

# The Remarkables Ski Area proposed expansion to 'The Doolans'

Current ski terrain and infrastructure at Queenstown's The Remarkables Ski Area is at capacity, especially in peak season and school holidays. It currently sees over 275,000 skier visitor days annually.

The Doolans Basin, which lies immediately to the south-east of the existing ski resort, has been identified as a prime area for expansion. It offers potential to more than double ski area terrain from 385h to over 900ha.

The Doolans' higher altitude ensures better snow retention, making it well suited for the future of the Queenstown ski industry and offering resilience against climate change.

Expanded terrain will cater for the projected growth in local demand from the fastest growing district in New Zealand, and from international visitors, particularly Australians.

Projected regional benefits include increased tourism revenue, job creation, enhanced ecological outcomes, greater wellbeing through increased recreation participation, cultural engagement, broader community involvement and enhancement of Queenstown's reputation as a premier tourism destination.

## Environmental Commitment

NZSki's commitment to environmental stewardship and conservation initiatives at The Remarkables spans over 21 years, since purchase of the ski area by the locally-based Davies family.

Programmes include pest eradication, native reforestation, community education efforts and a commitment to be carbon neutral by 2030.

Expansion presents opportunities for enhancing ecological outcomes.

## Economic Benefits

Expansion is projected to contribute approximately **s 9(2)(b)(ii)** annually to the regional economy, with over 2,500 new jobs created.

Potential to establish The Remarkables as a world-class skiing facility, attracting international visitors to Queenstown and expanding the tourism market.

Significant opportunities for growth in the Australian and global ski tourism markets (AU growth FY24 ↑ 18%), bolstering New Zealand's reputation as a premier ski destination.

## Community Engagement and Wellbeing

Skiing and recreational pursuits are integral to the local community's identity and quality of life.

NZSki actively engages in community education programmes, promoting environmental awareness and appreciation for the mountain environment.

Expansion offers greater opportunities for broader community involvement and participation in outdoor activities.

We are working with local Ngāi Tahu to ensure we respect and promote the cultural values associated with Kawarau/Remarkables.







Stage 1 Doolans overview



The Remarkables Ski Area

## Project Details

The Remarkables upgrade and Doolans expansion project is proposed to entail the following elements, with the first stage to be constructed over 3 to 5 years.

### Doolans Access

Options include a ski-through tunnel from Curvey Basin or a chairlift/gondola from The Remarkables into the Doolans, with preference for the chairlift/gondola. A new ski trail will provide access back from the Doolans.

### Infrastructure

Development in two stages, incorporating two chairlifts/gondolas, snowmaking facilities, and trailworks well suited to lower-intermediate skiers. A shelter with amenities like toilets and a café will be included. Necessary infrastructure for water, wastewater, power, and data will also be established.

### Upgrade of Existing Facilities

Expansion of base building arrival facilities, extra car parking and power supply upgrade.

### Investment

s 9(2)(b)(ii)

## Location

The existing ski area operates within the Rastus Burn Recreation Reserve under concession agreements from the Department of Conservation.

The expansion into the Doolans would require a new concession for ski area operations within a defined area totalling less than 1.5% of the total 33,085ha Remarkables Conservation Area.

Access is an easy 24km from downtown Queenstown, in close proximity to the rapidly growing 'Southern corridor'.

The expansion will extend the ski area across from Queenstown Lakes District into the Central Otago District. Resource consents will be required from both district councils and the Otago Regional Council.