

J DUNCAN EVIDENCE STATEMENT

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT 5: STM SUBMISSION EXCERPTS: REFERENCES TO CULTURE

Historical & Cultural significance

78. Iwi connections with the area include pakohe (argillite), food, and travel. There were numerous early Māori kāinga (settlements) in various parts of the valley and a Ngāti Kuia burial ground is sited on Kaka Hill.⁶
79. The high value of the Maitai has been recorded by the Nelson community from early colonial days through to the present day. In the past, citizens lobbied the Council to preserve the area and make it a reserve. In 1918 land was taken under the Public Works Act including Dennes, Sunday and Black Holes, and 16 acres of prime flat land designated as the Maitai Reserve.
80. Contemporary cultural amenities in the valley include an arboretum, camping ground, golf course, community orchard and MTB tracks. It is Nelson's most highly valued recreation area, used today for swimming and picnics, walking / dog-walking, running and tramping, community planting days, cycling, archery and cricket, and so on, by a diverse range of people and community groups including athletes, school groups, immigrant refugee communities, families and groups of friends.
86. PPC 28 does not give effect to the NPSUD. In particular:
1. "Well-functioning urban environments that enable all people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing" will provide protection for greenspace close to the urban environment. Erosion of greenspace through urban sprawl into the last remaining areas of existing rural/recreational character is contrary to Objective 1.
106. DO19 – Discharges to freshwater & freshwater quality - indicates that water quality in rivers is strongly linked to activities in their surrounding catchments. It details how urban stormwater contains contaminants which have an adverse effect on water quality and the ecology of the river, which in turn negatively impacts the sensitive estuaries they discharge to. It identifies that water quality is a key factor in the health of terrestrial as well as aquatic ecosystems and that activities which reduce water quality also reduce the mauri (life force) of the water body. It states that healthy rivers are valued for ecological, recreational, cultural and spiritual reasons and that the entire region benefits from having unpolluted swimming holes and an unpolluted ecological habitat. To achieve the objectives of this policy, it

calls for avoiding further degradation and instead carrying out restoration and enhancement work on priority rivers.