

30.7.09
Exhibit 4

ECOLOGICAL REGIONS AND DISTRICTS OF NEW ZEALAND

THIRD REVISED EDITION IN FOUR 1:500 000 MAPS

Booklet to accompany SHEET 2:
descriptions of Districts in the
central North Island, from Meremere
to Eastern Hawkes Bay.

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(in four parts)
Part 2

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ABSTRACT

New Zealand's 268 ecological districts in 85 ecological regions are listed and an introduction describes the concept, definitions, the districts shown on each of the four map sheets, the format and content of the prescriptions (printed on the maps), descriptions of each district and acknowledgements to the large number of contributors of scientific information. A glossary defines certain words and abbreviations used in the text and lists common plant and animal names used, together with their scientific names. Ecological descriptions of the districts shown on each map sheet are given in the booklet accompanying that sheet.

Keywords: New Zealand; maps; ecological districts; ecological regions; topography; geology; climate; soils; vegetation; flora, fauna.

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Part 1. Booklet to accompany sheet 1 : descriptions
of districts in the northern North Island, from Kermadec
to Major -- Part 2. Booklet to accompany sheet 2 : descriptions
of districts in the central North Island, from Meremere to
Eastern Hawkes Bay -- Part 3. Booklet to accompany sheet 3
descriptions of districts in central New Zealand, from Eastern
Wairarapa to Akaroa, also Chathams not shown on map -- Part 4.
Booklet to accompany sheet 4 : descriptions of districts in the
southern South Island from Browning to Snares, also southern
islands not shown on map.

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SOUTH MANAWATU GORGE ECOLOGICAL DISTRICT 32.02

Criteria: climate (gales), topography, vegetation (absence of beech).

TOPOGRAPHY/GEOLOGY: hills and ranges, mainly Triassic-Jurassic greywacke, argillite, bedded alternating greywacke and argillite (0.01-1m thick beds) and breccia. S of Manawatu Gorge steep grass-covered hills grade into steeper, higher peaks of northern Tararua Range; streams drain into Manawatu and Ohau Rivers.

CLIMATE: prolonged westerly gales and low persistent clouds typical; rainfall range 1400-4000mm p.a., evenly spread throughout year; snowfalls in winter remain only a few days.

SOILS: mainly hill and steepland soils from greywacke with small areas from Plio-Pleistocene siltstone and sandstone; at lower altitudes and rainfall moderately leached and stable, used for pastoral farming or exotic forestry; at higher altitudes strongly to very strongly leached, still in indigenous forest; soils from loess or drift material on easier slopes deeper, at lower altitudes moderately leached with good drainage; at higher altitudes more strongly leached with impeded drainage and peaty topsoils; soils formed under limited area of beech near Forest Hill Road strongly leached and acid.

VEGETATION: much of area formerly covered by podocarp-hardwood forest which was destroyed by gales in 1936 - now scrub and hardwood forest; montane and subalpine scrub and forest dominated by pink pine and Olearia colensoi; Chionochloa pallens tussockland above, locally also C. rubra; small stands of hard beech and black beech present. Sphagnum bogs remain on farmed terraces in very high rainfall area of upper Mangatainoko R.

BIRDS: include N.Z. Falcon.

MODIFICATIONS: forests cleared for grazing in Manawatu Gorge area.

