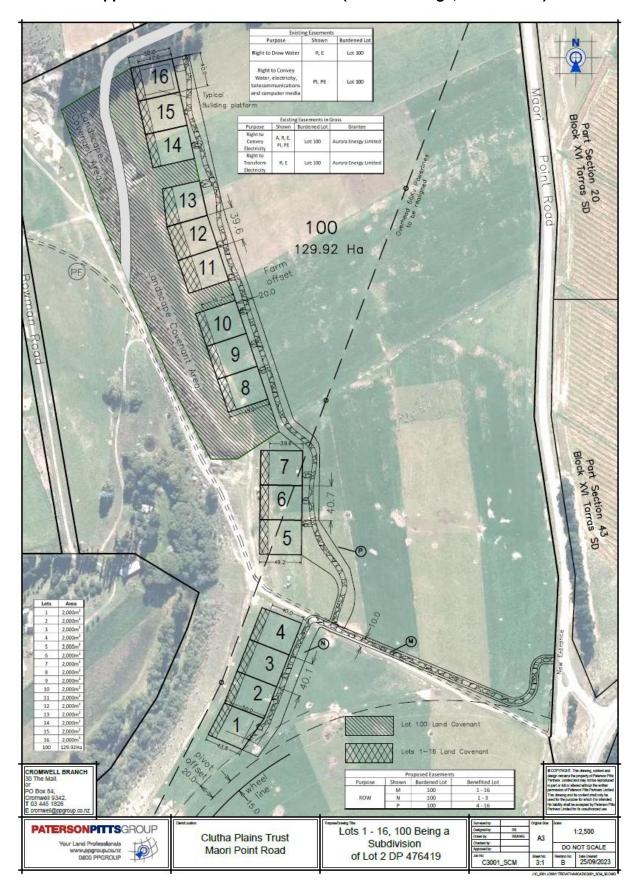
<u>Access</u>

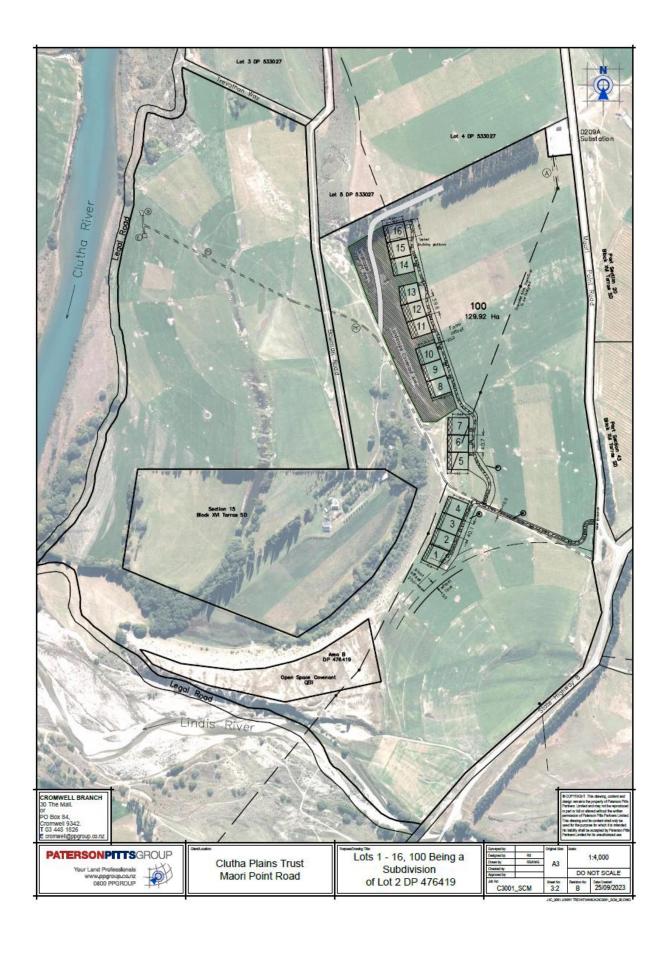
11. It is the consent holder's responsibility to obtain all necessary Temporary Traffic Management Plans, Corridor Access Requests or any other approvals to undertake works within the road reserve. These approvals should be obtained prior to the works commencing.

General

- 12. In addition to the conditions of a resource consent, the Resource Management Act 1991 establishes through sections 16 and 17 a duty for all persons to avoid unreasonable noise, and to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effect created from an activity they undertake.
- 13. Resource consents are not personal property. The ability to exercise this consent is not restricted to the party who applied and/or paid for the consent application.
- 14. It is the responsibility of any party exercising this consent to comply with any conditions imposed on the resource consent prior to and during (as applicable) exercising the resource consent. Failure to comply with the conditions may result in prosecution, the penalties for which are outlined in section 339 of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- 15. The lapse period specified above may be extended on application to the Council pursuant to section 125 of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- 16. This is a resource consent. Please contact the Council's Building Services Department, about the building consent requirements for the work.

Appendix One: Plans for RC230328 (scanned image, not to scale)





Number	Name	Support/ Oppose	Relief sought	Wishes to be heard
1	Russell Gore	Support	Supports the application in its entirety.	No
2	Megan Colling	Support	Supports the application in its entirety.	No
3	Greenlight Land Limited	Support	Considers the application to be positive with limited impacts. Considers the proposed 17 lots are widely screened from causing significant adverse effects to the community. Considers that the proposal is a complimentary approach at rural living. Considers the proposal will ensure a sustainable and viable farming operation. Supports the application in its entirety.	No
4	Donald Agnew	Support	Considers a 2000sqm lot on a working farm is desirable. Considers the building platforms on this block have fantastic views of iconic Central Otago landscapes. Supports the application in its entirety.	No
5	Paula Macfie	Support	Appreciates the lot sizes, biodiversity plan/landscape plan and how practical it is to get all the power and water to all. Considers a 2000sqm lot is desirable. Considers the application allows the land to continue to be productively farmed. Appreciates the landscape plan and the use of native species which will hopefully lead to bring back a lot of native birds and other species.	No

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			Considers that the lots have been positioned to efficiently enable power, water, roading connections. Supports the application in its entirety.	
6	Tessa Silcock	Support	Considers that the application will provide rural housing for those who wish to live rurally without the burden of looking after hectares of land. Considers the subdivision will be beneficial for the area. Supports the application in its entirety.	Yes
7	Linda Hamilton and Jakub Kaminski	Oppose	Considers the application will have adverse effects on the Rural Landscape. The strip of houses will be clearly visible from the river, the proposed bicycle track, parts of Bowman Road and the submitters property. The submitter consider that the lot sizes are not in keeping with the existing environment. The submitter would be more likely to support a non-linier development with large lots sizes. Considers that the proposed development does not take into consideration the planned Tarras International Airport. Concerned with the removal of part of the existing windbreak. Concerned with the addition of the gravel access road. Concerned with adverse effects on effluent disposal, groundwater, vegetation, roading, and dust. Seeks the application as it stands to be declined.	Yes
8	Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga	Neutral	Seeks that an assessment of the proposed works is to be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced consultant archaeologist prior to the	No

			commencement of any works. The archaeological assessment should cover the history of occupation within the development area, the scope of the development and the likelihood of modifying, damaging, or destroying any archaeological sites. Notes that the archaeological assessment will determine whether an archaeological authority is required for the proposed works.	
9	Peter Jolly	Support	Considers the proposal will benefit the community. Considers that this subdivision is well sited and well thought out, and the lot size also make for an efficient form of land use. Supports the application in its entirety.	No
10	Mark Davidson	Support	Considers that the provision of moderate sized residential sections is something that is needed in Tarras. Considers the sections would be affordable. Supports the application in its entirety.	No
11	Wayne and Billee Marsh	Oppose	Considers the proposed subdivision and future built form will adversely affect the rural landscape character, visual and amenity values. Considers that the dwellings and their associated structures will create a domestic character and result in cumulative effects. Considers the dwellings will be highly visible with all 16 lots are positioned on the western edge of the upper terrace with high visual impact from Bowman Road, Trevathan Way, Clutha River/Mata Au and the proposed Wanaka to Cromwell cycle trail. The poles on Lots 7 – 16 are visible from the Clutha/Mata Au and the proposed Wanaka to Cromwell Cycle way. The	Yes

			dwellings will present as a solid line of buildings stretched out along the ridgeline for a distance of 750 metres. Considers that landscaping as proposed will not be as effective as presented. Concerned with light pollution from	
			the dwellings. Seek that sediment and stormwater is effectively managed.	
			Considers that the proposal is inconsistent with the Tarras Community Plan.	
			Notes that the subdivision is positioned at the southern end of the proposed runway and impacted by the close proximity to the takeoff/landing zone for the Christchurch International Airport Ltd.	
			Seeks the application be declined.	
12	George Collier	Support	Considers the subdivision to be practical. Considers the proposal retains the productive capability of the land. Recognises other farm park developments in the area. Considers the visual effects will be less than minor, particularly with all	No
			the proposed planting to conceal the housing Supports the application in its entirety.	
13	Duncan Kenderdine	Oppose	Concerned with the configuration of the subdivision.	Yes
			Considers the subdivision will be highly visible.	
			Concerned with the proposed landscape mitigation.	

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			Concerned with the proposed water allocation and departure from the CODC roading standards.	
			Supports the submission of Wayne and Billee Marsh.	
			Seeks the application be declined.	
14	Tarras Industries Limited	Oppose	Concerned that the Proposal has the potential to significantly alter the existing rural landscape by introducing a dense residential pattern that is inconsistent with the surrounding environment. Concerned that the subdivision represents an incremental rural-urbanisation of a rural area, setting a precedent for further similar developments that could cumulatively degrade the visual quality and openness of the landscape. Concerned that the proposal could lead to further fragmentation of rural land and considers that protecting rural land from unnecessary subdivision is essential to maintaining the long-term viability of the district's rural economy. Considers that the proposal is inconsistent with the purpose of rural zoning. Considers that the application proposes inadequate controls to mitigate built form and visual effects such as heights, form, design and materials, curtilage areas, and landscaping. Considers that the increased traffic associated with 16 new residential lots has the potential to compromise road safety, particularly given the proximity of the site's main access to the highway intersection. Considers dust generation from increased vehicle use on unsealed roads may also have adverse effects on nearby residents and land users.	Yes
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			Concerned regarding reverse sensitivity effects.	
			Seeks the application be declined but if the application is to be granted that the matters raised in the submission are substantially addressed.	
			addressed.	
15	Ka Runaka	Oppose	Advises that Cultural mapping has been undertaken to identify particularly significant wāhi tūpuna areas in the Central Otago District. While in draft form and not yet incorporated into the Central Otago District Plan, Kā Rūnaka record that the proposal affects a wāhi tūpuna area known as the Mata-au Trail, with values that include but are not limited to: Mahika kai, Nohoaka, and ara tawhito. Furthermore, the Mata-au is a Statutory Acknowledgement Area under the Ngāi Tahu Claims	No
			Settlement Act 1998. Concerns with the lack of reticulation for stormwater and wastewater.	
			Recommends that, should consent be granted, locally sourced indigenous plant species be required for all landscape planting.	
			Recommends that, should consent be granted, an accidental discovery protocol must be adhered to for all earthworks.	
			The submitter restates mana whenua interests in this wāhi tūpuna landscape and record concerns about the actual and potential adverse effects and cumulative effects of the proposed development upon the cultural landscape in which the Applicant's proposal is situated.	
16	David and Christine Cannan	Support	Considers the concept of a "farm park", which is proving more popular in other parts of Central Otago as well, is a judicious combination of a rural lifestyle and a working farm.	No
			Considers that the proposal can be undertaken with a minimum of visual and	

			environmental impacts, especially with the extensive planting that is proposed. Considers the lot sizes will be a more manageable size for occupants who want to enjoy country living while perhaps being in full-time employment. Supports the application in its entirety.	
17	Lloyd and Susan Morris	Support	Considers that the proposal is consistent with the Tarras Community Plan. Considers the proposal is a suitable outcome for the site overall and the development style will provide for appropriate management of the site. Considers the landscaping to be appropriate. Considers that providing the dwellings constructed within the District Plan rural rules, heights, materials and colours will easily and comfortably merge with their surroundings. Considers the site is able to be served appropriately for roading, water and wastewater. Supports the application in its entirety.	Yes
18	Noel George and Marget Ann Trevathan	Support	Supports the application in its entirety. Considers the lots can be appropriately serviced. Considers the proposal will provide an opportunity for residential ownership and contribute to the growth of the greater Upper Clutha region.	Yes