

SCHEDULE OF EXISTING AND PROPOSED CLIMATIC AND SCENIC RESERVES—*continued.*

Survey District.	Section.	Block.	Purpose.	Area.
<i>Proposed Reservations.</i>				
Tennyson	6	V.	Scenic	A. 256 R. 0 P. 0
"	"	VII., VIII.	Climatic	900 0 0
Orieri	"	II., III.	"	3,200 0 0
"	"	I., V.	"	2,200 0 0
Gore	Chetwode Island	XXV., XXVI.	Scenic	600 0 0
"	"	I., VI.	Climatic	1,000 0 0
"	"	II.	"	570 0 0
"	"	III., IV.	"	3,400 0 0
"	"	VII., VIII., IX., XII.	"	5,000 0 0
Heringa	"	I.	Scenic	525 0 0
"	"	III., IV., VII., to XI.	"	22,400 0 0
Whakamarina	"	I.	"	2,400 0 0
"	"	IX.	"	47 0 0
"	"	IX., XIII.	"	600 0 0
"	"	XIII., XIV.	"	4,200 0 0
Linkwater	"	XVI.	Climatic	1,000 0 0
"	"	"	"	540 0 0
Arapawa	"	VII., VIII., XI., XII., XV.	"	7,250 0 0
Pine Valley	"	I. to VII., IX., X., XI.	Scenic	34,900 0 0
"	"	XI. to XVI.	Climatic	16,600 0 0
Mount Olympus	"	I.		
Onamalutu	"	IX.	"	510 0 0
"	"	I., II., V., VI.	Scenic	14,400 0 0
Cloudy Bay	"	IV.	Climatic	1,000 0 0
"	"	II., III., VII.	Scenic	600 0 0
Patriarch	"	"	Climatic	20,400 0 0
Kaitarau	"	XVI.	Scenic	300 0 0
Puhipuhi	"	"	"	1,600 0 0
Mount Fyffe	"	III.	"	510 0 0
Hundalee	"	XI.	"	150 0 0
"	"	XV.	"	300 0 0

NELSON.

Department of Lands and Survey,

District Office, Nelson, 22nd October, 1903.

Re Circular No. 507, Preservation of Native Forests.

CONSIDERABLE attention has been paid in the Nelson Land District to the question of the preservation of the native forest, which is becoming of insistent importance as time slips on; some 23,727 acres have been reserved in the district; 21,699 acres of this total would be classed under Class A (climatic), the remaining 2,028 acres coming under Class B (scenic).

The mountainous and rugged nature of a large area, recently estimated as 1,058,000 acres, of barren lands, about half of which are bush-clad, has practically proved their protection from the encroachments of settlement; but, while no reservation has been actually necessary, it would be better to place these on a proper basis, and gazette them as reserves.

Owing to the excessive rainfall in the bush districts of the west coast, where already there are some 823,000 acres suitable for milling purposes, it would seem scarcely necessary to widely reserve the forest lands there for climatic reasons, though I would suggest that portions of the bush on the higher hills along the Buller River should be reserved, in order that they might not be denuded and in wet seasons give rise to sudden heavy floods. On the other hand, the reserves under Class B (scenic) might well be increased—for instance, some stretches of the Buller Road, up the Mokihinui River, &c.—embodied in the accompanying schedule of proposed reserves; but it would be necessary to first lift the mining reserves, which overlap these in some instances.

CONSERVATION OF FOREST LANDS AT HEADS OF RIVERS, ETC.

In the Waimea County the Crown Forest lands at the heads of streams and along the tops of hills have been reserved as much as possible; notably in the Maungatapu and Wai-iti Districts. A report on the forest reserves of the latter was furnished on the 6th July, 1903, and their destruction by bush fires, it is to be feared, is only a matter of time, for some three years ago about 800 acres were burnt, and though efforts were made to lease these portions and get them grassed, of