



Mt Alfred

- Renewal of the pastoral lease, but with effective control of soil disturbances and burning. Stocking to be restricted in upper snowgrass.
- Rationalisation of "straight line" boundaries between lease, state forest and reserves.
- A Mt Alfred walkway.

Penalties or compensation for illegal roading within adjacent reserves. The total area of Mt Earnslaw Station is 6550 ha, consisting of 5250 ha pastoral lease and 1300 ha freehold. Although resumption of the steep lands and forests of the Earnslaw block would reduce the total area of the property by half, it would have minimal impact on the farming operation, because most of the land resumed from



Part of the extensive beech forests within the lease which the High Country Public Lands Coalition wants to see resumed. The runholder would still graze the flats. Rees Valley.

the lease is severely eroded and unsuited for grazing.

Nevertheless, it would be only fair for compensation to be paid were there any consequent reduction in sheep numbers, however small this would be.

Such a move would not make the run uneconomic. Virtually all the areas suitable for sustained pastoral production would remain in the run. On the lower river flats there is scope for enormous farm production increases and voluntary Catchment Board land improvement schemes provide financial incentives for this. Several years ago the Lands and Survey Department reported the whole property could easily be split into three economic farming units.

Clearly, then, conservation and development can be integrated on the slopes and valleys around Mt Earnslaw. 🐑