



22 September, 2000

Susan Edwards  
Manager Parks & Forests (Strategy and Marketing)  
Wellington Regional Council  
PO Box 11646  
Wellington

Dear Susan,

**Rimutaka Summit Land – 46.5387ha being Section 23 C/T 48C/988 & Section 26 C/T 48C/989 Pakuratahi District and 20.5930ha being Lot 1 DP 87590 C/T 55A/550 (Wellington Land Registration District)**

Over the last couple of years our Wairarapa Branch has been negotiating the purchase of the above land. Money for the purchase came from the Nature Heritage Fund and some from the Wellington regional branches. The grants from our Wellington branches were conditional on the land being gifted to the Wellington Regional Council. Similarly, the grant from the Nature Heritage Fund was conditional on the Society forthwith gifting the land to the council for the purposes of a scenic reserve or, failing that, placing a Conservation Covenant on the land.

The decision to gift the land to your council was confirmed by the Society's Wellington Regional Meeting of 27 August and by a resolution of the National Executive, who has the ultimate say in such matters, at its meeting of 9 September. The resolution by the Executive to gift the land to your council was subject to the following conditions:

1. That the regional council within one year of legal transfer vest the Rimutaka Summit property as a scenic reserve under the Reserves Act 1977 for the protection of its natural values and the use and enjoyment of the public, such vesting to be in perpetuity and entered on the title, and binding to future owners.
2. That the Rimutaka property cannot be sold, leased or otherwise disposed of, or management rights vested in another administrative body, unless such disposal or vesting is under the same terms and conditions as contained in the Deed of Gift or Memorandum of Transfer.
3. That Forest and Bird's part in the purchase be recognised in literature produced by the council on the reserve (e.g. management plans) and that the Society, in consultation with the regional council, have the right to erect a sign or plaque recognising the gift.
4. That Forest and Bird be consulted over any proposed boundary adjustment or land exchange affecting the property.

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It is understood that your council needs to go through your own internal processes of considering the gift. If the council decides to accept the gift, the Society suggests that the easiest way these conditions could be handled is by entering them into the Memorandum of Transfer. By doing so section 16(5)(c) Reserves Act 1977 then applies and no public notice of the intention to classify the land as scenic reserve would be necessary. I understand that Peter White, convenor of our Property Committee, has spoken to you regarding the council preparing the Memorandum of Transfer for the Society to view prior to finalising the transfer. I ask the council to consider that when the gift of land is considered.

I have attached copies of the Certificates of Title, location map, species list and the Deed between the Nature Heritage Fund and Forest and Bird. You will note that clause 5 of the Deed relates to the gifting and that under clause 6 the Society may be required to pay back the grant if the gifting is not completed within one year and six months of the execution of the Deed (12 June 1998). The deadline for this has passed and for this reason a copy of this letter is being sent to the Nature Heritage Fund to keep them informed.

Yours sincerely



Lyn Bates  
General Manager

c.c. Nature Heritage Fund  
Wairarapa Branch