WILDERNESS SCIENTIFIC RESERVE

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This reserve of 105 ha occurs on SH 94 between The Key and Te Anau Downs, in western Southland. It is south of Lagoon Creek with a small area east of the highway, and a larger block on the west side. The reserve was created in 1964, being removed from farm settlement blocks in order to protect the unique plant community. It is a reserve of great scientific interest. It has been described as a *Halocarpus (Dacrydium) bidwilli* bog pine woodland (Allen et al., 1989). The bog pines are scattered over the area - with a range of other species beneath their spreading branches. Between the bog pine clumps the ground cover is largely a mat of lichens and mosses.

In early January 1997, the Canterbury Botanical Society held a camp at Borland Lodge, near Lake Monowai. During that camp the reserve was visited on 8 January and a species list was prepared.. W.G. Lee had made an earlier list in 1981 (see Allen et al., 1989, p. 227). As a result of our visit the number of ferns and fern allies is increased from 7 to 9, orchid species from 2 to 6 and *Coprosma* spp. from 3 to 7. The *Clematis, Aristotelia, Griselinia* and *Phyllocladus* listed here are also additions. A further 18 adventive species are added to the list. The increases are a reflection of species spread by wind and birds. The most interesting addition is the mountain toa-toa, *Phyllocladus alpinus.* Several plants were 1 - 2 m high and it seems surprising that they could have been missed in the 1981 survey. * = adventive species.

Pteridophyta

Blechnum penna-marina
Histiopteris incisa
Hypolepis millefolium
Lycopodium fastigiatum
L. scariosum
L. varium
Ophioglossum coriaceum
Polystichum vestitum
Pteridium esculentum

Coniferae

Halocarpus bidwillii
Phyllocladus alpinus
**Pinus nigra*
**P. radiata*
**Pseudotsuga menziesii*

Monocotyledonae

**Agrostis tenuis*
**Anthoxanthum odoratum*
Aporostylis bifolia
Carex sp.
Chiloglottis cornuta
Chionochloa rubra
Herpolirion novae-zelandiae
**Holcus lanatus*
Lachnagrostis filiformis
Luzula rufa
Microtis oligantha
M. uniflora
Poa cita
P. colensoi
Prasophyllum colensoi
Thelymitra longifolia
Uncinia sp.

Dicotyledonae

Acaena caesiiglauca
A. novae-zelandiae
Aristotelia fruticosa
A. fruticosa x serrata
**Calluna vulgaris*
Cassinia vauvilliersii
**Cerastium fontanum* subsp *vulgare*
Celmisia gracilenta
Clematis marata
Coprosma sp. "t"
C. ciliata
C. linariifolia
C. perpusilla
C. petriei
C. propinqua
C. rigida
Coriaria sarmentosa
Corokia cotoneaster
Cyathodes colensoi
C. empetrifolia
**Cytisus scoparius*
Discaria toumatou
Dracophyllum uniflorum
Epilobium alsinoides subsp. *atriplicifolium*

Gaultheria depressa var. *novae-zelandiae*
Geranium microphyllum
Gonocarpus micranthus
Griselinia littoralis
Hebe odora
Helichrysum filicaule
**Hieracium pilosella*
**Hypericum humifusum*
**H. pulchrum*
**Hypochaeris radicata*
Lagenifera pinnatifida
Leptinella sp.
Leptospermum scoparium
Leucopogon fraseri
**Leycesteria formosa*
**Linum catharticum*
**Lotus pedunculatus*
Melicytus alpinus
Muehlenbeckia australis
**Navarretia squarrosa*
**Orobanche minor*
Pernettya macrostigma
Pimelea oreophila
**Plantago lanceolata*
**Prunella vulgaris*
Pseudopanax colensoi
**Ranunculus repens*
Raoulia glabra
R. subsericea
**Rosa rubiginosa*
Rubus schmidelioides
**R. fruticosa* agg.
**Rumex acetosella*
**R. crispus*
**Sagina procumbens*
**Sambucus nigra*
**Scleranthus brockiei*
**Senecio jacobaea*
S. sp. *(Erechtites* group)
**Sonchus asper*
**Sorbus aucuparia*
**Trifolium pratense*
**T. repens*
**Ulex europaeus*
**Verbascum virgatum*
**Veronica arvensis*
Viola cunninghamii
Wahlenbergia albo-marginata

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Reference

Allen, R.B., Lee, W.G., Johnson, P.M. 1989. *Biological Survey of Reserves, No. 19.* Southland, Department of Conservation, p. 223.