



Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand announces the publication of Bruce Mason's

## OUTDOOR RECREATION in OTAGO A conservation plan

## Volume One: Central Otago's Block Mountains

Destined to become a reference for land manager and recreationalist alike, this is the first of two volumes that describe the high country recreational resources of Otago.

Outdoor Recreation in Otago is the first work of its kind to systematically draw together published and unpublished information on each range and to provide a regional assessment of recreational opportunities.

Chapters on each mountain range contain descriptions of landforms, vegetation, wildlife, history, land use, and recreational opportunities now and in the future.

It is an invaluable introduction for the intending visitor. Extensive bibliographies are provided for those with specialist interests.

Outdoor Recreation in Otago compliments the Protected Natural Areas Programme. It provides detailed recommendations for the integration of recreation with nature conservation and farming on Crown pastoral leasehold lands; where conflicts between farming, conservation, public and private interest abound.

Bruce Mason writes: "history demonstrates that alienation of the public interest is rarely, if ever reversed. The risk is greater while natural and recreational values remain undocumented, and not widely recognised within government or the community at large." This work will reduce that risk. Its recommendations will be viewed as contentious in some eyes.

Outdoor Recreation in Otago is more than a resource document; it is also a plea for careful stewardship of non-material values in the high country tussocklands.



"These desolate places are as much a spiritual resource as they are a physical reality."

Bruce Mason lives in Dunedin where he is researcher for FMC and the Public Lands Coalition. Eight years research, and a background of tramper, mountaineer, skier, Goldfields Park ranger, private consultant, and conservationist is brought together for *Outdoor Recreation in Otago*. His previous writing includes *Back Country Boom*, published by the National Parks Authority in 1974.

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Volume One: Central Otago's Block Mountains

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