



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Our ref: P 250

4 November 1994

Bruce Mason
Trustee
PANZ
Box 5805
DUNEDIN

Dear Bruce

WAIORAU

I refer to your letter of 20 October. Rather than meet again, I would like to record the DOC view on the issues you raise. You can let me know if you require further discussion.

Road Access Easement

The agreement provides for the use of the access road between the "Waiorau Homestead" and the skifield car park. A legal road connects the homestead area to the Cardrona Valley Road. In my view, clause 4 of the agreement contemplates a road toll and overnight parking, but no parking fee. The agreement clearly does not require DOC approval of the road toll, and we did not set out to achieve that. We were and are prepared to rely on the preparedness of the Lees to set a fair road toll for users of the scenic reserve in vehicles. The "commercial reasons" that might warrant road closure discussed during the negotiations were early winter vehicle testing and the possibility of the odd closure for commercial filming purposes. I will ask the Lees to confirm this so that we have agreement on what "commercial purposes" means.

"Reserve Lease"

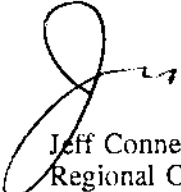
This lease will apply to the northern margin of the conservation land, as marked on the map. It is in effect a substitute for the recreation permit, and will be issued once the conservation area is gazetted and the CCL recreation permit expires. Once issued, the lease will make it clear that the land remains open to the public except for the approved huts (which are available for the public to use as part of the Lees' business). Generally speaking, we will be expecting people who use the trails in this area to have paid the Lees' field fee. If people want to walk in this area, or ski off the trails, then no fee will be payable.

General

I do not agree that the vehicle access arrangement is near worthless and consider your remark to be an exaggeration.

I do not accept that DOC has changed position on any of the issues you have raised.

Yours faithfully



Jeff Connell
Regional Conservator

Otago Conservancy

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