



National parks, reserves and forest conservation lands have long been protected from mining by the Minister of Conservation's veto. The Resource Management Bill strips away the Minister's ability to protect these key conservation areas. One such is the Gouland Downs in North West Nelson, part of the proposed World Heritage site being nominated by conservation groups. This scene will feature in the Society's forthcoming book on this fascinating region. Photo: Craig Potton

Front Cover: *Celmisia macMahonii* clings tenaciously to rocks on the one peak in the Marlborough Sounds where it now occurs. Wild goats are blamed for reducing this plant to the endangered level. Can we sustain New Zealand's heritage of native plants in the face of such threats?

Photo: David Given