



A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

In placing your name and organisation below, you acknowledge that you are the person or authorised person submitting this objection or submission. You are also acknowledging that your name and organisation will be published.

Printed name of submitter or person authorised on behalf of submitter	Craig Foltz
Organisation	N/A
Date	19/5/2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

- ☐ I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)
- ☐ I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).
- ☒ I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).

E. Hearing Request

- ☒ I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.
- ☐ I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

I believe the Bivvy should be restored to its original location (or one of the nearby locations that volunteers have identified via drones and geotechnical surveys as being safe).

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

These huts and shelters not only provide safety for people using the outdoors but are also part of the local historical fabric of the forest and surrounding area. They should be retained based on both of these reasons. Moreover, this particular structure has had a lot of recent restoration work performed on it in the belief that it would remain in its current location as a functioning hut/shelter.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

I don't believe the hut should be relocated and should be returned to the original site. Volunteers have spent time and resources to maintain it in the cases where DOC have been unable to.

G. Attachments

If you are using attachments to support your objection or submission clearly label each attachment, complete the table below and send in your attachments with this 'objection or submission form'.

Document title	Document format (e.g. Word, PDF, Excel, jpg etc.)	Description of attachment

How do I submit my objection or submission?

Complete this form and email to northcanterbury@doc.govt.nz. You may also mail your objection and submission to: Director-General, c/o Department of Conservation, 32 River Road, Rangiora, 7400
Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.

**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

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Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Dan Roberts

Organisation

Date

20-May-2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

- ☐ I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)
- ☐ I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).
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E. Hearing Request

- ☒ I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.
- ☐ I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

The proposed gifting of the Evangeline Bivvy structure to a third party for relocation to Banks Peninsula, and the permanent removal of this asset from the Lake Sumner Forest Park visitor network.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

The disposal of the Evangeline Bivvy is part of a broader and concerning pattern of DOC progressively closing and removing backcountry infrastructure without guaranteed replacement. The bivvy has heritage and conservation value as part of the Lake Sumner Forest Park network, and its removal diminishes the recreational and cultural character of that area. Furthermore, the proposal sets a precedent for treating public conservation assets as disposable when maintenance funding is tight, rather than seeking alternative solutions that keep the asset within the public conservation estate.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

I oppose the disposal as proposed. If the application is approved, I request the following conditions be considered: (1) that any disposal be contingent on a binding commitment — not merely "discussions" — to construct a replacement bivvy in the Evangeline Stream area before or concurrent with the gift being executed; and (2) that the replacement structure remain publicly owned and managed, not transferred to a private group without long-term access guarantees for the public.

G. Attachments

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**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

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Printed name of submitter or person authorised on behalf of submitter	Richard Purdon
Organisation	
Date	03/06/2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

- ☐ I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)
- ☐ I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).
- ☒ I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).

E. Hearing Request

- ☒ I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.
- ☐ I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

The disposal of a perfectly viable hut with historic value that could be placed back on some new foundations at a suitable location in the Evangeline Stream at very little cost.

DoC need to find another spot and put the hut back.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

While I have not stayed in this biv, my friends have and I have stayed in many similar biv's to this and OMG, they are amazing! They are the an oasis after a long day on the hill and greatly appreciated by thousands of outdoors people, especially hunters, most of which do not fill in the hut book I might add for fear of letting people know their hunting spots, which is a big mistake of course for the very reasons exposed here!

DOC's position has remained that reinstating the bivvy near its original site is not financially viable and are working with a private entity to fund it. Show us the numbers? Surely finding another safer spot, putting some foundations down and putting the old hut back via helicopter would be relatively cheap. I mean the hut is in perfectly good condition as far as I understand, it was just the foundations that were the problem.

The BCT are obviously quite happy to assist with reinstating the hut somewhere up the Evangeline R where the general public can continue to use it. Even if it was not used often, it was used and greatly appreciated, particularly by hunters. I know several people who have been there. I submit DoC need to change their approach and take up the BCT offer. This would certainly be more in line with policies in the Conservation Act around maintaining historic huts and public access, as opposed to the opposite!

Further, who is the entity and how will public access be maintained to any new hut? It is not unusual for the public lose access to historic and valuable back country huts through this devious method, claiming the huts are unsafe and it's unaffordable, only to have another hut pop up and 'claimed' by the neighbouring station owner or another entity as a personal hunting lodge because they helped pay for it, despite it being on public land. How many huts built and paid for by the public have been privatised? The BC is full of them, and I get turned away regularly when I ask farmers for access. One even tried to charge me for every Tahr I shoot in the Mt Cook region, which I understand is illegal! The NZDA also do this at times.

One last point, this hut is relatively close to a major metropolitan centre and can be reached in one day, especially if one kayaks across Lake Sumner. It is REAL wilderness up the Evangeline and there are not that many proper wilderness huts that can be reached in one day from Chch, so it's important. And as wilderness becomes more scarce, so the importance of these places will grow.

I maintain that a perfectly affordable option is available but just being ignored because the department has an active policy of disposing of assets where they can in order to cut costs and avoid liability. While I understand this rationale, I don't think this is necessary in this case and there are really good reasons to put it back. The Rod Donald Trust can build a day shelter easily where this hut is set to go.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

For the above reasons do the RIGHT thing DoC (particularly you Area Manager), and work with those who know and love that area to put this hut, that has been lovingly restored by the BCT, back into the Evangaline catchment.

G. Attachments

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Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.

**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

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C.2 Your name

In placing your name and organisation below, you acknowledge that you are the person or authorised person submitting this objection or submission. You are also acknowledging that your name and organisation will be published.

Printed name of submitter or person authorised on behalf of submitter	Paul Elwell-Sutton
Organisation	N/A
Date	4/6/2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

- ☐ I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)
- ☐ I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).
- ☒ I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).

E. Hearing Request

- ☒ I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.
- ☐ I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

I object to the removal of remote and rarely used back country huts and bivvies.
 These must be maintained in partnership with community groups such as Permolat.
 Evangeline Bivvy must be returned to as close to its original location as safely feasible.
 It and similar huts are vital to the well-being of backcountry trampers and hunters.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

See above.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

Evangeline bivvy must be returned to its original location, as far as is safely feasible.

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Printed name of submitter or person authorised on behalf of submitter	B Wood
Organisation	N/A
Date	06/06/2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

- ☐ I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)
- ☐ I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).
- ☒ I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).

E. Hearing Request

- ☐ I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.
- ☐ I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

This submission objects in its entirety to the proposed legal "disposal" of the Evangeline Bivvy structure via gifting/donating it to a third party (the Rod Donald Trust) for relocation outside of its native public conservation network.

Specifically, this objection relates to:

- The permanent removal of a public heritage asset from the Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park network, and the decision to divest the Department of its ownership and stewardship.
- The physical relocation of the structure to Te Ara Pātaka on the Banks Peninsula, which effectively transitions a permanently protected public backcountry asset onto land which is not publicly owned conservation land.
- The Department's failure to offer the existing structure to backcountry stakeholders who are capable of - and actively interested in - reinstating the original asset within its original geographic context along the Evangeline Stream.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

- **A decision seems to have been made before public consultation even began.** The whole point of public notification is to listen to the community before making a final choice. However, internal OIA emails show that DOC was already moving ahead with the disposal months ago. An email from the Principal Ranger on 23 October 2025 states: *"It's already gone from NC [North Canterbury] district so technically can already be removed off our assets."* Running a public consultation for an asset that has already been physically given away and crossed off the local books makes the process look like a box-ticking exercise rather than a genuine consultation.
- **DOC is exaggerating the damage to justify getting rid of it.** The public notice on the DOC website claims the bivvy was "severely damaged" by a major weather event. But internal OIA emails tell a completely different story. On **23 April 2025**, the Principal Ranger explicitly wrote: *"Evangeline is still around, is in okay condition..."* and internally they only talked about putting it onto a new resting site on new piles. If an asset is in "okay condition" structurally, it is not "severely damaged." DOC is intentionally making the damage sound worse than it is to make local reinstatement look unviable to the public.
- **The decision to dispose of the bivvy was made before consulting the public or relevant backcountry groups.** Looking through the OIA emails, there was some initial confusion internally about whether the NZDA wanted to take on the hut, but the main issue is that DOC didn't look at the bigger picture or talk to the right people. As I understand it, DOC never contacted the Backcountry Trust (BCT) before deciding to give this asset away, despite BCT having been involved in tidying the hut up in recent times. BCT is the actual organization funded and responsible for fixing heritage backcountry huts in New Zealand. On top of that, there was offer of a full drone survey and professional Geotech assessment along the Evangeline Stream completely for free to help find a safe local spot. Instead of accepting this cost-free help to see if the bivvy could stay in the valley, DOC roadblocked them by trying to charge them for a commercial permit. By turning down free help and ignoring groups like BCT, DOC bypassed the very community that is usually willing to help fund and look after these huts. You can't really claim there are "no viable alternatives" when the public and the right backcountry groups weren't given a fair chance to find a local solution first.
- **There is plenty of community interest and a willingness to help find a local solution.** DOC's public notification claims that keeping the bivvy isn't viable because it exceeds their available resources. But the wider tramping and hunting community wasn't given a fair chance to give feedback or pitch in before the disposal was set in motion. As soon as people found out about the proposal, public forums showed a lot of frustration and plenty of offers from people willing to volunteer their time, trades, or help find funding to keep the bivvy in its home area. I point the Department directly to the public stakeholder feedback here: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/14d1p7TACrX/> & <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1FZrQowkqz/>

- **Moving the bivvy destroys its heritage value.** DOC says giving the hut away preserves its "heritage values." This completely ignores the fact that the Evangeline Bivvy's heritage belongs in the Lake Sumner Forest Park. Moving a rugged, remote North Canterbury asset down to a highly trafficked day track on the Banks Peninsula strips it of its history. It turns a real backcountry heritage asset into a displaced museum piece.
- **It compromises backcountry visitor safety.** The bivvy has a critical safety function that cannot be measured just by counting visitors. In the remote Lake Sumner backcountry, this bivvy provides life-saving shelter when severe, fast-moving alpine weather hits, and there are no nearby alternatives. Stripping a safety shelter out of an alpine area and moving it to a front-country day walk - where people have other options for shelter if required and reasonable cell phone coverage - is irresponsible.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

- **Put a hold on (or reverse) the disposal process:** The proposal to gift the Evangeline Bivvy to the Rod Donald Trust should be paused. If the handover has already physically happened - like the internal OIA documents seem to suggest - then that decision needs to be reversed so the community and public can actually have a fair say on keeping it in the area.
- **Return the bivvy to the district:** If the structure has already been moved out of North Canterbury (as this would suggest <https://roddonaldtrust.co.nz/te-ara-pataka-day-shelter/>), it should be brought back to the district.
- **Talk to the right backcountry groups:** Instead of assuming there are no options, DOC should actively consult with the Backcountry Trust (BCT) and wider outdoor networks to see if a community-led volunteer partnership can be formed to help reinstate and look after the bivvy in its original forest park home. DOC should fund the initial relocation back to the Evangeline Stream area since they initially removed it.

G. Attachments

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Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.



A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

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Printed name of submitter or person authorised on behalf of submitter	Garth Swan
Organisation	
Date	07/06/26

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

- ☐ I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)
- ☐ I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).
- ☒ I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).

E. Hearing Request

- ☒ I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.
- ☐ I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

The bivvy needs to be put back on it's foundations.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

It's a lifesaver when the weather takes a turn up there. End of story.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

Bivvy put back on it's foundations and investment made to ensure it doesn't happen again.

G. Attachments

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Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Richard Schofield

Organisation

Individual

Date

14 June 2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

- ☐ I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)
- ☐ I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).
- ☒ I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).

E. Hearing Request

- ☒ I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.
- ☐ I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

Removal and disposal of the historic Evangeline Bivvy.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

- 1) Evangeline Bivvy is an historic building. DOC's role should be trying to preserve it at or as close as practical to its original location, not giving away historic builds to third parties.
- 2) While claiming the low usage is a reason to get rid of the Bivvy, DOC is in the process of agreeing a replacement. That shows the underlying lie, low usage is not a reason for disposal.
- 3) Although such remote huts and bivvies do have low usage, they are an important safety asset. This seems to be implicitly acknowledged by DOC's negotiation for a new bivvy they don't pay for.
- 4) DOC appears to have made no effort to find a third party group willing to restore and maintain the historic bivvy.
- 5) DOCs aim seems to be cost reduction no matter what, rather than protecting an historic asset.
- 6) No rationale for why a new bivvy, rather than the historic bivvy resituated, makes any sense.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

DOC needs to find a way, either at DOC expense or in agreement with another group, of restoring the historic bivvy at or as near as practical to its original location.

DOC should have a review, transparent to the public, as to why they had organised disposal of an historic building without the consultation that is only now taking place. Were correct processes followed? If not, why not? Do staff need better training?

G. Attachments

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Document title	Document format (e.g. Word, PDF, Excel, jpg etc.)	Description of attachment
Nil		

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Complete this form and email to northcanterbury@doc.govt.nz. You may also mail your objection and submission to: Director-General, c/o Department of Conservation, 32 River Road, Rangiora, 7400
Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.



Outlook

Submission on Evangeline Bivvy Proposal

From Damian Johansen <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 15/06/2026 1:46 PM
To northcanterbury <northcanterbury@doc.govt.nz>
Cc Damian Johansen <[REDACTED]>

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to you as concerned citizen at the removal of the above mentioned bivvy.

I feel that this bivvy, whilst it might be a low use asset, is still an asset that was paid for by the taxpayers of NZ and subsequently has been maintained and restored by other interested parties.

I would like to think that these bivvys and huts, which are a vital safety net in the bush, will remain as you never know who is using what maps and what is shown on the maps should indeed be there.

I have seen where, in other parts of the country, DOC and parties such as the NZDA branches have undertaken an MOU and the branches have taken over the maintenance and upkeep of huts etc to the benefit of all backcountry users.

I strongly urge you to reinstate this bivvy, even if not in the exact position, back into the area it came out of as we are losing more and more access to remote areas and we do not need to remove a haven for someone on a rough night.

I would like to speak at a hearing or such like when the opportunity arises.

Please contact me when a timeslot becomes available on my details below. I would also appreciate an acknowledgement of receiving this email.

Kind regards

Damian Johansen

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Outlook

Submission on the Proposed Disposal of the Evangeline Bivvy

From Shelley Te Paea <[REDACTED]>

Date Thu 25/06/2026 11:56 AM

To northcanterbury <northcanterbury@doc.govt.nz>

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

I found downloading the submission form was quite hard and inconvenient.

To: Department of Conservation

Re: Proposed Disposal of the Evangeline Bivvy, Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

I oppose the proposed disposal of the Evangeline Bivvy notified under sections 49 and 28(3) of the Conservation Act 1987.

The Evangeline Bivvy is a valued backcountry structure that contributes to the recreational, historical, and cultural values of Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park. Its removal would diminish public access, safety, and enjoyment of this remote area.

In considering this proposal, I ask the Department of Conservation to give proper regard to both He Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tireni 1835 and Te Tiriti o Waitangi 1840.

He Whakaputanga affirmed the collective authority and rangatiratanga of the independent hapū and iwi of Aotearoa. Te Tiriti subsequently affirmed and guaranteed to Māori the continued exercise of tino rangatiratanga over their lands, resources, and taonga. The conservation estate contains places of cultural, spiritual, historical, and customary significance to tangata whenua, and decisions affecting these areas should reflect those constitutional foundations.

Section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987 requires the Act to be interpreted and administered so as to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Those principles include active protection, partnership, informed decision-making, and meaningful engagement with affected iwi and hapū.

I therefore seek confirmation that:

1. Relevant mana whenua have been fully consulted regarding the proposed disposal.
2. Cultural, historical, and customary values associated with the site have been adequately identified and assessed.
3. The potential impacts on present and future Māori use, access, and connection to this area have been properly considered.
4. Alternatives to disposal, including retention, restoration, community stewardship, or co-management arrangements, have been fully explored.

The Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) area carries significance that extends beyond its recreational function. Decisions concerning infrastructure within the conservation estate should not be made solely on economic or operational grounds but should also reflect the Crown's obligations under Te Tiriti and the enduring authority recognised in He Whakaputanga.

For these reasons, I request that the proposal to dispose of the Evangeline Bivvy be withdrawn, or alternatively deferred until comprehensive engagement with mana whenua and the wider public has been completed and all cultural, recreational, and heritage values have been fully assessed.

Nāku noa, nā

Shelley Te Amo Te Kuru

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Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

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Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Sophie Tucker

Organisation

Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand
Incorporated

Date

26 June 2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition☐I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)☐I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).☒I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).**E. Hearing Request**☐I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.☒I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

Refer to attached submission document '20260626 FMC submission - DOC Disposal of Evangeline Bivvy.pdf'

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

Refer to attached submission document '20260626 FMC submission - DOC Disposal of Evangeline Bivvy.pdf'

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

Refer to attached submission document '20260626 FMC submission - DOC Disposal of Evangeline Bivvy.pdf'

G. Attachments

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20260626 FMC submission - DOC Disposal of Evangeline Bivvy	PDF	Submission letter

How do I submit my objection or submission?

Complete this form and email to northcanterbury@doc.govt.nz. You may also mail your objection and submission to: Director-General, c/o Department of Conservation, 32 River Road, Rangiora, 7400 Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.

26 June 2026

Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger

To: Director General
Department of Conservation
32 River Road
Rangiora 7400



submitted by email to: northcanterbury@doc.govt.nz

Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand Inc.

Submission on public notice for the disposal of the Evangeline Bivvy, Lake Sumner (Hora Kura) Forest Park

Tēnā koe Emma

Thank you for the email on 11 May 2026 advising of the public notice for the disposal of the Evangeline Bivvy, Lake Sumner (Hora Kura) Forest Park.

FMC's interest

It is appropriate that the Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand Inc (FMC) be invited to comment.

Our objectives include promoting and advocating for outdoor recreation in New Zealand and public access to New Zealand's natural wild lands, mountains, lakes, rivers and coasts. Founded in 1931, FMC represents over 23,000 people in the outdoor community, through over 90 clubs and individual supporters. We are therefore directly affected by the proposal.

FMC's position

FMC strongly opposes the disposal of Evangeline Bivvy, without early consultation before it was given to a third party, because every publicly owned hut and bivvy on our public conservation land is a part of our collective backcountry cultural heritage.

Since 2024, FMC's Love our Huts campaign has reinforced how much our backcountry community value these facilities with over 500 huts and bivvies receiving health checks and cleans by over 600 volunteers.

The future management of every hut is important as we continue to lose huts through attrition by fire, flood and landslide events. Even more distressing is that in relation to Evangeline Bivvy, Richard Janssen, a volunteer, had restored the bivvy¹ in November 2019, which was classified as having heritage value, to a tidy and valuable asset for recreationalists, including hunters who wish to explore remote and elevated parts of Canterbury's High Country adjacent to Lake Sumner.

Unfortunately in March 2023, a landslide damaged the bivvy² and it was removed without any consultation with FMC or any other outdoor community representation. Undaunted, Richard arranged for some other volunteers to carry out a drone-based geological assessment of the area to find a new site. Three potential

¹ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/341718286036736/search?q=Evangeline%20Bivvy%20restoration>

² <https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/have-your-say/all-consultations/2026-consultations/disposal-of-evangeline-bivvy/>

alternative sites were identified. This information was supplied to DOC (via personal communications from Craig Benbow), but was ignored and without any consultation the bivvy was moved from its temporary placement at the Lakes Station and gifted to the Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust³ to be used for a shelter on the Te Ara Pataka/Summit Walkway.

FMC suggests that it would have been far more cost effective to move and reinstate Evangeline Bivvy near its original site and to build a new shelter on the Te Ara Pataka/Summit Walkway. This work could have been undertaken, for example, by the Backcountry Trust (BCT) and volunteer workers.

Next Steps

The original (and restored) Evangeline Bivvy was relocated on the Te Ara Pataka/Summit Walkway to be used as a shelter without alternative options being discussed with the wider outdoor community, including with FMC as a leading representative organisation. This is a breach of trust and is counter to the expectations of FMC and recreational users of the backcountry who, as key stakeholders, should be involved in decision making about huts.

Although DOC is entrusted with the management of conservation land, it is on behalf of all New Zealanders who have an interest in how the land is managed. FMC is not opposed to a shelter on the Te Ara Pataka Track; it is concerned about the lack of consultation about Evangeline Bivvy and other decisions that will affect backcountry recreationists.

To redress these problems:

- We strongly recommend that DOC reinstates the local DOC / Canterbury Recreation User Group (RUG) meetings where these decisions can be discussed early on, and that FMC is invited to be a member of this Group.
- FMC would support the option to build a new bivvy in a new location, in the headwaters of Evangeline Stream, using volunteers and third party funding.

Nāku, noa nā,



Allan Brent
President
Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand

³ <https://roddonaldtrust.co.nz/te-ara-pataka-day-shelter/>

**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

In placing your name and organisation below, you acknowledge that you are the person or authorised person submitting this objection or submission. You are also acknowledging that your name and organisation will be published.

Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

STEVEN W CHASTON

Organisation

Date

25/6/25

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

- ☐ I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)
- ☐ I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).
- ☒ I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).

E. Hearing Request

- ☒ I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.
- ☐ I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

EVANGELINE BIV - REMOVAL FROM EVANGELINE
AND ITS DISPOSAL.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

Bad Decision made by DOC. I suggest the counter on the door was not accurate, leaving names everywhere in this digital age is a key for bad actors.
Disposal by DOC, very disappointing after all that maintenance 2019 & 21.
I am now 70yrs & first visited the Biv over 50yrs or 5 decade ago.
I just happened to be tenting at the Biv the morning it was helicoptered out, a very SAD day, but I knew DOC would not return it.
With the consulting failures there must be a return for the Biv.
So Please DOC make a stand for more funding & protect our beautiful backcountry & Huts New & old.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

The return of our historic Biv to the Evangeline

G. Attachments

If you are using attachments to support your objection or submission clearly label each attachment, complete the table below and send in your attachments with this 'objection or submission form'.

Document title	Document format (e.g. Word, PDF, Excel, jpg etc.)	Description of attachment

How do I submit my objection or submission?

Complete this form and email to northcanterbury@doc.govt.nz. You may also mail your objection and submission to: Director-General, c/o Department of Conservation, 32 River Road, Rangiora, 7400
Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.

**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

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Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Matthew Barnes

Organisation

Date

29/6/26

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition☐I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)☐I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).☒I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).**E. Hearing Request**☒I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.☐I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

I am objecting to the proposed permanent removal and disposal of the Evangeline Bivvy without a definitive plan or commitment to provide a replacement structure.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

Preservation of the Network: Our backcountry hut and bivvy network must not be allowed to shrink. It is a vital recreational asset that must be maintained for the use and enjoyment of both current and future generations.

Potential for Increased Use: A current lack of use does not indicate that a bivvy will permanently remain that way. History shows that low-use huts and bivvies often just need a bit of maintenance and care to become highly valued, well-used, and loved by the tramping community. Low use also does not indicate low community value, while maybe not often used, this hut is still of immense community and personal value.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

Mandatory Replacement Before Disposal: The current bivvy may be gifted or disposed of, but **only** after a suitable replacement hut or bivvy is built and fully in place.

Relocation if Necessary: If the current location of the Evangeline Bivvy is deemed geotechnically or environmentally unsafe, a new, secure location must be found nearby and the new structure located there.

Strict Order of Operations: The existing bivvy must not be gifted until the new hut or bivvy is completely constructed and ready for public use.

G. Attachments

If you are using attachments to support your objection or submission clearly label each attachment, complete the table below and send in your attachments with this 'objection or submission form'.

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How do I submit my objection or submission?

Complete this form and email to northcanterbury@doc.govt.nz. You may also mail your objection and submission to: Director-General, c/o Department of Conservation, 32 River Road, Rangiora, 7400
Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.

OBJECTION SUBMISSION FOR NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL OF EVANGELINE BIVVY

A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL

Evangeline Bivvy

B. LOCATION

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.1 Objector or Submitter Information

- **Submitter's Name:** Tim Wiel
- **Email:** [REDACTED]
- **Phone/Mobile:** [REDACTED]
- **Postal Address and Post Code:** [REDACTED]
- **Privacy Preference:** Please keep my contact details confidential.

C.2 Your Name

- **Printed name of submitter:** Tim Wiel
- **Organisation:** Individual / Private Submitter
- **Date:** 1st July 2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

I Oppose this application (I am making an objection).

E. Hearing Request

I Do Not wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.

F. Objection or Submission

1. The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

This objection completely opposes the proposal to legally "dispose" of the Evangeline Bivvy asset by way of gifting it to a third-party private trust, resulting in its permanent relocation away from the Lake Sumner Forest Park backcountry network and its subsequent repurposing on Banks Peninsula.

2. My reasons for my objection or submission are:

- Erosion of Public Assets for Private/Localised Trust Benefit (Contrary to Public Good):** The Evangeline Bivvy is a Crown-owned public asset, built and long operated as part of the public backcountry hut network which is maintained for the open, unencumbered use of the New Zealand public. Gifting a public asset out of the national backcountry network to a localized or private trust sets a concerning management precedent that runs contrary to the public good. It effectively diverts infrastructure built and intended for raw wilderness exploration into a front-country day shelter capacity elsewhere, stripping the asset of its democratic, backcountry legacy.
- Documented Emergency and Search & Rescue (SAR) Necessity:** Real-world incident records directly contradict the idea that this asset is redundant or low-use. A published rescue record on the ACR Survivor Stories database details a critical emergency within the Evangeline Stream catchment. A tramping party facing heavy rain and a high-running, dangerous Evangeline Stream utilized the Evangeline Bivvy (sheltering 8 people inside and immediately outside the structure). Following a subsequent severe injury near Mt Longfellow requiring a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) helicopter evacuation, the party explicitly noted in their rescue log:

"Without the beacon we would have been very stuck as moving Hayley would have hurt her ankle more, and we would only have been able to get her to Evangeline Bivouac as the terrain from there down was very difficult."

 This incident explicitly documents that the bivvy was (and is) a vital fallback safety net and an emergency staging point in an area known for sudden high river flows, storm damage, and grueling terrain. (Citation: <https://www.acrartex.com/survivor-stories/evangeline-stream/>)
- Systemic Importance of the Remote Bivouac Network for Regional Safety:** The Evangeline Stream rescue is not an isolated case. Across the Lake Sumner, Arthur's Pass, and wider Southern Alps networks, small remote structures routinely serve as the thin line between a successful rescue and a backcountry fatality. LandSAR data and regional precedents (such as the reliance on Clarke Bivouac during un-forecasted alpine storms, or retreats to shelters in the neighboring Jollie Brook catchment during flood events) demonstrate that these structures allow stranded parties to safely wait out the danger when helicopter extraction is impossible due to weather. Removing the Evangeline Bivvy permanently from the park network tears a hole in this interconnected regional safety net, forcing users to make dangerous, potentially fatal decisions—such as attempting to cross swollen rivers out of a lack of physical shelter options.
- Critical Operational Safety on the Hope Kiwi - Jollie Brook Route:** According to official DOC route descriptions, the Hope Kiwi - Jollie Brook Route explicitly requires trampers to navigate and cross the Evangeline Stream catchment area. Backcountry bivs like the Evangeline Bivvy provide an irreplaceable safety net in these un-tracked, remote areas. They offer emergency refuge from sudden, severe alpine storms, protection from rising rivers during heavy rain events, and a vital navigational target. Removing this shelter entirely reduces the safety margins for trampers, hunters, and search-and-rescue operations in the Lake Sumner area.
- Flawed "Low Use" Metric vs. Inherent Emergency Value:** The Department's position that the bivvy had "very low recorded use" prior to being damaged fails to account for how remote, un-tracked assets are utilized. Without electronic track counters or a formal booking system, wilderness logbooks inherently under-report actual emergency and seasonal usage. A backcountry biv's value is not defined by high traffic volume, but by its presence as a critical shelter when conditions deteriorate. Its existence should be protected as an essential safety safeguard, not measured by casual foot traffic metrics.
- Precedent for Catchment Preservation and In-Situ Solutions:** If river morphology and flood risks prevent a rebuild on the exact original footprint, the structure—or the allocation of resources for a replacement—must remain within the Lake Sumner Forest Park network to preserve regional identity rather than completely losing the asset to another region. While there is a reference to DOC's ongoing

discussions with a different interested party to devise a plan to build a new bivvy along the Evangeline Stream, it is a significant concern that no formalized plan or secured funding is actively in place at the time of this proposed disposal. Without guaranteed implementation timelines, the likelihood of this replacement occurring is compromised, threatening to indefinitely remove all shelter options from the Evangeline Stream area.

- **Profound and Unique Family Heritage Connection:** On a deeply personal level, my family shares a unique geographic and generational connection to this exact alpine zone. My eldest daughter is named Evangeline. Coincidentally, my 12-year-old son shares his name with the nearby Mt Emerson (2,171m), which towers just to the north-west of the Evangeline catchment. We remarkably only discovered this perfect geographical coincidence after they were both born and named, right as we began taking them tramping into New Zealand's wilderness together. As South Island residents, exploring the Evangeline Stream catchment, attempting Mt Emerson, and staying at the Evangeline Bivvy has been an enduring bucket-list goal for our children's formative years. Relocating this structure without an active, scheduled replacement severs a rare, living family heritage link to this specific piece of public land.

3. The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

- **Decline the Disposal and Transfer Application:** The Director-General should decline the proposal to legally dispose of and gift the Evangeline Bivvy structure to an external trust for relocation to Te Ara Pātaka.
- **Mandate an In-Catchment Solution:** The original structure should be repaired, stabilized, and reinstated within a safe location inside the Evangeline Stream catchment area. If safety constraints prevent a rebuild on the exact original footprint, DOC must formalize the agreement with alternative backcountry recreation groups to ensure a replacement structure is guaranteed and funded *prior* to any change in status of the existing asset.

**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

In placing your name and organisation below, you acknowledge that you are the person or authorised person submitting this objection or submission. You are also acknowledging that your name and organisation will be published.

Printed name of submitter or person authorised on behalf of submitter	Malcolm Taylor
Organisation	NA
Date	1 July 2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition☐I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)☐I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).☒I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).**E. Hearing Request**☒I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.☐I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

1. It appears that the Evangeline Bivvy has already been handed over to the Rod Donald Trust?
2. The DoC website suggests that this change is still at the proposal stage, so due process has not been followed.
3. I object to the lack of consultation with user groups or the volunteers who refurbished the hut in 2019.
4. I object to the proposal NOT to reinstate a shelter in the Evangeline Stream.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

1. The Evangeline valley is not heavily used by Te Araroa trail walkers and provides a more challenging and individual experience.
2. A small hut can be a life-saver in bad weather, and a base or stopover in remote country.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

1. DoC must commit to consultation with user groups and the Backcountry Trust to ensure all points of view are considered in such decisions.
2. Include FMC, NZAC and CMC in such user groups where appropriate.
3. I recognise that DoC has a diminishing budget and competing priorities, but that does not preclude timely consultation and joint problem-solving.
4. Seek alternative locations in the Evangeline Stream and reinstate a hut or bivvy in consultation with the Backcountry Trust.

G. Attachments

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Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.

**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

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Printed name of submitter or person authorised on behalf of submitter	Gary James Herbert Rooney
Organisation	Pastoral Leaseholder
Date	2 July 2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

- ☒ I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)
- ☐ I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).
- ☐ I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).

E. Hearing Request

- ☒ I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.
- ☐ I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

As the only neighbouring landowner, and the Pastoral Leaseholder of the adjacent land, including Mt Longfellow:

1. I **support** the disposal of the Evangeline Bivvy from its current storage location to the Rod Donald Trust for use as a day shelter on the Te Ara Pataka track on Banks Peninsula.
2. I **object** to a new bivvy being rebuilt on the boundary of Lake Sumner Forest Park and my Pastoral Lease.
3. I **object** to a new bivvy being rebuilt in this area without consultation with the affected Pastoral Leaseholder who has exclusive possession of the pastoral leased land, including Mt Longfellow.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

1. **Support:** The disposal of the Bivvy to Banks Peninsula is a positive repurposing of existing infrastructure that supports an area with high use and a need for day shelter.
2. **Support:** The Department of Conservation (**DoC**) should not be enabling or facilitating unlawful access to another person's property. The disposal of the Bivvy to Banks Peninsula is a responsible and reasonable approach, not just through the repurposing of an asset and appropriately managing DoC's budget, but to also mitigate the ongoing risk to DoC arising from, and associated with, facilitating unlawful access to private property. There is significant evidence that people have unlawfully accessed my property and that they have historically utilised the Bivvy to facilitate their unlawful activities, including poaching and trespass. Many of them document, and publish, their trespass and use of the old Bivvy to facilitate their unlawful activities.
3. **Objection:** Reinstatement of the Bivvy to its former location not only supports but provides the access for poaching and trespass. There is no purpose that the former location serves except to give hunters and the public the ability to trespass onto my leasehold, of which I have exclusive possession and a guaranteed right of quiet enjoyment. I have never been asked for, nor have I provided, permission for the public to utilise my leasehold from the original Bivvy location.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

Decision Requested:

1. That the Bivvy be **relocated** as proposed to Te Ara Pataka on Banks Peninsula.
2. That the Bivvy **not** be reinstated or rebuilt at its historic location.
3. That any consideration of a new bivvy, in a new location, along the Evangeline Stream, be done so with full consultation and disclosure to the only directly affected, and neighbouring, private landowner and pastoral leaseholder.

G. Attachments

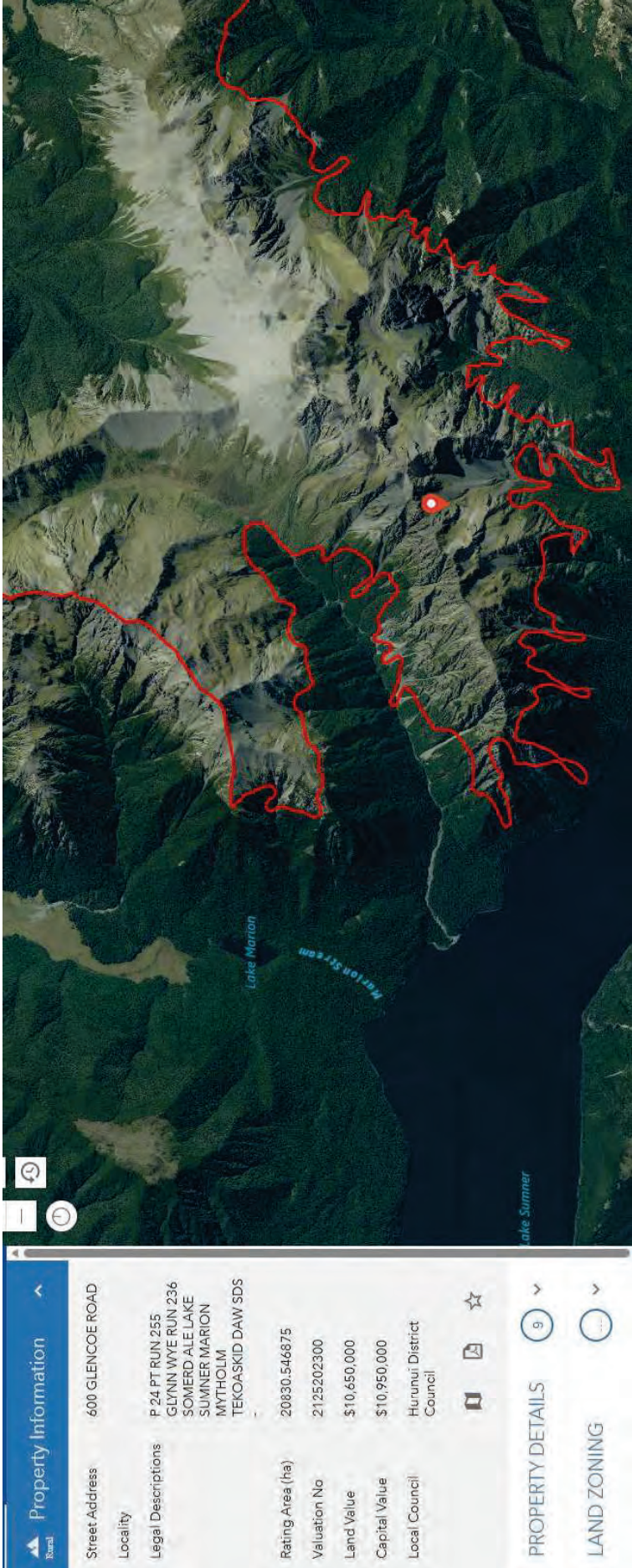
If you are using attachments to support your objection or submission clearly label each attachment, complete the table below and send in your attachments with this 'objection or submission form'.

Document title	Document format (e.g. Word, PDF, Excel, jpg etc.)	Description of attachment
Climbing Mt Longfellow	Link	2019 YouTube Video documenting trespass
Mt Longfellow November 2018	Link	PTC NZ Blog documenting trespass
Property Boundary CB529/26	PDF	Screenshot from Canterbury Maps, Property Search
Aerial – Location of Property Boundary, Historic Bivvy Location & Mt Longfellow	PDF	Aerial Map identifying location of property boundary, historical bivvy location and location of Mt Longfellow

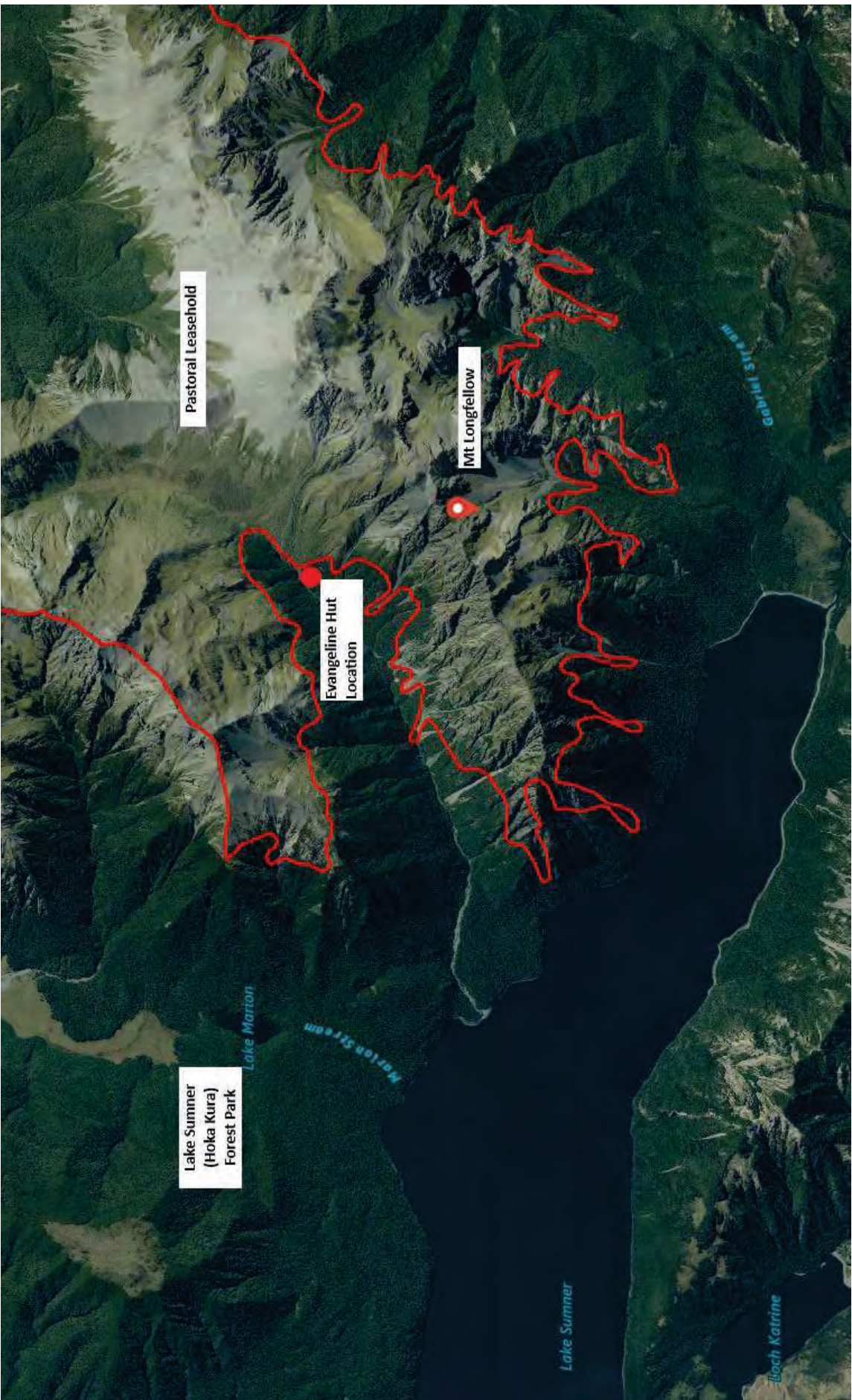
Links evidencing trespass:

1. <https://youtu.be/yL8J6GBHFP8?si=bkZCZgTd6R3GEkVi>
2. [PTC - 2018 Mt Longfellow](#)

Property Boundary CB529/26:



Aerial – Location of Property Boundary, Historic Bivvy Location & Mt Longfellow



**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

In placing your name and organisation below, you acknowledge that you are the person or authorised person submitting this objection or submission. You are also acknowledging that your name and organisation will be published.

Printed name of submitter or person authorised on behalf of submitter	Michael Paul Mosley
Organisation	
Date	4/7/26

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition☐ I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)☒ I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).☐ I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).**E. Hearing Request**☒ I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.☐ I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

Removal of Evangeline Bivvy from its current/recent location and relocation to another site.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

I have used Evangeline Bivvy in the past and have been grateful for the shelter that it provided. I do not support the permanent removal of the structure. However, I note the possibility of the bivvy being replaced by another in Evangeline Stream. If this proposal for replacement is a “definite”, then removal/relocation of the current bivvy can be supported.

I have no objection to the structure being relocated for use at another site.

I do object to the way that this matter has been handled, along the lines, it seems, of a fait accompli. As a regular volunteer for DoC at the Motueka Nursery, and to restore Moss Reserve, and as a contributor to the FMC Love Our Huts spring-clean campaign, I do feel that back-country users should be incorporated into this sort of decision-making.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

Outcome and condition: Replacement of the current bivvy, as I understand is proposed.

G. Attachments

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Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.

OBJECTION OR SUBMISSION

Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

New Zealand Government

A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

In placing your name and organisation below, you acknowledge that you are the person or authorised person submitting this objection or submission. You are also acknowledging that your name and organisation will be published.

Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Cherry Laurensen

Organisation

—

Date

04 July 2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)



I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).



I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).

E. Hearing Request

I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.



I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL OF EVANGELINE BIV

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

I support the submission of the
Federated Mountain Clubs

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:
Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

G. Attachments

If you are using attachments to support your objection or submission clearly label each attachment, complete the table below and send in your attachments with this 'objection or submission form'.

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Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.



Outlook

Evangeline Biv

From Marcel Giesen <[REDACTED]>**Date** Mon 6/07/2026 11:57 AM**To** northcanterbury <northcanterbury@doc.govt.nz>

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear staff at Doc,

I do appreciate the work that you do for our backcountry but I am very concerned surprised and in disbelief that you would remove a hut of the backcountry in Lake Sumner Forest Park that is clearly marked on maps and people rely on Maps for planning their trips. It is important to maintain huts for the safety of backcountry users and it is clearly not in the spirit to remove a hut without consultation. My physio Richard Jensen spent a lot of time restoring this hut in 2019 and he will be very upset that it has been removed without consultation to the backcountry hut trust!

Please rest assure that we value your work, but please keep everyone in the loop before removing a hut. It is a real concern to me as I have been in a situation of relying on a Hut to be there when it is marked on a map only to find out that it was removed and I had to spend a night in the bush that could've been avoided.

Thank you for reading this,

Kind regards,

Marcel Giesen

Sent from my iPad



Outlook

Evangeline Bivvy

From Marian Woodall <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 6/07/2026 4:39 PM

To northcanterbury <northcanterbury@doc.govt.nz>

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi, I wish to say that my partner and I both fully support the FMC submission regarding the Evangeline Bivvy.

Regards, Mike and Marian

A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

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Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Stephen John

Organisation

Date

6th July 2026**D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition**☐I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)☐I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).☒I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).**E. Hearing Request**☒I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.☐I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

This unique and valuable back-country hut should be reinstated in the area of the original Evangeline Biv.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

I have visited this hut a number of times and it is located in a stunning and wonderful area of NZ and indeed the planet. Back-country huts are the 'heart' of much of NZ and provide shelter and safety to so many back-country users. Why do we continue to erode and degrade the prized back-country of NZ? - travel overseas and people you will meet in other national parks and recreation areas are immensely jealous of the NZ back-country and especially our unique hut network. Please stop prioritising commercial ventures and gains over retaining – and indeed building – our conservation lands.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

Please do NOT remove this hut. Let volunteer organisations reinstated the hut in the region of the original site so that this valuable and unique hut can continue to offer a destination, shelter and safety to all.

G. Attachments

If you are using attachments to support your objection or submission clearly label each attachment, complete the table below and send in your attachments with this 'objection or submission form'.

Document title	Document format (e.g. Word, PDF, Excel, jpg etc.)	Description of attachment

How do I submit my objection or submission?

Complete this form and email to northcanterbury@doc.govt.nz. You may also mail your objection and submission to: Director-General, c/o Department of Conservation, 32 River Road, Rangiora, 7400
Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.

**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

In placing your name and organisation below, you acknowledge that you are the person or authorised person submitting this objection or submission. You are also acknowledging that your name and organisation will be published.

Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Andy Buchanan

Organisation

Date

7 July 2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

- ☐ I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)
- ☐ I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).
- X ☒ I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).

E. Hearing Request

- X ☒ I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.
- ☐ I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

I object to the decision to not replace the hut.

Replacement could be by reinstating the old hut on new foundations in a nearby location, or by flying in a new pre-fabricated hut.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

This hut may be not much used, but that is all the more reason for retaining it.

Remote huts have intrinsic value

The reasons for retaining the hut are:

1. Backcountry heritage
2. Intrinsic value of a remote hut.
3. Safety in case of bad weather or an accident
4. Encouragement of people to visit the area.

Old recreational huts in remote locations are valuable parts of our national backcountry heritage, whether they were first put there for deer stalking, conservation or recreation. The same applies to a replacement hut, especially if there is information on the original hut.

I stayed one night there in 2017 on my way to climb Mt Longfellow, as part of my effort to climb all of the peaks visible from the Sugarloaf on the Port Hills of Christchurch. I wrote this trip up in my 2024 book Alpine Panorama, which has encouraged others to visit the same area.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

If the hut is moved to Christchurch, a replacement hut or shelter should be retained at or near the same place on Evangeline Stream

G. Attachments

If you are using attachments to support your objection or submission clearly label each attachment, complete the table below and send in your attachments with this 'objection or submission form'.

Document title	Document format (e.g. Word, PDF, Excel, jpg etc.)	Description of attachment
Photo of Evangeline Biv, 2017	JPG	

How do I submit my objection or submission?

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Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.

Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger
 To: Director General
 Department of Conservation
 32 River Road
 Rangiora 7400
 submitted by email to: northcanterbury@doc.govt.nz

Evangeline Biv Submission 8 July 2026

Hello Emma

This is my submission and in particular objection to the disposal of Evangeline Bivvy from Lake Sumner Forest Park.

I oppose of the disposal of Evangeline Bivvy AND the manner in which it was done.

I DO wish to be heard at a hearing.

Reasons - There are many.

I have read the OIA file regarding Evangeline Bivvy and it puts DOC staff actions in a bad light.

Primary - Following the 2023 weather event, there was no contact from any member of DOC at any level to myself or Craig Benbow or Rob Brown at the Back Country Trust(BCT) or the Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ(FMC) about the fact that damage had occurred and did the volunteer community want to engage in repairs.

NOTE The Biv has been described by DOC as badly damaged by the flood event. It is not. Photos from onsite and after it had been shifted showed it to be structurally sound, just washed off its foundations where it had been sitting safely for over 60 years. It was renovated in 2019 by myself and other volunteers with BCT funding. It was in excellent condition when the 2023 flood occurred.

The first contact from DOC that I had was from Kirsty Milne in 2026 to say that the biv had been given to the Rod Donald Trust and did I want to contribute to the sign boards for the new location. I was furious.

What a massive breach of trust.

Actions toward disposal had been taken without engaging with anyone who had any direct, real and recent connection with the biv. An email to the North Canterbury Deer Stalkers Assn who have had no association with the biv or myself seems to be a box ticking exercise only.

Leeann Ellis and other DOC staff were aware in 2024 that volunteer efforts by myself and others to find a new location, had been made at no cost to DOC. In mid 2025 Leeann Ellis was aware that geotechnical assessments and reports were being done by volunteers at no cost to DOC. No email in the OIA file showed an interest in saving the biv even after budget/cost issues were removed. The only statement that gets repeated is "no decision about the biv has been made yet" until just before is in the hands of the Rod Donald Trust.

It was:-

We can't afford it,

We can give it to someone

How do we do that?

NO ENGAGEMENT at all with the volunteer community, this is a failure of DOC policy to engage with stakeholders.

All efforts seem to be towards disposing of the biv, even when volunteers were working for free to return it to a safer place in the valley. The only cost to DOC was self imposed, that of using a helicopter to lift the biv to Lakes Station. Given where it sat after the flood event it was probably only necessary to have a sign on the door saying unsafe to use, do so at your own risk.

Was the action of giving it away a method of saving 6% of department budget as requested by the incoming government in 2023? If it is, it is a terrible way of saving money by risking the lives of those who visit the area

DEER POPULATION

By removing the biv, hunters are not visiting the valley, the deer population in the valley is increasing and damage to the vegetation as at April 2026 is starting to show. Deer were not seen or heard in visits up to 2019 by myself, during the 2024 and 2026 visits 3-4 deer were seen or heard at close quarters where the biv used to be.

LOW USE BIV

Comments about the biv being low use are ridiculous. Most of the Canterbury bivs and huts are low use, there are no high volume Great Walks in the region, by that thinking, all huts in the region could be justified for removal.

I am tempted to remove half of the DOC Rangiora car park and give it to the neighbouring dog park based on usage noted when passing.

The Evangeline Valley needs a small hut or bivvy. The volunteer community can fund it and build it. but personally I would like to see the original Evangeline bivvy back in the Evangeline Valley on a safer site, of which there are several options.

It would be nice to work with DOC Rangiora on projects like the re-siting of Evangeline Biv, not be told what has happened.

Please take actions to help restore the trust between the department and myself and other volunteers.

Regards

Richard Janssen

Volunteer- Based in North Canterbury

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

In placing your name and organisation below, you acknowledge that you are the person or authorised person submitting this objection or submission. You are also acknowledging that your name and organisation will be published.

Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Louise Mincher

Organisation

Date

7/7/2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition
☐
I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)
☐
I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).
☒
I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).**E. Hearing Request**
☒
I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.
☐
I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

I object to the lack of consultation and discussion with the key stakeholders before the Evangeline Bivvy was moved from its temporary placement at the Lakes Station.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

DOC is supposed to manage conservation land ON BEHALF of all New Zealanders who have an interest in how the land is managed.

Moving this Bivvy from its temporary location affects backcountry recreationists, and the key stakeholders should have been consulted. DOC has shown a lack of respect and regard for:

- the time and money spent by volunteers for the building restoration
- the heritage of the building
- the value of the building to the backcountry users and, as with any backcountry hut, the shelter it provides in adverse weather.

There has been a breach of trust and key stakeholders and groups, as representatives of the people who use these backcountry huts, need to be involved in the decisions being made in relation to these huts.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

I support the option to build a new bivvy in a new location, in the headwaters of Evangeline Stream, using volunteers and third party funding.

DOC must consult with key stakeholders and groups representing the people who use backcountry huts on all decisions being made on these huts.

G. Attachments

If you are using attachments to support your objection or submission clearly label each attachment, complete the table below and send in your attachments with this 'objection or submission form'.

Document title	Document format (e.g. Word, PDF, Excel, jpg etc.)	Description of attachment

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Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.



A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

In placing your name and organisation below, you acknowledge that you are the person or authorised person submitting this objection or submission. You are also acknowledging that your name and organisation will be published.

Printed name of submitter or person authorised on behalf of submitter	David Kirkness
Organisation	N/A
Date	7 th July, 2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

- ☐ I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)
- ☐ I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).
- ☒ I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection). X

E. Hearing Request

- ☒ I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.
- ☐ I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

Objection to the long term removal of the Biv from Evangeline Valley.

Objection to the disposal of the Biv to a third party which would repurpose the Biv away from Evangeline Valley.

Support for replacement of the biv, or alternative, back in the valley.

Disappointment in the Departments handling of the matter, lack of consultation, and poor treatment of community partners.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

Back country huts and bivs are a taonga, a valued part of the conservation estate, far more than an entry in an accounting ledger. They are part of the essential character of NZ, and add greatly to the physical fitness and mental health of the community. We should not lose any more back country huts or bivs.

While the use of Evangeline is seen as low, that does not diminish its long term value, and should not be used to justify its removal.

"Safety concerns" was given as a removal of Evangeline Biv, and is also one of the strongest reasons for its return. On one of my trips to the biv, we did not actually stay in it, we camped in the tussock below Mt Emerson, as we were hunting chamois, but for safety considerations, the biv was there if the weather had turned

There is increasing pressure on other huts in the area, particularly those on Te Araroa, and EB should remain as an alternative, and aspirational, overnight alternative to relieve pressure and provide another overnight trip option.

The biv was renovated in 2019, so there was active community interest and involvement in its continued use. That community interest had already reduced the use of Department resources.

My preferred option would be for the renovated biv to be returned to the valley. I would also support another party constructing a replacement biv, however I am sceptical of how helpful the Department would or could be in facilitating that, as a "new" hut could require the other party to jump many bureaucratic and cost hurdles, which would not exist if the old biv was returned. A new biv would cost considerably more than the less than \$10,000 that the Department values the old biv at.

I note that a new biv and consent may require an enclosed wood burner, rather than an open fireplace, which could be the case with returning the existing biv. That could also be an issue requiring the Departments assistance.

As far as I am aware the building code for Back Country Huts is based on the standard hut design, and may not suitably cover a biv. Recent experience with the Hurunui District Council regarding Back Country Hut consents has not been pleasant, with their decisions arbitrary and erratic, and forcing a group I am involved with to seek an MBIE Determination, which we were successful with.

We all recognise the pressure the Department is under from some political parties, their lesser interest in conservation issues, and their focus on commercial activities, and that they form the current government. History informs us that that situation, policies, and budgets can change, and removal of assets under one government can be reversed by the next.

The removal of the biv appears to have only served the externally imposed agenda, and after little apparent consultation with the community, apart from the North Canterbury Branch of NZDA. That may have been an oversight, which is only now being addressed.

Evangeline Biv would be of relatively minor interest to NZDA, as the valley is a fairly small hunting area, yet there is a far wider group of other users and potential users out there. Many hunters do not belong to NZDA, and given the increase in animal numbers on the DoC estate, more huts and bivvies are needed, not less, to help with animal control. There are also other potential users to consider, such as climbers, photographers, tourists, and others with a general interest in the high country.

The Department is well aware of the various volunteer groups that help with support and maintenance of back country huts, including the group that restored Evangeline Biv, yet appears to have missed consulting with them. I'm not even sure if the Aoraki Canterbury Conservation Board was properly consulted.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

My preferred outcome is for the original renovated biv to be returned to Evangeline Valley.

A revised location to be agreed with those involved in the biv's restoration and the surveying of possible relocation sites.

A secondary possible preferred outcome is that a new biv be constructed in the valley, with as much support from the Department as is possible. This includes assistance with obtaining all suitable consents and permissions, including from the Hurunui District Council, so that the Department is seen to be actively facilitating the biv's return.

G. Attachments

If you are using attachments to support your objection or submission clearly label each attachment, complete the table below and send in your attachments with this 'objection or submission form'.

Document title	Document format (e.g. Word, PDF, Excel, jpg etc.)	Description of attachment
Nil.		

How do I submit my objection or submission?

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Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.

**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

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Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Mary O'Connor

Organisation

Date

9 July 2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

- ☐ I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)
- ☐ I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).
- ☒ I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).

E. Hearing Request

- ☒ I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.
- ☐ I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

G No attachments

F. Objection

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection relates to are:

Only a "summary" is supplied by DOC, which also does not give any information of the terms used, and avoids any definitive information. "Severely damaged" appears to be an overstatement of the damage to the bivvy when it has been relocated many kilometers away and the photo on the Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust website shows it to be in good order for a bivvy. <https://roddonaldtrust.co.nz/te-ara-pataka-day-shelter/> The article includes, "when DOC suggested gifting and relocating the former Evangeline Bivvy", yet DOC's Summary has, "Repurposing the bivvy structure as a day shelter on Te Ara Pātaka would be fully funded by the third party and it would no longer be the responsibility of the Department." There is a conflict of facts here – who paid for the relocation of Evangeline Bivvy?

No figures to justify stating, "The bivvy had very low recorded use prior to being damaged". Are you only counting bed nights? Do you record if it is used as a base during a day? How far away by distance and time from other huts/bivvies in the area? Will removing it create a hut/bivvy void in the network?

And no figures to demonstrate that, "reinstating the bivvy near it's original site is not financially viable", especially when much of the previous work on the bivvy and evaluating suitable sites nearby has been undertaken by volunteers. Factual information is missing, so how can DOC's statements be justified?

The historical value is lost when the bivvy is relocated many kilometers away. There is a need to retain our past for the future. In the DOC budget, this will be minuscule, but very important for the public.

My reasons for my objection are:

"Low recorded use", if this can be demonstrated, must not be the only consideration for back country huts/bivvies. You have not given an explanation of what you consider "use". With a hut/bivvy network, removing huts/bivvies by claiming "low recorded use" impacts the hut/bivvy network. Yet you have not considered this impact in your proposal to remove Evangeline Bivvy. Knowing that a bivvy/hut is there has many benefits unlikely to be recorded as "use" but gives greater access to public conservation land, knowing that shelter is available if needed for shelter. But extremely vital, if despite the best information available, the weather may change and shelter is required to avoid exposure. The vital availability of huts/bivvies can save lives. The intensions book in a bivvy/hut can be the best indicator of current adverse track conditions, and who is in the area. With different recreation trends, extra use can occur – eg back-country running preparation for ultras.

It can also reduce search areas. There are occasions where huts/bivvies are vital for search and rescue. Having the availability of shelter in adverse weather can be life-saving, and for Evangeline Bivvy, for minimal cost to DOC, due to the work of volunteers, save a life.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

1. Return Evangeline Bivvy to near at its original site as identified by volunteers in agreement with DOC.
2. Recognise the many different benefits of retaining this bivvy near its original site – part of the extensive network of huts/bivvies that allow the public to access the Conservation Estate.
3. Detail the cost of reinstating the bivvy to a safe spot near its original site, including the contribution of volunteers.
4. Recognise that back country huts/bivvies give greater access options because they form a network, and not solely how you have recorded "use" of individual huts/bivvies.
5. Reevaluate your policy of removing huts/bivvies, given that even today with improved communication, a bivvy/hut may save a life if weather conditions make the area inaccessible for rescue.
6. Consider other factors additional to "use" that will have more relevance to the hut/bivvy network
7. In future, make sure you consult first, rather than retrospectively.

**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

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Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Richard Hayman

Organisation

Individual

Date

09.07.2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition☐I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)☐I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).☒I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).**E. Hearing Request**☒I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.☐I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

- Back country bivvies and huts are so important for both recreation, safety and wellness as retreat from city life.
- I support retaining Evangeline Bivvy in the backcountry – huts have a history and a vibe and are of their place.
- I do not object to establishing another shelter on the Te Ara Pataka/Summit Walkway, but just establish a new one there.
- I also support FMC's submission

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

A lover and user of back country huts and do not want to see reduction of safe shelter in our amazing back country places

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

Just get the Evangiline Biv back where it belongs in a carefully thought through precise site away from potential hazards with good wind hold down devices. Job done.

G. Attachments

If you are using attachments to support your objection or submission clearly label each attachment, complete the table below and send in your attachments with this 'objection or submission form'.

Document title	Document format (e.g. Word, PDF, Excel, jpg etc.)	Description of attachment

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Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.

A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

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Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Kerry Clapham

Organisation

Date

09 July 2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition☐I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)☐I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).☒I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).**E. Hearing Request**☒I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.☐I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

- 1) Removal of Evangeline Biv
- 2) Disposal of Evangeline

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

- 1) The recreational value of Evangeline Biv appears to have been under-estimated
- 2) Evangeline Biv and other two-person facilities of the same class add significant value to the conservation estate
- 3) There is considerable community support for the retention or replacement of the Biv

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

Evangeline Biv should be reinstated to a safe location in the Evangeline valley.

G. Attachments

If you are using attachments to support your objection or submission clearly label each attachment, complete the table below and send in your attachments with this 'objection or submission form'.

Document title	Document format (e.g. Word, PDF, Excel, jpg etc.)	Description of attachment
Evangeline Bivvy Submission KC 2026-07-04.pdf	PDF	Supporting evidence

How do I submit my objection or submission?

Complete this form and email to northcanterbury@doc.govt.nz. You may also mail your objection and submission to: Director-General, c/o Department of Conservation, 32 River Road, Rangiora, 7400 Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.

Director-General,
c/o Department of Conservation,
32 River Road,
Rangiora 7400
Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger

9th July 2026

Dear Emma

Thank you for seeking community input on the future of Evangeline Bivvy.

I am writing to express my support for the reinstatement or replacement of Evangeline Bivvy in a safe and appropriate location within the Evangeline Valley, and to express my opposition to the proposed disposal of the asset.

As a volunteer, I have previously worked with the Rangiora office on hut restoration projects and have always found the team to be very supportive of community hut maintenance. For that reason, this proposal—and the released OIA communications—feels out of character with the high-value partnerships I am used to.

I last visited Evangeline Bivvy on 28 October 2017. Even then, its heritage value and its contribution to the diversity of the network were clear. From a recreation perspective, the remote experience it offers is high-value and unique to New Zealand. Removing two-person bivvies would narrow the range of opportunities available to trampers and diminish the historical fabric of the area. The presence of remote bivvies increases the visibility of the land, which is important—without them, valleys such as the Evangeline Valley will be seldom visited and risk being forgotten.

In 2020, I led the reinstatement of the Bull Paddock Creek Bivouac in the Upper Wairau River area. This structure shares many similarities with the present Evangeline Biv. Bull Paddock Creek Bivouac was closed due to damaged foundations, and DOC at the time noted the structure had low use and low recreational value. After community restoration of the bivouac and the no-longer-maintained track to the bivouac, visitation has increased dramatically. The bivouac is now frequently visited despite the challenging access across the Wairau River. As more people have visited the bivouac, its value has been increasingly appreciated by the community, and visitation has grown year on year since the initial work demonstrating the significant recreational value of these smaller facilities.

There are many similar success stories around the country from the work of Permolat, Remote Huts Canterbury, and the Backcountry Trust. Given the high profile of Evangeline Biv in the past six months—appearing regularly on social media, radio, and in newspapers—we can expect a similar increase in visitation. Past visitation statistics are therefore no longer a good estimate of future use at this facility, and I recommend they not be weighted heavily in decision-making.

Finally, it is reassuring to see the excellent community support for this bivouac. Community groups had already undertaken extensive maintenance at Evangeline Bivvy prior to its closure, so despite some foundation damage it is otherwise in great shape. Since the flood the community has been active in identifying alternative locations for reinstatement. This level of commitment demonstrates both the value of the structure and the willingness of volunteers to ensure its future.

For these reasons, I strongly support the reinstatement of Evangeline Bivvy in a safe location within Evangeline Valley. Reinstatement would honour its heritage significance, and at the very least, replacement is critical to maintain the high recreational value Evangeline Bivvy provides to those who appreciate the more remote corners of our public conservation land and to preserve access the Evangeline Valley and the surrounding area.

Kind Regards,
Kerry Clapham

A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

In placing your name and organisation below, you acknowledge that you are the person or authorised person submitting this objection or submission. You are also acknowledging that your name and organisation will be published.

Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Nathan Hole

Organisation

Rooney Farms Limited

Date

9 July 2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or OppositionI **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).**E. Hearing Request**I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

There are two parts to the proposal which Rooney Farms Limited (**RFL**) supports one and opposes the other.

1. The removal and disposal of the existing Evangeline bivvy.
 - RFL supports this part of the proposal.
2. The proposal for a replacement Evangeline bivvy to be constructed along the Evangeline Stream.
 - RFL opposes this part of the proposal regardless of the ownership and management of the bivvy.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

RFL owns Glynn Wye Station, a 25,000 hectare high country farm which includes the Glynn Wye Range within its property boundaries. The existing Evangeline bivvy location is less than 100 metres (approximately 90 metres) from the property boundary which is essentially the forest edge to the east.

RFL opposes the establishment of a replacement bivvy in the Evangeline Stream due to the bivvy being used by either trampers to access Mt Longfellow, or hunters illegally crossing the boundary into Glynn Wye Station to hunt and poach wild animals.

There is no public access to the mountain tops at the head of the Evangeline Stream; these areas are all part of RFL's property, with access granted by permission only. As the Evangeline bivvy has largely been used by the public to illegally access the tops on Glynn Wye Station without first seeking permission, RFL is strongly opposed to the reestablishment of a bivvy anywhere in the upper Evangeline Stream catchment.

Please see attached aerial photos showing the exiting Evangeline bivvy location in relation to the property boundary.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

RFL opposes any replacement or reinstatement of the Evangeline bivvy.

If this part of the proposal is approved, then it should be a condition that a map of the surrounding area identifying the boundaries of public conservation land and adjoining private land is displayed in the bivvy at all times. It should also note that there is no public access onto Glynn Wye Station without prior approval from RFL. Ignorance is not an excuse to trespass.

G. Attachments

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Document title	Document format (e.g. Word, PDF, Excel, jpg etc.)	Description of attachment
		Attachment 1
		Attachment 2

How do I submit my objection or submission?

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Attention: Emma Hunt, Principal Ranger.



Scale: 1:10,000 @A3

Map Created by Canterbury Maps on 9/07/2026 at 10:15 AM

Property Boundary

Existing Bivvy Location



← Evangeline Bivvy

← Glynn Wye Station
Property Boundary

**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

In placing your name and organisation below, you acknowledge that you are the person or authorised person submitting this objection or submission. You are also acknowledging that your name and organisation will be published.

Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Graeme Ferrier

Organisation

Nelson Tramping Club

Date

9 July 2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition☐I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)☐I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).☐I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).**E. Hearing Request**☐I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.☐I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

Our Club lodges its strongest objection to the complete lack of consultation with interested or affected stakeholders before making this decision. No attempt was made to ascertain the local support for the retention of the Bivvy, let alone the planned relocation and gifting.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

Huts are a national asset and while the finer details of their regularity of use may be lacking that does not mean they are not used. The recent work done by volunteers on this Biv is testament to the value of these small bivvys. The "Love your Huts" campaign run by Federated Mountain Clubs (FMC) is further evidence as to how much these huts and bivvys mean to the recreational community. They are freely available to everyone. They are a community asset.

This decision-making process reeks of arrogance... "we know best". And sure DOC may be under financial pressure, but that does not justify the lack of consultation. Such an approach has the potential to seriously damage the goodwill that exists, and is essential for maintaining a good working relationship for everyone with a passion for the 'Great Outdoors'. We need to build bridges not burn them!

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

1. There needs to be a public apology to the wider recreational community through FMC and NZ Deer Stalkers Association for this lack of consultation and consideration of existing users.
2. DOC needs to commit to consultation with the Recreational Community when making important decisions affecting recreation e.g. Hut removals, bridge removals, track closures and maintenance plans etc. It would seem that consultation in this case, could have lead to a much better outcome for everyone, esp when money is a scarce resource within DOC.
3. DOC needs to work with, and assist local recreational groups with the replacement of Evangeline Bivvy in an appropriate safe location.

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**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

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Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Allan Mincher

Organisation

Date

8/7/2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition☐I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)☐I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).☒I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).**E. Hearing Request**☒I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.☐I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

I object to the lack of discussion and consultation with the key stakeholders prior to the Evangeline Bivvy being moved from its temporary placement at the Lakes Station.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

DOC manages conservation land ON BEHALF of all New Zealanders who have an interest in how the land is managed.

Moving this bivvy from its temporary location affects backcountry recreationists, and the key stakeholders should have been consulted. DOC has shown a lack of respect and regard for:

- the time and money spent by volunteers for the building restoration
- the heritage of the building
- the value of the building to the backcountry users and, as with any backcountry hut, the shelter it provides in bad weather.

There has been a breach of trust and key stakeholders and groups, as representatives of the people who use these backcountry huts, need to be involved in the decisions being made in relation to these huts.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

I support the option to build a new bivvy in a new location, in the headwaters of Evangeline Stream, using volunteers and third party funding.

DOC must consult with key stakeholders and groups representing the people who use backcountry huts on all decisions being made on these huts.

G. Attachments

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**A. NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSAL**

Evangeline Bivvy

B. Location(s)

Evangeline Stream, Lake Sumner (Hoka Kura) Forest Park

C.2 Your name

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Printed name of submitter or person authorised
on behalf of submitter

Ian Barnes

Organisation

KKTC HVTC

Date

06/07/2026

D. Statement of Support, Neutrality or Opposition

- ☐ I **Support** this Application (I am making a submission)
- ☐ I am **Neutral** on this Application (I am making a submission).
- ☒ I **Oppose** this Application (I am making an objection).

E. Hearing Request

- ☒ I **Do Not** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.
- ☐ I **Do** wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing

F. Objection or submission

The specific parts of the disposal that this objection or submission relates to are:

Disposal of Evangeline Bivvy with no consultation with Mountain people just remove it and give it to Banks Peninsula Group.

My reasons for my objection or submission are:

- 1/not letting FMC know of your intention to remove Evangeline Bivvy from its site in forest park.
- 2/Safety concerns no Shelter from a storm if caught out by bad weather.

The outcomes that need to be addressed by this application are:

Give precise details, including the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought if the application is approved.

We would like to see DOC make a High Priority effort ASAP to resit a bivvy in Evangeline stream
In all future decisions DOC Needs to consult with FMC regarding the removal of Huts lodges or Bivvys because members could take up on going issues with maintenance of Huts Lodges or Bivvys

G. Attachments

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