

GENERAL.

The existing demand for white-pine has directed the attention of millers to stands of this class of timber situated on scenic reserves, and a number of inquiries for milling-rights were received, particularly in Westland. All inquirers were notified that the granting of milling-rights could not be considered. A tendency to stress the position of unemployed timber-workers was noted in connection with these applications. The unfortunate condition of many of these workers is to be deplored ; but it must be made clear that the Department, in its position as trustee for the preservation of the Dominion's scenic areas, cannot possibly admit any argument on the lines that the exigencies of the unemployment situation justify in any way the sacrifice of our reserves.

A considerable number of applications for mining privileges in scenic reserves were dealt with during the year, and consent was given in several cases subject to special conditions providing for the preservation of the bush. The Department is somewhat concerned at the possibility of more or less serious damage resulting from prospecting and other mining operations, and the whole position with respect to this matter is being carefully watched.

APPENDICES.

A schedule of reserves made and reservations revoked during the year, accompanied by a statement of expenditure, follows as Appendix A, while Appendix B records the work carried out at Kapiti Island.

It is regretted that this year considerations of space again prevent publication of the detailed reports from the various land districts.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.

RESERVES MADE IN 1931-32 UNDER THE SCENERY PRESERVATION ACT, 1908, AND AMENDMENTS.

Recom- mendation No.	Local Name.		Description.	Area	Date of Proclamation.
North Auckland Land District.					
710	Trounson Park	..	Section 36, Block XI, Waipoua S.D.	A. R. P. 1 2 22.5	10/7/31
670	Bream Head	..	Allotment 62, Manaia Parish	40 0 0	19/2/32
			Allotment 71, Manaia Parish	51 0 0	19/2/32
			Allotment 72, Manaia Parish	70 0 0	19/2/32
			Allotment 74A, Manaia Parish	22 0 0	19/2/32
			Allotment 79A, Manaia Parish	114 0 0	19/2/32
Auckland Land District.					
	Lake Okataina	..	Part Okataina No. 3, Block XVI, Rotoiti S.D.	299 2 23	30/5/31
			Part Okataina No. 3, Block XVI, Rotoiti, and IV, Tarawera S.D.	82 2 30	30/5/31
			Part Okataina No. 4, Blocks XV and XVI, Rotoiti S.D.	416 3 0	30/5/31
			Part Okataina No. 5, Blocks XV and XVI, Rotoiti S.D., and Block III, Tarawera S.D.	740 0 0	30/5/31
			Part Okataina No. 6a, Block III, Tarawera S.D.	401 2 30	30/5/31
			Part Okataina 6a, Blocks III and IV, Tarawera S.D.	218 1 10	30/5/31
			Part Okataina No. 7, Block IV, Tarawera S.D.	328 0 0	30/5/31
			Part Okataina No. 7, Blocks IV and VIII, Tarawera S.D.	203 0 0	30/5/31
			Part Okataina No. 8, Block IV, Tarawera S.D.	37 3 20	30/5/31
			Part Okataina No. 8, Block IV, Tarawera S.D.	243 0 0	30/5/31
			Part Waione C, Blocks XII and XVI, Rotoiti S.D.	136 0 0	30/5/31
			Part Waione C, Block XVI, Rotoiti S.D...	8 2 18	30/5/31
			Part Waione C, Block XVI, Rotoiti S.D...	2 2 8	30/5/31
			Part Waione C, Block XVI, Rotoiti S.D...	8 1 16	30/5/31
672	Whakamarama Block	..	Part Waione C, Block XVI, Rotoiti S.D...	7 1 17	30/5/31
			Lot 2, on D.P. 23620, being part Whakamarama No. 2 Block, Block XII, Aongatete S.D.	85 1 12	7/10/31
Taranaki Land District.					
692	Mount Messenger	..	Subsection 1 of Section 19, Block VIII, Mimi S.D.	73 0 0	20/4/31
Wellington Land District.					
711	Moranui	..	Subdivision 1, Section 3, Block XIII, Kaitieke S.D.	634 2 0	10/7/31
712	Whakapapa Island	..	Section 86, Block VI, Hunua S.D.	151 0 5	1/8/31
695	..	..	Lots B and D, Block I, Hunua S.D.	4 1 6	*
698	Pohangina Valley	..	Section 62, Block VII, Pohangina S.D.	96 0 0	4/12/31

* Section 4 of Reserves and other Lands Disposal Act, 1931.