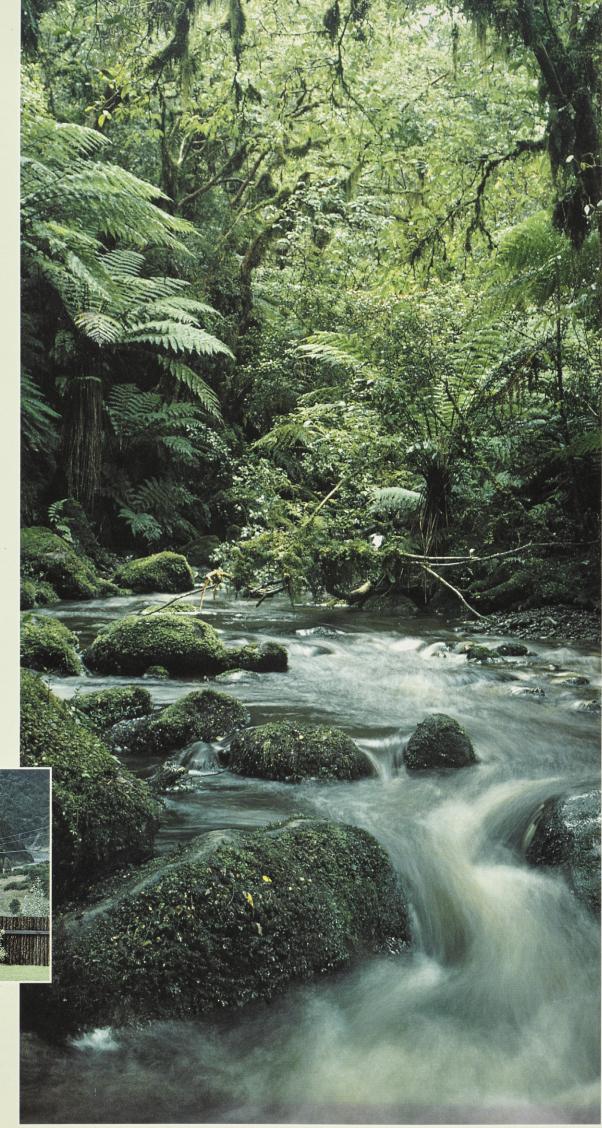
By the 1970s conservationists were demanding lowland forest areas with production potential to become part of the national park system. The best known case is the addition of Waikukupa-South Okarito forests to Westland National Park. At present conservationists are pressing for the lowland forests of Waitutu to be added to Fiordland National Park. Photo: Geoff Spearpoint



Paramount chief Te Heuheu Tukino IV Horonuku's gift of 2600 ha of the central North Island created New Zealand's first and the world's fourth national park. Photo: Burton Bros. by courtesy of the Alexander Turnbull Library



New Zealand's latest national park, the Whanganui, was officially declared open at a ceremony on the Pipiriki marae at the beginning of the year.

Photo: Gerry McSweeney.