



**EASTERN
FISH AND GAME COUNCIL**

***MEETING
AGENDA***

11 August 2016

AGENDA

The 159th Meeting of the Eastern Fish and Game Council

Venue: Eastern Fish & Game Region Offices
Paradise Valley Road
ROTORUA

Date: Thursday, 11 August 2016

Commences: 12.00 PM

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**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE 158th MEETING OF THE EASTERN FISH
AND GAME COUNCIL, HELD AT THE ROTORUA OFFICES OF FISH & GAME
NEW ZEALAND ON WEDNESDAY 16th JUNE 2016 AT 12.00PM**

Present

Murray Ferris, Lindsay Lyons, Barry Roderick, Neal Hawes, Laurance Tamati, David Woolner, Annaka Davis, Sandy Bull, Steve Scragg, Ken Coombes, and Alan Baird.

IN ATTENDANCE

Andy Garrick, Kate Thompson, Eben Herbert, John Meikle, Lloyd Gledhill, Anthony van Dorp, Matt Osborne, Nigel Simpson (Eastern Fish & Game); Ken Raureti and Bill Clark (Bay of Plenty Conservation Board); Michel Dedual (DOC Taupo Fisheries), Brian Stamp (Rotoiti Fishing Club), Ray Bushell and Colin Paton.

1.0 WELCOME

Cr Murray Ferris opened the meeting at 12.00pm and welcomed Councillors, staff, Bill Clark (BOP Conservation Board), Michel Dedual (Department of Conservation), Brian Stamp, Ray Bushell and Colin Paton.

2.0 APOLOGIES

2.1 Apologies were received from Cr Peter Storey, and Dave Conley (Department of Conservation).

2.2 *Agreed (Laurance Tamati/Lindsay Lyons) that the apologies for the 158th meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [16/06/2.2]*

3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (7 APRIL 2016)

3.1 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Sandy Bull) that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 April 2016 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [16/06/3.1]*

4.0 IDENTIFICATION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN COUNCIL POLICY.

4.1 There were no items for inclusion in Council policy.

5.0 MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Andy Garrick had circulated a Declaration of Interest Document for completion by Councillors at the previous meeting and requested that these be returned. Those not present at the previous meeting requested a copy of this and Andy advised he would email a copy out prior to the next meeting.

5.2 Council discussed a proposal raised in General Business by Cr Murray Ferris at Council's April meeting to extend its standard meeting time of three hours to up to four hours if required. The purpose of doing so would be to avoid having to formally agree to do so on each occasion as is currently the case.

5.3 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Laurance Tamati) that the allowable duration of Council's standard meeting time of three hours be extendable by up to an hour when there is a need to so. [16/06/5.3]*

5.4 Council discussed the significant number of Papers for Information (PFI) produced for this meeting noting that many of the media articles were accessible to Councillors via Mediamine and that some items related to the same topic. Andy Garrick commented that he found PFI a useful archive and reference tool but said that he was open to

change. Some Councillors considered PFI should be restricted to essential background papers needed for decision making in their roles as governors, but most Councillors considered the articles were useful for the wider insight they provided to matters of interest to Fish & Game. The point was made that Councillors can choose whether they wish to read an article or not, and if PFI are provided by electronic means only, costs are minimal.

5.5 *Agreed (Neal Hawes/Laurance Tamati) that Council continues to receive Papers for Information as currently provided, that these be by electronic means only, and this approach be reviewed after the next few meetings if necessary. [16/06/5.5]*

6.0 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR GENERAL BUSINESS

- Andy Garrick - Public Submissions

7.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

7.1 No conflict of interest items were identified.

8.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

8.1 Andy Garrick introduced the draft Health and Safety Policy noting that this is intended to be the overarching policy covering Council's commitment to Health and Safety. He highlighted the need for all parties to be aware of what's required of them, and to take responsibility for their actions, and advised that a Health and Safety report covering off each of the key requirements imposed by the new legislation will be a standard item on the agenda of each Council meeting.

8.2 Cr Laurance Tamati noted an apparent omission relating to volunteer officers in the policy and Andy confirmed this was an omission and that it would be rectified.

8.3 Cr Barry Roderick queried the Manager's role and how Council would ensure that the Manager is complying with the Health and Safety Policy. Andy advised that there will be reporting procedures developed for the Manager and auditing processes developed for the Council to implement. Andy noted that the draft Health and Safety manual provided with the PFI is a live document which will be continually added to and reviewed as required.

8.4 *(Agreed Laurance Tamati/Lindsay Lyons) that Council adopts the draft Health and Safety Policy subject to the addition of a provision for volunteer officers. [16/06/8.4]*

9.0 REGIONAL GOVERNANCE POLICIES

9.1 Andy Garrick informed Council that a review of regional governance policies is undertaken every three years and that the updated policy contained within the Papers for Information for this meeting was an adaptation of the recently adopted New Zealand Council Governance Policy.

9.2 Crs Murray Ferris and Barry Roderick queried the need for Section 2.6.b relating to individual Councillor evaluation. Council discussed this and agreed that this process unfairly discriminated against new Councillors in particular, acknowledging the time required to become familiar with the role and comfortable in their knowledge of both fish and game bird management matters. Whilst they agreed to this section remaining within the policy they agreed that this would only be implemented as and when required. On this basis Council requested that Andy review this section and provide updated wording for consideration at the next meeting.

9.3 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that Council adopts the Regional Governance Policies subject to a suitable amendment to Section 2.6.b relating to the evaluation of individual Councillors being drafted and agreed to. [16/06/9.3]*

10.0 **2016-2017 ANGLER'S NOTICE REVIEW (SECOND SCHEDULE)**

10.1 Matt Osborne spoke briefly on proposed changes to the First Schedule of the Anglers Notice and provided an explanation of the two schedules. Andy Garrick confirmed that discussion would follow on the suggested amendments to the First Schedule and that this item related specifically to proposed amendments to Eastern Region's Second Schedule.

10.2 Matt Osborne provided detail of two additional submissions which had been received after the first round of consultation had occurred and recommended that consideration of these be deferred until the next biennial anglers notice review. Cr Barry Roderick voiced his concern over the number of submissions received and the tremendous amount of staff and Council time that was required to process these. Council agreed that this was a time intensive process but also acknowledged the need to remain transparent and to provide the opportunity for licence holders to submit ideas. Cr Annaka Davis suggested that staff look at the current process with a view to refining it if possible. Matt Osborne provided more detail of the current process and Andy Garrick advised that staff would have a closer look at this.

10.3 Cr Laurance Tamati felt that the closing date for submissions was unclear and was concerned that the most recent submissions would not be considered for a further two years under the biennial review. Andy Garrick advised that reviews can be done in the intervening year for items of significance, adding that usually these would be for concerns of a biological and/or urgent nature. Matt Osborne informed Council of the requirement to consult with other parties and that time constraints meant that the submissions just received would need to be deferred for now.

10.4 Council discussed the submission to prohibit lead sinkers and lead downrigger weights on the Rotorua lakes and within the wider Eastern Region and agreed to retain the status quo given there was little information currently available to justify prohibiting the use of lead weights at this point in time. Cr Steve Scragg felt that the issue warranted further consideration, and noted that the use of lead weights should be prohibited at Waikaremoana and Waikareiti given that lead lines already were.

10.5 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Ken Coombes) that Council does not support the submission to prohibit lead sinkers and lead downrigger weights used during trout fishing within the Eastern Region and that the status quo shall apply. [16/06/10.5]*

10.6 Council discussed the submission to extend the winter shoreline fishing area on Lake Okataina noting that this proposal would reduce congestion and provide additional opportunity for anglers.

10.7 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Annaka Davis) that Council supports a change to regulations to alter the area of the Lake Okataina winter shoreline fishing area to include the western rocky point (600m west of boat ramp). [16/06/10.7]*

10.8 Council discussed the submissions to prohibit the use of motorized boats upstream of the Hopuruahine Stream mouth, the relocation of the Hopuruahine landmark pole, and the reduction to bag limits on Lake Waikaremoana, and agreed the status quo shall apply to these proposals while field work investigating the need for the proposed changes was being undertaken within the area.

10.9 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Neal Hawes) that Council does not support the submission to prohibit the use of motorized craft while fishing upstream of the Hopuruahine*

Stream mouth, (Lake Waikaremoana), and that the status quo shall apply. [16/06/10.9]

- 10.10** *Agreed (Sandy Bull/Steve Scragg) that Council does not support the submission to move the Hopuruahine landmark pole 200m downstream from its current position to remove ambiguity between spin/fly demarcation, and that the status quo shall apply. [16/06/10.10]*
- 10.11** *Agreed (Sandy Bull/Steve Scragg) that Council does not support the submission to reduce the bag limit at Waikaremoana from 8 fish to 3 fish per day, and that the status quo shall apply. [16/06/10.11]*
- 10.12** Council discussed the proposal to change the season opening date for lakes Rotoiti, Okataina, and Tarawera, and Anthony van Dorp highlighted the difficulties in enforcing such a change from a compliance perspective. Council discussed the pros and cons and agreed that the upcoming 2016-17 Season where opening would fall on a Saturday would be a good opportunity to obtain participation data to enable further consideration of the proposal.
- 10.13** *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Neal Hawes) that Council does not support, at this time, the submission to adjust the season opening date for lakes Rotoiti, Tarawera and Okataina so that it falls on the first Saturday in October each season, but notes that the opening of the 2016/17 season on 1 October this year falls on a Saturday and this provides an opportunity to investigate some of the positives and negatives of the proposal. [16/06/10.13]*
- 10.14** Council discussed David Dods' submission on the demise of early spawning rainbow trout at Lake Waikaremoana and his recommendations for the Anglers Notice. Council agreed that regulations in the area shall remain the status quo pending staff completing and analysing investigative work currently taking place at Lake Waikaremoana.
- 10.15** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that Council does not support the submission and suggested changes to the Anglers Notice from David Dods regarding the perceived demise of early spawning rainbow trout at Lake Waikaremoana, and that the status quo shall apply while further field work is being undertaken to assess the perceived issue. [16/06/10.15]*
- 10.16** Matt Osborne provided some background to the submission from the local community (Rangiwewehi locals), to reclassify the Awahou Stream as closed waters in an attempt to alleviate issues occurring at the stream. Matt confirmed that the private access road would remain open to anglers wishing to fish the lake at the stream mouth. Anthony van Dorp felt that this proposed change would have a positive outcome for compliance activity in the area noting the significant staff resources required at times when trout are seeking cold water refuge in the stream. Council supported the submission and acknowledged the goodwill of the local residents in continuing to provide Fish & Game licence holders with access to the lake edge.
- 10.17** *Agreed (Laurance Tamati/Lindsay Lyons) that Council supports the submission to reclassify the Awahou Stream, Lake Rotorua as closed waters. [16/06/10.17]*
- 10.18** Council agreed to defer submissions that had been received after the development of the Issues and Options papers noting that these would be included in the next review of the Anglers Notice as there was insufficient time to adequately consult with other interested parties.
- 10.19** *Agreed (Neal Hawes/Laurance Tamati) that Council defers consideration of the submissions presented since the development of the 2016-2017 Issues and Options papers until the next biennial anglers notice review in 2018. [16/06/10.19]*

- 10.20 In the absence of further issues Council confirmed the Anglers Notice regulations for the 2016-2017 season.
- 10.21 *Agreed (Annaka Davis/Sandy Bull) that with the exception of the recommended changes to the Okataina winter shoreline area and closure of the Awahou Stream, all other current Anglers Notice regulations remain unchanged for the 2016-17 Season. [16/06/10.21]***
- 11.0 PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FIRST SCHEDULE OF THE ANGLERS NOTICE**
- 11.1 Council received the South Island working party's report on proposed changes to the First Schedule of the Anglers Notice which if adopted would not come into effect until the 2017-18 season or later. Andy Garrick informed Council that staff will review the recommendations and comment on these for consideration at a future meeting of Council.
- 11.2 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Neal Hawes) that Council receives the proposed changes to the First Schedule of the Anglers Notice and that further consideration will be given to this following a review and recommendations from staff. [16/06/11.2]***
- 12.0 DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2016-2017 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN**
- 12.1 Council queried the need for it to review progressive drafts of the Operational Work Plan and whether it might be possible to streamline this process. Andy Garrick outlined the 'traditional' process in which proposed changes in Council's priorities or the direction it wishes to take are discussed in February, contestable fund bids are detailed and approved by Council in April, and a penultimate draft of the plan is confirmed in June for circulation to interested parties before being finalised and signed off at the August meeting. He suggested that the process to confirm bids in April could remain with staff and advised that a completed draft could be presented to Council in June and that he would look to implement this change next year.
- 12.2 Cr Barry Roderick expressed his disappointment with the outcomes of the National Anglers Survey resulting from the fraudulent recording of data. Andy Garrick agreed that this was disappointing as it not only placed a level of doubt over the integrity of the results but magnified the margins of error and therefore their usefulness for advocacy. Matt Osborne briefed the Council on how the fraud had been identified and Cr Lindsay Lyons advised that the New Zealand Council had conveyed its disappointment to the contracted survey provider.
- 12.3 Cr Laurance Tamati requested that the Regional Manager review priority 1.5.1 regarding Statutory Liaison and queried whether a MOU with Te Arawa could be provided for also. Andy agreed this could be identified as a project in itself and noted that steps had already commenced towards meeting with representatives of iwi entities via discussions with Cr Tamati and Ken Raureti.
- 12.4 Cr Laurance Tamati also queried priority 1.4.4, Species Monitoring, as there did not appear to be a corresponding project outlined for investigating perceived issues in Okawa Bay in the Species Management Project table on page 10 of the plan. Andy Garrick advised that the Okawa Bay concern would be covered under projects 1115 "Other Lake Fisheries Investigations" and/or 1121 "Lakes Fisheries Creel Surveys".
- 12.5 *Agreed (David Woolner/Ken Coombes) that Council had reviewed the Draft 2016-2017 Operation Work Plan and confirmed that subject to the agreed amendment to priority 1.5.1 regarding Statutory Liaison this could now be circulated to interested parties for comment. [16/06/12.5]***

12.6 Andy Garrick advised that any submissions received on the draft would be circulated to Council prior to the August meeting when final approval of the OWP would be required.

13.0 2016-2017 LICENCE FEES

13.1 Council reviewed the NZ Council recommended licence fees for the 2016-17 year and confirmed its support including the proposed increase to the Game Bird Habitat Stamp from \$2 to \$3 on all Game bird hunting licences. Andy Garrick advised that the recommendation within the agenda item should read \$93 AWS Game inclusive of the \$3 Game Bird Habitat Stamp. Lindsay Lyons added that the additional \$1 gained from the Habitat Stamp increase would be directed to predator control.

13.2 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/David Woolner) that Council supports the proposed licence fee for the 2016-2017 season of \$125 (AWS Fish) and \$93 (AWS Game, inclusive of the \$3 Game Bird Habitat Stamp. [16/06/13.2]*

14.0 HUNTING AND HARVEST ETHICS

14.1 Council discussed whether Fish and Game should have a national policy on hunting and harvest ethics and what the implication of this might be. There was general acceptance of this but it was noted that care should be taken in using the term "ethics" as what some groups consider to be ethical may not be the case for others.

14.2 *Agreed (Alan Baird/David Woolner) that Council supports the introduction of a national policy on hunter and harvest ethics, but consideration should be given to what it is called, suggesting that a "Code of Conduct" may be more appropriate. [16/06/14.2]*

15.0 NZ GAME BIRD HABITAT TRUST

15.1 Cr Murray Ferris called for interest from Council for nominations to the Game Bird Habitat Trust. Cr Steve Scragg expressed his interest in standing and commented that he believed he could add value to the work of the Trust.

15.2 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Laurance Tamati) that Council supports the nomination of Cr Steve Scragg to the Game Bird Habitat Trust and requests that this be forwarded to the New Zealand Council for inclusion in the NZC agenda for its July meeting. [16/06/15.2]*

16.0 SPECIES MONITORING REPORT

Council briefly discussed the 2016 Game Bird Trend Count report detailing aerial counts of paradise shelduck and black swan in the Eastern and Hawke's Bay Fish and Game regions.

16.1 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Ken Coombes) that Council receives the 2016 Trend Count Report. [16/06/16.1]*

17.0 LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS

17.1 Tongariro-Taupo Conservation Board

Departing member of the Board, Colin Paton, congratulated Annaka Davis on her success in being voted on to the Tongariro-Taupo Conservation Board and advised that he would be more than happy to assist Annaka as required. Colin had been a member of the Board for seven years, and had attended 42 meetings over that time. He noted said that many of the issues dealt with by the Board were of little relevance to Fish & Game, the most recent being concerned with the Tongariro crossing and

Ruapehu Alpine lifts. Colin acknowledged the good working relationship that the Board maintained with iwi saying that everyone seemed to be working towards a common goal.

17.2 Bay of Plenty Conservation Board

Ken Raureti spoke on behalf of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board and provided an update on current work, issues, and visions of the Board including;

- Tarawera trail at capacity and future plans to extend the walkway;
- Hakarimata track, Waikato's outdoor gym;
- healthy nature, healthy people;
- sustainability of foot prints, what is being left behind?
- concessions for more guiding and fishing services, demand on resources growing.

Ken also spoke of issues relating to growing numbers of Canada geese and queried whether Fish & Game could return to counting Canada geese as part of its annual trend counting programme. Cr Murray Ferris advised that monitoring of Canada geese was no longer undertaken following its removal from the game bird schedule. Ken requested that Council review what additional effort might be involved as there is a need within the wider community to understand the status of these populations. Ken noted he was keen to see greater interagency co-ordination and partnerships. Ray Bushell suggested the Conservation Board should address any issues it might have relating to Canada geese to Federated Farmers.

17.3 East Coast/Hawke's Bay Conservation Board

Not represented and no report received.

17.4 Department of Conservation, Central and Lower North Island Regions

Michel Dedual spoke on behalf of the Department of Conservation covering;

- DOC's move to an Anglers Notice system and how this might work;
- the termination of the carp farming proposal;
- still awaiting rainbow runs but browns doing well;
- fewer but better condition fish have been running through the Lake Otamangakau trap which has been in operation for 18 years now;
- smelt monitoring was completed in April, initial result showing good season for smelt and trout;
- increased licence sales 2nd year running, spin off from increased tourism;
- there is to be no increase in licence fees this year;
- completion of an economic analysis of licence sales.

Cr Barry Roderick queried Michael on his views of the catfish situation in Lake Rotoiti. Michel felt that if these had arrived in 2005 and were still contained within Te Weta Bay then it was quite likely that the impact to date would have been minimal.

17.5 Report from the New Zealand Council

Lindsay Lyons referred to his reports contained within the Papers for Information and spoke briefly of his meeting with the Minister of Conservation, Maggie Barry. Lindsay was very happy with how the New Zealand Council was performing in terms of getting through its agendas and addressing issues. Lindsay made a special point of requesting that councillors don't divulge sensitive information contained in his reports, particularly reports labelled as confidential such as that relating to his meeting with the Minister, as this is privileged information.

18.0 MANAGEMENT REPORT

18.1 Andy Garrick introduced the new Health and Safety Report which would from now on be included on the agenda of each meeting of Council. He said that this was a more detailed report than that which had previously been provided, and would ensure that Council remained fully informed and had the opportunity to raise questions and discuss topical issues.

18.2 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/David Woolner) that Council receives the Health and Safety Report. [16/06/18.2]*

18.3 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Sandy Bull) that Council receives the Management Report, Finance and Licence Sales reports, and approves payments for March and April 2016 totalling \$239,031.21. [16/06/18.3]*

19.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

19.1 Cr Barry Roderick queried staff feeling over hunter harvest this game bird season. Andy Garrick noted that some parts of the region such as the coastal Bay of Plenty and Gisborne area appeared to have performed well whereas others had not. Eben Herbert advised that we didn't yet have any substantive data to draw conclusions on the season overall but noted that weather hadn't helped in many areas. Ray Bushell commented that opening was good for him but following that the weather hadn't helped. Ray thought there were still plenty of ducks around in the coastal Bay of Plenty and he had even seen some nesting. Andy Garrick asked Alan Baird for his comments on the Waikite/Broadlands area as he had observed low numbers generally over opening weekend and this had been backed up by reports received from hunters. Alan considered that there were plenty of birds on the farms he had been on, but he had put less effort into hunting this year.

19.2 Cr Sandy Bull congratulated the staff team on the apprehension and conviction of offenders at Coals Creek, and commented on the usefulness of surveillance cameras in operations such as these.

19.3 Cr Barry Roderick requested an update on the Tarawera fishery. Matt Osborne noted there appeared to have been good growth over the last few months with good smelt numbers in the lake. He said that fish through the trap were slightly shorter than last year but were heavier, and noted that the trap run was 150 up on last season's run at year to date. Matt commented on a 4 kg fish through the trap the previous day and that a good number of 3 kg fish were also being recorded.

19.4 Andy Garrick referred to a letter included within the Papers for Information by an anonymous author concerning a whole variety of issues. He considered anonymous letters of this nature to be a wasted effort on the part of the writer as it precluded any opportunity to seek greater detail or respond to the issues raised. Andy hoped that recording this in Council's minutes might persuade people to put their name and contact details to complaints or issues they might have in future. Council agreed that letters such as are a waste of everyone's time.

20.0 MEETING CLOSED

20.1 The meeting was closed at 2.57pm.

.....
Murray Ferris,
Chairman

.....
Date

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

- 2.0 APOLOGIES
- 2.2 *Agreed (Laurance Tamati/Lindsay Lyons) that the apologies for the 158th meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [16/06/2.2]*
- 3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (7 APRIL 2016)
- 3.1 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Sandy Bull) that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 April 2016 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [16/06/3.1]*
- 5.0 MATTERS ARISING
- 5.3 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Laurance Tamati) that the allowable duration of Council's standard meeting time of three hours be extendable by up to an hour when there is a need to so. [16/06/5.3]*
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- 8.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY
- 8.4 *(Agreed Laurance Tamati/Lindsay Lyons) that Council adopts the draft Health and Safety Policy subject to the addition of a provision for volunteer officers. [16/06/8.4]*
- 9.0 REGIONAL GOVERNANCE POLICIES
- 9.3 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that Council adopts the Regional Governance Policies subject to a suitable amendment to Section 2.6.b relating to the evaluation of individual Councillors being drafted and agreed to. [16/06/9.3]*
- 10.0 2016-2017 ANGLER'S NOTICE REVIEW (SECOND SCHEDULE)
- 10.5 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Ken Coombes) that Council does not support the submission to prohibit lead sinkers and lead downrigger weights used during trout fishing within the Eastern Region and that the status quo shall apply. [16/06/10.5]*
- 10.7 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Annaka Davis) that Council supports a change to regulations to alter the area of the Lake Okataina winter shoreline fishing area to include the western rocky point (600m west of boat ramp). [16/06/10.7]*
- 10.9 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Neal Hawes) that Council does not support the submission to prohibit the use of motorized craft while fishing upstream of the Hopuruahine Stream mouth, (Lake Waikaremoana), and that the status quo shall apply. [16/06/10.9]*
- 10.10 *Agreed (Sandy Bull/Steve Scragg) that Council does not support the submission to move the Hopuruahine landmark pole 200m downstream from its current position to remove ambiguity between spin/fly demarcation, and that the status quo shall apply. [16/06/10.10]*
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- 10.17 *Agreed (Laurance Tamati/Lindsay Lyons) that Council supports the submission to reclassify the Awahou Stream, Lake Rotorua as closed waters. [16/06/10.17]*
- 10.19 *Agreed (Neal Hawes/Laurance Tamati) that Council defers consideration of the submissions presented since the development of the 2016-2017 Issues and Options papers until the next biennial anglers notice review in 2018. [16/06/10.19]*
- 10.21 *Agreed (Annaka Davis/Sandy Bull) that with the exception of the recommended changes to the Okataina winter shoreline area and closure of the Awahou Stream, all other current Anglers Notice regulations remain unchanged for the 2016-17 Season. [16/06/10.21]*

- 11.0 PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FIRST SCHEDULE OF THE ANGLERS NOTICE**
11.2 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Neal Hawes) that Council receives the proposed changes to the First Schedule of the Anglers Notice and that further consideration will be given to this following a review and recommendations from staff. [16/06/11.2]*
- 12.0 DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2016-2017 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN**
12.5 *Agreed (David Woolner/Ken Coombes) that Council had reviewed the Draft 2016-2017 Operation Work Plan and confirmed that subject to the agreed amendment to priority 1.5.1 regarding Statutory Liaison this could now be circulated to interested parties for comment. [16/06/12.5]*
- 13.0 2016-2017 LICENCE FEES**
13.2 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/David Woolner) that Council supports the proposed licence fee for the 2016-2017 season of \$125 (AWS Fish) and \$93 (AWS Game, inclusive of the \$3 Game Bird Habitat Stamp. [16/06/13.2]*
- 14.0 HUNTING AND HARVEST ETHICS**
14.2 *Agreed (Alan Baird/David Woolner) that Council supports the introduction of a national policy on hunter and harvest ethics, but consideration should be given to what it is called, suggesting that a "Code of Conduct" may be more appropriate. [16/06/14.2]*
- 15.0 NZ GAME BIRD HABITAT TRUST**
15.2 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Laurance Tamati) that Council supports the nomination of Cr Steve Scragg to the Game Bird Habitat Trust and requests that this be forwarded to the New Zealand Council for inclusion in the NZC agenda for its July meeting. [16/06/15.2]*
- 16.0 SPECIES MONITORING REPORT**
16.1 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Ken Coombes) that Council receives the 2016 Trend Count Report. [16/06/16.1]*
- 18.0 MANAGEMENT REPORT**
18.2 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/David Woolner) that Council receives the Health and Safety Report. [16/06/18.2]*
18.3 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Sandy Bull) that Council receives the Management Report, Finance and Licence Sales reports, and approves payments for March and April 2016 totalling \$239,031.21. [16/06/18.3]*

7. CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

Ref: 7.02.01

26 July 2016

1. Purpose

A standing agenda item to disclose any Councillor Conflict of Interest or potential Conflict of Interest, and record this in the Councillor Conflict of Interest Register

2. Background

The Eastern Fish and Game Council has developed a policy to deal with Conflict of Interest and must provide a standing agenda item to allow Councillors to disclose any Conflict or highlight any potential conflict. The "Interest Register" ring binder will be circulated in the first part of each meeting for Councillors to record any interests. The Council should then discuss how it wants to deal with any interest or perceived interest identified.

For Crown entities the definition of 'interested' is;

4. *Board members [Councillors] of Crown Entities should be aware of the very wide scope of what 'interested' means under the Crown Entities Act. A person is interested in a matter if he or she:*
 - *May derive a financial benefit from the matter;*
 - *Is the spouse, defacto partner (whether of the same or different sex), child or parent of a person who may derive a financial benefit from the matter;*
 - *May have a financial interest in a person to whom the matter relates;*
 - *Is a partner, director, officer, board member, or trustee of a person who may have a financial interest in a person to whom the matter relates;*
 - *May be interested in the matter because the entity's Act so provides; or*
 - *Is otherwise directly or indirectly interested in the matter.*

And any Conflict of Interest can be dealt with as follows:

- 6.6 *Members agree that the Council may, where appropriate, decide that a Council Member who has declared an interest in matters to be discussed by the Council*
 - [1] should leave the meeting room for the duration of discussion on such matters or;*
 - [2] remain in the room and contribute to the discussion and be allowed to vote or;*
 - [3] remain in the room and contribute to the discussion but not be allowed to vote.*

Councillors should take this opportunity to disclose any Conflict of Interest and record it in the circulated Interest Register. If during the course of the meeting a conflict or perceived conflict is recognised, this can be disclosed at the time.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 *That Councillors disclose any Conflict or potential Conflict of Interest, record it in the Interest Register and the Council agree on how to deal with any Conflict of Interest raised.*

8. GOVERNANCE ISSUES

Ref: 7.02.01

27 July 2016

1. Purpose

To highlight obligations and expectations of (i) Councillors in relation to disclosure of information and recording or transmitting of proceedings of meetings, (ii) Council decision making which has, or could have cross-regional boundary implications, and (iii) to consider a proposed amendment to the Eastern Region Governance Policies presented to Council at its last meeting.

2. Background

1. Privileged information provided in strict confidence and declared as such to members of two regional Fish and Game Councils in June was leaked to an outside party(ies) within hours of Eastern Fish & Game concluding its meeting. This information was in turn circulated more widely by external parties and used for political purposes.
2. A paper prepared by Andrew Morris, a NZ Councillor, concerning decisions taken by a Fish and Game Council that could potentially impinge on other Councils, was presented to a meeting of the NZ Council in March 2016. The Chairman of the NZ Council subsequently wrote to all regional councils requesting they consider this paper, and encouraged councils to consult before finalising positions on matters that may influence options for other councils. The paper by Andrew Morris is appended to this agenda item.
3. At its last meeting Council reviewed the draft governance policies prepared for the Eastern Region and passed the following resolution:

“Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that Council adopts the Regional Governance Policies subject to a suitable amendment to Section 2.6.b relating to the evaluation of individual Councillors being drafted and agreed to. [16/06/9.3]”.

Section 2.6 reads:

2.6 EVALUATION OF THE COUNCIL

- a. The Council will, each year, appraise its own performance, and its own processes and procedures to ensure that they are not unduly complex and are designed to assist the Council in effectively fulfilling its role.
- b. Each year, individual Members and the chairperson will be evaluated by a process whereby the Council determines questions to be asked about him or herself and about each other including the Chairperson, each Member answers the questions, and the responses are collected and collated by the Chairperson who then discusses the results with each Member.
- c. The Manager will be invited to evaluate the Council as a whole annually against mutually agreed criteria.

Crs Murray Ferris and Barry Roderick queried the need for Section 2.6.b relating to individual Councillor evaluation. Council discussed this and agreed that this process unfairly discriminated against new Councillors in particular, acknowledging the time

required to become familiar with the role and comfortable in their knowledge of both fish and game bird management matters. Whilst they agreed to this section remaining within the policy they agreed that this would only be implemented as and when required. On this basis Council requested that the Regional Manager review this section and provide updated wording for consideration at Council's next meeting.

3. Discussion

1. The recently updated governance policies adopted by Council in June set out a Code of Conduct for Council members which includes a section on media and public comment. Aside from this Councillors are bound by provisions set out in Section 57 of the Crown Entities Act 2004 which state under the heading "Duty not to disclose information", that "a member of a statutory entity who has information in his or her capacity as a member that would not otherwise be available to him or her must not disclose that information to any person, or make use of, or act on, that information (unless authorised to by the Council)."

An additional restriction that Councillors should be aware of which is incorporated in the Standing Orders recently revised and updated by the NZ Council under Section 2.5 "Use of Recording Devices", is subsection 2.5.1 which states "No member may use, or be associated with the use of, a recording or transmitting device without the knowledge of the meeting and the consent of the chairperson".

2. Andrew Morris' paper is useful for heightening awareness of issues that could be generated from a lack of consultation or consideration given to 'precedent' setting decisions being made by a region. This concern has previously been considered by Fish & Game and is identified in Section 2.1.3.2, Chapter 8 of Fish & Game NZ's draft December 2009 policy manual which states:

Council Decisions with Significant Cross-boundary Implications

Council decisions (either New Zealand Council or Regions) relating to internal operations need not be subject to consultation requirements except where they significantly affect other Councils. Council decisions which do require consultation at either a national or regional level are ones which:

- have significant cross boundary effects (eg: management of a common fish or game population occurring in more than one region)
- could significantly affect resourcing (eg: canvassing for licence sales outside a designated Region)
- set precedents which could be applied to other Councils (eg: agreeing to a changed tax status).
- bind other Councils.

The Decision to Consult

Each Council (or Manager) needs to trigger consultation with affected parties having made a value judgement on how significant the issue is to other interested parties. This decision whether or not to consult is critical and should be guided by criteria including asking the following questions:

- Is there a policy or position guiding the issue on which a decision is sought? (If not then consult)
- Will the proposed response to the issue change a policy or position? (If so then consult)

- Are there significant cross boundary effects relating to the issue? (If so then consult).
3. The following wording is proposed to address Council's concerns relating to Section 2.6.b of the Eastern Region Governance Policies:

2.6b Each year, ***if the Council agrees it is appropriate or necessary***, individual Members and the chairperson will be evaluated by a process whereby ***(i)*** the Council determines questions to be asked about him or herself and about each other including the Chairperson, ***(ii)*** each Member answers the questions, and ***(iii)*** the responses are collected and collated by the Chairperson who then discusses the results, ***in confidence***, with each Member.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 That Council and Councillors recognise the obligations and expectations placed on them in relation to disclosure of information, recording and transmitting of Council proceedings, and consultation with other Fish & Game regions.***
- 4.2 That Council approves the proposed changes to the wording of Section 2.6.b of the Eastern Region Governance Policies or alternative wording presented at this meeting.***

Appendix 1:

DECISIONS TAKEN POTENTIALLY IMPINGING ON OTHER COUNCILS

NZ Council Meeting March 2016

Prepared by: Andrew Morris, NZ Councillor

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to raise discussion on action taken by one council having the potential to impinge on another by setting a precedent that may preclude any alternative action. Thereby removing the individual autonomy that would otherwise allow each Council to form its own conclusions
2. This situation is most likely to occur from business interests wanting to further the activity in another Fish and Game region. It has a workable outcome after consultation with the initial Fish and Game Council and an expectation that this will apply elsewhere.
3. Examples where this has happened in the past and had the potential to impede an opposing view elsewhere include:
 - a. The stance taken by Auckland/Waikato not to allow upland game preserves to operate in its region.
 - b. Introducing a hen pheasant bag limit in the Eastern region where hens were not permitted elsewhere
 - c. Determining silver carp were of little or no concern to Fish and Game in the Auckland/Waikato and Eastern regions.
4. In all of these examples, the right of the respective Fish and Game Councils to come to this conclusion and make these decisions is not in question. The potential issue is in arriving at this position it limits or even prevents other Councils maintaining opposing positions.
5. For example, another Council less certain about the science behind silver carp may have wanted to take the precautionary position of opposing it, certainly if a like application were to be made in its own region. However, now one council has taken the “not opposed” stance it makes it commercially difficult to introduce reasons opposing them.
6. The conclusion is a need for a process or set of procedures to be followed that encourages inter-council consultation and allows for a shared view to influence the outcome. This is no different to forming national policy where the NZ Council prepares its policy and consults with regions before finalising and adopting that policy.

Recommendation

That individual Fish and Game Councils are encouraged to consult before finalising their position on matters that will influence commercial behaviour.

9. STANDING ORDERS

Ref: 7.02.01

27 July 2016

1. Purpose

To review and adopt the Standing Orders recently revised and updated by the NZ Council.

2. Background

The following notes have been adapted from a memo Robert Sowman prepared for the NZ Council meeting in July 2016:

1. "Standing Orders" are a set of rules of debate that apply to all meetings of Fish and Game Councils and committees. They set out the agreed principles of behaviour within meetings, and ensure the Councils meet the legal requirements of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.
2. The NZ Council revised the December 2015 edition of the Standing Orders at its March 2016 meeting. The revised changes agreed to at that meeting are included in the draft copy which has been adapted for regional Fish & Game councils' use and supplied with the other papers circulated prior to and for this August 2016 meeting of the Eastern Fish and Game Council.
3. One change remains outstanding and yet to be agreed on by the NZ Council, and that is what is to be included under Conflict of Interest. The decision recorded in March was to replace the section on Conflicts of Interest (1.13, page 12) with that contained in the Governance Policy. However, it has been suggested the Governance Policy wording is both overlong and too wide in coverage to be appropriate for prescribing rules of conduct in a meeting. Alternatives including those appended to this agenda item are still being debated.
4. The Conservation Act, under the heading Functions of the Minister [to do with Fish and Game Councils] specifies:

26A Functions of Minister

(1) The functions of the Minister in relation to the conservation and management of sports fish and game shall be—

(d) to establish, by notice in the Gazette, rules for the conduct of the meetings of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council, and model rules for the conduct of Fish and Game Council meetings; and any such rules may in like manner be amended or revoked:

5. No record can be found of any such notice being Gazetted, or any signed orders by previous NZ Council Chairs. Certainly, since 2005, there has been no attempt to discuss or approve standing orders at a NZ Council meeting. Adoption by the NZ Council requires the Council to have read, understood and agreed with the content of the orders.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 That Council reviews and adopts the revised Standing Orders with the exception of the Conflict of Interest rules which are still the subject of discussion nationally and have yet to be approved by the NZ Council.**

Appendix 1: Governance Policy Wording on Conflict of Interest (page 15)

2.7 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- a. For the purposes of this policy, “**Matter**” means:
 - a.1 The Council's performance of its functions or exercise of its powers as set out in Part 5A of the Conservation Act 1987, subject to the Council's statutory purpose set out in section 26B(1) of the Conservation Act; or
 - a.2 An arrangement, agreement, or contract made or entered into, or proposed to be entered into, by the Council.
- b. For the purposes of these Governance Policies, a Conflict of Interest arises in respect of a Matter when the Member can be shown to have actual bias or apparent bias.
- c. A Member can be shown to have actual bias when a Member's decision or act in relation to a Matter could give rise to an expectation of financial gain or loss (that is more than trivial) to the Member (and/or to the Member's parent(s), child(ren), spouse, civil union partner, de facto partner, business partner(s), debtor(s) or creditor(s)).
- d. A Member can be shown to have apparent bias when a Member's official duties or responsibilities to the Council in relation to a Matter could reasonably be said to be affected by some other interest or duty that the Member has.
- e. A Member's “interest or duty” includes the interests of that Member's parent(s), child(ren), spouse, civil union partner or de facto partner that may be affected by the matter at issue. It also includes the interests of a person with whom the Member has a close, personal relationship where there is a real danger of personal favouritism.
- f. There is no Conflict of Interest where the Member's other interest or duty is so remote or insignificant that it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to influence him or her in carrying out his or her responsibility.

2.8 POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- a. For the purposes of these Governance Policies, a Potential Conflict of Interest arises when:
 - a.1 There is a realistic connection between the Member's private interest(s) and the interest(s) of the Council;
 - a.2 The Member's other interest could specifically affect, or be affected by, the actions of the Council in relation to a Matter;
 - a.3 A fair-minded lay observer might reasonably consider that the Member's private interest or duty may influence or motivate the actions of the Member in relation to a Matter; and
 - a.4 There is a risk that the situation could undermine public trust and confidence in the Member or the Council.

2.9 DISCLOSURE

- a. A Member with a Conflict of Interest or a Potential Conflict of Interest must identify the conflict and disclose it to the Council in a timely and effective manner. The Member must disclose:
 - a.1 The nature of the interest and the monetary value of the interest (if the monetary value can be quantified); and/or
 - a.2 The nature and extent of the interest (if a monetary value cannot be quantified).

- b. If a Member is uncertain of whether there is any Conflict of Interest or Potential Conflict of Interest, the Member should disclose it to the Council as a Potential Conflict of Interest for consideration by the Council.
- c. The disclosure of any conflict must be recorded in the minutes and entered in a separate interests register.

2.10 DEALING WITH THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- a. When a Conflict of Interest arises in respect of a Matter, the affected Member:
 - a.1 Will be excluded from discussions regarding the Matter (including not being in the same room when the Matter is discussed);
 - a.2 Will not vote on issues related to the Matter;
 - a.3 Will not receive papers or any other information on the Matter; and
 - a.4 Will not discuss the Matter with other Members.

2.11 DEALING WITH A POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- a. Where there is a Potential Conflict of Interest, the Council (excluding the affected Member) will determine an appropriate course of action, which may include the following:
 - a.1 Applying some or all of the Actions applied to a Member with a Conflict of Interest (set out at 2.10);
 - a.2 Sending a written explanation to stakeholders, members and licence holders outlining why there is no legal conflict of interest; and/or
 - a.3 Monitoring the Matter to determine whether at any point the Matter changes such that there is a Conflict of Interest.
- b. In determining the appropriate course of action, the Council will have regard to:
 - b.1 The type or size of the Member's other interest;
 - b.2 The nature or significance of the relevant Matter; and
 - b.3 The extent to which the situation could undermine public trust and confidence in the Member or the Council.
- c. The Member will be given the opportunity to be heard by the Council on the points in 2.11.a and 2.11.b and the Member's submissions will be taken into consideration by the Council.

Appendix 2: Earlier Wording of Standing Orders on Conflict of Interest

1.13 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Financial interests

- 1.13.1 Every member present at a meeting must declare any direct or indirect financial interest that they hold in any matter being discussed at the meeting, other than an interest that they hold in common with the public.
- 1.13.2 No member may vote on, or take part in a discussion about, any matter in which they have a direct or indirect financial interest. Where practical, members with a financial interest should leave the meeting for the duration of the discussion.
- 1.13.3 The minutes must record any declarations of financial interests, and the member's abstention from the discussions and voting on the matter.

Non-financial interests

- 1.13.4 Where a member declares a non-financial interest in any matter, the member may decide whether that matter constitutes a conflict. If the member considers that there is a conflict, they may not take part in the discussions about or vote on that matter.
- 1.13.5 The member must leave the table when the matter is considered, but does not need to leave the room.
- 1.13.6 The minutes must record the declaration and member's subsequent abstention from discussion and voting.

10. THE 2016-2017 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN

Ref: 8.02.01

27 July 2016

1. Purpose

To approve the Operational Work Plan prepared for the 2016-2017 year after taking into account any submissions received on the draft plan approved for circulation at Council's June meeting.

2. Background

During the February and April Council meetings Council identified and confirmed the priority work areas that it wants to focus on in the next operational year. At its June meeting, Council reviewed the draft OWP and budget which was prepared with Council's priorities in mind, and agreed the only amendment it required was the inclusion of a commitment to work towards the development of a more formal relationship with Te Arawa. This has been incorporated (see appendix to this agenda item) along with a number of minor corrections and updates, and the draft circulated to other interested parties for their comment.

At this meeting it is necessary for Council to confirm its Operational Work Plan for the 2016-2017 year.

3. Submissions received on the Draft OWP

Copies of the Draft OWP with minor changes incorporated were sent to 14 clubs and stakeholders after the meeting with a request that any comments be submitted by 22 July. As of 29 July, no submissions on the Draft OWP had been received. Any submissions that might yet be received will be tabled, and can be discussed at the August meeting.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 *That Council approves the Operational Work Plan and budget for the 2016-2017 year subject to the inclusion of any amendments agreed to at this meeting, and***
- 4.2 *That Council delegate authority to the Regional Manager to approve expenditure during the year as set out in the Council approved Operational Work Plan and budget.***

Appendix 1: Revised Table ex page 7 of Draft OWP for 2016-2017

1.5.1 Regional support for the New Zealand Council aspirational outcomes

<i>Project Area</i>	<i>Specific Project activity and targets</i>
Public Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Contribute to the national public awareness network and support national public awareness events. •Manage our website and use social media to increase awareness of Fish & Game activities. •Distribute 40 media releases and support the NZ Council North Island PA Advisor. •Engage and communicate with the rural community and landowners. Promote Fish & Game at appropriate events and in the rural media. •Conduct 12 presentations to schools/outside organisations and use the Ngongotaha hatchery and grounds to promote Fish & Game to the wider public.
Statutory Liaison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Regional Manager to periodically meet with senior local and regional authority managers, senior DOC staff, Conservation Boards, and MPs where appropriate. •Ongoing meetings with Te Urewera iwi entities towards the development of a MOU with Eastern Region Fish & Game. •Develop a closer/more formal working relationship with Te Arawa iwi. •Regional Manager to attend meetings of the Taupo Fisheries Advisory Committee as the NZ Fish & Game Council representative.
Habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Contribute to the improvement of water quality in the Rotorua lakes via Regional Council planning and collaborative processes. •Utilise river investigation projects to advocate for improved water quality in key regional rivers. •Review and support/oppose plans and consents that impact significantly upon sports fish/game bird habitat values, or angler and hunter access. •Maintain inventory of wetlands, assess their vulnerability and identify wetlands deficient areas and opportunities for enhancement through stakeholder collaborative processes.
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Advocate for improved access and submit to the Walking Access Commission on key issues, and ensure provision for public access is made in relevant Treaty of Waitangi settlements.

1.6 Structure of the Operational Work Plan

This OWP is based on the eight output categories and one input which have been adopted nationally as the basis for development of regional work programmes. Within each output category, individual projects are grouped together within project clusters that address key functions.

Reporting

Completion dates for projects and associated reporting dates are noted for each project where possible. It is not feasible or practical to provide specific, measurable targets for all activities, and this is particularly true of some of the internal tasks that are required to keep the

11. LAND OCCUPIER LICENCE TO FISH OR HUNT

Ref: 6.01.02, 6.01.03

27 July 2016

1. Purpose

To discuss the concept of issuing a free fish and game licence to land occupiers for fishing or hunting on their own property.

2. Background

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council at its meeting of 22-23 July 2016 considered a paper that Glenn Maclean and Robert Sowman had originally prepared for discussion at a meeting of managers (see appendix to this agenda item), and resolved (Kevin Williams/Andy Harris):

“That the NZ Council consult with regions on a proposed free fish and game licence for land occupiers when fishing or hunting on their own property”, and

“That regional Fish and Game Councils be asked to respond to this proposal by 14 November for consideration by the NZ Council at its 25-27 November 2016 meeting”.

The NZ Council also requested that the relevant wording of the legislation be included, noting that it uses wording “without a licence” meaning that another word than a “free licence” may need to be applied.

Conservation Act 1986

26ZO Occupier may fish without licence

(1) Subject to this Act, any person who is the lawful occupier of any land may fish on such land or waters within such land without a licence or payment of fee, within the period and upon such terms and conditions, as may be specified in any notice issued pursuant to [section 26ZL](#), or in any Anglers Notice applying, or in any regulations made under [section 48](#) or [section 48A](#), without being liable to any penalty for so doing.

(2) For the purposes of this section, the term *lawful occupier* includes the owner of the land and any person who has the right to occupy the land pursuant to a written agreement for a period of not less than 6 months; but does not include the manager of a marginal strip.

(3) Every person who claims to be the lawful occupier of any land pursuant to an agreement referred to in subsection (2) shall produce the agreement on demand by a warranted officer or fish and game ranger or at any office of the Department or Fish and Game Council within 7 days of a demand by a warranted officer or fish and game ranger.

Wildlife Act 1953

19 Licence to hunt or kill game

(1) Except as provided in subsection (3), every person who hunts or kills game of any species during an open season in any area, unless that person is the holder of a licence under this Act to hunt or kill game of that species available in that area during that season, commits an offence against this Act and is liable on conviction to the penalty set out in [section 67E\(3\)](#).

(2) [Repealed]

(3) Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this section, the occupier of any land, and the wife, husband, civil union partner, or de facto partner and any one son or daughter of the occupier, may, during an open season, hunt or kill on that land without a licence (but subject to all other restrictions imposed by or under this Act) any game that may lawfully be hunted or killed under a licence in the district within the boundaries of which that land is situated.

(4) In subsection (3) the term *occupier*, in relation to any land, means—

(a) the person whose permanent and principal or only place of residence is on the land, if he resides on the land by virtue of the fact that he is—

- (i) the owner of the fee simple of the land; or
- (ii) the owner of a lease or licence of the land and the owner of the fee simple does not himself personally reside on the land; or
- (iii) the manager of a farming business carried on on the land by such an owner who does not himself personally reside on the land; or
- (iv) the sharemilker under a sharemilking agreement entered into with such an owner who does not himself personally reside on the land;

(b) where there are several such persons, such one of them as is, by notice in writing signed by all of them and delivered to the Fish and Game Council for the area concerned, appointed to be the occupier for the purposes of that subsection. Every such appointment shall continue in force during the whole of the open season in respect of which it is made and shall lapse at the end of that season.

(4A) In subsection (3) the term *occupier*, in relation to any land, does not include a person appointed under the [Conservation Act 1987](#) to be the manager of a marginal strip.

3. Recommendation

3.1 That Council reviews the proposal for a free fish and game licence for land occupiers for fishing or hunting on their own property and provides comment for staff to forward to the NZ Council before 14 November 2016.

Appendix 1: LAND OCCUPIER LICENCE TO FISH OR HUNT

Presented to: New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting, July 2016

Prepared by: Based on a paper to regional managers prepared by Glenn Mclean and Robert Sowman

Introduction

1. Under the Conservation Act 1987 the 'lawful occupier' which includes the owner and any person who has the right to occupy the land may fish on that land without a fishing licence. Similarly under the Wildlife Act 1953 the occupier and their spouse and one son or daughter may hunt on that land without the need to hold a gamebird hunting licence. These long time provisions recognise and reward that the landowner may make a valuable contribution to the protection of gamebird and aquatic habitats.

Issue

2. By not having to hold a licence unless they also fish or hunt off their property, then Fish & Game has no record of these users. This is likely to represent an unknown but significant number of hunters and, to a lesser extent anglers, who by definition are also landowners or occupiers. Therefore we have no direct way of contacting this key group of users.
3. There are a number of implications and lost opportunities for Fish & Game and also for the landowners that arise from this;
 - a. Any estimate of use based on licence sales may significantly under represent the actual importance of fishing and hunting in the region
 - b. Estimates of use (NAS) or harvest (gamebird survey) are immediately flawed because not all users can be potentially surveyed
 - c. It is difficult to pass on information regarding;
 - i. regulation changes
 - ii. that assists or enhances the user's experience and enjoyment
 - iii. that helps with managing the impacts of gamebird aggregations
 - iv. managing and creating habitat, controlling pests and improving hunting prospects including funding opportunities
 - d. Fish & Game lacks a profile and identity within part of the rural community which limits further contact and interaction (it is anticipated that there is a whole group of sports fish and game users who apart from being aware that Fish & Game exist have no idea of what it does, its role or how it can help or work with them). This hinders Fish & Game's creation of a sense of community.
 - e. Assists with undertaking compliance activities on private land, in particular where to focus resources.
4. These disadvantages are not new, and in 2002 Fish & Game explored a requirement for landowners who hunt or fish to hold a licence (at no cost) with the Minister of Conservation. However no progress was made at that time.
5. It is understood an argument has been made in the past by Federated Farmers that such a requirement would 'represent the thin edge of the wedge'. Recent discussion with the current

Minister of Conservation suggested no support likely for charging land occupiers for such a licence. Both indicate a difficult setting in which to get the proposal accepted and operative.

Wider merit

6. However it is suggested the key is how Fish & Game “sells” the requirement and that the reason for it, is as much to assist the rural community as it is for Fish & Game. That said, some regions already require land owners hold a permit anyway to take part in local Special Seasons to disperse paradise duck.
7. Other benefits from an occupier’s perspective would be free advice from Fish & Game on set-backs, wetland development, referees for Game Bird Habitat Trust grants and making them aware of the rules.
8. One advantage now is that with online licencing it would be straightforward for a landowner to register their interest and obtain a licence so this would not represent any additional burden. There would be a cost to Fish & Game to provide the licence and booklet including postage, however we argue the advantages and benefits of having contact with this group would far outweigh this cost. Fish & Game may well be able to find a sponsor with Farmlands or a similar agri-business company to support such a programme, sponsor research on farm habitat, etc.
9. Another way to attract participation may be to organise a competition with good prizes targeting those who take up a “free occupier licence” and then promote this heavily via rural press and social media.

Recommendation

- 1. That the NZ Council consult with regions on a proposed free fish or game licence for land occupiers when fishing or hunting on their own property.**
- 2. That regional Fish and Game Councils be asked to respond to this proposal by 14 November for consideration by the NZ Council at its 25-27 November 2016 meeting.**

12. BAN ON USE OF LEAD SHOT

Ref: 1.07.03

27 July 2016

1. Purpose

To discuss the Minister of Conservation's letter to the NZ Council concerning the use of lead shot in sub-gauge guns over open water, and Eastern Fish and Game Council's response to the NZ Council.

2. Background

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council at its meeting of 22-23 July 2016 considered a letter from the Minister of Conservation on the use of lead shot near waterways and resolved (Noel Birchall/Colin Sherrard) to consult regional Fish and Game Councils before a decision is made:

“That the letter from the Minister of Conservation be sent to regions noting the Minister's request to bring forward the review of the sub-gauge exemption for the use of lead shot with responses to be received in time for consideration at the November NZ Council meeting”.

The Minister of Conservation's letter is appended below. A response to the NZ Council is required by Friday 11 November to ensure its inclusion in the agenda for the November meeting.

3. Recommendation

3.1 That Council reviews the letter from the Minister of Conservation and discusses what Fish & Game's response should be to the Minister, and what if anything, needs to be undertaken prior to then.



24 MAY 2016

Office of Honourable Maggie Barry ONZM

MP for North Shore
Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage
Minister of Conservation
Minister for Senior Citizens

R09
26 MAY 2016

Lindsay Lyons
Chairman
NZ Fish and Game Council
PO Box 13141
Wellington

Dear Lindsay

When the ban use of lead shot in 10 and 12 gauge shotguns near waterways was put in place in 2005, an exemption was made for sub-gauge shotguns because of concerns that the non-availability or high cost of non-toxic shot for sub-gauge guns might prevent youth and women from participating in recreational waterfowl hunting. It seems that the exemption was intended to be for a short time only.

The Minister for the Environment and I have recently received correspondence (copy enclosed) that suggests recreational hunters may be increasingly using sub-gauge guns for hunting waterfowl in order to circumvent the efforts to minimise the use of lead shot in and around waterways. Can you please provide me with any evidence or survey results that might show me what is happening in regard to changes in the use of lead shot in sub-gauge guns for game bird hunting over the past 10 years?

Can you also please advise why lead shot should not be phased out for all waterfowl hunting in New Zealand, given that many other countries are already doing so. I understand you have been planning to revisit the issue in 2017. I would, however, like you to bring this forward, reassess the phasing out of lead shot in all waterfowl hunting and provide me with your advice on this. If there is evidence that alternatives are available and that the lead shot ban can be extended to sub-gauge shotguns used over water, I would welcome any initiative Fish and Game might take to proceed with this.

Yours sincerely

Honourable Maggie Barry ONZM
Minister of Conservation

Encl

13. PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FIRST SCHEDULE OF THE ANGLERS NOTICE

Ref: 1.07.01

27 July 2016

1. Purpose

To comment on proposed changes to the First Schedule of the Anglers Notice for introduction in 2017-2018.

2. Background

A First Schedule Anglers Notice Working Party was established at a staff conference in August 2015. Its principal function was to review and align South Island angling regulations, remove unnecessary information, and make the regulations easier to understand. The working party met in November 2015 and the results of its deliberations have since become available.

The NZ Council has circulated the South Island working party's draft recommendations to all regional fish and game councils for information (see pages 35-48 of Eastern Fish and Game Council's June agenda) with an invitation to provide feedback on these. It's not possible for any agreed changes to be incorporated into the 2016-17 Anglers Notice, but changes could be introduced into the 2017-2018 Anglers Notice.

A copy of the First Schedule of the Anglers Notice with the Working Party's amendments incorporated is provided as an appendix to this agenda item.

3. Need for Changes to the First Schedule

The sports fishing regulation guide in its current state is complex and hard to follow especially for new licence holders entering the sport. We are aware that the difficulty of interpreting the rules does put some people off purchasing angling licenses and/or fishing in certain areas.

However, freshwater sports fishing rules have largely evolved around 'etiquette' and social considerations, rather than being wholly or primarily concerned with bag limits and how many fish can be caught to ensure sustainability, and many anglers are reluctant to see changes to 'non-biological' regulations such as how fish are caught.

To add to the confusion, there are inconsistencies between Fish and Game regions in terms of both rules and how these are interpreted, more so in the Second Schedules which specify regional fishing conditions, bag limits, closed and open waters, and the like.

Consistency between regions would make a great difference to anglers who fish in more than one region.

Staff have reviewed the proposed changes to the First Schedule and have identified amendments they consider could create confusion, lead to compliance issues, and create difficulties for taking prosecutions within the Eastern Region. Staff have not commented on proposed changes that might impact on the principles and ethics valued by most licence holders within the Eastern Region, but Council may see otherwise and are invited to scrutinize the entire document provided in Appendix 1.

4. Issues identified with the Working Party Recommendations

4.1 Definition of bait

Current definition is “*bait*” means:

- Natural insect.
- Natural spider.
- Natural worm or worms.
- Natural crustacean.
- Natural fish, excluding fish ova, or any portion of a fish, or shellfish (mollusc), except where stated otherwise in the Second Schedule of this notice.
- Uncoloured bread dough.
- Any scented lure, soft bait and other synthetic imitations with chemical attractant properties, fished actively or passively, except where stated otherwise in the second schedule of this notice.

Proposed change

Recommended new definition of *bait*:

- “*bait*” means any natural invertebrate, or synthetic lure, or any fish, excluding sports fish either whole, or in part, or their ova.

Justification

- Simplifies the current list of baits as the working party believes that there are no invertebrates that should not be allowed.
- Includes provision for soft baits/synthetic lures etc.
- Maintains prohibition on use of whole, or parts, or extracts of sports fish.
- Provides for continued use of non-sports fish as bait e.g. bullies, silveries.
- Parts of fish (fish extracts) are currently used in some scented lures and under current definitions these lures should be illegal. The working party believes it has always been counter to sports fishing principles to be able to use real fish as lures for sports fishing. With the advent of so many types of lures with and without attractants and emphasis now on having anglers catch fish rather than how they catch fish, it seems there should be a relaxation in the use of fish as bait. However using sports fish or any part of a sports fish should remain prohibited.
- Definition of synthetic lure added separately to interpretation.

Staff comments

- The working party has provided a more concise definition of what constitutes a bait, but staff believe the proposed changes are too open for interpretation and will make compliance unenforceable. Staff suggest:
 1. Uncoloured bread dough should be included in the list of baits. This is a traditional bait used to fish for sports fish within bait fishing waters.
 2. The definition of synthetic lure (defined elsewhere) of a *lure made by chemical process or with chemical attractant properties* is too broad. A lure with chemical attractant properties should be classed as a '*scented soft bait*'. Scented soft baits should remain listed as baits that can only be used in bait fishing waters. A 'dry' synthetic lure with no chemical attractant properties fished either actively or passively should be considered a synthetic lure replacing the working party's classification.

3. The use of any fish, excluding sports fish either whole or in part, or their ova may create issues. The use of marine derived baits such as bonito and pilchards may not fit into the ethos/traditions of freshwater fishing. Secondly, there are biosecurity concerns around the introduction of freshwater organisms into waters they do not currently exist and through movement of organisms between waterbodies. This is prohibited under the NZ Freshwater Fishing Regulations 1991. In current Schedule 2 regulations, Eastern and Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game have similar regulations stating '*No licence holder when fishing in bait fishing waters shall use any whole fish sourced from any water other than where the fishing is occurring*'.

4.2 Definition of “synthetic lure”

There is currently no definition of “*synthetic lure*” in the regulations.

Proposed change

Recommended definition of “*synthetic lure*”:

- “*synthetic lure*” means any lure made by a chemical process or with chemical attractant properties.

Justification

- Defines synthetic lure as used in the proposed bait definition to cover scented soft baits.

Staff comments

- There must be a clear distinction made between synthetic lures and scented soft baits. Both synthetic lures and scented soft baits are artificial lures using chemical processes. Some flies (used in fly fishing and jigging) such as 'silicon smelt' and 'jelly beans' are also made via chemical processes. Eastern Fish & Game staff regularly get queries from anglers regarding the use of scented soft baits as spin fishing or jig fishing tackle. If a lure exudes a scent, or chemical trail, or is biodegradable, it should only be allowed to be used in bait fishing waters.

4.3 Definition of “spinner”

The current definition is “*spinner*” means any artificial lure other than an artificial fly.

Proposed change

Recommended new definition of “*spinner*”:

- “*spinner*” means any artificial or synthetic lure to which a continuous action is applied.

Justification

- Retains the current definition of spinner/lure but allows for the use of synthetic lures and artificial flies when fished as a spinner. If synthetic lures are used passively they may only be used in waters where bait fishing is permitted.

Staff comments

- The definition of 'spinner' should be defined as '*Any artificial or synthetic lure that is fished with a method other than fly fishing*'.
- There also needs to be a clarification or wording within the regulations that no angler may use any synthetic lure, spinner or fly that is treated with any chemical preparation

other than that used solely for buoyancy or use biodegradable lures except in bait fishing waters.

- The definition of '*spinner*' provided by the South Island Working Party would create compliance issues that are unenforceable. If an angler is 'continuously' retrieving a scented lure (scented soft bait) then they are determined to be spin fishing which is allowed in most waters. If an angler casts and does not retrieve a scented lure (scented soft bait) they are determined to be bait fishing. This gives leeway within the rules for an angler to 'heave and leave' a scented soft bait, until they see someone approach at which time they actively retrieve their '*spinner*'. Note there is no definition provided for what constitutes a 'continuous retrieve'.

4.4 Definition of “spin fishing”

The current definition of “*spin fishing*” means to fish for sports fish with a spinner.

Proposed change

Recommended new definition of “*spin fishing*”:

- “*spin fishing*” means to fish for sports fish with no more than three spinners.

Justification

- Combines new spinner definition and clause 2.3.2.
- The proposed definition of spinner qualifies a synthetic lure as a spinner only if it is actively fished. A synthetic lure that is not actively fished cannot be used in spin fishing waters unless bait is also permitted.

Staff comments

- There should be a clearer definition of 'spin fishing' as with 'fly fishing' and 'bait fishing'. These are the three permitted methods of freshwater sports fishing.
- To set spin fishing apart, the definition should read '*Spin fishing means to fish for sports fish with a rod, reel and running line and no more than three spinners*'.

4.5 Use of one rod and running line

The current definition (Clause 2.1) is “No licence holder shall fish for sports fish except by using a rod and running line and authorized lure”.

Proposed change

Replace current Clause 2.1 with:

- “No licence holder when fishing for sports fish shall use other than one rod and running line with authorized lures (as defined in Clause 7 of this First Schedule) except when fishing for coarse fish in coarse fishing waters”.

Justification

- Incorporates Clause 2.3.1 “No licence holder... shall use more than 1 assembled rod and running line”.

Staff comments

- The proposed alteration to the current rule above is still confusing.
- Some regions interpret the term '*use*' and '*use of*' differently. For example, Auckland/Waikato Region's interpretation is that that no angler may have within their possession more than one assembled fishing rod when angling for sports fish. Eastern Region

however, interprets the rule to mean an angler may have more than one assembled rod in their possession at any one time but may only 'use' one rod at any one time.

- The definition of 'use' under common law is physically making something perform a task or an activity. Therefore a fly rod on the bank with line wound in and fly hooked into a guide or hook keeper can be deemed to be not in use.
- A clear definition that removes this ambiguity between regions would be very useful.

5. Recommendation

5.1 That Council discusses the working party's report and provides recommendations for staff to convey to the NZ Council.

APPENDIX 2: AMENDED ANGLERS NOTICE AS PROPOSED BY SOUTH ISLAND WORKING PARTY¹

ANGLERS' NOTICE FOR FISH AND GAME REGIONS

CONSERVATION ACT 1987 FRESHWATER FISHERIES REGULATIONS 1983

Pursuant to section 26R(3) of the Conservation Act 1987, the Minister of Conservation approves the following Anglers' Notice, subject to the First and Second Schedules of this Notice, for the following Fish and Game Regions:

Northland	Nelson/Marlborough
Auckland/Waikato	North Canterbury
Eastern	West Coast
Taranaki	Central South Island
Hawke's Bay	Otago
Wellington	Southland

NOTICE

This Notice shall come into force on the 1st day of October 2017.

First Schedule Fishing conditions generally common to all Fish and Game Regions.

Second Schedule Regional specific fishing conditions, bag limits, closed and open waters, and the like.

FIRST SCHEDULE

1. INTERPRETATION

Words and expressions in this Notice, which are defined in the Conservation Act 1987, the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 or the Sports Fish Licences, Fees, and Forms Notice 2015, shall be so defined.

“artificial fly” means any lure of feather, fur, wool or other material of any kind customarily used in the making of artificial flies.

“bait” **means any natural invertebrate, or synthetic lure, or any fish, excluding Sports Fish either whole, or in part, or their ova.**

“bait assembly” means either a hook rigged with a number of baits or a single bait rigged with a number of hooks.

“bait fishing” means to fish for sports fish with bait **where that is either a hook rigged with a number of baits or a single bait rigged with a number of hooks, and no more than one such bait assembly may be used.**

¹ Revised wording shown in blue enlarged font.

“boat” means any manned flotation device.

“coarse fish” means perch, tench (all New Zealand) and rudd (Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region only).

“coarse fishing waters” means named locations where anglers can fish for coarse fish:

- (a) with a rod which has either a fixed or running line.
- (b) with no restriction on the type or number of baits in use.
- (c) with no restriction on the use of preparations to attract fish.

“fly fishing” means to fish for sports fish with fly rod and fly reel and fly line and **no more than three artificial flies.**

“fishing” and “fish” in this Notice means:

the catching, taking or harvesting of sports fish; and includes:

- (a) any other activity that may reasonably be expected to result in the catching, taking or harvesting of sports fish.
- (b) any attempt to catch, take or harvest sports fish.
- (c) any operation in support of, or in preparation for, any activity described in this definition.

“foul hook” means to hook a sports fish other than from within the mouth.

“landmark” means a black, yellow and white ringed post or buoy.

“length” is the measurement from the tip of the snout to the fork of the tail.

“lure” means any authorised artificial fly or spinner or bait.

“spinner” means any artificial **or synthetic lure to which a continuous action is applied.**

“spin fishing” means to fish for sports fish with **no more than three spinners.**

“sports fish” means those freshwater fish described in the First Schedule of the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983, namely:

Brown trout.
Rainbow trout.
American brook trout or char.
Lake trout or char.
Atlantic salmon.
Quinnat or chinook salmon.
Sockeye salmon.
Perch.
Tench.
Rudd (Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region only).

Any hybrid of the above species.

“synthetic lure” means any lure made by a chemical process or with chemical attractant properties.

2. AUTHORISED EQUIPMENT

2.1 No licence holder when fishing for sports fish shall:

2.1.1 **Use other than** one rod and running line and authorised lure (as defined in clause 7 of this First Schedule) **except when fishing for coarse fish in coarse fishing waters.**

2.1.2 Be more than 15m from the rod being used.

2.1.3 Use any preparation not attached to a lure to attract fish except when fishing for coarse fish in coarse fishing waters.

2.2 Nets and gaffs:

2.3.1 For keeping coarse fish alive, a keep net may be used in the water from which the fish was caught.

2.3.2 No licence holder shall use a gaff to secure or land a sports fish **except in the Otago Fish and Game Region under clause 4.1 of their Second Schedule.**

2.3 No person shall fish for sports fish by using felt-soled waders or footwear incorporating or having attached a sole of felted, matted or woven fibrous material when sports fishing.

3. FOUL HOOKING OF FISH

3.1 No licence holder shall attempt to foul hook any sports fish.

3.2 Any licence holder who foul hooks a sports fish shall return it immediately to the water with as little injury as possible.

4. FISH LENGTH

Every licence holder who catches a sports fish which does not exceed the specified minimum length, or exceeds the specified maximum length, shall immediately return it with as little injury as possible into the water from which it was taken.

5. OPEN SEASON

No licence holder shall fish for any sports fish except during an open season.

6. DAILY LIMIT BAGS

6.1 No licence holder shall continue to fish for a particular species of sports fish on any day in which he or she has already killed the limit bag for that species except where provided for in the Second Schedule.

6.2 It shall be permissible to make up the difference between a lesser limit bag prescribed in one place and a higher limit bag prescribed in another if the extra fish are taken in the area with the higher bag limit.

7. AUTHORISED LURES

Authorised lures (subject to any regional restrictions specified in the Second Schedule) are:

Artificial fly.

Spinner.

Bait.

14. ANGLING ETHICS

Ref: 1.07.01

27 July 2016

1. Purpose

To discuss the merits of Fish and Game developing a policy on the ethics of catch and release fishing, and if so what that might include.

2. Background

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council at its meeting of 22-23 July 2016 considered a paper from the West Coast Fish and Game Council on angling ethics (see appendix to this agenda item), and resolved (Paul Dixon-Didier/Kevin Williams) to support the recommendation contained in that paper:

“In order to instigate wider debate, regions be invited to discuss whether Fish and Game should develop a policy on the ethics of catch and release fishing, and if so what such a policy might include”.

Feedback on this proposal will be submitted to the NZ Council for consideration at its November 2016 meeting. A response to the NZ Council is required by Friday 11 November to ensure its inclusion in the agenda for that meeting.

3. Recommendation

3.1 That Council discusses the merits of developing a policy concerned with the ethics of catch and release fishing, and what such a policy should include, for inclusion in a submission to the NZ Council before 11 November 2016.

Appendix 1:

ANGLING ETHICS – CATCH AND RELEASE

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting, July 2016

Prepared by: Andy Harris, NZ Council West Coast Fish and Game Council Appointee

1. Concern has been expressed to West Coast Fish and Game over the high number of fish being landed by some [mostly guided] anglers leaving some fisheries stressed and the fish uncatchable by local and less skilled anglers.
2. After discussion it was resolved to promote a voluntary code of ethics proposing a 6 fish limit per angler per day for fish landed and released, and also to promote best practice handling of catch and release fish.
3. Fish and Game is required to promote ethical standards of behaviour by anglers and hunters, and catch and release is an area where our ethics are potentially open to criticism.
4. Although voluntary, such a code would at least raise the issue of overfishing on our more sensitive fisheries. It would also give guides who are disposed to do so some support to encourage clients to be more selective in the fish they target rather than endeavouring to catch every fish in the river.
5. It would help to promote better survival outcomes for released fish. DOC has a publication for the Taupo Area Fishery detailing best practice for releasing fish and it would be good if Fish and Game had something similar.

Recommendation

In order to instigate wider debate, regions be invited to discuss whether Fish and Game should develop a policy on the ethics of catch and release fishing, and if so what such a policy might include.

15. SPECIES MONITORING REPORT

Ref: 1.06.01

27 July 2016

1. Purpose

To receive the Executive Summary for the 2015-16 Summer Creel Survey Report.

2. Background

The Council annually resources a number of key species management programmes to assess and monitor sports fish and game populations and the success rate and degree of satisfaction of users of the sports fish and game resource. The information collected from these programmes enables the Council to make informed decisions on species management to ensure sustainable populations are maintained for recreational harvest. These programmes also provide valuable information for other parties such as Regional Councils who can use sports fish and game bird data to assess the effects of habitat changes on biological systems. These programmes are very credible data sets that contribute not only to direct management, but also effective habitat advocacy. This agenda item presents the executive summary only for the summer creel survey report; a copy of the full report will be available prior to the end of August.

3. Report Summary

3.1 Executive Summary for the 2015-2016 Rotorua Lakes Summer Creel Survey

The Council runs a number of long term species monitoring programmes that are used to assess the state of the fisheries in key lakes and develop strategies around changing management, or responding to various issues and external factors that may be affecting the fisheries. The angler creel surveys are great examples of fishery and angler surveys that provide a wide range of information on high-use fisheries, and allow us to effectively monitor the effect of management actions and provide sound data for informed decision making on angler issues. Fishery monitoring also provides a valuable top-down assessment of productivity changes in lakes and accordingly has relevance to other agencies' water quality actions across the Rotorua lakes. The summer creel survey is a key species monitoring tool for Council, and in addition provides us with an opportunity to monitor angler participation and satisfaction, and undertake compliance work.

Lake Rotoiti

Anglers fishing Lake Rotoiti over the 2015-16 summer experienced slightly improved catch rates compared to the 2014-15 summer. Catch rates were just above the last ten year average (0.26 fish/hr). Deeper fishing methods were most successful. Downrigger trolling produced highest catch rates followed by wire line trolling then jigging. Overall the 2015-16 average sized fish was significantly longer and heavier than the average 2014-15 summer fish ($P < 0.001$). The size variation was due to a lower percentage of younger rising 2-year fish produced in the angler catch. Angler perceptions regarding catch rate and size were better than the 2014-15 summer with perception of size significantly improved ($P < 0.001$). Perception of satisfaction was slightly lower than during the 2014-15 summer though 96% of anglers stated they were satisfied with their summer's fishing on Lake Rotoiti.

Lake Tarawera

Lake Tarawera anglers over the 2015-2016 summer experienced significantly better catch rates compared to the 2014-15 summer ($P=0.008$). Fish caught were longer and heavier than the 2014-15 summer fish. Deeper methods proved most successful with wire lines, glow bugs, downrigger trolling and jigging having highest catch rates. The percentage of fish 'put back' was increased from 31% to 38% of all fish caught. Legal sized returns made up 27% of the Tarawera catch during the 2015-16 summer. Anglers' perceptions were slightly improved in relation to catch rate while fish size was considered poorer compared with the 2014-15 summer. Angler satisfaction was a little lower compared to the 2014-15 summer, though 95% of anglers stated they were satisfied with their 2015-16 summer's fishing on Lake Tarawera.

Lake Rotorua

Anglers fishing Lake Rotorua over the 2015-16 summer had higher catch rates than anglers fishing during the 2014-15 summer. Fly fishing at the stream mouths produced higher recorded catch rates than over the past 20 year period, and stream-mouth anglers caught larger trout than boat anglers. The average trout caught during the 2015-16 summer was significantly longer ($P=0.01$) and heavier than the average 2014-15 summer fish. Angler perceptions were better for catch rate and significantly improved for fish size ($P=0.001$). Angler satisfaction was improved from the 2014-15 summer with all anglers interviewed saying they were satisfied with their 2015-16 summer's fishing on Lake Rotorua.

Lake Okataina

Lake Okataina anglers surveyed over the 2015-16 summer experienced a higher catch rate compared to the 2014-15 summer. Downrigger trolling proved to be the most successful method surveyed followed by wire line trolling and jigging. The average fish caught was smaller and lighter than the 2014-15 summer fish. Anglers' perceptions were improved for both catch rate and fish size when compared with the 2014-15 summer. Anglers had greater satisfaction, and 95% of anglers surveyed stated they were satisfied with their angling during the 2015-16 summer on Lake Okataina.

4. Recommendation

4.1 That Council receives the 2015-2016 Executive Summary of the Rotorua Lakes Summer Creel Survey Report.

16. OCTOBER COUNCIL MEETING VENUE

Ref: 7.02.01

28 July 2016

1. Purpose

To decide on a location for the October 2016 Council meeting.

2. Background

The dates and locations for the Council meetings held every two months are usually scheduled at Council's February meeting. This year a decision was made to hold the October meeting on the East Coast, the precise location to be determined a later in the year. In February 2014 meeting it was noted that the October 2013 Council meeting held in Gisborne had not been well supported, and it was suggested that it might be more useful to conduct meetings at either Wairoa or Waikaremoana in future. In August 2015 a meeting was held at the Vista Motor Lodge in Wairoa and 10 members of the public attended, as was the case when Council's October 2013 meeting was held there. We have not had a Council meeting at Waikaremoana but there are possible options for meeting venues there such as at the Lake Whakamarino Lodge at Tuai. It is uncertain what level of public attendance we would get at a Waikaremoana/Tuai meeting, but with appropriate notification we might be able to get a reasonable number of local anglers and hunters along, and also, members of the Waikaremoana Tribal Authority who are our first point of contact for most matters concerned with this part of Te Urewera.

Getting to both Wairoa and Waikaremoana requires about the same amount of driving time. Travelling to a meeting and back in one day makes for a long day for Bay of Plenty and Taupo based Councillors, but we have done this for previous Council meetings in Wairoa so it is achievable. The drive to Waikaremoana or Tuai from Rotorua is more taxing, so overnight accommodation should perhaps be considered for those that wanted to, or had the opportunity to break up the trip. Accommodation is available at both the Lake Whakamarino Lodge and the Lake Waikaremoana campground as well as some limited spaces at the Fish & Game hut at the lake.

Council need to consider the desired location for the October 2016 meeting now, so that staff can organise the venue and make the necessary arrangements to book meeting rooms and accommodation if required.

4. Recommendation

4.1 *That Council decides on a location for its October 2016 meeting.*

17. LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS

17.1 Conservation Boards

- *Bay of Plenty Conservation Board*
- *Tongariro-Taupo Conservation Board*
Report from Colin Paton circulated in August Papers For Information
- *East Coast/Hawkes Bay Conservation Board*

17.2 Reports from Other Agencies

- Department of Conservation, Central North Island Region (Taupo, Rotorua, Bay of Plenty)
- Department of Conservation, Lower North Island Region (Gisborne, Wairoa)

17.3 Report from New Zealand Council

Summary report from Robert Sowman circulated in August Papers For Information

18. OPERATIONAL REPORTS

18.1 MANAGEMENT REPORT

30 July 2016

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

1111 River Fisheries Investigations

Didymo monitoring

Staff undertook the quarterly didymo delimiting survey in the Ngongotaha on Tuesday 7 June. Didymo remains absent from North Island waters according to the most up to date survey results.

1112 Datawatch

During the ten months following the season opening (1 October), a total of 650 datawatch tags have been returned and entered into the database. The distribution is as follows:

Lake Okareka	14
Lake Okataina	119
Lake Rerewhakaaitu	24
Lake Rotoehu	37
Lake Rotoiti	163
Lake Rotoma	17
Lake Rotorua	21
Lake Tarawera	250
Lake Tutira	3
Maraetotara	0

Datawatch entered to 18/7/2016

The number of tag returns since the opening of the angling season on 1 October are 10% ahead of returns to the end of July 2015. The datawatch programme has been advertised in the latest Fish & Game magazine (fish-supplement and newsletter) and on the Fish & Game website to ensure anglers keep sending in tag returns.

Tag returns are ahead on Lake Rotoehu (up by 300%) Lake Tarawera (up by 12%), Lake Rotoiti (up by 18%), and Lake Okataina (up by 26%). The release to Lake Waikaremoana in April 2015 has returned 3 angler caught tags to date. Tag returns are down on Lake Rotoma (50%), Lake Rerewhakaaitu (20%), Lake Rotorua (16%) and Lake Okareka (14%). Lake Tutira (Hawke's Bay) which has had lake water quality issues and a large scale fish kill event has had just 3 tags returned since 1 October 2015 (down by 90%).

1113 Lake Waikaremoana

Lake Waikaremoana Monitoring Buoy Update

The Waikaremoana buoy sensor lines are scheduled to be uplifted when weather permits. Planning has been undertaken and a contractor booked.

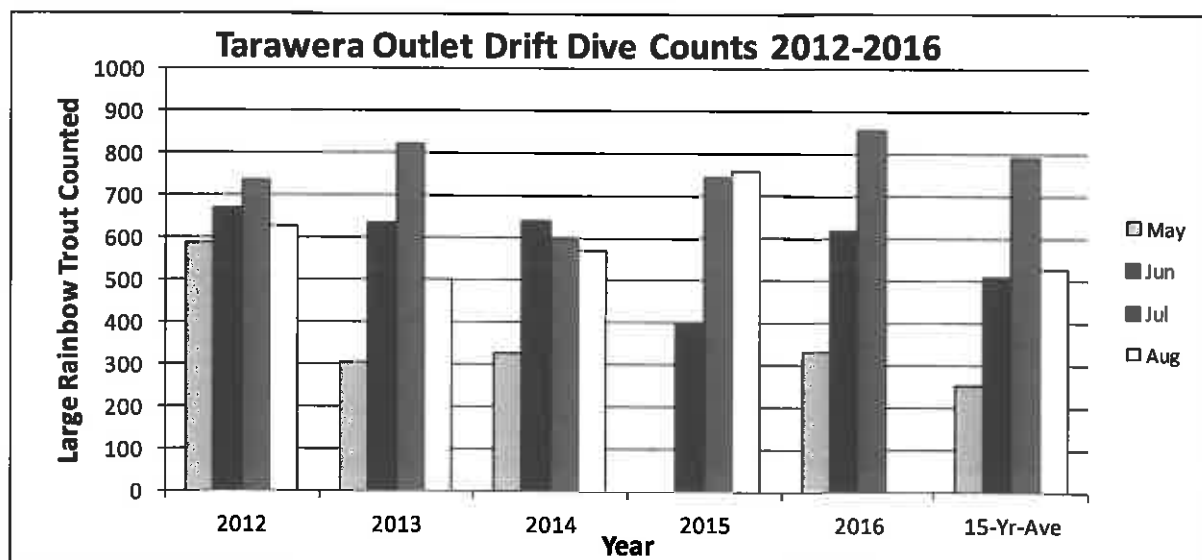
1114 Lake Tarawera Spawning

Tarawera Outlet Drift Dives

Fish & Game staff have completed three drift dive trout counts in the Tarawera Outlet this winter. The May dive was undertaken on 24 May. A total of 331 large trout, 44 medium trout and 320 small size class trout were counted. This is on par with monitoring results obtained in May in previous years. The June drift dive (10 June) resulted in 618 large fish being counted compared to the past 15-year June average of 510 large fish.

	<i>Size range</i>			<i>2016</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>Small</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Large</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>May</i>	320	44	331	695		588
<i>June</i>	8	10	618	636	681	735
<i>July</i>	2	0	858	860	787	601
<i>August</i>					781	576

The July Outlet drift dive was undertaken on 13 July. There were just 2 small size class trout counted as most of these are pushed back into the lake by the large spawning fish earlier in late May/early June. Extensive areas of deep redd development were evident throughout the dive. The number of large spawning trout was higher than the past 15-year July average (791). The final dive for the winter is scheduled to occur during the first half of August.



Te Wairoa Trap Run

A total of 890 fish have been put through the Te Wairoa trap to 14 July 2016. These fish have averaged 541mm and 2.02kg and have been of similar length but 80g heavier than the average sized fish entering the trap in the 2015 winter (541mm and 1.96). There have been no ten pound (4.54kg) fish this season nor since the 2012 winter trapping programme. The largest fish to date has been a 675mm, 4.0kg Lp (4 yr old) male. Wild fish have made up 29% of the total run compared with 35% to the same point of time in 2014 (cf 28 % in 2013 and 24% in 2012). The measured run this season is currently 100 fish ahead of the run to the same date in winter 2015. The wild fish this winter have averaged 509mm and 1.70kg. The wild fish trapped have been 13mm shorter and 100g lighter than the 2015 wilds. Hatchery liberated fish have averaged 555mm and 2.15kg. This is 3mm and 100g larger than the hatchery liberated fish through the trap during the 2015 winter.

Wairua Angling Data

The Fish & Game Wairua Stream hut facility was available for hire to anglers over the 2016 autumn and early winter period (1 March - 30 June). A total of 136.5 hours angling effort was entered in the data book. This was well above the effort recorded during the 2015 winter (64 hrs). The effort was the highest recorded since the 2007 winter, and follows attempts we have made to encourage greater interest and participation from angling clubs.

We now have 26 years of angling data recorded from this location, and it is pleasing to see the use of the facility and data recording increasing after a period of limited participation. The average individual catch rate of 0.43 fish per hour was better than the past nine year period and above the long term average (0.32 fish/hr). High numbers of spawning fish were noted up the Wairua Stream in late May by hut occupants. Fish caught averaged 495mm and 1.63kg compared to 507mm and 1.52kg in 2015. The largest fish recorded was a wild 595mm, 2.62kg female.

1115 Rotorua Lakes Fisheries Research

Ngongotaha Stream Trap

The trap was operated for 11 nights during May. Trapping was interrupted by a large flooding event during the middle of the trapping period. The largest fish was a 695mm, 4.2kg brown female. No trout were recorded exceeding ten pounds.

May Ngongotaha Stream trap run

	<i>Av. Length</i>	<i>Av. Weight</i>	<i>Trap Run</i>	<i>Fish/night</i>	<i>10 pound+</i>	<i>% Brown</i>
<i>Rainbow</i>	497	1.81	7	1	0	
<i>Brown</i>	557	2.27	22	2	0	76%

June Ngongotaha Stream trap run

Four attempts were made to set the Ngongotaha trap during June. Consistent flooding thwarted any data being obtained.

July Ngongotaha Stream trap run

The Ngongotaha trap was still in operation at the time this report was generated so no results to report.

1118 Waterfowl Monitoring Programme

Mallard and grey duck harvest

Hunter survey results for Eastern Region licence holders indicate that the mallard and grey (greylard) duck season produced similar results to last year's (Figure) despite more licenses being sold and a longer season. Interestingly, the estimated mallard harvest was up on last year by about 1,300 birds, but the grey harvest was less than half of that in 2015 (4,700 in 2015, 2,216 this year).

Greylard Harvest Eastern Region

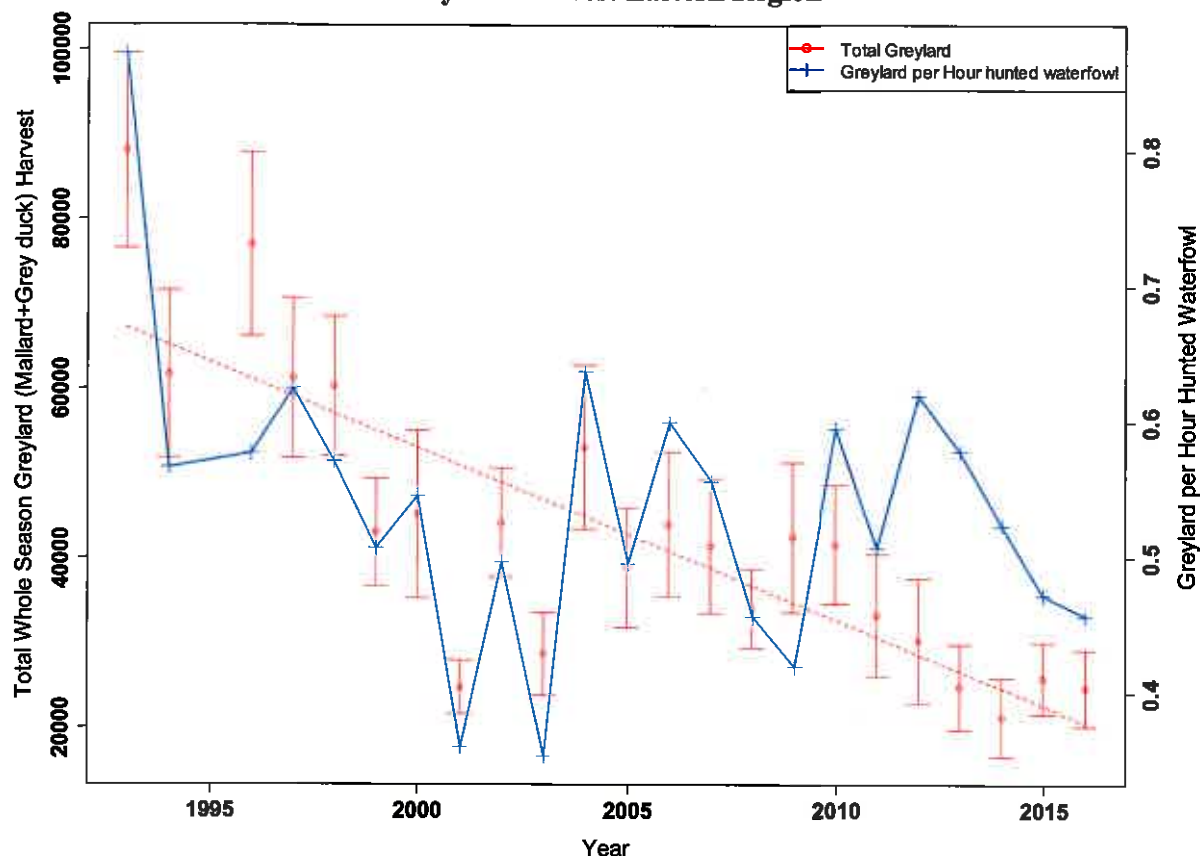


Figure 1. Total mallard and grey (greylard) duck harvest (circles; mean \pm 95% CI) in the Eastern Region by Eastern licence holders (1993-2016). The dashed line is the regression line of mean harvest over time and the solid line (+) is greylard per hour hunted (NB this is a tentative estimate).

Greylard per hour hunted was similar to last year, but this estimate is based on total hours hunting waterfowl for the season and the waterfowl season has yet to finish, so this figure is likely to change.

Aerial Transect Counts

Fish & Game staff conducted aerial transect counts of greylard in the northern part of New Zealand during the period 14-28 April 2016. The 2016 count of greylard in the Bay of Plenty was similar to that in 2014, but down on the 2015 count. The mean count of greylard in the northern Duck Management Unit (DMU1) was greater than that in DMU2 (the Reporoa area). Refer to the August Papers for Information for a full report on the survey and an overview of the DMU concept.

It will interesting to see how the Lincoln-Peterson population estimate (derived from band returns and harvest estimates) compares to the aerial counts given that the harvest estimate for mallard and grey duck is similar to last year's estimate.

Mallard and Grey Duck Band Recoveries

An analysis of band recovery data for mallard and grey duck banded in the Eastern and Hawke's Bay regions is underway for the purpose of investigating the validity of the provisional DMUs we have been working with. This project is being funded with a grant from the national research fund. A preliminary report is provided in the Papers for Information accompanying this agenda and graphically portrays the locations at which birds

have been recovered. Some interesting results are emerging which will be more fully reported on when further analysis has been undertaken. This will include investigations of the recovery locations for mallard and grey duck banded in the Wellington and Auckland/Waikato regions. Initial results show that around 85% of recoveries are within the same DMU that the birds were banded in.

Mallard and Grey Duck Survival

The Department of Conservation has listed grey duck as "nationally critical." Given this classification it could be easily argued that grey duck should not be harvested. Dr Murray Williams has been studying mallard and grey duck hybridisation for some years now, and has been contemplating whether mallard and grey duck can be justifiably classified as separate species in New Zealand (due to hybridisation). As part of this process he has asked if Eastern Region can provide him with some comparative survival estimates given the long running monitoring we've undertaken of these species. Matthew McDougall has had a preliminary look at this but further analysis is required.

Black Swan on Tauranga Harbour

After some ludicrous claims in the media regarding the impact black swan were having on Tauranga Harbour, staff prepared a comprehensive rebuttal which was subsequently published in local media (see Papers for Information and our website). Hopefully this will quieten some of the rhetoric and misinformation being circulated. The Bay of Plenty Conservation Board has also raised some concerns around impacts on eelgrass beds, and this ongoing level of concern clearly warrants the preparation of some management guidelines for swan on the harbour which we had previously contemplated, but later dismissed as probably being unnecessary. Staff will be conducting another count of black swan on the harbour in mid August.

1121 Lakes Fisheries Creel Surveys

Ohau Creel Survey

The Ohau Channel survey has been completed for the 2015-16 season. The data has been compiled into the Fish & Game Database, and analysis is underway. We have now received eight years of creel survey data following completion of the Ohau Channel Wall, on top of 2 years pre-installation.

Winter Creel Surveys

Winter creel surveys are now completed for the 2015-16 season. The data collected will now be entered into a database for analysis.

2015-16 Summer Creel Survey

An executive summary of the results of this survey is provided in Item 15 of this agenda and a full report will be circulated at Council's next meeting in October.

1141 Hatchery Operations

The hatchery has been in full swing with trapping and breeding fish. For the reporting period 52 crosses have been taken producing approximately 256,500 ova. The ova take to date is adequate to meet the hatcheries requirements for 2017, but the hope is to obtain another 10 crosses in August to provide a spread in run timings. Brood fish have been in good condition and producing nice quality eggs. Females have produced an average of 4,613 each, which is slightly behind the 10 year average. Our best fish for the season remains a 4kg Lp, 4 year

male, but a number of quality males and females in the 3+ kg range have also been used. Twenty one percent of the brood fish used have been wild.

Yearling rainbows have been moved and spread out into the rearing ponds in preparation for spring releases commencing in September, and young fry moved and sorted into troughs. Fish were collected by Northland Fish & Game region during June. No liberations into lakes within the Eastern Region were undertaken during the reporting period.

Fish locations at 20 July 2016:

Location	Type	Qty (approx)	Comment
Tank A, B	1+ Brown	1,200	Eastern, HB liberations 2016
Tank C	1+ Tiger	500	Eastern autumn liberations
Tanks 4-8	1+ Rt	2,000	Eastern, spring and orders
Pond 3	1+ Rt	20,300	Eastern and HB, Alk/Waikato spring liberations
Pond 4	1+ Rt	2,250	HB, delayed Tutira autumn liberation
Pond 5	1+ Rt	8,750	Eastern, spring
Pond 6	1+ Rt	8,000	Eastern, spring
Pond 7	1+ Rt	6,000	Eastern, spring
Pond 9	1+ Rt	6,000	Various for 2+ in 2017
RW 2	1+ Rt	4,000	Other regions as 2+ in 2016

1171 Regulations

2016-2017 Anglers Notice Setting Process

The 2016-17 Anglers Notice for Eastern Region Fish & Game was finalised at the 16 June Council meeting. The New Zealand Council was notified of the two changes agreed to, these being:.

- (i) Closure of the Awahou Stream which required several amendments to the existing regulation guide, and
- (ii) Extension of the Okataina Winter Shoreline Fishing Area. No amendment were required to regulation guide.

Letters were also sent to clubs and interested parties notifying them of Council's decision. The Minister of Conservation has since approved the 2016-17 Anglers Notice.

HABITAT PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE

1211 RMA Planning and Consents

Gisborne District Council – Freshwater Advisory Group and Freshwater Plan

Following the work of the Freshwater Advisory Group the Gisborne District Council notified the proposed freshwater plan on 12 October 2015. Overall the notified plan is pretty good from a Fish & Game perspective, although a submission was lodged in early December covering a number of topics. Further submissions were lodged in February. Pre-hearing meetings have commenced, and Council hearings are scheduled to run from August - December.

Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Bay of Plenty Regional Council has established a Regional Water Advisory Panel. This is a collaborative group with representatives from a wide range of sectors which has been set up to provide context and direction for how freshwater resources are managed in the Bay of Plenty. The most recent meeting was attended in July. Bay of Plenty Regional Council has released a draft freshwater plan and is hoping to formally notify it by June 2017.

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council has also established community groups to look at values and limits within the Rangitaiki, Kaituna/Maketu and Pongakawa/Waitahanui Water Management Areas. Fish & Game representatives are present on each of them. Community groups will also be established in the future in the other seven Water Management Areas within the region.

Water Quality

Following the adoption of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management in 2014, Regional Councils are now required to implement its provisions. Fish & Game remains involved in the Bay of Plenty Regional Water Advisory Panel. This collaborative group comprises representatives from a wide range of sectors and has been established to assist regional authorities with freshwater management planning, to provide context and direction for how freshwater resources are managed, and to assist in the implementation of the National Policy Statement.

In July a meeting was attended with MFE to discuss the Bay of Plenty Regional Council's progress towards implementing the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

The Gisborne District Council has identified ten Water Management Areas within its region and is expected to follow a similar process of establishing community groups as the Bay of Plenty Regional Council has done.

Resource Consents

Date In	Authority	Applicant	Type	Resource Involved	Action
3/6/2016	BOPRC	Rotorua Lakes Council	Construct bridge and BMX track	Waitarunga Stream, Rotorua	S95E3A
17/6/2016	BOPRC	Ormand and Grbowski	Jetty extension	Parawai Road, Lake Rotorua	S95E3A

Koaro Restoration Group Meeting

The July koaro monitoring event was postponed due to the unavailability of Regional Council staff.

1221 Reserves Management

General

No physical works are currently occurring within the reserves with the exception of Awakaponga where we are manufacturing a forestry styled gate to prevent ongoing gate and fence breakages and illegal vehicles entering into the reserve outside the hunting season.

Preparation planning for reserve maintenance works in summer 2016/17 is currently underway. This has included ongoing discussions with DOC to establish what management

they will be undertaking with their diminishing budgets and how best our funds can collectively be utilised.

A joint funding application has been lodged with the Waikato River Authority for restoration of Lakes Ngahewa, Ngapouri and Tutaeinanga. A plan has been prepared by DOC, Fish & Game, Te Arawa Lakes Trust, Ngati Tahu - Ngati Whaoa, and the Waikato Regional Council with the aim of commencing fencing works in early 2017, and planting later the same year. It is a five year project and we will keep the Council informed of the progress.

Renewal of gazette notices for management of the Crown owned wetlands within the Eastern Region between DOC and Fish & Game continues to be stalled (9 months now) as DOC is still yet to determine who is to take charge of this and liaise with Fish & Game staff. The gazette notices expire September 2017 so discussions need to commence promptly as some issues may take time to work through.

Kaituna WMR

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council has commenced the monitoring programme for water levels, flows and salinity in the Lower Kaituna WMR and the adjoining Kaituna River, as part of the Maketu-Kaituna River diversion proposal. This, along with the acquisition of the adjoining farmland and proposals to convert all this area to wetland are still progressing, but no new information is to hand as modelling and other design work are still underway.

In the interim, BOPRC has provided \$30,000 towards pest plant spraying, native plantings and more ephemeral wetland scrapes to be constructed in the paddocks beside the kahikatea block in the Lower Kaituna WMR. One more currently grazed paddock will be retired for these works, with machine work expected to commence in November this year. Fish & Game will manage this project.

Awakaponga WMR

Nearly \$30,000 of funding was approved by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Innovation Fund for the Awakaponga Water Proposal. This is considered to be an innovative project utilising solar energy and compressed air pumping to enhance water levels within Awakaponga Wildlife Management Reserve.

Unfortunately the shed was broken into in May, and several thousand dollars worth of equipment stolen. We are working with the insurance company and electrician to get the equipment replaced and re-fitted. We are also looking at options to improve security at the site.

1231 Maintain and Enhance Game Bird Habitat

Landowner Information

No new landowner requests have been received since the last Council meeting, but ongoing waterfowl productivity planting advice has been provided to two landowners which included one site visit.

1232 Habitat Creation Projects

Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust (WCEET)

A WCEET funding application for the spraying of lilies in both Hardcastles Lagoon and the Mihi Bridge wetland was successful. Some liaison with the Waikato Regional Council and neighbouring landowners is yet to occur, but spraying work is planned for summer 2016/17.

Ngati Tahu -Ngati Whaoa were also successful with a funding bid to WCEET for restoration planting along the riparian area adjacent to Hardcastles Lagoon adjoining Landcorp land and the Ohaaki Wetland. We will be in regular contact with the managers of this project to ensure ongoing hunter access and to promote habitat plantings suitable for waterfowl.

1233 Drain Management

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council drain planting programme has commenced with recent plantings on the northern side of the Kaituna Road drain along approximately three quarters of its length. Although plantings are not covering the whole road reserve areas as we would have desired, it is a start to a large scale project. Buy in is still required from many local farmers. No modifications were made to the drainage channel at this stage.

ANGLER AND HUNTER PARTICIPATION

1311 Maintain & Enhance Access

General

Recreational access into the Kaingaroa and Rotoehu, and Waimangu Forests continues. Access via Waimangu Forest to Lake Rotomahana is by way of permit holders being issued a gate key tab. This access is for fishing only, and a refundable \$100 bond is charged when the key tab is issued by the forest security company (First Security). As of early July a total of nine key tabs had been issued, and three of these subsequently revoked due to the key holders having been found breaching access conditions, for example, using the access for hunting purposes, rather than fishing. Such actions by permit holders are most definitely not condoned by us, and could potentially jeopardise ongoing access to Lake Rotomahana via the Waimangu Forest.

An access matter at Putere Lakes near Wairoa is pending further action by DOC. This is in relation to landowner encroachment onto a marginal strip and attempting to control public access on this strip which is public land. DOC investigations are ongoing, but DOC have advised that there are clear indications of breaches of the marginal strip conditions at this location, and a resolution is in process.

1331 Inform Anglers and Hunter

Reel News, Both Barrels

Both Barrels E-Zines were produced for May and June. Reel Life is not published in the during these months.

1332 Fish & Game Magazine

Material was prepared for the 2016/17 Fish Magazine supplement and newsletter. Licence holder data was screened and provided to the distributor in July. Kate Thompson coordinated the data validation process nationally.

1333 Fishing Reports

Fishing prospects were added to the web for the period and numerous reports featured on Twitter.

1334 Maintain & Update Content on Web Site

Updates or changes to the Eastern Web site included Council agendas and minutes, notices re Anglers Notice, mallard season notice, Waikaremoana Rahui announcement (2), black swan Tauranga harbour misinformation, NZ duck calling champs, and a children's fishing page was created and information added to it. Our Twitter account has 395 followers and received 25,850 impressions for the reported period.

1341 Information Pamphlets

Material for the Fish & Game supplement and newsletter was produced and submitted to the publisher/printer.

1351 Children's Fishing Programme

No children's fishing events were held during the period but staff met with sponsors and the Rotorua Anglers Association to discuss this year's programme.

1352 Angler Hunter Training

The Tauranga HUNTS course is booked for early August with an expected 20 novice hunters expected to participate, and Fish & Game will give a presentation one evening on game bird hunting.

No angler hunter training seminars were held for the period.

1354 Fishing Competitions

Three fishing competition permits were processed for the period. Staff attended two competition weigh-ins.

1370 Fish & Game Huts

Routine maintenance was undertaken at the Wairua and Waikaremoana Huts.

PUBLIC INTERFACE

1442 Media Releases

Some major publicity, which exceeded our expectations, was achieved for the finals of the duck calling national champs.

Communications Advisor Grant Dyson made personal approaches to local media including the Bay of Plenty Times which ran three separate stories – a preview as well as follow up articles.

The offbeat nature of the champs and the involvement of young people such as Nelson's Holly Irvine, grabbed media attention, and newspapers and radio in both the North and South islands covered the event. Seven Sharp also picked up on the story.

Grant worked with Matt Mc Dougall and Andy Garrick to produce an in-depth article "setting the record straight" on black swan in Tauranga Harbour – correcting misinformation in stories run by Sun Media in particular. The Sun ran the article in full on both their website and in their giveaway paper.

As usual, more than half a dozen media releases were issued covering various topics. At time of writing a release was being prepared to highlight changes to the angling rules brought in by the Eastern Fish & Game Council, most notably closing of the Awahou Stream.

Earlier releases sent out in June focused on “shoreline fishing firing up on the Rotorua lakes,” and a reminder of the 19 June end of the mallard season in the Eastern Region.

A release issued before Queen’s Birthday weekend pushed the holiday as an ideal one to try trout fishing locally.

Grant Dyson also did some work behind the scenes, researching background material on Eastern Region officers’ use of stab proof vests and other protection measures for the CEO to take to a meeting with Conservation Minister Maggie Barry.

Media were also alerted to the fact that Eastern’s Anthony van Dorp was addressing the select committee considering the question of increased powers for rangers. Anthony was interviewed by Radio New Zealand in a story which went nationwide.

1461 Education

No formal tours of the grounds/hatchery were conducted for the period.

COMPLIANCE

1511 Compliance

Fishery compliance activities have continued with emphasis on checks around spawning areas and closed waters areas, many of which have been showing signs of activity by persons/poachers. Covert surveillance continues in a number of locations. One recent incident at a spawning stream in the Rotorua area involved the finding of 29 dead spawning trout which poachers had left on the banks in piles. It appears the poachers in this case had been disturbed and left the area without the fish they had taken.

Currently a matter is pending where five persons were found in possession of 17 trout taken from a protected spawning stream. Three of the five offenders are of adult age and prosecutions are pending in relation to this.

Liaison and co-operation with Police to combat poaching in specific locations is ongoing.

Angler survey work around the Rotorua Lakes has continued, although by mid July the numbers of anglers fishing the shoreline has dropped off considerably. Few compliance issues have been found in the areas most popular for fishing at this time of year.

Waikaremoana spawning monitoring is continuing, although some of the recently planned work at Waikaremoana has been impeded by inclement weather conditions.

Compliance checks have been carried out in other locations around the region with no issues. Honorary rangers have had an input to this.

The game bird season has generated few further compliance issues to date apart from a report received that there may have been a number of hunters in the Gisborne area continuing to hunt after the season had closed. This report was received via third hand information, and it

appears that there has been confusion as to season closing dates, although this is clearly stated in the regulation guide.

Angler and hunter contacts to end of June stand at 3,203 checks.

Contacts: Year 2015-2016 to 30/06/2016

Month	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Last 5 yr average
September	96	82	66	50	59	71
October	1183	997	984	960	1223	1069
November	223	129	175	112	20	132
December	494	598	387	392	293	433
January	466	497	355	381	335	407
February	170	234	151	395	418	274
March	184	300	279	275	253	258
April	340	195	299	264	53	230
May	503	516	446	498	272	447
June	422	209	325	203	277	287
July	224	120	79	120		136
August	74	131	77	76		90
Total	4,379	4,008	3,623	3,726	3,203	3,934

1520 Ranger Training

Regional Honorary Rangers

A ranger training day was held in early July and was well attended. Ranger safety training and refresher courses are scheduled in the next two months at Rotorua and other locations around the country.

North Island/National CLE role

This role continues with input into CLE/training/prosecutions and legal matters. A national compliance co-ordinators meeting was held in June. A further CLE co-ordinators training session is scheduled for late August, the objective of this being to enable regional co-ordinators to competently deliver a short ranger safety session at annual training days with rangers. This is not to replace other mandated training but is complementary to that training.

Anthony van Dorp played a key part in preparing and presenting a submission to the Select Committee in relation to the Wildlife (Powers) Amendment Bill. This Bill in its present form excludes Fish & Game rangers from amendments to powers which have been proposed for DOC rangers. These include the power to require an offender to provide their date of birth and confirmation of identity a power to seize any evidential material, a power to require a person to remain stopped while a suspected offence is investigated, and a power to act to prevent an offence taking place. The select committee process is ongoing, the committee's next job being to consider further submissions and advice in mid August. Having the power to require an offender's date of birth is a crucial amendment we are seeking, as this information is vital for confirming identity and is a mandatory detail needing to be provided on charging documents filed in court.

1531 Prosecution of Offenders

Prosecutions

Currently 11 offenders have offences pending resolution, details as per the table below.

Four of these offenders have warrants to arrest either in lieu of summons or for failing to appear in court. The other matters are more recent and are pending resolution processes.

In mid June a defended Judge alone hearing was held in relation to an offender who pleaded not guilty to a charge of fishing without licence at Lake Rotorua last summer. The defendant was subsequently found guilty and convicted and ordered to pay costs to Fish & Game of \$700 in lieu of another fine.

Apart from warrants to arrest, the only other pending prosecution matters are those which relate to recent offending.

Offences 2015-2016 Year

For the year 2015- 2016 year to date we have dealt with 47 persons for 75 offences as tabled below.

Offences for the Year 2015-2016 to 18/07/2016:

Offence name	Numbers
Fish without licence	26
Fish closed waters	10
Fish with illegal tackle	15
Fish more than 1 rod	2
Fish with unattended rod	1
Possession of sports fish unlawfully taken	5
Disturb spawning gravels	3
Take trout with net/spear/device	3
False details	2
Obstruction	1
Hunt without licence	4
Possession of lead shot 12 G ammunition	3
Total	75

Offences Pending Resolution

To date (18/07/2016) 19 separate offences are pending resolution, by 11 offenders.

The table below shows offences currently pending resolution, as at 18/07/2016:

Offence name	Numbers
Fish without licence	6
Illegal tackle	3
Possess sports fish unlawfully taken	5
Disturb spawning grounds	1
Fish closed waters	3
False details	1
Total	19

LICENSING

1612 National Licence Management

Kate Thompson has continued to supply national sales reports for regions, and the New Zealand Council. Recent work has involved the correction to reporting of local area licences sold by other Fish & Game regions, and the collating and validating of data for the upcoming Fish Magazine supplement. Kate was unable to attend the recent Licence Working Party meeting due to her flight being cancelled.

1621 Licence Agent Support

Staff continue to support agents as required.

PLANNING AND REPORTING

1841 New Zealand Fish & Game Liaison

Several staff provided ongoing input to national projects including Kate Thompson, Carmel Veitch, Anthony van Dorp, and Andy Garrick. Andy continued to provide managerial services to the Hawke's Bay Region, and other staff, primarily Carmel, provided remote assistance with a variety of matters ranging from CLE to RMA and fisheries related work. Eben Herbert attended a meeting with Andy and Hawke's Bay staff to scope their review of the Hawke's Bay 10 year Sports Fish and Game Management Plan.

ADMINISTRATION

1920 Annual Leave

Staff annual leave accruals are reported each month. Due to employment anniversary dates, the leave accruals for individuals vary depending on the time of the year. We have established leave for individual staff as at 10 July 2016. We currently have one staff member four weeks behind where we would like them to be, one staff member three weeks behind, three staff members two weeks behind, and one staff member one week behind. The remainder are in a neutral leave position.

1924 Health and Safety

Carmel Veitch convened a meeting with Robert Sowman, Glenn Maclean, Mark Sherburn and Andy Garrick to review our draft Health and Safety Plan template. See Agenda item 18.2 for a full Health and Safety Report.

18.2 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Ref: 9.01.07

25 July 2016

1. Background

As part of its commitment to Health and Safety and providing a safe workplace, the Eastern Fish and Game Council is provided with a report at each meeting describing:

1. Implementation and adherence to the Health and Safety policy/manual – including Health & Safety as an agenda item for staff & ranger meetings;
2. Monitoring and Reporting – in accordance with the Health and Safety plan;
3. Risk Management (identification and treatment) – any new issues or hazards that have arisen and how these have been addressed;
4. Training programme – information sharing and training of staff and volunteers;
5. Health & Safety incidents – near misses or injuries sustained, plus updates on past events;
6. Recommendations.

2. June/July 2016 Update

1. Implementation and adherence to the Health and Safety Plan

A Health and Safety Policy was approved at the June 16 Council meeting. This policy sets out the commitment that Council has towards the health and safety of all Fish & Game Workers and visitors.

Andy and Carmel met with representatives of Fish & Game's National Health and Safety Committee on 28 June to review the draft Health and Safety Plan which was circulated to all Fish and Game regions earlier in the month. The committee has recommended quite a number of changes to the Plan. This is currently being updated by Carmel and will be sent out to the National Committee for final approval at the end of July.

Weekly staff meetings have Health and Safety on the agenda as a standard item. Staff are given an opportunity to raise any issues, and as a team we develop a procedure to minimise the risks of such. Any new risks are included in the weekly email so that all staff are aware of the risk should they be absent from the weekly meeting.

'Tailgate' forms are used when staff go out on field trips/ranging.

The Board Room is increasingly being used for meetings with or by other agencies, and all persons attending are required to sign in and out on the visitor register and receive a verbal Health and Safety briefing.

Five minute forms were used for Drift dives and Ranging activities undertaken during the period.

We have purchased a new InReach satellite communication device for staff to use in the field where they don't have cell phone coverage. A set of waterproof walkie talkie PRS radios has also been purchased for ranging activities.

A Contractor's agreement has been developed to ensure all contractors abide by our Health and Safety plan.

Staff are trialling a new 'staff where-a-bouts" board to help monitor where staff are on a daily basis.

2. Monitoring and Reporting

Work Place Accident Register

As at 25 July 2016

Number of workplace injuries in 2015-2016 year	0
Number of workplace injuries in 2014-2015 year	1
Number of workplace injuries in 2013-2014 year	3
Total number of workplace injuries since 1 Sept 1995	28
Total number of days lost work injuries since 1 Sept 1995	1
Total number of days since last lost work injury (7/12/13)	961
Total number of days prior to last lost work injury since 1 Sept 1995	6,672

3. Risk Management (identification and treatment)

Tailgate forms were prepared and boating logs are being used.

Treescaping has been contracted to deal with trees on site that were causing health and safety concerns.

Hi Vis Safety Vests were purchased for all vehicles.

4. Training programme

Two staff updated their Growsafe Approved Handler certificates and two staff attended an onsite tractor safety course.

5. H&S incidents

No incidents to report.

6. Recommendations

That Council receive this Health & Safety report.

18.3 Finance Report

Ref: 8.03.01

20 July 2016

1. Purpose

To inform the Council of its current financial position, and approve payments for the months of May and June 2016.

2. Finance Report

The cash flow summary and variance report for the month ending 30 June 2016 are attached. These reports document the income and expenditure for the period.

Income

Licence revenue to the end of June is reported to be ahead of budget by \$9,370 and is expected to exceed the combined fish and game annual licence sales target by year end. Revenue received from Game licence sales to the end of June is ahead of budget \$19,433 and with the reduced value of fish licences the revenue from fish licence sales is currently sitting below budget by \$10,063. Licence sales by category and LEQ are reported in detail within the licence sales report and will provide a more accurate picture of licence sales YTD.

Revenue from other sources over the period was made up of the following: sale of fish to other regions (\$8,377), fishing competitions (\$1,800), rentals (\$3,954), fines (\$963), reparations (\$1,826), tours (\$30), and interest (\$1,333). The Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust (WCEET) was invoiced for funding of the Simpson Ruatawiri wetland (\$7,565), and the BOP Regional Council for restoration works to be undertaken on the lower Kaituna (\$30,030). Funds were also received from the New Zealand Council for Carmel Veitch's work for the Financial Review Committee and the development of Health & Safety policies (\$5,922), and from Hawke's Bay Fish & Game for the standard contract services (\$6,090) and for additional management and staff services provided over the period (\$14,494). Contract revenue is ahead of budget by some \$94,000 and more than adequately offsets increases to the salaries expense resulting from increased additional hours by part time and contract staff.

Species Management

Within the Population Monitoring budgets, expenses are reported for fuel costs associated with the Gisborne and Bay of Plenty banding projects. This expense is now budgeted for within the Waterfowl Monitoring budgets to more accurately reflect costs associated with the project as there is no overhead component allocated here for time worked by contractors who undertake the feeding out. A small expense is also reported for food for staff working at Waikaremoana and materials for Didymo delimiting surveys. Within budget YTD.

Hatchery expenses for the period included fish food, two tyres for the tanker, the purchase of material for trough covers, installation of two LED lights in the feed room following an electrical fault, and minor purchases of various maintenance materials. The usual expenses are also reported relating to electricity, fuel, and oxygen. The hatchery area as a whole is ahead of budget \$2,587 with fish food purchases particularly being \$6,351 over budget. Increased fish food pricing, exchange rates, freight, and the requirement to buy in bulk all contribute to this result. A complete review of suppliers/options is to be undertaken.

Habitat

Habitat spending for the period was minimal with expenses relating to miscellaneous maintenance materials and release spraying of an area at Lake Ngapouri. Within budget YTD.

Customer Services

Customer Services expenses for the period related to the region’s contribution to the printing of patterning sheets, and hut supplies and electricity. Within budget YTD.

Public Interface

Within the Public Interface budgets, expenses include the purchase of trout fishing DVDs, artificial grass for the pheasant display, and grounds maintenance. Within budget YTD.

Compliance

The Compliance expenses for the period related to opening weekend ranging expenses, ranger vests and note books, the purchase of two walkie talkies, and the 0800 Poaching service. Legal fees associated with four prosecutions are also reported. The Compliance area is over budget YTD but this variance will be offset by reduced costs associated with ranger training this year.

Licensing

The fees associated with the 0800 and Internet sales are included within the commission expenditure and are within budget YTD. The budget for commissions is set at 5% of total sales as this is the standard rate of commission paid to licence agents. With increased sales being processed through the Public Online facility the overall costs of those sales has reduced to approximately 2.8% resulting in a saving in excess of \$10,000 YTD.

Council

Catering and travel expenses are reported within the Council budgets relating to the June meeting of Council. Within budget YTD.

Planning

A small expense is reported for airport parking. Within budget YTD.

Administration

Notes on individual areas:

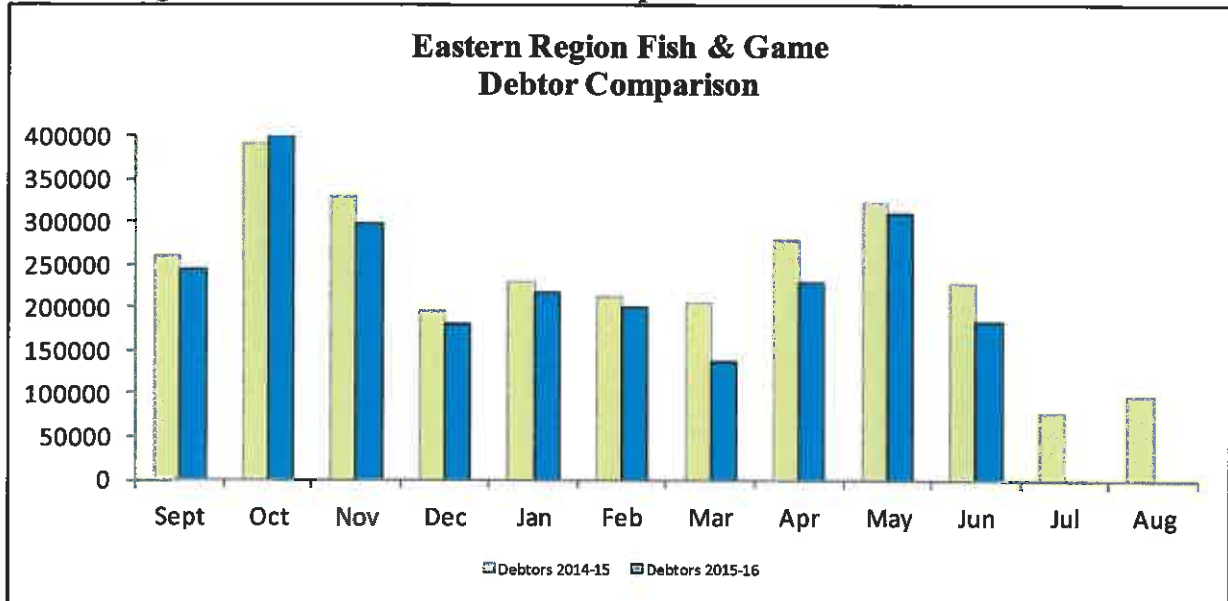
Salaries	The Salaries area continues to report over budget due to increased staff time, including casual staff resulting from increased assistance to NZ Fish & Game, and Hawke's Bay and North Canterbury Fish & Game Regions. This budget variance is offset by increased revenue received from these regions.
Staff Expenses	Staff expenses were significant this period with the annual payment of FBT, two chainsaw courses, and two Growsafe courses. First aid kits were reviewed and a number replaced, and staff received the annual flu vaccine. The staff expenses overspend relates directly to FBT and is due to an increase in the budget requirement being overlooked following changes to management.
Staff Houses	Unanticipated expenses are reported relating to repairs to electrical cabling in the staff quarters damaged by rodents. Several light fittings were also replaced in one of the tenanted properties, and fire extinguishers were serviced. The current overspend in this area will increase within the next period with work being undertaken on electrical cabling within one of the

	houses. This work was recommended following an electrical audit and is offset by increased revenue from other sources this financial year.
Office Premises	Lighting within our timber lined building is poor in many of the offices and is being upgraded over time as budgets permit. The areas completed to date include the boardroom, administration office, compliance office, and this period saw the installation of LED lighting in the fisheries office. Standard expenses relating to cleaning, rubbish removal, and electricity are also reported. The small overspend in this area YTD is likely to remain at year end.
Office Equipment	Two chairs, and the heavy duty stapler were replaced within the period. The monthly expense relating to the phone and eftpos leases are also reported as is the non cash transfer to asset replacement reserves. The phone system lease has been reviewed and the existing system is to be retained for a further period of two years at a reduced cost. Phone systems are becoming increasingly technical with IP interfaces resulting from access to high speed broadband services. With these comes increased costs as these features are incorporated into all new systems despite some users, such as ourselves, being unable to utilise these features due to our inability to access the fibre network. This area is over budget YTD \$293 and results from the need to replace faulty office chairs.
Communications/ Consumables	Communications expenses for the period include the Yellow Pages directory fees, prepaid envelopes, phones, broadband, stationery, and photocopying. Computer expenses included the antivirus renewal, updates to Microsoft exchange, and a network extension cable for the eftpos machine which now runs through the server. This area is currently overspent by \$617 due to increased phone call charges and this has been identified as a result of Vodafone's charging our account for calls to other Fish & Game group members. Vodafone is reviewing this issue and a credit will be applied in due course.
General	Expenses are reported relating to morning teas and bank fees. Within budget YTD.
General Equipment	Equipment maintenance expenses relate to the servicing of Kotare, WoF for the Parera trailer, springs for the transport trailer, and servicing of fire equipment. A dive mask and platform ladder were purchased from the equipment budget. Asset replacement funding totalled \$554 for the period. Within budget YTD.
Vehicles	The maintenance expenditure reported within the vehicles budgets for the period relates to four vehicle services and the fitting of a set of tyres which had been removed and retained from an earlier vehicle purchase. The standard fuel expense is reported and includes four vehicles for RUCs. Asset replacement funding totalled \$3,692 for the period. The Vehicles budget underspend has increased to \$11,507 this period and is due primarily to reimbursement by Hawke's Bay for fuel expenses, but also by reduced costs associated with insurance, registration, and diesel.

Cash Position: \$1,000,705 (includes \$79,423 for asset replacement reserve and \$451,512 for Waikaremoana Fund) as at 30 June 2016.

Debtors: Outstanding Debtors \$183,275 as at 30 June 2016 (\$226,425 as at 30 June 2015).

Eastern Region Fish and Game - Debtors Comparison 2014/15 – 2015/16



The Region's debtors as at 30 June included invoices for funding from external agencies (\$43,189) and agent debtor invoices for licence sales (\$139,270). \$120,485 was settled on 3 July and the balance is due for settlement in August. The licence agent with missing books from the 2014-15 season has since located them and these have been returned to Eyede. As there were no sales recorded within these books a credit has been applied for an earlier invoice to them.

3. Variance Report

The variance report is shown on the following two pages. YTD actual including staff hours are entered for each project area to provide Council with an overview of the staff time component of the Operational Work Plan.

2015/16 REPORT OF VARIANCES BETWEEN TOTAL BUDGET AND YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME

As at 30 June 2016

Schedule Code	Project	EXTERNAL COSTS		HOURS		INTERNAL COST		NETABLE INCOME		NET COST		NET COST %	
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual		
1110	Population Monitoring	\$ 38,500	\$ 23,588	2,358	1,798	\$ 133,160	\$ 97,787	\$ 19,000	\$ -	\$ 152,660	\$ 121,555	\$ 31,305	79.5
1120	Harvest Assessment	\$ 2,150	\$ 849	892	653	\$ 50,373	\$ 35,519	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52,523	\$ 36,369	\$ 16,154	69.2
1140	Hatchery Operations	\$ 67,050	\$ 68,987	3,076	2,676	\$ 173,707	\$ 145,531	\$ 70,000	\$ 49,372	\$ 170,757	\$ 163,127	\$ 7,630	95.5
1170	Regulations	\$ -	\$ -	216	127	\$ 12,198	\$ 6,908	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,198	\$ 6,908	\$ 5,290	56.6
1180	Control	\$ 200	\$ -	72	32	\$ 4,066	\$ 1,754	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,266	\$ 1,754	\$ 2,512	41.1
	TOTAL - SPECIES MANAGEMENT	\$ 107,900	\$ 91,385	6,614	5,286	\$ 373,504	\$ 287,500	\$ 89,000	\$ 49,372	\$ 392,404	\$ 329,513	\$ 62,892	84.0
1210	Resource Management Act	\$ 200	\$ -	1,212	964	\$ 68,444	\$ 52,422	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 68,644	\$ 52,422	\$ 16,221	76.4
1220	Works & Management	\$ 14,000	\$ 8,074	1,014	1,029	\$ 57,262	\$ 55,958	\$ 5,500	\$ 947	\$ 65,762	\$ 63,085	\$ 2,677	95.9
1230	Assisted Habitat	\$ 9,400	\$ 15,832	1,230	584	\$ 69,460	\$ 31,780	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 78,860	\$ 47,612	\$ 31,249	60.4
1240	Assess & Monitor	\$ -	\$ -	96	0	\$ 5,421	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,421	\$ -	\$ 5,421	0.0
1250	Lake Waikaremoana	\$ -	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0
	TOTAL - HABITAT PROTECTION & MAM	\$ 23,600	\$ 23,908	3,552	2,577	\$ 200,588	\$ 140,160	\$ 5,500	\$ 947	\$ 218,688	\$ 163,119	\$ 55,569	74.6
1310	Access	\$ 7,000	\$ 3,575	787	528	\$ 44,443	\$ 28,706	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 51,443	\$ 32,281	\$ 19,162	62.8
1330	Newsletters	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,522	506	160	\$ 28,575	\$ 8,717	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,575	\$ 22,239	\$ 19,336	53.5
1340	Other Publications	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	102	21	\$ 5,760	\$ 1,142	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,760	\$ 2,142	\$ 5,618	27.6
1350	Training	\$ 800	\$ 684	898	753	\$ 50,712	\$ 40,932	\$ 13,600	\$ 10,738	\$ 37,812	\$ 30,878	\$ 6,934	81.7
1360	Club Relations	\$ -	\$ -	124	9	\$ 7,003	\$ 482	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,003	\$ 462	\$ 6,540	6.6
1370	Huis	\$ 1,450	\$ 1,312	28	8	\$ 1,581	\$ 435	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ 2,631	\$ 1,748	\$ 884	66.4
	TOTAL - ANGLER & HUNTER PARTICIP	\$ 24,050	\$ 20,094	2,445	1,478	\$ 138,074	\$ 80,395	\$ 13,900	\$ 10,738	\$ 148,224	\$ 89,750	\$ 58,473	60.6
1410	Liaison	\$ -	\$ -	156	206	\$ 8,810	\$ 11,178	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,810	\$ 11,178	\$ (2,368)	126.9
1420	Communication	\$ 800	\$ 240	320	102	\$ 18,071	\$ 5,548	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,871	\$ 5,788	\$ 13,083	30.7
1440	Public Promotions	\$ 3,500	\$ 2,984	172	34	\$ 9,713	\$ 1,849	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,213	\$ 4,833	\$ 8,380	36.6
1450	Visitor Facilities/Education	\$ 400	\$ 924	630	492	\$ 35,577	\$ 26,762	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,977	\$ 27,686	\$ 8,291	77.0
	TOTAL - PUBLIC INTERFACE	\$ 4,700	\$ 4,148	1,278	834	\$ 72,171	\$ 45,337	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 76,871	\$ 49,485	\$ 27,385	64.4
1510	Ranging	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,286	916	1,003	\$ 51,728	\$ 54,571	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,828	\$ 56,857	\$ (3,029)	105.6
1520	Ranger Training	\$ 1,000	\$ -	108	19	\$ 6,099	\$ 1,033	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,099	\$ 1,033	\$ 6,065	14.6
1530	Compliance Prosecutions	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,138	348	280	\$ 19,652	\$ 14,156	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,628	\$ 18,152	\$ 13,666	\$ 4,486	75.3
	TOTAL - COMPLIANCE	\$ 7,600	\$ 6,424	1,372	1,263	\$ 77,479	\$ 69,760	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,628	\$ 79,079	\$ 71,556	\$ 7,523	90.5
1610	Licensing	\$ 800	\$ -	468	366	\$ 26,428	\$ 19,351	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,229	\$ 19,351	\$ 7,878	71.1
1620	Agent Servicing	\$ -	\$ -	220	106	\$ 12,424	\$ 5,739	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,424	\$ 5,739	\$ 6,685	46.2
	TOTAL - LICENSING	\$ 800	\$ -	688	461	\$ 38,853	\$ 25,089	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,653	\$ 25,089	\$ 14,563	83.3
1710	Council Elections	\$ -	\$ -	64	10	\$ 3,614	\$ 544	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,614	\$ 544	\$ 3,070	15.1
1720	Council Meetings	\$ 10,000	\$ 7,176	710	635	\$ 40,095	\$ 34,527	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,095	\$ 41,703	\$ 8,392	83.2
	TOTAL - COUNCILS	\$ 10,000	\$ 7,176	774	645	\$ 43,709	\$ 35,071	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,709	\$ 42,247	\$ 11,463	78.7
1810	Management Planning	\$ -	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0
1820	Annual Planning	\$ -	\$ -	190	86	\$ 10,730	\$ 4,664	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,730	\$ 4,664	\$ 6,065	43.5
1830	Reporting/Audit	\$ 8,700	\$ 7,580	514	342	\$ 29,027	\$ 18,603	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 38,727	\$ 26,193	\$ 12,533	67.6
1840	National Liaison	\$ 250	\$ 52	284	210	\$ 16,038	\$ 11,409	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,288	\$ 11,462	\$ 4,826	70.4
	TOTAL - PLANNING/REPORTING	\$ 9,950	\$ 7,632	968	638	\$ 55,794	\$ 34,676	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65,744	\$ 42,319	\$ 23,425	64.4
	TOTAL	\$ 186,600	\$ 160,775	17,711	13,200	\$ 1,000,172	\$ 717,969	\$ 114,400	\$ 65,685	\$ 1,074,372	\$ 813,079	\$ 261,293	75.7

OVERHEADS		EXTERNAL COSTS		NETABLE INCOME		NET COST		NET COST		NET COST	
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
1910	Salaries	\$ 867,117	\$ 759,419	\$ 24,360	\$ 112,460	\$ 842,757	\$ 646,959	\$ 195,798	\$ 195,798	\$ 646,959	\$ 195,798
1920	Staff Expenses	\$ 26,400	\$ 20,420	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 26,400	\$ 20,420	\$ 5,980	\$ 5,980	\$ 20,420	\$ 5,980
1930	Staff Houses	\$ 6,320	\$ 6,507	\$ 20,240	\$ 17,553	\$ (13,920)	\$ (11,046)	\$ (2,874)	\$ (2,874)	\$ (13,920)	\$ (11,046)
1940	Office Premises	\$ 19,400	\$ 16,882	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,400	\$ 16,882	\$ 2,518	\$ 2,518	\$ 16,882	\$ 2,518
1950	Office Equipment	\$ 7,965	\$ 7,093	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,965	\$ 7,093	\$ 872	\$ 872	\$ 7,093	\$ 872
1960	Communications/Consumables	\$ 21,300	\$ 18,734	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21,300	\$ 18,734	\$ 2,566	\$ 2,566	\$ 18,734	\$ 2,566
1970	General	\$ 9,370	\$ 6,853	\$ 7,370	\$ 55,948	\$ 2,000	\$ (48,995)	\$ 50,995	\$ 50,995	\$ (48,995)	\$ 50,995
1980	General Equipment	\$ 19,722	\$ 15,764	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,722	\$ 15,764	\$ 3,958	\$ 3,958	\$ 15,764	\$ 3,958
1990	Verhales	\$ 74,548	\$ 52,177	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 74,548	\$ 52,177	\$ 22,371	\$ 22,371	\$ 52,177	\$ 22,371
	Administration	\$ 1,052,142	\$ 903,850	\$ 51,970	\$ 185,961	\$ 1,000,172	\$ 717,989	\$ 282,183	\$ 282,183	\$ 1,000,172	\$ 717,989
	Total Overhead Net Cost					\$ 1,000,172	\$ 717,989			\$ 1,000,172	\$ 717,989
	Total Outputs Staff Hours					17,711	13,200			17,711	13,200
	Internal Cost Per Hour					56.47				56.47	

2015/16 REPORT OF VARIANCES BETWEEN TOTAL BUDGET AND YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME

Schedule C Code	Output	EXTERNAL COSTS		HOURS		INTERNAL COST		NETABLE INCOME		NET COST		NET COST	
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
1	Species Management	\$ 107,900	\$ 91,395	6,614	6,286	\$ 373,504	\$ 287,500	\$ 89,000	\$ 49,372	\$ 329,513	\$ 62,892	\$ 62,892	84.0
2	Habitat Protection & Management	\$ 23,800	\$ 23,906	3,552	2,577	\$ 200,888	\$ 140,160	\$ 5,500	\$ 947	\$ 218,688	\$ 163,119	\$ 55,569	74.6
3	Angler & Hunter Participation	\$ 24,050	\$ 20,094	2,445	1,478	\$ 138,074	\$ 80,395	\$ 13,900	\$ 10,738	\$ 148,224	\$ 89,750	\$ 58,473	60.8
4	Public Interface	\$ 4,700	\$ 4,148	1,278	834	\$ 72,171	\$ 45,337	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 76,871	\$ 49,485	\$ 27,385	64.4
5	Compliance	\$ 7,900	\$ 6,424	1,372	1,283	\$ 77,479	\$ 69,760	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,828	\$ 79,079	\$ 71,556	\$ 7,523	90.5
6	Licensing	\$ 800	\$ -	668	461	\$ 39,853	\$ 25,089	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,853	\$ 25,089	\$ 14,563	63.3
7	Councils	\$ 10,000	\$ 7,176	774	645	\$ 43,709	\$ 35,071	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,709	\$ 42,247	\$ 11,463	78.7
8	Planning, Reporting	\$ 9,950	\$ 7,643	868	636	\$ 55,794	\$ 34,676	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65,744	\$ 42,319	\$ 23,425	64.4
9	Administration												
	Total Overhead Staff Hours			5,684	4,336								
	TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 189,800	\$ 160,775	23,395	17,536	\$ 1,000,172	\$ 717,988	\$ 114,400	\$ 65,685	\$ 1,074,372	\$ 813,079	\$ 261,293	

Licence Income 2015/16		Budget		Actual	
2015/16 Fish Licence Income		\$ 1,149,102	\$ 1,214,645		
Less Commission		\$ 57,455	\$ -		
Net Fish Licence Income		\$ 1,091,647	\$ 1,214,645		
2016 Game Licence Income		\$ 242,922	\$ 261,435		
Less Commission		\$ 12,146	\$ -		
Net Game Licence Income		\$ 230,776	\$ 261,435		
Total Licence Income		\$ 1,322,423	\$ 1,476,080		
Total Commission		\$ 69,601	\$ 58,315		
Total Net 2015/16 Licence Revenue		\$ 1,322,423	\$ 1,417,765		

Adjusted Budget		Actual (surplus/deficit) YTD	
Approved Budget		\$ -	\$ (467,386)
Subtotal		\$ -	\$ (467,386)
Adjustments to OWP budgets - Waikaremoana Fund			
Less Waikaremoana Fund Interest		\$ (12,317)	\$ (2,010)
Plus Waikaremoana Fund Expenses		\$ 19,800	\$ -
Adjusted Budget		\$ 6,683	\$ (469,408)

Licence Income 2015/16		Budget		Actual	
OWP Bulk Fund		\$ 1,074,372	\$ 813,079		
Adjustment to OWP budgets - National Approved Budget					
Plus NZ Fish & Game Levies		\$ 183,051	\$ 137,288		
Less Licence Revenue		\$ (1,392,024)	\$ (1,476,080)		
Plus Commission Expense		\$ 69,601	\$ 58,315		
Reinstatement of reserves		\$ 65,000	\$ -		
Adjusted Budget		\$ 813,079	\$ 813,079		
% year complete		83%	76%		

Eastern Region 2015-16 Projected Cash Flow - Schedule B

as at 30 June 2016	May Budget	May Actual	June Budget	June Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Est. Final Position	Total Budget 15/16	Var
INCOME									
Licence	126000	133281	11000	38072	1377000	1386370	1401394	1392024	9370
Other	25276	48613	9309	34357	139378	253556	308587	194409	114178
	151276	181893	20309	72429	1516378	1639926	1709981	1586433	123548
SPECIES									
1110 Population Mntng	1000	972	700	6	30200	23568	31868	38500	-6632
1120 Harvest Assessment	0	0	420	480	1070	849	1929	2150	-221
1140 Hatchery Operations	1711	4741	1411	1501	64380	66967	69637	67050	2587
1180 Control	0	0	0	0	200	0	0	200	-200
	2711	5714	2531	1987	95850	91385	103435	107900	-4465
HABITAT									
1210 RMA	0	0	0	0	200	0	0	200	-200
1220 Works & Mngmnt	500	190	400	105	8682	8074	14074	14682	-608
1230 Assisted Habitat	0	0	0	0	17122	15832	81832	83122	-1290
	500	190	400	105	26004	23906	95906	98004	-2098
CUSTOMER SERVICES									
1310 Access	700	0	500	0	6600	3575	3975	7000	-3025
1330 Newsletters	0	0	0	210	13000	13522	13522	13000	522
1340 Other Publications	0	0	0	0	2000	1000	1000	2000	-1000
1350 Training	200	0	0	0	500	684	784	600	184
1370 Huts	85	166	145	168	1180	1312	1582	1450	132
	985	166	645	378	23280	20094	20864	24050	-3186
PUBLIC INTERFACE									
1420 Communication	0	0	0	90	800	240	240	800	-560
1440 Public Promotions	0	0	0	34	3500	2984	2984	3500	-516
1460 Visitors/Education	0	54	0	103	400	924	924	400	524
	0	54	0	226	4700	4148	4148	4700	-552
COMPLIANCE									
1510 Ranging	175	454	175	995	1750	2286	2636	2100	536
1520 Ranger Training	0	0	0	0	150	0	850	1000	-150
1530 Compliance	375	100	375	1000	3750	4138	4888	4500	388
	550	554	550	1995	5650	6424	8374	7600	774
LICENCING									
1610 Licence Production	0	0	0	0	0	0	800	800	0
1630 Commission	6300	6173	550	1629	73336	58315	54581	69601	-15020
	6300	6173	550	1629	73336	58315	55381	70401	-15020
COUNCIL									
1720 Council Meetings	0	17	2000	1218	8000	7176	9176	10000	-824
	0	17	2000	1218	8000	7176	9176	10000	-824
PLANNING & REPORTING									
1830 Reporting	0	0	0	0	7840	7589	9449	9700	-251
1840 National Liaison	0	0	25	14	137489	137340	183152	183301	-149
	0	0	25	14	145329	144930	192602	193001	-399
ADMINISTRATION									
1910 Salaries	100050	103058	66701	65044	733708	759419	892828	867117	25711
1920 Staff Expenses	13108	15820	1708	2168	19230	20420	27590	26400	1190
1930 Staff Houses	90	0	140	1473	5615	6507	7212	6320	892
1940 Office Premises	1170	755	1169	1597	16507	16882	19775	19400	375
1950 Office Equipment	580	752	580	757	6800	7093	8258	7965	293
1960 Communications	2265	1812	1585	2189	18117	18734	21917	21300	617
1970 General	154	112	154	47	8512	6853	7711	9370	-1659
1980 General Equipment	1494	683	1494	1824	16840	15764	18646	19722	-1076
1990 Vehicles	5828	3787	5428	5345	63684	52177	63041	74548	-11507
	124739	126778	78959	80444	889013	903850	1066979	1052142	14837

18.4 Licence Sales Report

Ref: 6.01.05

21 July 2016

1. Introduction

This report provides an overview of licence sales for the 2015-2016 season.

2. 2016 Game Licence Sales

- 2.1 Game licence sales for the 2016 season YTD are summarised in Table One.
- 2.2 The Eastern Region annual sales target has been achieved with total sales YTD reporting to be 6% ahead of budget and 5.8% ahead of sales reported for the same period last year.
- 2.3 Nationally to 30 June, game licence sales YTD are ahead of budget 1.2% and are also reporting 0.5% ahead of sales reported for the same period last year.

Table One

Comparison of Game Licence LEQs to 20 July 2016

SALES CHANNEL	Adult Season	Junior Season	Child Season	Adult 24 Hour	Junior 24 Hour	Whole Season Equiv.	% Increase/ Decrease on 2015
Agent Online Sales	2733	298	129	118	5	2816	69.2%
Agent Book Sales	97	13	7	0	0	100	-91.7%
Direct Sales*	353	33	17	61	4	372	50.6%
Total Game 2016	3183	344	153	179	9	3289	5.8%
<i>Agent Online Sales</i>	<i>1619</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1665</i>	
<i>Agent Book Sales</i>	<i>1149</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1197</i>	
<i>Direct Sales*</i>	<i>234</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>247</i>	
Total Game 2015	3002	360	165	166	6	3109	
TARGETS	Adult Season	Junior Season	Child Season	Adult 24 Hour	Junior 24 Hour	Whole Season Equiv.	Actual to date % of Target
2016 Total Budget	3000	334	160	180	10	3104	106.0%
2015 Total Sales	3001	357	165	207	6	3115	105.6%
2015 Estimated year end						3296	106.2%

* Direct Sales - Internet, 0800, Mail order

- 2.4 The increase seen in the sale of Game Bird licences in the Eastern Region is the largest nationally followed by Northland (4%) and Central South Island (3.9%). A great result, and most likely a recovery from a downturn of some 14% since 2011.

3. 2015-2016 Fish Licence Sales

- 3.1 Fish licence sales for the 2015-2016 season YTD are summarised in Table Two.
- 3.2 A total of 98.2% of the annual sales target has been achieved with total sales reported YTD improved on our last report from 4.1% to 3.4% below sales reporting for the same period last year.
- 3.3 Nationally to 30 June, fish licence sales were reporting to be 3.6% below the 2014-2015 Season, also an improvement on the previous month.
- 3.4 Although the sale of Adult Winter licences has picked up this category is still showing a decline of 35% when compared with the 2014-15 results.
- 3.5 An increase of 641 licences YTD is seen in the two short term categories of Adult Short Break and Adult Day when compared with last season. These later season sales have contributed to the improved overall result, and it will be interesting to see if this trend continues through to the end of the season.
- 3.6 With a small number of licence books to be returned it is expected that the annual sales target for the season will be achieved.

Table Two

Comparison of Fish Licence LEQs to 20 July 2016

SALES CHANNEL	Family Season	Adult Season	Adult NonRes	Adult			Adult Winter	Adult Short Break	Adult Long Break	Adult 24 Hour	Junior Winter	Junior 24 Hour	Whole Season Equiv.	% Increase/Decrease on 2014-15
				Local Area	Loyal Senior	Adult								
Agent Online Sales	1789	1095	356	212	1536	358	395	81	3668	282	0	282	6465	31.8%
Agent Book Sales	41	17	0	0	0	10	0		425	58	0	58	143	-95.1%
Direct Sales*	1194	841	145	146	466	131	221	60	2546	157	20	157	3857	29.2%
Total Fish 2015-2016	3024	1953	501	358	2002	499	616	141	1446	497	0	497	10465	-3.4%
<i>Agent Online Sales</i>	1458	2002	238			222	375		2397	113	35	113	4905	
<i>Agent Book Sales</i>	771	1080	0			116	337		3069	192	23	192	2947	
<i>Direct Sales*</i>	990	976	151			76	243		1978	95	20	95	2986	
Total Fish 2014-2015	3219	4058	389			414	955		7444	400	78	400	10838	

TARGEIS	Family Season	Adult Season	Junior Season			Adult 24 Hour	Whole Season Equiv.	Actual to date % of Target
			Adult Winter	Junior Winter	Junior 24 Hour			
2015-2016 Total Budget	2760	2247	400	800	2100	4600	10657	98.2%
2014-2015 Total Sales	3211	4036	416	1002	7693	10884	10884	96.1%
2015-2016 Estimated year end							10509	98.6%