



**EASTERN
FISH AND GAME COUNCIL**

***MEETING
AGENDA***

15 June 2017

AGENDA

The 164th Meeting of the Eastern Fish and Game Council

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

Date: Thursday, 15 June 2017

Commences: 12.00 PM

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(R) = resolution required, **(D)** = for discussion/advice, **(I)** = for information only

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE 163rd MEETING OF THE EASTERN FISH
AND GAME COUNCIL, HELD AT THE ROTORUA OFFICES OF FISH & GAME
NEW ZEALAND ON THURSDAY 6th April 2017 AT 12.00PM**

Present

Murray Ferris, Lindsay Lyons, Laurance Tamati, Sandy Bull, Steve Scragg, David Woolner, Neal Hawes, Ken Coombes, Peter Storey, Alan Baird, and Barry Roderick (departed 2.00pm).

IN ATTENDANCE

Andy Garrick, Kate Thompson, John Meikle, Lynne Sands, Eben Herbert, Anthony van Dorp, Mark Sherburn, Lloyd Gledhill, and Matt Osborne (Eastern Fish & Game); Ray Dunlop (Wildfowlers Association); Ken Raureti (Bay Of Plenty Conservation Board, arrived 12.20pm).

1.0 WELCOME

Cr Murray Ferris opened the meeting at 12.00pm and welcomed Councillors, staff, and visitors.

2.0 APOLOGIES

2.1 Apologies were received from Cr Annaka Davis, Matt McDougall and Nigel Simpson (Eastern Fish & Game), Michel Dedual and Dave Conley (Department of Conservation); and Ray Bushell.

2.2 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/David Woolner) that the apologies for the 163rd meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [17/04/2.2]*

2.3 Cr Murray Ferris advised that he wished to defer the Public Excluded Session scheduled for this meeting to Council's next meeting. The purpose of this agenda item was to discuss Council's self appraisal of its performance but he had only recently received all appraisals back and they still needed to be collated and summarised. In addition to this he wanted to allocate additional time to licensing topics which had been received for comment from the National Office after the agenda had been set.

2.4 Cr Barry Roderick wished to acknowledge the commitment of Councillors' in relation to their attendance today, particularly those from the East Coast given the weather related road closures and diversions in place.

3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (16 FEBRUARY 2017)

3.1 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/David Woolner) that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2017 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [17/04/3.1]*

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 Cr Lindsay Lyons requested an update regarding the Rangitaiki water quality issues. Matt Osborne advised that the Regional Council had recently met with Lochinver management onsite and established that substantial areas within the Lake Pouarua catchment had been planted in lucerne to support strip grazing by dairy cattle. They advised this was likely to be a key factor contributing to the degradation of the lake's water quality and the upper river, but noted that these were permitted activities under

the current Regional Water and Land Plan. The new owners of Lochinver Station are keen to do what they can to address what's happening, and have undertaken to work with the Regional Council to identify means of reducing downstream impacts. Discussion followed on the increasing prevalence of the "spray and pray" approach to pasture development on hill country, and the potential effects of this on waterways from runoff. Eben Herbert confirmed that strip grazing has been standard practice for some time, and the impacts of this had not been foreseen 10 years ago when the regional plan was put in place. He advised that the Regional Council would soon be releasing its new Water Quality Plan which would address strip grazing, and noted that Gisborne had already done so in its new plan.

- 5.2 Cr Barry Roderick asked about water quality in the Otamatea Stream and Dry Fly Creek. Matt Osborne advised that both were looking pretty good when he and Anthony van Dorp had visited the area recently, adding that Dry Fly Creek was in fact crystal clear. Council supported Cr Lindsay Lyons' suggestion of a field trip to the Otamatea/Otangimoana Streams later in the year as this would provide Council with greater insight into the emerging issues in the area.
- 5.3 Cr Barry Roderick requested that Item 9.4 in the February 2017 minutes relating to ballot holder involvement in the management of the balloted wetlands be put forward as a future agenda item. Andy Garrick advised that staff's intentions had been to include this in the August agenda.
- 5.4 Cr Barry Roderick also commented on Item 9.5 (bullet point 3) which was intended to record that Fish & Game only measures water clarity and water temperature during drift dives, but for Health and Safety reasons should also be looking into the status of other water quality related parameters e.g. coliforms and faecal contamination prior to conducting the dives. Cr Roderick questioned if we shouldn't also be sampling for nitrogen and other nutrients. Andy Garrick noted that staff collected water samples for Regional Council to conduct these tests from time to time but it was an expensive process (c.\$100/test?) and not something we typically budget for. A better option probably would be to continue to liaise closely with Regional Council and lobby for regular or more intensive water sampling where we have ongoing concerns such as in the upper Rangitaiki. In terms of Health and Safety for staff undertaking drift dives the best and most timely thing we can probably do is to seek up to date *E.coli*/algal bloom status reports from the Regional Council immediately prior to the dives.
- 5.5 John Meikle updated Council on his investigations of Waikato River ramping levels and whether Mercury Energy was abiding by its consents. He advised that information he had obtained via an Official Information Act request to the Waikato Regional Council indicated that it was.
- 5.6 Cr Sandy Bull requested an update on access to the Putere lakes. Anthony van Dorp advised that the majority of the land around the larger lake was privately owned. He confirmed that there is currently an agreement for access with the owner, and that anglers needed to first make contact with the owner whose contact information is available in our latest access brochure. He advised that the people at the marae are also amenable to providing access and they just ask that anglers call in. Anthony also advised that there is a marginal strip around the other lake, and that DOC Gisborne was presently dealing with issues relating to access to that with the surrounding land owner. Anthony was confident that access would be restored there in due course.
- 5.7 Cr Steve Scragg advised that he had been receiving comments that access up the Mokau was poor. Anthony van Dorp advised that staff had been undertaking spawning counts in that area over the last couple of years and access appeared to have

been reasonable. Cr Sandy Bull advised that he would be heading up that way after Easter and would be happy to take a look and report back.

6.0 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR GENERAL BUSINESS

- Cr Steve Scragg - Past Councillor matter
- John Meikle - Display of 'museum' items
- Andy Garrick - Licensing matters - R Sowman mail out
- Cr Barry Roderick – Rachel Stewart's recent article¹
- Cr Alan Baird – Reporoa daily bag limits²

7.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

7.1 No conflicts of interest were identified.

8.0 DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2017-2018 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN

8.1 Andy Garrick advised that we were now into the second stage of the Operational Work Planning process where proposed projects/themes had been identified and external costs associated with these allocated, but with the proposed staff time component for various activities still to be confirmed. Andy provided a brief overview of the key changes to the OWP noting that this was presented as a balanced budget, and that projects that were unable to be implemented within the current bulk fund allocation would require contestable funding bids and the approval of Council to pursue these. Items raised and discussed briefly included proposed East Coast fisheries investigations, analysis and presentation of brood count data from drain surveys and opening day angling survey results, use of Back Country reserves for various works and the need to establish a policy on the use of these funds.

8.2 Andy Garrick described the three proposed Contestable Fund bids and provided some background to the reduction in staff time allocated to, and reimbursed by the Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council. Andy also provided some further detail around the need for security cameras within the office and the grounds, not only for the health and safety of staff, but also for the detection and deterrence of offences relating to infrastructure and hatchery operations in particular. Cr Steve Scragg queried whether staff use body cameras when dealing with compliance matters in the field. Anthony van Dorp confirmed that a camera is in use from time to time and that there is justification for acquiring more as these devices are a useful tool for de-escalating situations. Anthony informed Council that honorary rangers were not permitted to operate in high offending areas and staff were not permitted to attend callouts at certain times and in certain places on their own.

¹ Matter dealt with here – Cr Roderick noted Ms Stewart considered Fish & Game to be being the greatest environmental organisation.

² Matter dealt with here – Cr Baird highlighted some potential issues relating to the Reporoa restricted regulations, i.e. being it could be interpreted that you are able to shoot four mallards on one side of road and eight on the other for a total of 12 birds. Eben Herbert advised that the regulation was clear and if you take four on one side then you can only take four on the other for a total of 8 birds. His advice was that hunters in the area should be careful about being in possession of eight birds in the Reporoa restricted area and suggested that the extra four should be clearly labelled and that the hunters can clearly account for where they have obtained them from.

8.3 *Agreed (Peter Storey/Steve Scragg) that Council receives the draft budget and approves the proposed contestable funding bids for the 2017-2018 Operation Work Plan. [17/4/8.3]*

9.0 WAIKAREMOANA SPORTS FISH HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND

9.1 Council discussed previous and proposed applications for funding from the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund. Cr Murray Ferris queried whether the Waikaremoana Boating and Fishing Association had uplifted the funds approved this financial year for the replacement of navigation markers. Andy Garrick advised that two applications that had been approved from the fund were yet to be uplifted these being for the WBFA Navigation markers (\$12,000), and DOC Lagarosiphon related work (\$39,000).

9.2 Andy Garrick outlined two proposed applications to the fund for the 2017-18 year, one for ongoing monitoring which as originally programmed would after its third year be scaled down and expected to cost in the vicinity of \$12,000 next year (\$19,000 current year), and another for the purchase of a more sophisticated echo sounder for use on the lake, the need for which has become apparent after the recent issues experienced with the water quality monitoring buoy. Andy advised that further staff enquiries since the agenda had been produced indicated that the cost of the latter including installation would be in the vicinity of \$6,500, not \$5,000 as roughly estimated previously. The Australian agent for the sounder we were wishing to acquire was very keen to support Eastern Fish & Game and had offered to provide two sets of this equipment for the price of one. They were keen for Fish & Game to use the equipment to acquire and upload bathymetric and bottom profile data to a publically accessible domain as opportunity permitted for lakes within the region and Waikaremoana in particular. Council supported both of these applications and agreed that it would be appropriate to proceed with the purchase of the 3D sounder in this current financial year.

9.3 *Agreed (Sandy Bull/Steve Scragg) that Council approves \$6,500 funding from the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund for the purchase of a 3D mapping sounder in the current 2016-17 financial year. [17/04/9.3]*

9.4 *Agreed (Peter Storey/Ken Coombes) that Council approves up to \$12,000 to be drawn from the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund for the reduced but ongoing survey and monitoring programme. [17/04/9.4]*

10.0 SPORTS FISHING REGULATIONS

10.1 Andy Garrick advised that this agenda item was the first in a series aimed at reviewing existing Sports Fishing Regulations with a view to simplifying these if it was possible to do so. No resolution or resolutions were required today. Council had indicated its support for reviewing various water ways at its bi-monthly meetings in preparation for the two yearly formal anglers notice review which would commence in February next year. Today's discussion focussed on Lake Tarawera regulations, and Matt Osborne initiated this with a power point presentation highlighting a number of options, the pros and cons of each, and matters needing to be considered.

10.2 Ken Raureti voiced concern in relation to an option to open Lake Tarawera all year round noting the importance of resting the lake for a period as currently occurs.

10.3 Cr Sandy Bull queried the level of conflict between anglers in fly/spin areas and the compatibility of these methods in the same area. Anthony van Dorp advised that staff rarely encountered issues in fly/spin areas involving anglers using these different methods, and most conflicts were between fly anglers and generally arose from selfish

or unethical behaviour on the part of one or both. Anthony believed that the methods could co-exist in most situations if anglers were educated in the etiquette of doing so. Furthermore spin fishers largely fished during daylight hours while fly fishers had close to exclusive access pre dawn and post nightfall.

- 10.4 Cr Neal Hawes suggested there was merit in closing the Te Wairoa stream mouth to all angling from 1 April to protect potential brood stock and remove confusion relating to the taking of hens only from this area, but it was noted by others that this would reduce opportunity for anglers. There appeared to be wide support for the suggestion that the regulation prohibiting the take of wild fish of 620mm length or more could be dropped, and general agreement around proposed wording changes to anchoring rules.
- 10.5 A map and brief overview of changes to regulations warranting further discussion next year based on this meeting's deliberations will be presented to Council at its next meeting in June.

11.0 SPECIES MONITORING

- 11.1 Council received the 2016 Executive Summary for the Rotorua Lakes Opening Day Survey Report.

12.0 LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS

12.1 Reports from other agencies

Bay of Plenty Conservation Board

Ken Raureti advised that black swan numbers in Tauranga Harbour remained a matter of concern for the Board, that silting in the harbour was a significant concern also, and that water quality was on the agenda at every meeting of the Board. Cr Alan Baird queried whether the silting of the harbour was from farm or forest? Ken advised that it was derived from both in addition to a number of other factors. Ken noted that the Whirinaki Forest Conservation Management Plan was about to be put out for public consultation and this had provisions relating to hunting, access, and water quality amongst other things. Ken spoke of the Police Trout Fishing Tournament and suggested that its data would be useful to tap into. He said the average fish size overall this year was 1.42kg, down from 1.57kg last year. Rotoiti was significantly down at 1.7kg from 2.12kg, while Okataina was 2.16kg versus 2.17kg last year.

12.2 Report from the New Zealand Council

Cr Lindsay Lyons advised that the New Zealand Council met for its 125th meeting in Christchurch. Lindsay advised that this had been and will continue to be a big year with the retirement of Bryce Johnson and the appointment of his replacement. He spoke briefly of issues that had arisen for another Fish & Game region which may have been avoided had a complaints procedure been in place. Lindsay said that this had resulted in a great deal of time and effort being imposed on all involved and suggested that this Council should be looking to establish a complaints committee and process to avoid situations such as this in the future. Cr Steve Scragg queried whether this could be something delegated to the Executive Committee and Cr Murray Ferris agreed. Lindsay then went on to comment on an application which was made to the NZ Council for funding for the North Canterbury hatchery, and a requirement for all applications to be made via the managers meetings for recommendation prior to approval being sought from the NZ Council. He advised that concerns relating to the sustainability and financial viability of that hatchery may result in an audit of all Fish & Game hatcheries including Eastern's. Lindsay spoke of issues in getting the guides licence through government, the Governance Forum scheduled for July 2018 being an

opportunity to introduce the new CEO (still to be appointed), and a 48 pound rainbow he had seen taken from a CSI canal on their field trip around the region.

Cr Murray Ferris said it was timely to acknowledge and thank Lindsay for the time and effort that he puts into this role.

13.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

- 13.1 Andy Garrick commented briefly on the new Fish & Game website noting that while it looked very smart it currently fell well short of what we had been looking forward to seeing. It wasn't particularly user friendly and was full of typos, spelling errors, some of which to be fair had probably been carried over the previous website, and had links that either didn't work or went to the wrong place. Its likely to be a work in progress for some time putting these things right, and staff from Eastern and other regions were disappointed that it had been launched prior to being thoroughly checked over and the bugs ironed out.
- 13.2 Lindsay Lyons queried whether non residents, who pay a premium for their non resident licence, shouldn't automatically receive a copy of the Special Edition of the Fish & Game magazine or be able to tick a check box to pay say an additional \$5 for postage to receive it. John Meikle suggested that this may not be viable as he had recently posted a magazine to California at a cost of \$17.50. It was noted that the Special Edition of the magazine would ultimately be available for download on the new Fish & Game website which would overcome the issue.
- 13.3 Andy Garrick briefly spoke of concerns relating to notification of aerial 1080 operations. He noted that DOC had recently set up an interactive 1080 page on its website but this only provided information on its Battle for the Birds' operations and no one else's. Andy had scheduled a meeting with the North Island Operations Communications Manager for OSPRI (formerly TbFree NZ) and a Public Health Officer from the Ministry of Health to discuss ways in which consultation with Fish & Game and communication with licence holders could be improved, and would be promoting the concept of a 'one stop shop' website for DOC, OSPRI, Regional Councils and all other 1080 users.
- 13.4 *Agreed (Peter Storey/Ken Coombes) that the payments for January and February totalling \$390,256.15 be approved, and that Council receives the Health and Safety report, Management report, and Licence Sales report. [17/04/13.4]*
- 13.5 Kate Thompson followed up the Licence Sales report with a power point presentation of recent analyses she had undertaken of fish licence sales trends and the demographics of Eastern fish licence holders. Further analyses of this nature will be undertaken to provide insight into where marketing effort could most profitably be directed.

14.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

- 14.1 Council discussed Robert Sowman's paper on licensing and supported the conversion of a day licence to 4-6 hours and the addition of a premium to the non resident licence day licence to remain consistent with the non-resident season licence. Cr Ken Coombes suggested that the "Whole Season" licence name remain unchanged to avoid confusion. Comments were also made about loss of day licence sales through significant MSA requirements placed on trout fishing guides, and Rotorua being marketed as a cycling destination rather than a fishing one as it once was.

- 14.2 Cr Steve Scragg suggested that another attempt should be made to put forward the name of a former Eastern Fish and Game Councillor for a Queens Service Medal. Cr Murray Ferris advised he would follow up on this and establish what the procedure is.
- 14.3 John Meikle suggested to Council we could make the meeting room more reflective of game bird hunting and sports fish angling history. He asked Councillors if they knew of anyone who wished to donate or loan any items for display noting that while we were not in a position to purchase items we could at least acknowledge their donation or loan on the display.
- 14.4 The final item for the meeting was provided by Matt Osborne in the form of a power point presentation and commentary on their recent drift dive of various locations on the Motu River. Sandy Bull provided a brief history of the source of liberations for the Motu River advising that it had suffered dramatically from siltation over a long period. Sandy thanked staff for their work there with water quality monitoring and drift dives.
- 15.0 MEETING CLOSED**
- 15.1 The meeting was closed at 3.22pm.

.....
Murray Ferris,
Chairman

.....
Date

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

2.0 APOLOGIES

- 2.2 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/David Woolner) that the apologies for the 163rd meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [17/04/2.2]*

3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (16 FEBRUARY 2017)

- 3.1 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/David Woolner) that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2017 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [17/04/3.1]*

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- 8.3 *Agreed (Peter Storey/Steve Scragg) that Council receives the draft budget and approves the proposed contestable funding bids for the 2017-2018 Operation Work Plan. [17/4/8.3]*

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13.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

Ref: 7.02.01

30 May 2017

1. Purpose

A standing agenda item to disclose any Councillor (“Member”) 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 at its October 2016 meeting revised its policy and rules for dealing with Conflicts 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.

Conflict of Interest (refer s2.7 Governance Policies) means when the member can be shown to have actual bias or apparent bias in respect of a matter¹ i.e:

- (i) 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)/associate(s), debtor(s) or creditor(s)).
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) 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.
- (iv) 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.

¹ “Matter” means:

(i) 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 26P(1) of the Conservation Act; or

(ii) An arrangement, agreement, or contract made or entered into, or proposed to be entered into, by the Council.

A potential conflict of interest (refer s2.8 Governance Policies) arises when:

- (i) There is a realistic connection between the member's private interest(s) and the interest(s) of the Council;
- (ii) The member's other interest could specifically affect, or be affected by, the actions of the Council in relation to a matter;
- (iii) 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
- (iv) There is a risk that the situation could undermine public trust and confidence in the member or the Council.

Conflicts of Interest should be dealt with as follows (refer s1.13 Standing Orders):

1.13.1 Every member present at a meeting must declare any direct or indirect conflict of 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 When a conflict of interest arises in respect of a matter, the affected member will:

- (i) not vote on issues related to the matter;
- (ii) not discuss the matter with other members;
- (iii) conform to the majority view of other members present as to whether to be excluded from discussions regarding the matter and/or leave the room when the matter is discussed;
- (iv) not, subject to the discretion of the Chairperson, receive further papers or other information related to the matter.

1.13.3 Where a member can be shown to have a potential conflict of interest, the Council (excluding the affected member) will determine an appropriate course of action, which may include the following:

- (i) applying some or all of the actions applied to a member with a conflict of interest (set out in 1.13.2 i) – iv) above);
- (ii) providing a written explanation outlining why there is no legal conflict of interest that can be made available to all Fish and Game Councils, licence holders and other interested parties.

1.13.4 The conflicted member will be given the opportunity to be heard by the Council on the points raised and the member's submissions will be taken into consideration by the Council.

1.13.5 The minutes must record the declaration and member's subsequent abstention from discussion and voting.

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

3. Recommendation

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

8. DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2017-2018 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN

Ref: 8.02.01

30 May 2017

1. Purpose

To receive the updated draft Operational Work Plan prepared for the 2017-2018 year beginning 1 September 2017 and approve its circulation to clubs and other interested parties.

2. Background

Operational Work Plans are developed over several months from February onwards, and involve a review by Council of strategic and overall priorities in addition to core functions, project themes and allocation of resources. During its February meeting Council identified the priority work areas that it wants to focus on for the next operational year, and these and related projects were incorporated into a draft OWP along with external costs which were presented to and approved by Council in April. At this meeting Council also supported a staff recommendation that two applications for contestable funding be made to the NZ Council. Those applications were subsequently submitted to and approved by regional Fish & Game managers and the NZ Council, and have been inserted into the second draft of the 2017-2018 OWP which has been provided in this agenda's PFI. The latest draft of the plan also includes updated hours and internal costs.

3. Resourcing the Work Plan

The first draft of the 2017-2018 Draft OWP and budget was prepared in accordance with NZ Council's budgeting process and a base funding limit of \$1,075,247. This included \$3,000 for conducting aerial transect counts of mallards in Northland which have since been transferred from Eastern Region's bulk fund to Northland Region's budget for greater transparency.

The applications made to the national contestable funding pool after Council's April meeting comprised an additional \$21,331 for CPI and performance adjustments to salaries, and \$5,000 to install a security surveillance system in the office and elsewhere on site. Incorporating these sums less the \$3,000 transferred to Northland into our budget means our revised total budget for 2017-2018 to \$1,098,578 subject to Ministerial approval of Fish & Game's proposed licence fees for 2017-18 (see next Agenda Item).

In addition to the contestable fund bids, the draft OWP and budget incorporates income of \$30,825 from Hawke's Bay Fish & Game in exchange for administrative, technical and managerial services to be provided by Eastern Region. Hawke's Bay Fish & Game staff will in turn provide Eastern Region with field services valued at \$2,520. The draft work plan also incorporates \$12,000 to be drawn down from the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund to offset staff time and expenses, as agreed to by Council in April [17/04/9.4].

4. Comparison of Resourcing for the 2017-2018 OWP and the 2016-2017 OWP

The main changes to the 2017-18 OWP versus the 2016-2017 OWP at an output class level are as below:

Output	2017-18 external costs	2016-17 external costs	2017-18 hours	2016-17 hours
Species	\$106,500	\$104,100	6,572	6,519
Habitat	\$23,600	\$23,600	3,326	3,343
Participation	\$25,800	\$24,800	2,284	2,393
Public	\$5,000	\$5,000	1,209	1,311
Compliance	\$7,600	\$8,600	1,408	1,437
Licensing	\$800	\$800	522	582
Council	\$10,000	\$10,000	884	772
Plan/Report	\$9,300	\$9,650	1,075	978

The total output hours for the draft 2017-18 OWP are 17,280 hours compared to 17,335 hours last year, and overhead/administration staff hours are 6,220 compared to 6,066 hours last year. A reduction has been made to the licensing output hours due to funding being approved from the New Zealand Council for Eastern staff 's national liaison work which will no longer be directly sponsored for by Eastern Region. The increase in overhead/administration hours arises from a reduction in administrative hours contracted to Hawke's Bay and these have been redirected to health & safety, staff communications, and maintenance of buildings and houses.

5. Next Steps

- Staff will incorporate any amendments to the draft 2017-2018 plan that Council might seek as an outcome of this meeting.
- The draft will then be circulated to clubs and interested parties for comment with feedback required prior to the end of July.
- Council will formally approve the plan at its August meeting after taking into account any submissions received on it and determining whether these require amendments to the plan.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1** *That Council receives the latest draft of the 2017-2018 OWP and identifies any amendments needing to be made to it prior to its circulation to other parties for comment.*

9. 2017-2018 LICENCE FEES

Ref: 6.01.04

31 May 2017

1. Purpose

To consider the NZ Council recommended licence fees for the 2017-2018 year.

2. Background

At its meeting of 19 May 2017, the NZ Council considered licence fee recommendations for the coming 2017/2018 fishing and hunting seasons. The NZ Council resolved to adopt, as a basis for consultation with regions, the recommendation that the sports fish licence fees be based on an adult whole season licence fee of \$127 (incl. GST), and the game licence fees be based on an adult whole season licence fee of \$94 (incl. GST and \$3 Game Bird Habitat Stamp). These fees reflect a \$2 increase (+1.02%) to the fishing licence from last year and a \$1 increase (+0.99%) to the price of the game bird licence. A supporting paper from the New Zealand Council is attached.

3. Discussion

All regional budgets along with the NZ Council budget are assessed collectively at the April managers' meeting in accordance with national budget policy. The key aspect of this policy is that budgets provide a level of base funding sufficient to meet the core operations of each region and the NZ Council. Any increase to base funding for a particular region or the NZ Council must be done through a contestable bidding process.

All regions other than the Southland Fish and Game Council submitted an eligible application(s) for contestable funds. All applications rated as "essential for 2017/18" or "recommended but not essential for 2017/18" were agreed to be funded. These totalled \$448,941 of which \$78,306 will be funded from regional reserves. Further detail including allocations to the National Research Fund and the RMA and WCO/Legal Fund are provided in the paper below.

The NZ Council has taken into account forecasted licence sales and overall funding requirements for Fish & Game nationally prior to recommending licence fee increases for both the fish licence and the game licence. Feedback is now required from the regions (by 19 June) to enable recommendations to be finalised and forwarded to the Minister for approval ahead of the 2017-2018 fishing season.

4. Recommendation

4.1 That the Eastern Fish and Game Council supports the proposed licence fees for 2017-2018 of \$127 (AWS Fish) and \$94 (AWS Game, inclusive of the \$3 Game Bird Habitat Stamp).



TO: Regional Councils

2017/18 LICENCE FEE RECOMMENDATION

At its meeting on 19 May, the NZ Council (NZC) resolved:

That for the purpose of consultation with regional Fish and Game Councils, the NZ Council recommend a 2017/18 adult whole season sports fish licence of \$127 and the adult whole season game licence of \$94 (inclusive of a \$3 fee for the Game Bird Habitat Stamp) inclusive of GST.

1. Background

National policy defines that all expenditure needs to be approved as part of the budget round including expenditure to be funded from the bulk fund for the year, capital expenditure and expenditure from dedicated reserves.

Under the bulk funding regime funding levels are set for the 12 regional councils, the New Zealand Council, and the National budgets which make up the Fish & Game New Zealand budget. The method of increasing the funding level of any individual budget is through an application to the Contestable Fund, for either a one-off funding allocation for a specific project, or for ongoing additional funding. The latter in effect raises the bulk funding level for that council.

2. Reserves

National policy sets regional reserve levels equal to between 30-50% of licence income, or of total budget for those regions which receive a grant. This level of general reserve is considered adequate to provide security against fluctuations in income and to ensure adequate operational cash flow.

Where a region's general reserve exceeds the 50% level, approved contestable funding for that region is allocated from its excess reserve, until such time as that region's general reserve is drawn down to sit within the recommended range. Where a region's reserve is below the 30% level, a contestable fund application can be made to restore the region's general reserve back up to that level.

3. 2017/18 Fish & Game NZ Budget Round with review of 2015/16 Financials

3.1 Variance Review

Preparation of the budgets begins with all instances of more or less than 10% variance between budget and audited year-end financial results being identified at the schedule B level, and explanation for those variances being reviewed at the February managers meeting. This becomes a reference towards considering and prioritising contestable fund applications submitted into the 2017/18 Fish & Game NZ (F&G NZ) Budget.

4. 2017/18 Fish & Game NZ Budget

4.1 Contestable Funding

A total of 37 applications were received, seeking additional funding of \$622,706 exclusive of additional legal/WCO funding, which is funded by the surplus in the contestable fund pool after adoption of licence fees.

After rating all contestable funding applications with the following rankings:

- 1 Rejected
- 2 Not recommended
- 3 Good to do but not funded 2017/18
- 4 Recommended but not essential for 2017/18
- 5 Essential for 2017/18

It was agreed that only those applications which were rated as (5) *essential for 2017/18* be funded and (4) *Recommended but not essential for 2017/18* (totalling \$448,941) inclusive of the \$78,306 to be funded from reserves.

Recommended Funding from the licence fee pool:

The successful applications include:

- Salary CPI totalling \$57,720
- Staff performance increases in seven regions, including two regions increasing staff hours, totalling \$46,500
- Restoration of Reserves for NZC for the amount of \$47,568
- New Field officer position for Northland (including) associated costs for the amount of \$85,300
- Habitat management and enhancement for Taranaki for the amount of \$15,000.
- Novice angler/hunter recruitment & training & Predator Control-Wetland Environments for Wellington totalling \$20,000
- Junior fishing development & refurbishment of office totalling \$25,000 for Nelson/Marlborough.
- Three separate applications-National finance review; Licence management; Development of strategy for marketing totalling \$54,860 for NZ Council for National projects.
- TV Series sponsorship totalling \$20,000 for NZ Council.

Recommended Funding from West Coast Regional council's reserves:

- Salary CPI totalling \$2,622 (on-going)

Recommended Funding from Hawkes Bay Regional council's reserves:

- Staff CPI totalling \$3,089 (on-going)

Recommended Funding from North Canterbury Regional council's reserves:

- Salary CPI & FBT costs totalling \$26,030 (on-going)

Recommended Funding from CSI Regional council's reserves:

- Purchase of Boat for research & compliance work on lake fisheries totalling \$37,000 (one-off)

Recommended Funding from Otago Regional council's reserves:

- Staff CPI totalling \$9,565 (on-going)

Unfunded applications:

3 applications were not recommended for funding this year.

Unsuccessful applications included:

- Reserve restoration as Reserve underfunding calculation used did not include Asset replacement fund – Auckland/Waikato, Wellington & Southland

4.2 NZC Recommendation

NZC accepted the recommendation of Managers for a \$2.00 increase to the Adult whole season fish licence, and has additionally recommended that the adult whole season game license be increased by \$1.00. NZC also has recommended approving total contestable funding applications of \$448,941.

Total contestable funds of \$370,635 to be funded by Licence fee pool, and \$78,306 would be provided from regional reserves for 2017/18. Ongoing approved funding beyond 2017/18 from Reserves for four Fish & Game councils (North Canterbury, West Coast, CSI & Otago) [until the 50% level is drawn down (refer Item 2, Page 1)] is \$138,980 (inclusive of ongoing funding from reserves since 2014) and then this amount will be added to the base fund of the applicable council/s.

Funding of \$185,790 was recommended on an ongoing basis, thereby increasing the bulk funding of the regions concerned and \$532,450 (\$147,568 excluding legal fund) was recommended for the 2017/18 year only, and would therefore be returned to the contestable pool for next F&G NZ budget.

4.3 Research Fund Allocation

The managers' recommended projects totalling \$95,000 for 2017/18 financial year. The budget is retained at \$100,000 plus \$34,000 for Mallard Research.

4.4 RMA & WCO Legal Fund Allocation

The recommended licence fee would provide legal funding of \$384,882 in addition to the \$140,000 existing allocation within NZC budget for this purpose, giving a total 2017/18 budget allocation of 524,882.

5. Conclusion

The 2017/18 licence fee recommendation would result in a \$2 increase to the Adult Whole Season Fish licence fee (from \$125 to \$127) which equates to a 1.016% increase, and a \$1 increase for the Game Licence increasing the Adult Whole Season Game licence fee (from \$93 to \$94 inclusive of the \$3 Game Bird Habitat Stamp) which equates to a .989% increase.

Regional council responses on the proposed 2017/18 licence fees need to be received **no later than Monday 19th June 2017** so that they can be circulated to NZ Council and considered prior to a telephone conference on Wednesday 21st June 2017. The NZC will then recommend to the Minister the new schedule of licence fees.

Alison Lyall
Finance and Administration Manager

26 May 2017

10. BLACK SWAN

Ref: 1.00.07

1 June 2017

1. Purpose

To highlight ongoing concerns raised by a number of parties in relation to impacts of black swan on eelgrass beds in Tauranga Harbour and elsewhere, and review the moratorium Council currently has in place for the issuing of permits to disturb swan on the harbour for the purpose of organised shoots to reduce numbers.

2. Background

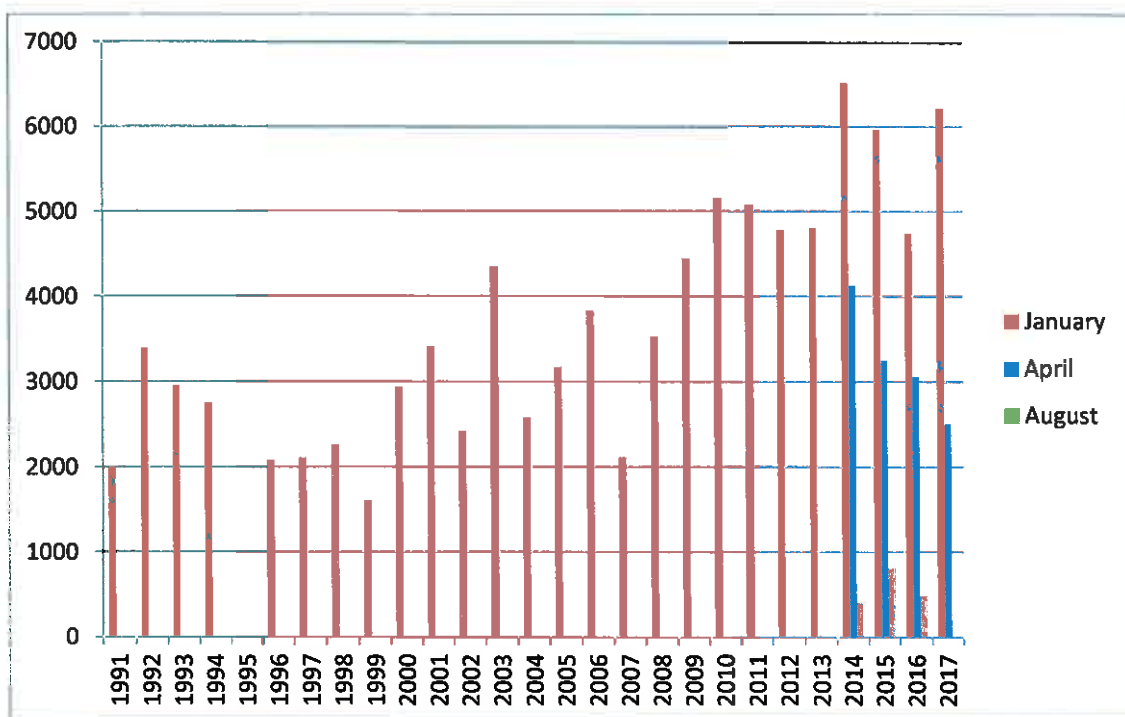
In most years local newspapers publish complaints from members of the community relating to the numbers of black swan in the harbour and their perceived impacts. Issues raised range from swan pooping everywhere to swan eating all the Zostera (seagrass), and even, baby flounder. Over the past year the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board has expressed its concern over the numbers of swan and Canada geese inhabiting the harbour, and more recently the Bay of Plenty Regional Council has advised it is concerned about the numbers of swan not only in Tauranga Harbour but in Ohiwa Harbour also (see letter below). In early May, Matthew McDougall and Crs Roderick and Lyons attended the Western Bay of Plenty Fish & Game Club AGM where Professor Chris Battershill, who holds the inaugural Bay of Plenty Regional Council/Waikato University Chair in Coastal Science based in Tauranga, was giving a talk on Tauranga Harbour research programmes. During that talk he also touched on swans and their impact on Zostera beds, and a need to look more closely at this.

Zostera beds are ecologically very important and provide habitat for many marine species. They play a nursery role for a variety of fish species including snapper, and stabilise sediments. Zostera beds have been significantly reduced by a number of factors, a primary one being accelerated deposition of catchment derived sediment which the Regional Council is endeavouring to address by treating the problem at source. There is evidence to suggest however, that large numbers of swan (and Canada geese) within localised areas can also negatively impact on Zostera, and a PhD study by Dos Santos (2011) suggested that a resident(?) population of 4,630-7,400 swan in Tauranga Harbour could potentially affect 19-30% of the Zostera present.

Given this information and an apparent increase in the swan population on the harbour at the time (see figure below), Fish & Game capitulated to public pressure and agreed to reduce swan numbers by allowing organised annual shoots to take place. Unfortunately an organised shoot in 2013 generated such an outcry in the media from some members of the public that the Minister of Conservation instructed Fish & Game to publically notify any future operations of this sort on the harbour. Fish & Game communications staff suggested that the negative publicity simply wasn't worth it, and at its meeting in June 2013 this Council *“agreed (Steve Scragg/Lindsay Lyons) that Council supports the preparation of a management plan for black swan on the Tauranga Harbour and that*

permits for disturbing swan on the harbour will not be issued until the plan is completed.” [13/06/7.10].

As part of the process to prepare a management plan/strategy staff decided more information was needed on swan numbers, and seasonal patterns in particular. Over the preceding four years, January counts had exceeded the lower threshold of 4,600 birds above which it had been suggested swan grazing may be unsustainable, but anecdotal reports indicated fewer birds were present over the late autumn to early spring period (the departure of some birds being possibly, to breed elsewhere²). In 2014 Fish & Game increased its monitoring of the population and instigated a programme in which aerial counts were undertaken three times per year (January, April and August). As can be inferred from the figure, these counts confirm the anecdotal reports that swan move away over the winter months. April counts are about 55% of the January counts, and the August counts only about 10% of the January numbers. Based on these figures staff considered that swan numbers may not be having the impact alleged, and concluded that additional information was needed before a well founded management plan or strategy could be developed. Added to this was our knowledge that historical band return data and neck collar marked bird sightings showed Tauranga Harbour swans to be connected to, or part of Waikato and Rotorua Lakes swan populations (Williams 1980), and a concern that reducing Tauranga swan numbers could impact on populations and hunters elsewhere.



Aerial counts of black swan on Tauranga harbour (1991 – 2017)

² Count and observational data would agree that swan do not breed on the harbour as cygnets have only been seen once or twice on the harbour margins (river mouths) in the last 21 years of January aerial counts.

3. What Now?

Staff have over the past weeks communicated with both the Regional Council Biosecurity Manager Greg Corbett, and University of Waikato researchers Professor Chris Battershill and Dr Ian Hawes. We have indicated our desire to work collaboratively with these organisations on investigating and clarifying the role black swan might have on the health and status of *Zostera* in the Tauranga and Ohiwa Harbours, and what the size of populations might need to be restricted to, and when and where, in order to make a meaningful contribution to the recovery and sustainability of eelgrass beds. Before a management strategy(ies) for black swan can be prepared we need to have a greater understanding of a number of matters. Specific questions needing to be addressed include:

- What is the past and present status of *Zostera* within the harbour (location and areal extent/biomass, health etc)?
- What changes have occurred, at what rate, and where?
- What are the factors involved in these changes and what is the relative role of each, and in particular, black swan?
- When, where and how do black swan impact on *Zostera*?
- What is the past and present status of black swan within the harbour (locations, numbers, demographics, activity, seasonal usage)?
- Where do the birds that are not full-time residents disperse to and do they return?
- Where do the Tauranga Harbour birds breed?
- What are the geographic boundaries of this population(s) of black swan?
- How many black swan would need to be removed from the harbour to 'make a difference' if it was possible to do so to the distribution and abundance of *Zostera*? Would removal of swan do anything to counteract the impact of the other factors that have primarily been responsible for the decline of *Zostera*?
- What impact would a reduction in black swan numbers in Tauranga Harbour have on wider (i.e. regional and inter regional) black swan populations and the interests of, and opportunities for game bird licence holders elsewhere?

Further meetings will be convened with key parties to develop a research strategy and discuss means of resourcing projects. Waikato University and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council have both indicated an interest in being involved with this, with the former potentially and most likely to be taking the lead role. We believe the focus of the programme should be on all factors impacting on *Zostera* so that any impacts of black swan can be put into the broader context. Eastern Fish & Game's contribution is likely to

be confined to providing aerial count data, undertaking additional surveys of bird numbers and mapping distributions if required, catching and marking of birds if required, and/or providing expert input to the design of these projects and the analysis of data collected.

4. Recommendations

4.1 *That the Eastern Fish and Game Council receives this update and endorses the need to prepare a black swan strategy(ies) based on a more robust understanding than we currently have of the impact these birds have on Zostera beds in the Tauranga and Ohiwa Harbours.*

4.2 *That the Eastern Fish and Game Council reaffirms its earlier intention to not issue permits for disturbing swan on Tauranga Harbour until such time as the strategy has been prepared or information comes to hand identifying an urgent need to reduce bird numbers.*

Literature Cited:

DOS SANTOS, V. M. 2011. *Impact of Black Swan Grazing and Anthropogenic Contaminates on New Zealand Seagrass Meadows*. Doctor of Philosophy, Waikato.

WILLIAMS, M. The Demography of New Zealand's *Cygnus Atratus* Population. Proceedings of the Second International Swan Symposium, 1980 Sapporo, Japan 147-161.

Your Ref:
Our Ref: 4.00064



30 May 2017

Andy Garrick
Regional Manager
NZ Fish and Game - Eastern Region
Private Bag 3010
Rotorua 3046

Dear Andy

Swans in Tauranga and Ōhiwa harbours

Thank you for meeting with us on 4 March 2017 to provide feedback on our Regional Pest Management Plan discussion document. During that meeting we briefly discussed Council's concerns relating to swan impacts in the Tauranga and Ōhiwa harbours and I undertook to provide more specific information on the nature of our concerns.

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council, with support from partner organisations, has been working to improve the health of the regions harbours. Each harbour has a management plan in place and is governed by an inter-agency group; for further detail please see the links below.

<http://www.boprc.govt.nz/council/committees-and-meetings/ohiwa-harbour-implementation-forum/>

<http://www.boprc.govt.nz/council/committees-and-meetings/te-awanui-tauranga-harbour-advisory-group/>

The annual investment by Regional, District and City councils in these programmes is significant. Our council has spent over \$18.6m in the last four years, with the majority of this spend focused on sedimentation issues and sea lettuce.

One of the challenges facing both harbours is the decline of seagrass beds and associated habitats. In Ōhiwa these beds have reduced by 25% since 1945, with greater reductions in the Tauranga Harbour. These habitats are ecologically important as they support species diversity and maintain habitat stability. They are also important nursery areas for many fish species including snapper.

There are many reasons for the decline in seagrass beds over the last few decades and Council's work is focussed on addressing some of the contributors such as sedimentation. Swans are known to feed on seagrass beds and can have significant localised impacts with some beds being reduced by up to 90%. These beds can take up to three years to recover from this grazing pressure. On top of this, studies have shown the loss of rare seagrass-coraline turf habitats can be associated with swan disturbance. Observations by council staff suggest that swans numbers are building in Ōhiwa harbour (from ~20 three years ago to about 60 this year).

Objective ID:

Staff also note that they congregate in the vicinity of seagrass beds and grazing damage is noticeable.

As seagrass ecosystems are currently significantly reduced, we ask that Fish and Game work with us to maintain and enhance remaining seagrass beds, and associated habitats, by managing swan populations to reduce grazing and disturbance.

If you wish to discuss this issue further, please contact me 0800 884 881 ext. 7571.

Yours sincerely



Greg Corbett
Manager Biosecurity

11. LAKE ROTOITI SPORTS FISHING REGULATIONS

Ref: 1.07.01

1 June 2017

1. Purpose

To identify regulations within the Eastern Region Anglers Notice that could be amended or dispensed with altogether to simplify the rules of freshwater sports fishing within the region, make them easier to interpret, and remove barriers to participation.

2. Background

The Anglers Notice sets regional sports fishing regulations and any changes from one season to the next go through a consultation process with licence holders and interested parties before being recommended to the Minister of Conservation. Sports fishing regulations are set to ensure the sustainability of fisheries without unnecessarily restricting angler opportunities.

Eastern Fish & Game established an Anglers Notice Policy in 2003 after several years of consultation with licence holders on how fishing regulations should be applied and what should be considered to warrant a change to any regulations. The policy identifies two functional groups of regulations within the Anglers Notice. The first group of regulations are those that have a biological effect on the fisheries and more direct effects on trout populations. The second group of regulations are those that serve a social function and relate to the way anglers interact with each other. Suggested changes to the Anglers Notice from year to year are considered within the guidelines of this Anglers Notice Policy. The Anglers Notice Policy is included as Appendix 2 to this agenda item.

This policy approach has greatly simplified the task of reviewing the anglers notice and enabled regulations to be applied consistently across the region.

During the course of Anglers Notice reviews over the years the Eastern Fish and Game Council has on a numerous occasions expressed an interest in simplifying the angling rules. The status quo has almost invariably been maintained due to the diversity of opinion councillors and anglers have in relation to this topic and the nature of some of the changes mooted.

At Council's February meeting it was suggested that some time could be allotted to each of Council's remaining meetings this year to review Eastern's regulations in instalments, the aim being to identify how these could be made simpler. The outcomes of these reviews could then be fed into the more formal biennial review of the Anglers Notice which will get underway in February 2018.

No submissions from other parties have been received for Council consideration needing to be urgently addressed prior to that formal process. A late submission to the 2015-16 Anglers Notice review was received from the Ngati Pikiiao Fishing Club regarding the

opening of the Ohau Channel to replace the current fly fishing only with a provision enabling spin fishing there also. This will be held over for the review in 2018.

3. Review Process

Staff have concluded that the most logical and productive approach to conducting this exercise is to review regulations waterway by waterway. Feedback from anglers indicates the areas in which rules generate greatest confusion are lakes Tarawera and Rotoiti followed by Okataina, Rotorua, Rotoma, and the tributaries feeding Waikaremoana.

Confusion is due largely to the complex layering of regulations that provide for biological sustainability while also seeking to protect angler values and prevent conflict between anglers.

Staff have previously produced pictorial regulation maps for Tarawera, Rotoiti, Rotorua and Okataina as a way of assisting anglers to interpret the regulations, and these will be used to assist Council with its deliberations.

At Council's April meeting, staff ran through potential options for simplifying Lake Tarawera's regulations. These options involved changing the open season for angling to the whole lake, relaxing fly fishing only rules, removal of a no trolling area (Rangiuru Bay), redefining where boats must be anchored, and removing maximum length restrictions for wild fish. A recap of options for Tarawera will be briefly presented at this meeting (June) meeting.

This meeting's primary focus however, will be on Lake Rotoiti.

4. Lake Rotoiti

4.1 Matters for Consideration

A similar approach can be taken to reviewing what are largely similar issues to those Council considered at its April 2017 meeting in relation to Lake Tarawera. Again the objective is to remove barriers for new anglers to the lake and novice anglers to the sport.

The current complexity of the Rotoiti regulations arises from the vast array of regulation layers perceived as being necessary to protect the sustainability of the trout fishery or provide angling opportunity and prevent angler conflict. Rotoiti is the most highly utilized angling location in Eastern Region, and during the 2014-15 National Angler Survey was reported as having $40,110 \pm 4,190$ angler days.

Options for simplifying rules include altering one or more of the rules relating to season duration, method restrictions, bag and/or size limits, and regulating how and where anglers may fish from vessels.

The regulations and issues which singly or in combination lead to confusion are as follows:

1. ***A partial open season to the main lake body and many stream mouths.***
(*Open season/permitted methods p23 2016-17 Sports Fishing Regulations*)

Lake Rotoiti opens to trout angling on 1 October and closes at midnight 30 June except within marked winter shoreline zones (Point 2). This effectively means boat based anglers may only fish for 9 months of the year on Rotoiti. Having this rule in place will reduce the annual harvest of trout, but is unlikely to affect the sustainability of the fishery. The rule does however lead to the popular opening day event on 1 October that kicks off the season.

2. ***One area of shoreline remains open to angling from the shore year round.***
(*Open season/permitted methods, p23 2016-17 Sports Fishing Regulations*)

The open winter shoreline zones are accessible by road, vessel and foot. They provide opportunity for fly fishers and/or spin anglers year round except in specified landmarked areas. These are traditional winter angling areas spawning fish come into and can be targeted. All inflowing tributaries are closed (excepting Ohau Channel).

3. ***All areas of the main lake are open to fly and spin methods for a portion of the year, then some areas become fly fishing only from 1 April.***
(*Open season/permitted methods, p23 2016-17 Sports Fishing Regulations*)

Within a 200m radius of all stream mouths on Lake Rotoiti, fly fishing only was the historical rule. This was a social rule to reduce conflict between angling groups, the rationale being, spin anglers don't mind fishing beside fly anglers, but fly anglers are less tolerant of spin anglers casting across their lines. Several years ago, the Eastern Council in a move to provide opportunity, particularly for children and holiday makers, allowed fly and spin methods in all open fishing areas, but only between 1 October and 31 March. From 1 April, extra pressure at these high intensity sites is often experienced as spawning fish start to turn up seeking areas in which to spawn. Given the generally restricted area available at many of these places the fly only designation seeks to align the angling method to reduce arguments.

There have been very few, if any complaints received from anglers about the opening up of these zones to spin fishing between 1 October and 31 March. Date restrictions do however contribute to angler confusion.

- 4. It is fly fishing only within 300m of the Ohau Channel Delta landmark pole compared to 200m at all other fly fishing only stream mouths within Eastern Region.***

(Open season/permitted methods p23 2016-17 Sports Fishing Regulations)

A radius of 200m around all landmark poles designates the distance within which the fly fishing only rule applies at all waterways within the Eastern Region other than where the Ohau Channel meets Lake Rotoiti where the distance is 300m. The situation here reflects the former characteristics and usage of the site. The fly fishing only designation and 300m radius ensured that all of what was once a high use angling location (pre Ohau diversion wall) was fly only to reduce potential fly angler-spin angler conflict.

Since the wall was constructed in 2008 the delta area has become a low use angling area because the location has effectively become a 'run of the river' environment. This raises the question of whether the 'fly fishing only' status is still appropriate, or whether it should be revoked and the area opened up to provide opportunities for spin anglers also. Another situation created with the installation of the wall is that not only is it no longer possible for shore based anglers to fly fish what was once delta habitat on the lake side of the wall, trolling cannot be undertaken there if the angler is within 300m of the landmark pole. This restriction is clearly unnecessarily and affecting opportunity for some as the outside of the wall is far removed from the channel and the delta in terms of its connectivity.

No complaints have been received in relation to this but there appears to be no reason why this landmark anomaly could not be tidied up and simplified.

- 5. There is a minimum size for takeable trout whether it be a wild fish or a hatchery released fish (350mm).***

(Regulation 9.4, p27 2016-17 Sports Fishing Regulations)

Having a minimum size in place is important for protecting juvenile fish to ensure that they are given the opportunity to reach maturity and maximum size. It is well known that there is a minimum size for trout and this is consistent across the Rotorua lakes (and soon Taupo potentially).

- 6. To correctly interpret the rules for Lake Rotoiti you need to cross reference and refer to multiple pages within the Sports Fishing Regulations booklet. For example, if you are reading p24 detailing the lake's "Open Season, Permitted Methods and Bag Limits", you must also go to p25 'Closed Waters', p26 "Use of Boats" and "Hours of fishing", and to p27 "Minimum and Maximum Fish Length".***

Having all information within one section of the regulations would alleviate the need to flick back and forth through the book, but repetition would be required across all

listed waterways. Having a consistent format across all Fish & Game regions is important to ensure this in itself is not confusing or lead to misinterpretation.

7. *Boats must be anchored when fishing in an area that is designated 'fly fishing only' for any part of the year.*

(Use of Boats, Regulation 7.2(a), p26 2016-17 Sports Fishing Regulations)

This regulation aims to stop conflict between boats trolling through high intensity shore based angling areas. Many of the areas concerned are stream mouths where fish congregate. To make the rule clearer, it could be altered to read “No licence holder may fish from an unanchored boat within 200m of a landmarked stream mouth”. Regulation 7.2(a) also provides an exception to this requirement in a designated 'fly fishing only' at Lake Whakamarino (Tuai) and the question arises is the rule necessary?

4.2 Staff's Thoughts

An underlying principle should be that any change proposed should not impact on the biological sustainability of the wild fishery.

To make regulations within the Eastern Region Anglers Notice easier to understand and more concise, staff consider the following possibilities are worthy of consideration:

4.2.1 *Open Lake Rotoiti 1 October - 30 September*

The regulations would be greatly simplified if the entire lake was opened year round. This would however, mean the loss of the anticipation and excitement that accompanies the opening of the season.

4.2.2 *Remove fly fishing only designation*

Allow fly and spin within all areas of the lake. Traditional fly anglers are likely to express concern, particularly in small embayments where angling is concentrated around a weak stream flow, e.g. at Ruato Bay and Hinehopu. Within other areas where spin fishing is or has been permitted, Fish & Game staff rarely see or hear of issues arising.

4.2.3 *Change current definition 7.2(a) relating to boats and fly fishing only areas to “No licence holder shall fish from any unanchored boat within 200m of a landmarked stream mouth”.*

Remove reference (for Rotoiti and other lakes) to “fishing from a boat within an area that is for any part of the year reserved for fly fishing only”. Referring instead to landmarked stream mouths would align with Taupo regulations and be easier to interpret. There are already landmark poles at all stream mouths. Point 4.2.4 below creates another issue.

4.2.4 *Move landmark pole at Ohau Delta to another location*

If the differentiation between the Ohau delta radius and other stream mouth radii is thought to be an issue, it may be practical to reposition the landmark pole at the delta depending upon land tenure and permissions being obtained to do so.

Or, the landmark pole could be shifted further up the channel and/or another point identified as the cut off point for fly fishing only e.g. at the SH33 bridge at Mourea. This would enable the area known as ‘the delta’ to be opened to both fly and spin.

5. *Recommendation*

- 5.1 *That Council identifies changes to regulations that would make interpretation of the rules relating to Lake Rotoiti simpler and worthy of further consideration as part of the 2017-2018 Anglers Notice review process.***

APPENDIX 1. Lake Rotoiti Regulation Map (2016-17 season)



APPENDIX 2. Anglers Notice Policy

Ref: 1.07.01

21 May 2003

1. Background

Fish and Game New Zealand spends a significant amount of time each year considering changes to the Anglers Notice. Changes to the regulations have, in the past, generally occurred in an ad hoc fashion, often in response to specific requests from anglers. Council has recognised that this has resulted in the inconsistent application of regulations across the region. To resolve this situation Council has developed policy which determines how and when regulations apply. The underlying approach taken to developing the policy has been to clearly identify the need for regulations or the issues, which may prompt specific regulations to be considered. The purpose of this policy is to remove inconsistencies and simplify the regulations and reduce the amount of time that council are required to devote to the process.

The policy has been established around two key groups of regulations within the Angler's Notice. The first group of regulations are those that serve a social function and relate to the way anglers interact with each other. The second group of regulations are those that have a biological effect on the fisheries and have more direct effects on trout populations.

2. Social Regulations

The Anglers Notice contains a number of regulations that affect anglers rather than the fish they are targeting. These regulations can be considered social in nature, and are set to control the impacts that anglers have upon each other. These regulations are imposed to maximise the opportunities available and the quality of the angling experience. Social regulations generally relate to how anglers are allowed to fish (permitted methods).

The Council has developed policy for determining social based regulations based on the intensity of the angling that occurs, and therefore the potential for anglers to impact upon each other. Angling intensity has been established using known information from levels of angler use and the amount of water available for fishing.

Fishing methods

Policy 2.1 Setting of method restrictions for waters shall be based upon the following framework.

Water Category	Level of use of water (threshold)	Methods Available
• Lake edge fisheries and associated migratory spawning waters	Low Intensity Use (<i>< 10 anglers/100m/season</i>)	• All methods, Bait*,
	Moderate Intensity Use (<i>10-200 anglers/100m/season</i>)	• Fly, Bait*, Spin • No unanchored boats
	High Intensity Use (<i>>200 anglers/100m/season</i>)	• Fly only, Bait* • No spin fishing • No unanchored Boats

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower density river fisheries based on resident trout populations 	Low Intensity Use <i>(<24 anglers/100m/season)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All methods, Bait*
	High Intensity Use <i>(>=24 anglers/100m/season)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fly only, Bait*

*Bait fishing has a biological effect on trout populations and because of the high hooking mortality shall not be applied where fish may be legally required to be released due to size limits or restrictive bag limits. Bait fishing would only therefore apply in waters where there were no bag or size limits.

Bait

Policy 2.2 (i) Bait fishing will only be permitted in waters that have no bag limits or no size limits.

- (ii)** Bait in the Eastern Region shall only include;
- Natural fly.
 - Natural insect.
 - Natural spider.
 - Natural worm or worms.
 - Natural crustacean.
 - Natural fish (excluding fish ova, or any portion of a fish, or shellfish (mollusc), and fish can only be sourced from the water where the fishing is to occur).
 - Uncoloured bread dough.

Boats in winter shoreline areas

Policy 2.3 Fishing from a boat shall not be permitted in designated winter shoreline fishing areas.

3. Biological Regulations

Biological regulations are required to ensure the sustainability of the trout populations or fishing opportunities, or to provide for specific management objectives. Criteria for biological based regulations will generally be qualitative in nature and based upon dive counts, trap runs, angler surveys etc.

Policy 3.1 The biological regulations applied to waters shall be based upon the following table.

Category	Description	Regulation Applied
<i>Sustainability I</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure adequate recruitment of juveniles to provide later harvest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect spawning rearing waters. Closure of waters and season length most effective tool. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close waters to fishing if they provide significant proportion of recruitment. Length of closure related to importance of contribution, availability of other spawning, fishing opportunity potentially provided and duration of spawning.
<i>Sustainability II</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure adequate survival of adults to spawn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect sufficient fish through to maturity to enable them to spawn. Size limits most effective tool for protecting fish. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Size limits guarantee protection of fish to maturity. Size limits can be adjusted based upon knowledge of harvest rates.
<i>Harvest Allocation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To share available harvest Bag limit most effective. 	Moderate or high demand & limited fish availability.	River fisheries that attract moderate to high use and/or contain limited numbers of fish (currently 2 fish bag limit)
	High demand & high fish availability.	Restrict excessive fish harvest to enable equitable allocation (currently 8 fish)
	Low demand & high fish availability.	No bag limit.
<i>Management Objective</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance specific component 	Enhance specific component of fishery for deliberate management objective, e.g. Okataina size limit.	Combinations of size limits, season length and bag limits. Requires specific project proposal and justification.

4. Review Process

Following the formal adoption of this policy, the first step is to review the existing regulations and identify any changes that will be necessary to ensure that they comply.

In future, changes to regulations will be based upon this policy framework. Future reviews of the Anglers Notice will be guided by the policies adopted. Changes will occur if there are either changes in intensity of angler use or changes in biological factors influencing a fishery. The other mechanism to cause change would be through the review of the threshold criteria that differentiate the various categories of regulation.

An example of how changes might occur in future is given below.

- The current level of angling intensity on River X has been calculated to be 135 visits per 100m per season. This is derived from a National Angler Survey estimate of 2030 angler visits and a 1500m fishable length (Angler Access Database Information) and therefore fits the stream into the Lake based fisheries moderate intensity category.
- New Angler Survey figures are obtained that shows angler use has increased to 4500 visits per season. An additional 300m of fishable water has been opened due to a new esplanade reserve being created as a result of subdivision. When both these factors are taken into account the angling intensity has now increased to 250 visits per 100m per season.
- Angling Intensity on River X has gone from the Lake Fisheries moderate category (10-200 visits per 100m per season) to the high category (>200). As a result the River X will become a water which was designated fly fishing only.

12. LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS

12.1 Conservation Boards

- ***Tongariro-Taupo Conservation Board***
(note summary report from Cr Annaka Davis provided in June PFI)
- ***East Coast/Hawke's Bay Conservation Board***
- ***Bay of Plenty Conservation Board***

12.2 Reports from other agencies

- Department of Conservation

12.3 Report from New Zealand Council

(note summary report from Robert Sowman provided in June PFI)

13. OPERATIONAL REPORTS

13.1 MANAGEMENT REPORT

1 June 2017

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

1111 River Fisheries Investigations

Didymo monitoring

Staff are due to undertake the quarterly didymo delimiting survey in the Ngongotaha in early June. Didymo remains absent from North Island waters according to the most up to date survey results and information.

Back Country Fishery Designation

The Non Resident licence came into effect in 2014 when the NZ Council recognised that extra revenue needed to be put aside to protect and manage “Back Country” Fisheries. These fisheries are those that are deemed to be ‘significant’, are attractive to overseas anglers, and/or are ‘sensitive’ in the sense that they require additional protection or special management. Staff have commenced discussions around the definition of what an Eastern Region back country fishery might look like but require further time to work through and identify criteria for the identification of such. This will be the subject of an agenda item for Council’s August meeting.

1112 Datawatch

During the eight months following the season opening (1 October), a total of 349 datawatch tags have been returned and entered into the database. The distribution is as follows:

Lake Okareka	12
Lake Okataina	98
Lake Rerewhakaaitu	17
Lake Rotoehu	12
Lake Rotoiti	78
Lake Rotoma	9
Lake Rotorua	9
Lake Tarawera	113
Lake Tutira	0
Lake Waikaremoana	1

data entered to 9 May 2017

The total number of tags returned is down 33 on that returned to approximately the same date during the 2015-16 season. Lakes with higher returns for the same period are Lakes Okataina (up 21), Tarawera (up 12) and Okareka (up 3). Lakes Rotoiti is down 36, and Rotoehu is down 15.

1113 Lake Waikaremoana

Monitoring Buoy

The Lake Waikaremoana Water Quality Monitoring Buoy is currently sitting at the University of Waikato pending a quote for rebuilding of the sensor chains to which the recovered sensors would be re-attached. Once a quote has been obtained we will approach our partner agencies Genesis and Hawke's Bay Regional Council to discuss funding options.

Lake Waikaremoana Surveys

Staff were unable to undertake any survey trips during April or May to investigate angler usage and success at the major Waikaremoana tributaries. The three cyclones (Debbie, Cook and Donna) created severe flooding in the catchments and resulted in the SH38 Waikaremoana road being closed between Murupara and Waikaremoana. Some angler diaries from the main lake have been received however.

1114 Lake Tarawera

Tarawera Outlet Drift Dives

The Lake Tarawera Outlet was drift dived by Fish & Game staff on 16 May. The area surveyed extended from the lake edge at the entrance to the Outlet to approximately 1km downstream. A total of 246 large trout, 0 medium trout and 3 small size class trout were counted. The numbers of smaller size class trout (small and medium) were far below numbers recorded in May in previous years possibly due to higher water flows through the channel having enticed these juveniles into the lake. Numbers of spawning fish were on par with previous May counts. Further Tarawera Outlet drift dives will be undertaken in early June, July and August as part of the 2017 Lake Tarawera spawning monitoring programme.

Lake Tarawera Fishery Monitoring Project Update

A costed proposal for a post doctorate research programme investigating Lake Tarawera's food webs and limnetic trout food supply was drafted and presented to the Fish & Game managers meeting and subsequently went on to be considered by the NZ Council (see PFI). Approval was obtained for the preliminary funding sought from the national research fund, and coupled with the \$5k allocated to the project by Eastern Region means we now have 25% of the funds required to implement the project. Since then we have met with University of Waikato staff involved in the Rotorua Lakes water quality programmes and will be meeting with David Hamilton and other potential funding partners over the coming weeks to discuss further.

1115 Other Lake Fisheries Investigations

Ngongotaha Trap-run

The trap was operated for nine nights during March. Flooding meant that the trap was unable to be operated over the last night. The largest fish was a 680mm, 5.3kg brown female. The number of trout trapped was lower than during March 2016.

Ngongotaha Stream trap run (March 2017)

	<i>Av. Length</i>	<i>Av. Weight</i>	<i>Trap Run</i>	<i>Fish/night</i>	<i>i0 pound+</i>	<i>% Brown</i>
<i>Rainbow</i>	470	1.50	35	4		
<i>Brown</i>	583	2.85	37	4		51%

During April the Ngongotaha trap was operated for nine nights only also (again due to flooding). Two brown trout exceeding the ten-pound mark were recorded. The largest fish was a 650mm, 4.8kg brown male. Brown trout made up 73% of the monthly run.

Ngongotaha Stream trap run (April 2017)

	<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>	478	1.77	44	5		
<i>Brown</i>	570	2.88	118	13		73%

Ngongotaha Stream trap run (May 2017)

The Ngongotaha trap was operating when this report was being written.

1116 Waterfowl Monitoring

Aerial Transect Counts

Just prior to opening weekend Fish and Game staff conducted aerial mallard and grey counts in Northland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Reporoa, and Hawke's Bay. Large tracts of farmland were still under water and many hectares of maize were flooded and un-harvested. These areas had attracted large numbers of ducks so those hunters that had access to these areas will have done well. Counts have not been analysed yet but the general feeling is that numbers counted were similar to last year other than around flooded maize fields.

Tauranga Harbour swan were also counted (2,500) during these flights. Numbers were down on the 2016, 2015, and 2014 counts for the same month.

1121 Lake Fisheries Creel Surveys

Summer Creel Survey

The 2016-17 summer survey has been completed. The data is currently being entered into an Access database. Once this is complete, analysis of the data will be undertaken.

Winter Creel Survey

The 2017 winter shoreline survey for Lakes Rotoiti, Tarawera and Okataina began in late April. Shoreline fishing began slowly across all three lakes in early May. Towards the last week of May a few more anglers were encountered and their results were mixed. Okataina anglers seem relatively happy with some double figure fish landed. Rotoiti has been hit and miss, although the Pipe at Hinehopu has produced fish up to 4.6kg. Tarawera has yielded fish to 3.3kg at various sites.

1123 Game Bird Hunter Survey

Opening Weekend Game Bird Harvest Results

The opening weekend harvest survey of mallard and grey duck indicates the start to the season was not as good as we had anticipated (Figure 1). Part of the poor performance was due to hunters only putting in just over 6 hours on average for the whole weekend (Figure 2; Table 1). According to the surveyor many took advantage of the clear calm weather to go sea fishing on Sunday.

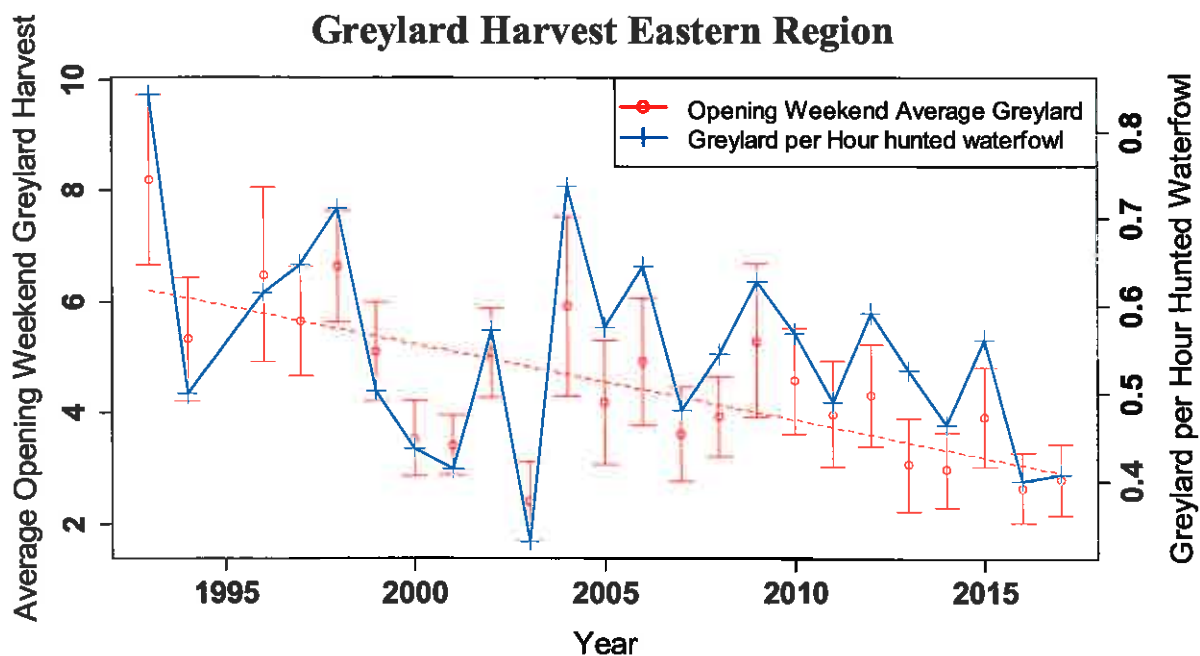


Figure 1. Opening weekend average mallard and grey duck harvest (1993 – 2017; excluding 1995) for all hunters (active hunters plus those that did not hunt) red circles (mean \pm 95% CI). The red dashed line is the regression line fitted to the average harvest data. The blue solid line (right y-axis) is mallard and grey duck harvested per hour hunted.

Nevertheless, some areas reported the best season ever (e.g. Kaituna Wildlife Management Reserve), while other areas appeared to struggle (e.g. Gisborne). Paradise shelduck harvest was similar to the previous year's (Figure 3).

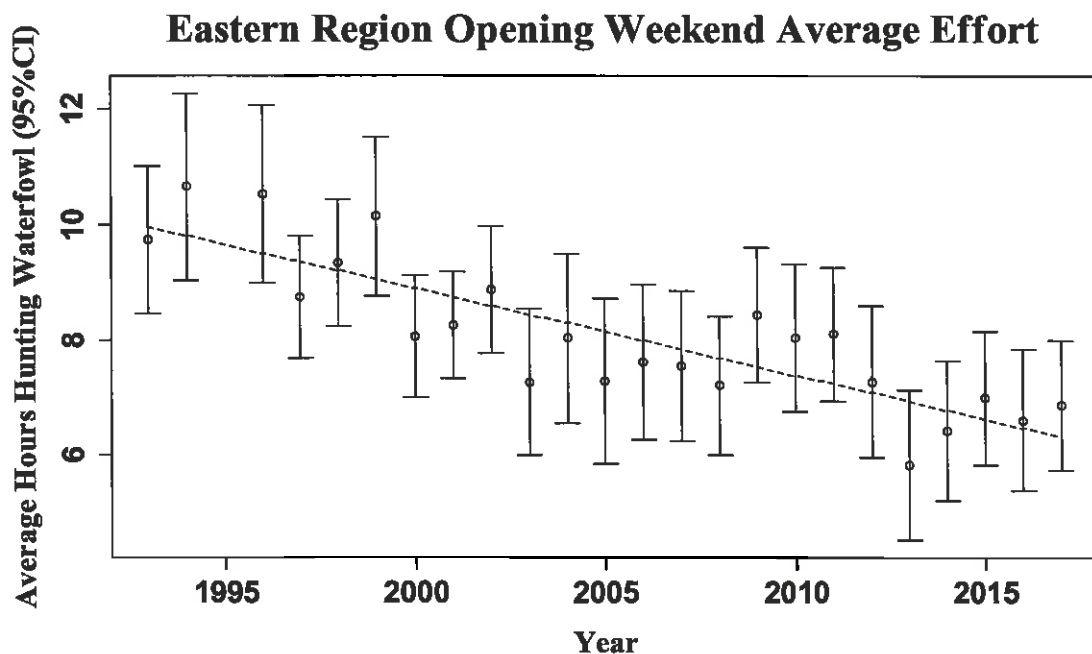


Figure 2. Average hours (mean \pm 95% CI) for all Eastern licence holders spent hunting waterfowl in the Eastern Region (1993 – 2017; excluding 1995).

Paradise shelduck Eastern Region

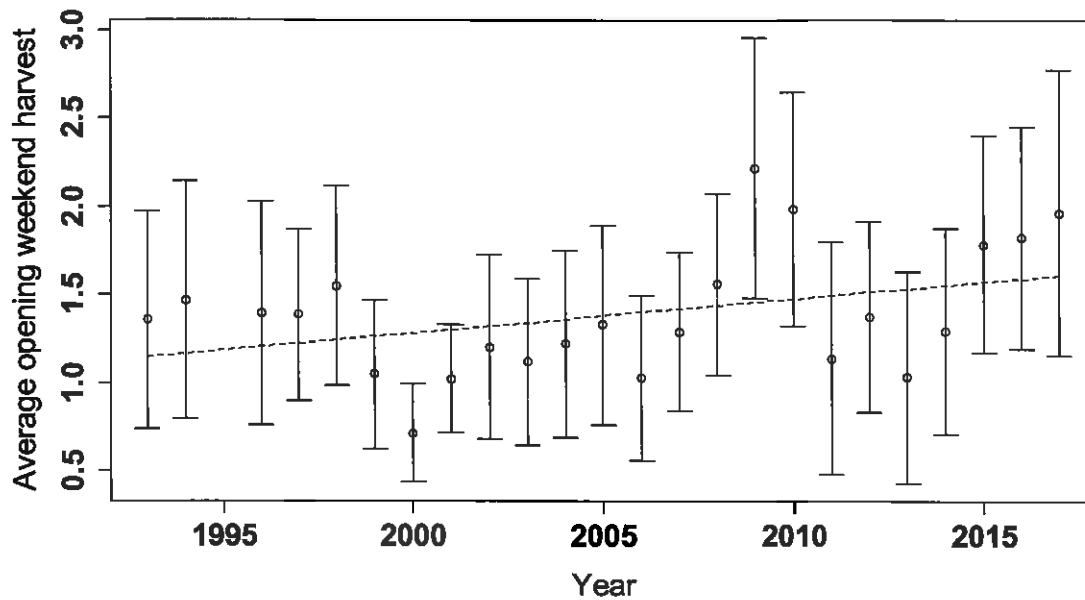


Figure 3. Average paradise (mean \pm 95% CI) harvest for all Eastern licence (1993 – 2017; excluding 1995). The dashed line is the regression line.

Table 1. Average hours, mallard and grey duck harvested 1993 – 2017 ((excluding 1995) in the Eastern Region

Year	Hours	Mallard	Grey
1993	9.735	6.485	1.703
1994	10.651	4.687	0.639
1996	10.535	5.424	1.061
1997	8.736	4.857	0.795
1998	9.333	5.613	1.028
1999	10.144	4.517	0.585
2000	8.058	2.988	0.543
2001	8.250	2.832	0.589
2002	8.880	4.007	1.075
2003	7.272	2.257	0.158
2004	8.033	4.760	1.156
2005	7.294	3.772	0.426
2006	7.618	4.541	0.378
2007	7.554	3.281	0.348
2008	7.210	3.233	0.698
2009	8.429	4.575	0.717
2010	8.039	4.121	0.448
2011	8.091	3.565	0.400
2012	7.271	3.717	0.583
2013	5.833	2.758	0.308
2014	6.420	2.714	0.261
2015	6.992	2.884	1.041
2016	6.613	2.392	0.250
2017	6.871	2.492	0.308

1141 Hatchery Operations (18 March - 29 May 2017)

Collection of brood fish commenced during April and to date 13 rainbow trout crosses have been completed from quality parent fish.

April liberations and most of the May liberations have been completed successfully as shown in the table below. In addition to these, trout were collected by Northland and Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game regions.

Fish locations at May 29, 2017:

Location	Type	Qty (approx)	Comment
Tank A	1+ Brook	20	Brood
Tank B	0+ Brown	2,000	Eastern liberations and orders 2017
Tanks 4,5	0+Rt	10,000	Spring and autumn reserve
Pond 2	0+Rt	22,000	Spring liberations 2017
Pond 3	0+Rt	18,300	Spring liberations 2017
Pond 4	0+Rt	7,300	Autumn liberations 2017
Pond 5	0+Rt	7,000	Autumn liberations 2017
Pond 9	0+Rt	5,250	Various for 2+ in 2018
RW2	1+Rt	2,250	Other regions 2+ in 2017

1143 Te Wairoa Trap

The trapping season at the Fish & Game fish trap (Te Wairoa Stream) at Lake Tarawera started slowly given the warm cyclonic activity which continued into April. Through April, a total of 90 rainbow trout ran up the stream compared with 53 during April 2016 and 36 during April 2015. Up to 29 May we have trapped 295 fish compared with 394 to the same point during the 2016 winter. The 2017 run was ahead right up to 24 May but large run nights occurred during the period 25 to 29 May 2016 (70 fish on the 29th). The average sized rainbow trout so far this winter is 527mm and 1.74kg compared with 534mm and 1.93kg to the same period during May 2016. Wild origin fish have made up 42% of the run to 29 May which is identical to the situation recorded at the same point in time in 2016. The wild fish this winter have been 12mm shorter and 180g lighter on average than the 2016 wild fish. The hatchery origin fish up to 29 May 2017 have been 4mm shorter and 200g lighter than the 2016 winter to the same point.

Despite anecdotal reports of a healthy smelt population in the lake over the past season and better condition of the 2016 winter trap run, trout size has continued to decrease. If recent reports of 'vast autumnal shoals' of smelt are true, then they have come too late to affect the winter run. Maybe however, fish caught on the opening day will benefit...

1161 Sports Fish Liberations

Liberations, Eastern Region 17 March - 29 May 2017

Water	Date	Mark	Tag	Species	Age Class	Number
Tarawera	7/04/2017	LpAd		RT	1+	1,000
Rotoiti	10/04/2017	Lpad		RT	1+	5,000
Okataina	11/04/2017	LpAd		RT	1+	250
Tarawera	10/05/2017	LpAd	17T	RT	1+	500
Tarawera	10/05/2017	LpAd		RT	1+	1,000

Rotoiti	17/05/2017	LpAd		RT	1+	5,000
Rotoiti	17/05/2017	LpAd	17R	RT	1+	500
Rotoma	26/05/2017	LpAd		RT	1+	2,000
Rotoma	26/05/2017	LpAd		Tiger	1+	160

1162 Game Bird Liberations

The NZ Council has been collating information to inform the development of a national policy around the liberation of captive reared mallards. Eastern staff have provided much of the empirical data for comparative analysis between wild and hand reared birds. We have also provided data for another study looking at the status of the grey duck in NZ.

HABITAT PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE

1211 RMA Planning

Gisborne District Council

Freshwater Plan hearings were concluded in December, and we are awaiting the release of decisions.

A submission was lodged on the Council's Proposed Pest Management Plan in late February. The hearing is scheduled for early July.

Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Proposed Plan Change 9 (Water Quantity) submissions were lodged in mid December. The further submission process closes at the end of June.

Fish and Game remains involved in the Bay of Plenty Regional Water Advisory Panel, and community catchment groups. An advisory panel meeting was attended in May.

A submission was lodged on the Bay of Plenty Proposed Pest Management Plan in May.

Waikato Regional Council

In March, the Auckland/Waikato and Eastern Fish and Game Councils lodged a joint submission on Waikato Regional Council's Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora: Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1.

1212 Consent Applications

Date In	Authority	Applicant	Type	Resource Involved	Action
16 May 17	BOPRC	Lake 98 Ltd	BP- motel construction	Property adjacent to Utuhina Stream, Rotorua	No issues email

Lagarosiphon Meeting

No date has been set for the next lagarosiphon meeting at Lake Waikaremoana. Te Urewera staff at Waikaremoana have been busy dealing with the aftermath of the cyclonic events and issues resulting from the slips and high water levels. SH 38 between Minginui and Waikaremoana remains closed to all but local residents due to slips leaving the only option for commuting to the lake being from the Gisborne or Wairoa end.

Koaro Monitoring

No date has been set at this stage for the next koaro restoration meeting.

Catfish Incursion Lake Rotoiti

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC) placed a pest cordon at the mouth of Te Weta Bay (Lake Rotoiti) on 18 April. The cordon is designed to stop catfish within the cordon from exiting to the main body of the lake. This will allow further netting to be undertaken (fyke nets) and NIWA and University to trial other methods of removal. A number of catfish have been caught at other sites around the lake, so fyke netting will also continue around Rotoiti to attempt to fish out and monitor spread.

Monitoring around the other Rotorua lakes has failed to pick up sign of catfish being present elsewhere at this stage.

1221 Reserves Management

A pre-hunting season inspection was undertaken in all managed reserves to ensure access and water levels were up to scratch and to identify any potential health and safety issues. As a result of the cyclones prior to the season many wetlands had very high water levels which inhibited some vehicle access, and prevented a final mowing of the walk in access tracks. No out of the ordinary risks were identified. No issues in relation to any of these items have been identified by hunters since the commencement of the hunting season.

Creation of a haul road and preliminary excavation works were undertaken in the Lower Kaituna WMR as part of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council's programme to abstract material from the sand ridge within the leased for grazing part of the reserve. Due to the cyclone events, the water table became so high that work ceased in early April. BOPRC is currently in the process of planning to re-commence works in late June. Approximately 30,000 cubic metres of sand is to be abstracted before the end of the year. As a result of the sand abstraction, significant new open water habitat will be created and a new water inlet channel created to support the new wetland areas. BOPRC land management staff are working in close contact with Fish & Game staff to ensure high quality wetland habitat is created.

Surveying and fencing works for the Lakes Ngapouri and Tutaeinanga restoration project was commenced, and two of the four properties having been completed. The remaining two will be fenced in July 2018. Planting assessments are to be undertaken in the near future so that plants can be ordered for planting in August 2018. Newly fenced proposed planting areas have been designed so that grazing can continue until planting is ready to be undertaken. Other riparian discussions are occurring on adjoining properties as well.

DOC and Fish & Game joint management agreements for gazetted wetland reserves continue to be drafted. Each wetland has specific details that need completing and specific conditions aligned to ensure good future management. A recent DOC legal opinion regarding hunting management needs to be sorted through before any final management agreements can be obtained.

Kaituna WMR

No recent news or developments regarding the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Lower Kaituna wetland expansion has been received.

1231 Maintain and Enhance Game Bird Habitat

Landowner Information

Two new landowner requests have been received since the last Council meeting. One required emailing advice on basic wetland design and planting information. The other requires a site visit within the next two months to assess whether the proposed development is feasible.

The landowner requiring a site visit noted in the last Council report was undertaken, providing an excellent opportunity to assist with the construction of a three hectare wetland. Fish & Game will undertake survey works, electric fishing and assist with resource consent applications. We may also assist with applying for funding from the WCEET Trust for plants.

Upper Ngongotaha Stream Working Group

The recent cyclone events have caused significant erosion in the upper Ngongotaha Stream catchment resulting in major property damage and sediment issues in the stream. Both BOPRC and Rotorua Lakes Council are working co-operatively with the affected landowners and have now agreed to prioritise engineering and works solutions to minimise risk in the future – although some frustration is emerging amongst landowners in relation to the slow pace of progress. Fish & Game has provided its support for remedial works to reduce erosion and sediment entering the stream and will continue to be involved with the group.

Whakaki Lagoon

Hawke's Bay Regional Council and the Whakaki Lake Trust have applied to the MfE's Freshwater Improvement Fund for \$1,358,044 as part of a \$2.8 million project to restore water quality and habitat values at Whakaki. Fish & Game had an input to the preparation of the application and provided a letter of support (see PFI) for what has the potential to be an outstanding project. Whether or not the application for funding is successful, the HBRC has committed to directing more than a million dollars to restoration efforts there over a period of years, and we have undertaken to provide expertise and aerial bird monitoring data which we collect each year.

1232 Habitat Creation Projects

Waikato Ecological Enhancement Trust (WCEET)

Mercury Energy (Mighty River Power) established a mitigation trust (WCEET) as part of the consenting process for the dams on the Waikato River. The Trust was given \$7 million to offset the environmental consequences of the hydro power scheme. Fish & Game has two representatives on the Trust (one from Eastern and the other from Auckland /Waikato). One of the key strategic goals of the trust is to enhance sports fish and game habitat.

Matt McDougall is Eastern's representative on the Trust. At the Trust's May meeting 26 applications were considered for funding. A record \$709,886.99 was granted for habitat enhancement, of which 340ha is habitat that will benefit sports fish and game birds.

ANGLER AND HUNTER PARTICIPATION

1311 Maintain & Enhance Access

Winter recreational access, angling and hunting is open within Kaingaroa Forest. Waimangu Forest access is also open (fishing only access to Lake Rotomahana via gate key tab issued with access permit) and Rotoehu Forest access is open for game bird hunting. All access is limited to weekends only and during daylight hours.

Contract work on track repairs was carried out on the Wheao track in Kaingaroa, and the Ngapouri access track has been pruned.

Other access matters have been dealt with as they have arisen.

1331 Electronic Newsletters

Reel Life was produced for March, April and May covering prospects and fishing news, releases, thermocline, Okataina ramp, trap runs and winter fishing prospects.

1333 Fish & Game Website

Fishing prospects were added to the web for the period and numerous reports featured on Twitter. Progress has been made on rectifying issues with the new website but many still to be dealt with.

1352 Angler Hunter Training

The 2017 duck hunters training day held at the Kaituna WMR proved very successful with all attending gaining good practical knowledge to assist with the upcoming game bird hunting season. The raffles were strongly supported which assisted making the day more cost effective.

1354 Fishing Competitions

Four fishing competition permits were processed for the period.

1361 Fish & Game Club Communications

One club meeting was attended for the period.

1371 Fish & Game Huts

Maintenance was carried out on the Waikaremoana and Wairua Huts.

PUBLIC INTERFACE

1411 Statutory Liaison

Meetings were held with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council's Biosecurity Manager to discuss revision of the proposed regional pest management plan, and OSPRI's North Island

Operations Extension Manager to develop a closer and more effective working relationship with that organisation. In addition to agreeing to improving consultation in relation to proposed aerial 1080 operations, OSPRI will look into the development of a webpage listing all current and upcoming programmes with regular status updates that Fish & Game can provide links to for licence holders. This meeting was also attended by the Public Health Officer based in Tauranga who signs off on the proposed operations on behalf of the Department of Health.

A three monthly 'catch up' meeting to discuss matters of mutual interest was also held with senior representatives from the BOPRC, the DOC, the Tauranga City Council, and the Western Bay of Plenty District Council.

A long awaited draft of the management plan for Te Urewera, Te Kawa o Te Urewera, was received recently, and once staff have reviewed this in greater depth a meeting will be arranged with Te Uru Taumatua to discuss its content and provisions. The plan is quite unique in that it sets no rules as such, and is a substantial departure from management plans of the past for parks and reserves. A weblink to Te Kawa o Te Urewera will be emailed to Councillors for those who might be interested in looking at it.

1421 Public Communications

Media Releases

No breakdown is available this month but good media coverage of the game season was obtained both prior to and immediately after the opening of the season.

1451 Education

Two tours of the grounds and hatchery were carried out for the reporting period.

1452 Grounds

A large gum tree came down in the middle of the night in May behind the staff house just inside the entrance to the hatchery grounds. The tree fell towards and across Paradise Valley Road and knocked down a section of our neighbour's fence. The road was cleared by 5.30am the next day and caused minimal disruption to road users, but highlighted the possibility of a similar event occurring again in the future and a risk that a tree could collapse onto the house. We got an arborist on site the next day to assess the risk posed by other trees close to the road and behind the house, and have since contracted the felling of another gum and five wattles within the vicinity.

COMPLIANCE

1511 Ranging

April and May have been relatively quiet in terms of fishery compliance matters. Checks are now being done regularly around spawning areas, particularly those that are closed and in protected areas. Angler surveys are also underway around the Rotorua Lakes and these have a compliance element in addition to being a creel survey.

The game bird hunting season opening weekend compliance operation was a joint Fish & Game and Police operation. This year over opening weekend we carried out checks in the

Gisborne and Wairoa areas, the Bay of Plenty, and in the Rotorua - Taupo areas. In excess of 180 hunters were checked, and in terms of compliance this we had one of the best results we have had in recent years. Offences detected included 1 x hunt without licence, 1 x possession of lead shot ammunition, and 3 x unrestricted gun magazines. One young hunter is also being dealt with for shooting a black shag and a harrier hawk.

This was a pleasing result in terms of the relatively low number of offences, especially since this is the first season of the magazine restriction. All the magazine restriction offences have been dealt with by way of warning and education.

This year was also pleasing in that there were almost no issues of concern to Police, just one hunter being dealt with in relation to not having a firearms licence (that hunter being also our only hunting without a licence offender). It is very noticeable that in recent years there have been significant improvements around matters involving alcohol consumption and hunting, and this is credited to the ongoing co-operative effort with Police over opening weekends.

Further ranging was carried out by staff on the second week of the season, with few hunters and no offences located.

Waikaremoana work has been hindered by bad weather, and storms causing road closures generally preventing access from the Rotorua side to Waikaremoana. The Murupara to Waikaremoana Rd has been largely closed or at best has had very restricted access while remedial work is undertaken.

Compliance checks have been carried out in other locations around the region with no issues, with input in these others areas including assistance from honorary rangers.

Angler and hunter contacts to May (inclusive of opening weekend game ranging) total 2,406 checks.

Overall compliance rate is in excess of 98%.

Rangers

Honorary rangers assisted with game season opening weekend ranging in the Gisborne/East Coast area. Rangers continue to contribute around the region.

Contacts: Year 2016-2017 to 26/05/2016

Month	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Last 5 yr average
September	82	66	50	59	29	57
October	997	984	960	1223	901	1013
November	129	175	112	20	62	100
December	598	387	392	293	291	392
January	497	355	381	335	217	357
February	234	151	395	418	293	298
March	300	279	275	253	191	277
April	195	299	264	53	214	203
May	516	446	498	272	Opening 187	433
June	209	325	203	277		254
July	120	79	120	107		107
August	131	77	76	42		82

Total	4008	3623	3726	3352	YTD 2406	3818
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1521 Ranger Training

North Island/National CLE role

This role continues with input into CLE/training/prosecutions and legal matters.

1531 Prosecution of Offenders

Prosecutions

Currently 12 offenders have offences pending resolution, several have warrants to arrest either in lieu of summons or for failing to appear in court. Five matters are pending court prosecution processes.

Offences Year to Date 2016-2017 Year

For the year 2016- 2017 year to date we have dealt with 38 persons for 63 offences as tabled below.

Offence table 2015-2016 year (to 26/05/2017)

Offence name	Number of offences
Fish without licence	18
Fish without licence – aid and abet	2
Fish closed waters	11
False details	5
Disturb spawning gravels	6
Take sports fish with net, spear, gaff or device.	7
Fish with more than 1 rod	1
Hunt without licence	2
Hunt during closed season	1
Trap/snare game bird	1
Hunt/shoot protected species	1
Unplugged gun magazine	3
Possess lead shot ammunition within 200 m open water	1
Careless use of firearm	4
Total	63

Pending Resolution

To date (26/05/2017) 24 separate offences are pending resolution, by 12 offenders.

The table below shows offences currently pending resolution:

Offence name	Numbers
Fish without licence	10
Illegal tackle	2
Possess spear-gaff	2
Fish closed waters	4
False details	4
Hunt without licence	1
Hunt/ shoot protected species	1
Total	24

LICENSING

1613 National Licence Management

Kate Thompson continues to support the licence working party with regular sales reports and input into licensing matters.

1621 Licence Agent Support

Following completion of agreements with Farmlands Co-Operative head office, branches at Gisborne and Wairoa were able to sell licences online for the commencement of the Game bird season. The three remaining stores will be online for next season or due to very low numbers of licences sold will discontinue this service.

ADMINISTRATION

1920 Staff

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 28 May 2017. We currently have one staff member three weeks behind where we would like them to be, three staff members two weeks behind, and three staff one week behind. The remainder are in a neutral leave position.

Employment

Patrick (Red) Logan ceased employment with us on 30 April after being our groundsman and assistant part time hatchery worker for 10 years. We have appointed a new part time weekend worker to take over these duties, Hans van der Heiden, and he will be commencing on Saturday 3 June. Hans is eminently well qualified for this role having been an African game ecologist, fisheries officer, and safari lodge operator in Zimbabwe for much of his life before becoming a NZ citizen. He and his wife Valerie are both keen anglers and will occupy Rooms 4 & 5 of the staff quarters on the weekends and holidays he's rostered on.

1960 Communications

Computer software

We are in the process of reviewing our operating software as part of replacing our server. We are still using Office 2007 which has served us well but we are beginning to encounter incompatibility issues with more current software as Microsoft cuts back support for the 2007 version. Nationally most regions have changed to Office 365 which has been organised and is being funded by the NZ Council, but if we do this without putting other processes in place we will lose our secondary domain erfgc.co.nz. We have a solution to this but are still working on the most cost effective way of moving ahead that meets everyone's needs.

13.2 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Ref: 9.01.07

31 May 2017

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 and 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 and Safety incidents – near misses or injuries sustained, plus updates on past events;
6. Recommendations.

2. April - May 17 Update

1. Implementation and Adherence to the Health and Safety Plan

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 procedures 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.

As a matter of course staff now inform the office of their whereabouts and their expected return time for both courtesy and Health and Safety reasons. Staff are developing a more user friendly "Where am I board" to assist office staff to track individual's intentions.

All Afterhours (call out) staff have been issued with a fridge magnet and pad to inform partners of their afterhours call outs and expected time back. These will also be issued to honorary rangers.

Health and safety plans are being prepared before staff embark on field work and when engaging in hazardous work around the site.

Our Health and Safety plan and procedures are continually being reviewed and Carmel is ensuring all hazards identified on tail gate forms are being transferred to our master Hazard Registers. All tail gate forms are scanned and filed.

Contractors working on site have signed the Visitor register as well as reading and signing the Contractors Induction Checklist.

Visitors coming on site are required to sign in.

2. Monitoring and Reporting

Work Place Accident Register

As at 31 May 2017

Number of workplace injuries in 2016-2017 year	0
Number of workplace injuries in 2015-2016 year	1
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	29
Total number of days lost work injuries since 1 Sept 1995	1
Total number of days since last lost work injury (7/12/13)	1,271
Total number of days prior to last lost work injury since 1 Sept 1995	6,672

3. Risk Management (identification and treatment)

Prior to Opening weekend (and ongoing) game season ranging a full Operational Brief was developed by Anthony van Dorp which identified the areas that being targeted and the risks associated with the ranging operations.

A 'Tailgate' form was also prepared for each ranging team. This form identified the risks, hazards, and controls for each team. The ranging teams discussed these hazards and signed off the tailgate form as evidence that all members were aware of the hazards and the controls in place to minimise risks. Police officers assisting with the operation were also involved in the discussions and they too signed the tailgate forms.

Tailgate forms were prepared for the drift dive that took place on 17 May 2017 and for the work undertaken at the traps.

One staff member had a consultation with a physiotherapist to identify ways of avoiding back pain exacerbated by lifting fish out of the ponds.

Dive knives were purchased for staff to wear when drift diving to deal with objects they might potentially encounter or become entangled in.

An arborist was brought on site in mid May to carry out a risk assessment of a number of trees located behind the staff quarters just inside the hatchery entrance after a large gum fell over and out on to the road following a series of recent storm events. An outcome of the assessment was that we have contracted the felling of five wattles and the removal of the upper half of a gum tree located within this area later this month.

4. Training Programme

Four staff undertook Power Boat Level 2 assessments in April.

5. H&S Incidents

No notifiable (serious harm) incidents to report.

6. Recommendation

That Council acknowledges it has received this report.

13.3 FINANCE REPORT

Ref: 8.03.01

31 May 2017

1. Purpose

To inform the Council of the current financial position, and approve payments for the months of March and April 2017.

2. YTD Profit and Loss

The Profit & Loss statement for the two months ending 30 April 2017 is attached. This report documents the income and direct expenditure for the period.

Income

Over half of all Game licence revenue comes through in April and this is reported to be just ahead of budget YTD (\$2,245). Fish licence revenue on the other hand is lagging behind at \$14,415 under budget. The fish licence sales target for 2016-17 is higher than the total sales achieved last year and this is due to the national budget process where sales targets are set on results achieved two seasons earlier. A more detailed and up to date explanation of licence sales by category and LEQ YTD is provided within the licence sales report.

Revenue from other sources over the period was made up of the following: sponsorship of the children's fishing programme by Rainbow Springs (\$2,000); sale of fish food (\$113), fishing competitions (\$130), reparation for children's fishing (\$609), rentals (\$2,447), tours (\$30), fines (\$795), and raffle takings from the recent duck hunters day (\$413). Interest income totalled \$3,138 for the period and a non cash transaction is reported for the gain on sale of vehicles (\$3,431).

Species Management

Within the Population Monitoring budgets expenses are reported relating to the flights for aerial transect counts, knives for drift dive work, and food for Waikaremoana survey work. Within the budget YTD.

Significant expenditure is reported within the Hatchery budgets this period with unanticipated repairs to the braking system on the tanker (\$5,409), and the purchase of fish food (\$8,068). Other expenses are related to netting for ponds, materials for Te Wairoa trap repairs, and maintenance. Standard expenses are reported relating to rates, electricity, fuel, and oxygen. The hatchery area is currently \$10,623 over budget due to ongoing increases in costs for fish food and the unanticipated repairs to the tanker. The variance will reduce over the coming months but it is likely that a reasonable variance will remain at year end.

Habitat

Works & Management spending for the period related to repairs to the Awakaponga solar pump and minor equipment purchases.

Assisted Habitat spending related to the purchase of an echo sounder which is being funded by the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund as approved at the April meeting of Council. This equipment is currently being installed on Parera and in due course Whio will also have the system installed (hardware sponsored by the suppliers). A small expense is also reported relating to rocks for instream habitat enhancement works near Rainbow Springs.

Participation

The 2017 Game bird hunting newsletter was produced and paid for in March, and the Eastern Region's contribution to the national Game bird magazine supplement is reported in April. Some minor costs are reported within the training budget related to the duck hunters day held at the Kaituna WMR, and expenses are also reported relating to the painting of the Waikaremoana hut roof and hut electricity. The print costs for the Game newsletter were \$1,500 less than budget as a result of the newsletter being emailed to last season's licence holders and hardcopies only provided for distribution through licence agents.

Public Interface

Public Interface expenditure relates to various grounds maintenance works. Within budget YTD.

Compliance

The Compliance expenses for the period related to the 0800 Poaching service, and Ranger intentions fridge magnets sourced from Otago Fish & Game. Within budget YTD.

Licensing

The fees associated with the 0800 and Internet sales are included within the commission expenditure and are within budget YTD.

Council

Travel and catering expenses are reported relating to the April meeting of Council. Within budget YTD.

Planning

Levies were paid as budgeted and a minor expense was incurred relating to a taxi fare. Within budget YTD.

Administration

Notes on individual areas:

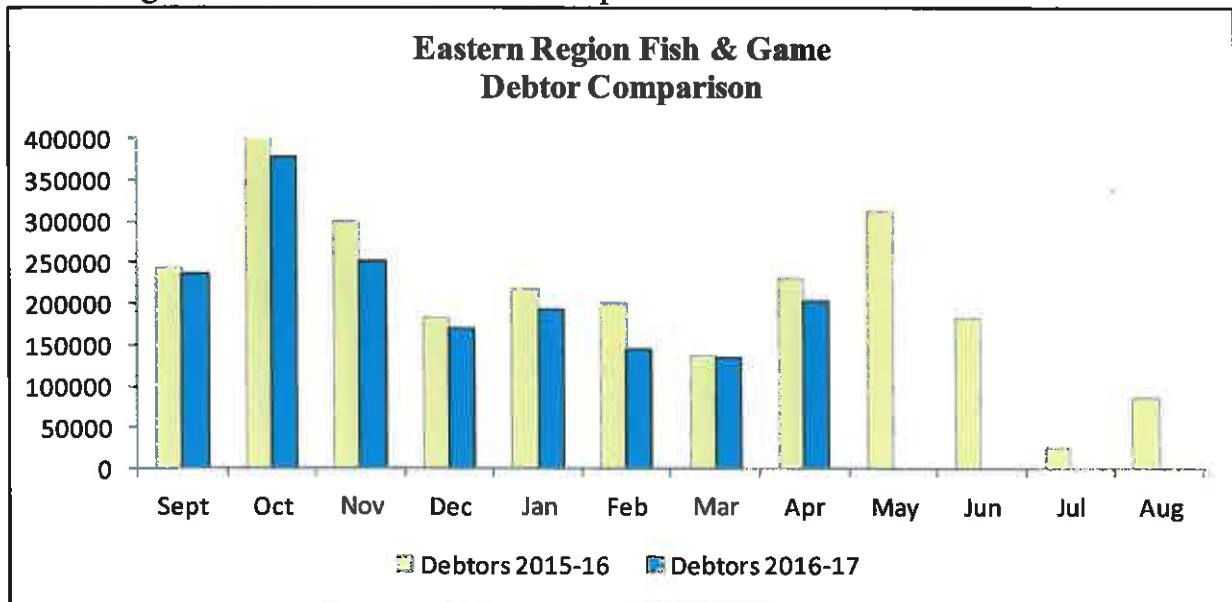
Salaries	Within budget YTD
Staff Expenses	Staff expenses for the period included power boat refreshers for four staff, advertising of the grounds position, and minor purchases of health & safety equipment. Within budget YTD.
Staff Houses	Rates were paid as budgeted. The expenses associated with the refurbishment of the brick house are reported in March and include interior painting throughout, repairs to water damaged floor, relining of wall and patching of ceiling after removal of wood fires, repairs to spouting, curtains, and other minor maintenance material purchases. As a result of these additional unbudgeted expenses the Staff houses area is \$8,473 over budget YTD. This is offset by a transfer of budget from Hatchery maintenance which was to have occurred for this financial year but omitted (\$3,000) and the budgets for vehicles and communications which will not be fully utilised through savings in those areas (est. \$5,000). In the long term the rental income for this property will see a significant increase which will recover the cost associated with replacing floor coverings and the installation of a heat pump.
Office Premises	Rates were paid in April and the standard expenses relating to rubbish removal, electricity, cleaning, and security are reported.

	Within budget YTD.
Office Equipment	The standard expenses relating to the phone and eftpos lease are reported and repairs were undertaken on a phone extension. Within budget YTD.
Communications/ Consumables	Communications expenses for the period included phones, broadband, stationery, and photocopying. Within budget YTD.
General	Expenses are reported for staff morning teas and bank charges. Within budget YTD.
General Equipment	Equipment maintenance expenses for the period included WOF checks and repairs on three trailers and a service of the Mercury outboard on Whio. Other boat expenditure is reported relating to two radio inspections and flares. The standard fuel expenses were also incurred. Within budget YTD.
Vehicles	Vehicle expenses for the period included servicing of three vehicles and two sets of tyres. A credit was received from insurance on sold vehicles and the standard fuel expense was incurred including Road User Charges for two vehicles. Vehicle expenses are under budget \$4,536 YTD due to reduced registration, insurance, and fuel costs.

Cash Position: \$1,119,892 (includes \$103,683 in asset replacement reserve and \$452,081 in Waikaremoana Fund) as at 30 April 2017.

Debtors: Outstanding Debtors \$203,128 as at 30 April 2017 (\$230,714 as at 30 April 2016).

Eastern Region Fish and Game - Debtors Comparison 2015/16 – 2016/17



The invoicing of agents for licence sales totalled \$195,394 as at the end of April, and \$78,348 was paid early May with the balance due early June. All agent debtors are up to date.

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.

2016/2017 REPORT OF VARIANCES BETWEEN TOTAL BUDGET AND YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME

As at 30 June 2017

Schedule A Code	Project	EXTERNAL COSTS		FOUNDS		INTERNAL COST		VENUE INCOME		NET COST		%	
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual		
1110	Species Monitoring	\$ 35,100	\$ 24,646	2,494	1,635	\$ 141,520	\$ 95,913	\$ 17,000	\$ -	\$ 159,820	\$ 120,559	\$ 39,061	75.5
1120	Harvest Assessment	\$ 2,150	\$ 614	856	628	\$ 48,573	\$ 36,732	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,723	\$ 37,348	\$ 13,377	73.6
1140	Hatchery Operations	\$ 56,150	\$ 60,281	2,809	1,933	\$ 159,394	\$ 113,377	\$ 78,500	\$ 36,493	\$ 147,044	\$ 137,185	\$ 9,880	93.3
1150	Game Farm	\$ -	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0
1160	Releases	\$ 500	\$ -	200	130	\$ 11,349	\$ 7,640	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,849	\$ 7,640	\$ 4,209	64.5
1170	Regulations	\$ -	\$ -	96	97	\$ 5,447	\$ 5,704	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,447	\$ 5,704	\$ (257)	104.7
1180	Control	\$ 200	\$ -	84	13	\$ 3,632	\$ 733	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,632	\$ 733	\$ 3,098	19.1
	TOTAL - SPECIES MANAGEMENT	\$ 104,100	\$ 85,541	6,519	4,435	\$ 369,915	\$ 280,098	\$ 95,500	\$ 36,493	\$ 378,515	\$ 309,146	\$ 69,368	81.7
1210	Resource Management Act	\$ 200	\$ -	1,215	917	\$ 68,944	\$ 53,785	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 69,144	\$ 53,785	\$ 15,359	77.8
1220	Works & Management	\$ 48,748	\$ 29,421	1,038	767	\$ 56,900	\$ 44,972	\$ 41,248	\$ 36,696	\$ 67,400	\$ 37,698	\$ 29,703	55.9
1230	Assisted Habitat	\$ 9,400	\$ 3,499	970	457	\$ 55,042	\$ 26,805	\$ -	\$ 3,400	\$ 64,442	\$ 26,904	\$ 37,538	41.7
1240	Assess & Monitor	\$ -	\$ -	120	67	\$ 6,809	\$ 3,915	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,809	\$ 3,915	\$ 2,894	57.5
	TOTAL - HABITAT PROTECTION & MAN	\$ 59,348	\$ 32,920	3,343	2,208	\$ 189,696	\$ 129,477	\$ 41,248	\$ 40,096	\$ 207,798	\$ 122,302	\$ 85,494	58.9
1310	Access	\$ 7,000	\$ 3,561	714	455	\$ 40,515	\$ 26,658	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47,515	\$ 30,218	\$ 17,297	63.6
1330	Newsletters	\$ 13,000	\$ 11,725	409	187	\$ 23,208	\$ 10,939	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,208	\$ 22,663	\$ 13,545	62.6
1340	Other Publications	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	102	33	\$ 5,788	\$ 1,906	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,788	\$ 2,906	\$ 4,882	37.3
1350	Training	\$ 1,350	\$ 504	1,012	505	\$ 57,425	\$ 29,635	\$ 13,500	\$ 7,355	\$ 45,275	\$ 22,784	\$ 22,492	50.3
1360	Club Relations	\$ -	\$ -	120	39	\$ 6,809	\$ 2,287	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,809	\$ 2,287	\$ 4,522	33.6
1370	Huts	\$ 1,450	\$ 948	35	23	\$ 2,043	\$ 1,320	\$ 400	\$ 256	\$ 3,093	\$ 2,010	\$ 1,083	65.0
	TOTAL - ANGLER & HUNTER PARTICIP	\$ 24,800	\$ 17,735	2,393	1,240	\$ 136,789	\$ 72,745	\$ 13,900	\$ 7,611	\$ 146,689	\$ 82,869	\$ 63,820	56.5
1410	Liaison	\$ -	\$ -	216	137	\$ 12,257	\$ 8,035	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,257	\$ 8,035	\$ 4,221	65.6
1420	Communication	\$ 500	\$ -	289	68	\$ 16,399	\$ 3,959	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,899	\$ 3,959	\$ 12,940	23.4
1440	Public Promotions	\$ 3,500	\$ 715	172	215	\$ 9,760	\$ 12,610	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,280	\$ 13,325	\$ (65)	100.5
1450	Visitor Facilities/Education	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,010	634	614	\$ 35,976	\$ 36,028	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,976	\$ 37,038	\$ (62)	100.2
	TOTAL - PUBLIC INTERFACE	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,725	1,311	1,034	\$ 74,392	\$ 60,633	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 79,392	\$ 62,357	\$ 17,034	78.5
1510	Rangling	\$ 2,100	\$ 317	981	485	\$ 55,666	\$ 28,461	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,766	\$ 28,778	\$ 28,988	49.8
1520	Ranger Training	\$ 1,000	\$ 215	108	30	\$ 6,128	\$ 1,760	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,128	\$ 1,975	\$ 5,154	27.7
1530	Compliance Prosecutions	\$ 5,500	\$ 1,167	348	149	\$ 19,747	\$ 8,739	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,570	\$ 19,247	\$ 7,336	\$ 11,911	38.1
	TOTAL - COMPLIANCE	\$ 8,600	\$ 1,699	1,437	664	\$ 81,541	\$ 38,960	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,570	\$ 84,141	\$ 38,089	\$ 46,052	45.3
1610	Licensing	\$ 800	\$ -	378	388	\$ 21,449	\$ 22,743	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,249	\$ 22,743	\$ (494)	102.2
1620	Agent Servicing	\$ -	\$ -	204	98	\$ 11,576	\$ 5,763	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,576	\$ 5,763	\$ 5,813	49.8
	TOTAL - LICENSING	\$ 800	\$ -	582	486	\$ 33,025	\$ 28,505	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33,825	\$ 28,505	\$ 5,320	84.3
1710	Council Elections	\$ -	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0
1720	Council Meetings	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,379	772	432	\$ 43,806	\$ 25,309	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,806	\$ 30,688	\$ 23,119	57.0
	TOTAL - COUNCILS	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,379	772	432	\$ 43,806	\$ 25,309	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,806	\$ 30,688	\$ 23,119	57.0
1810	Management Planning	\$ -	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0
1820	Annual Planning	\$ -	\$ -	180	81	\$ 10,214	\$ 4,722	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,214	\$ 4,722	\$ 5,492	46.2
1830	Reporting/Audit	\$ 9,400	\$ 7,410	514	310	\$ 29,168	\$ 18,153	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 38,566	\$ 25,563	\$ 13,003	66.3
1840	National Liaison	\$ 250	\$ 77	284	165	\$ 16,115	\$ 9,663	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,365	\$ 9,740	\$ 6,625	59.5
	TOTAL - PLANNING/REPORTING	\$ 9,650	\$ 7,487	978	555	\$ 55,496	\$ 32,538	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65,146	\$ 40,025	\$ 25,121	61.4
	TOTAL	\$ 222,298	\$ 152,486	17,335	11,053	\$ 963,660	\$ 648,265	\$ 156,648	\$ 86,770	\$ 1,049,310	\$ 713,961	\$ 335,329	68.0

OVERHEADS		EXTERNAL COSTS		NETTABLE INCOME		NET COST		NET COST	
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Variance
1910	Salaries	\$ 895,330	\$ 588,278	\$ 43,840	\$ 32,678	\$ 851,490	\$ 565,600	\$ 285,890	\$ 66.4
1920	Staff Expenses	\$ 26,400	\$ 4,084	\$ -	\$ 4,084	\$ 26,400	\$ 4,084	\$ 22,316	\$ 15.5
1930	Staff Houses	\$ 6,220	\$ 14,012	\$ 21,020	\$ 10,977	\$ (14,800)	\$ 3,035	\$ (17,835)	\$ -20.5
1940	Office Premises	\$ 20,100	\$ 13,211	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,100	\$ 13,211	\$ 6,889	\$ 65.7
1950	Office Equipment	\$ 3,900	\$ 2,574	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,900	\$ 2,574	\$ 1,326	\$ 66.0
1980	Communications/Consumables	\$ 21,000	\$ 11,547	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21,000	\$ 11,547	\$ 9,453	\$ 55.0
1970	General	\$ 8,620	\$ 6,936	\$ 750	\$ 1,075	\$ 7,870	\$ 5,861	\$ 2,009	\$ 74.5
1980	General Equipment	\$ 17,900	\$ 11,589	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,900	\$ 11,589	\$ 6,311	\$ 66.2
1990	Vehicles	\$ 50,700	\$ 30,764	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,700	\$ 30,764	\$ 19,936	\$ 60.7
	Administration	\$ 1,049,270	\$ 692,995	\$ 65,610	\$ 44,730	\$ 983,660	\$ 648,265	\$ 335,395	\$ 65.9
	Total Overhead Net Cost			\$ 983,660	\$ 648,265				
	Total Outputs Staff Hours			17,335	11,053				
	Internal Cost Per Hour			56.74	58.65				

2016/2017 REPORT OF VARIANCES BETWEEN TOTAL BUDGET AND YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME

Schedule Code	Output	EXTERNAL COSTS		HOURS		INTERNAL COST		NETTABLE INCOME		NET COST		%	
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual		
1	Species Management	\$ 104,100	\$ 85,541	6,519	4,435	\$ 369,915	\$ 280,098	\$ 95,500	\$ 36,493	\$ 378,515	\$ 309,146	\$ 69,369	81.7
2	Habitat Protection & Management	\$ 59,348	\$ 32,920	3,343	2,208	\$ 189,696	\$ 129,477	\$ 41,248	\$ 40,096	\$ 207,796	\$ 122,302	\$ 85,494	58.9
3	Angler & Hunter Participation	\$ 24,800	\$ 17,735	2,393	1,240	\$ 135,789	\$ 72,745	\$ 13,900	\$ 7,611	\$ 146,689	\$ 82,669	\$ 63,920	56.5
4	Public Interface	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,725	1,311	1,034	\$ 74,392	\$ 60,633	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 79,392	\$ 62,357	\$ 17,034	78.5
5	Compliance	\$ 8,600	\$ 1,689	1,437	684	\$ 81,541	\$ 38,980	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,570	\$ 84,141	\$ 38,089	\$ 46,052	45.3
6	Licensing	\$ 800	\$ -	582	486	\$ 33,025	\$ 28,505	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33,825	\$ 28,505	\$ 5,320	84.3
7	Councils	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,379	772	432	\$ 43,806	\$ 25,309	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,806	\$ 30,688	\$ 23,119	57.0
8	Planning, Reporting Administration	\$ 9,650	\$ 7,487	978	555	\$ 55,496	\$ 32,538	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65,146	\$ 40,025	\$ 25,121	61.4
9	Total Overhead Staff Hours			6,066	3,797								
	TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 222,298	\$ 152,486	23,401	14,849	\$ 983,660	\$ 648,265	\$ 156,648	\$ 86,770	\$ 1,049,310	\$ 713,981	\$ 335,329	

Licence Income 2016/17		Budget	Actual
2016/17 Fish Licence Income		\$ 1,158,370	\$ 1,150,585
Less Commission		\$ -	\$ 57,919
Net Fish Licence Income		\$ 1,100,451	\$ 1,150,585
2017 Game Licence Income		\$ 242,687	\$ 139,245
Less Commission		\$ -	\$ -
Net Game Licence Income		\$ 230,563	\$ 139,245
Total Licence Income		\$ 1,401,057	\$ 1,289,830
Total Commission		\$ -	\$ 49,594
Total Net 2016/17 Licence Revenue		\$ 1,331,004	\$ 1,240,236

Licence Income 2016/17		Budget	Actual
2016/17 Fish Licence Income		\$ 1,049,310	\$ 713,981
Less Commission		\$ -	\$ -
Net Fish Licence Income		\$ 1,049,310	\$ 713,981
2017 Game Licence Income		\$ 223,257	\$ 167,443
Less Commission		\$ -	\$ -
Net Game Licence Income		\$ 223,257	\$ 167,443
Total Licence Income		\$ 1,272,567	\$ 881,424
Total Commission		\$ -	\$ 46,127
Total Net 2016/17 Licence Revenue		\$ 1,272,567	\$ 835,297

Adjustments to OWP budgets - Waikaremoana Fund		Budget	Actual
less Interest		\$ (7,273)	\$ (4,510)
Plus NZ Fish & Game Levies		\$ 223,257	\$ 167,443
Less Licence Revenue		\$ (1,401,057)	\$ (1,289,830)
Plus Commission Expense		\$ 70,053	\$ 49,594
Plus Gain Loss on Sale/revaluation		\$ 2,812	\$ (1,143)
Depreciation		\$ 70,202	\$ 46,127
Subtotal		\$ 7,304	\$ (318,338)
Adjustments to OWP budgets - Waikaremoana Fund		\$ (11,029)	\$ (1,788)
Less Waikaremoana Fund Interest		\$ -	\$ -
Plus Waikaremoana Fund Expenses		\$ 76,000	\$ 8,151
Adjusted Budget		\$ 72,275	\$ (311,986)

Profit and Loss
Eastern Fish and Game Council
For the 2 months ended 30 April 2017

Account	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	YTD Actual	Total Budget	Variance	% Variance
Income						
1000 LICENCE INCOME						
Fish Licence Income	47814	40263	1150585	1158370	-7785	-1
Game Licence Income	32090	92864	139245	242687	-103442	-43
Total 1000 LICENCE INCOME	79903	133127	1289831	1401057	-111226	-8
Other Income	7383	5875	141239	240560	-99321	-41
Total Income	87287	139002	1431070	1641617	-210547	-13
Operating Expenses						
Depreciation	5513	5471	46127	70202	-24075	-34
Loss on Disposal	2288	0	2288	2812	-524	-19
1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT						
1110 Population Monitoring	42	4495	24646	35100	-10454	-30
1120 Harvest Assessment	0	0	614	2150	-1536	-71
1140 Hatchery Operations	10327	6269	60281	66150	-5869	-9
1160 Releases	0	0	0	500	-500	-100
1180 Game Bird Control	0	0	0	200	-200	-100
Total 1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT	10369	10764	85541	104100	-18559	-18
1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MANAGEMENT						
1210 Resource Management Act	0	0	0	200	-200	-100
1220 Works & Management	529	50	29421	49748	-20327	-41
1230 Assisted Habitat	0	5901	11650	85400	-73750	-86
Total 1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MANAGEMENT	529	5951	41071	135348	-94277	-70
1300 PARTICIPATION						
1310 Access	0	0	3561	7000	-3439	-49
1330 New sletters	2145	1500	11725	13000	-1275	-10
1340 Other Publications	0	0	1000	2000	-1000	-50
1350 Training	174	235	504	1350	-846	-63
1370 Huts	284	102	946	1450	-504	-35
Total 1300 PARTICIPATION	2603	1837	17735	24800	-7065	-28
1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE						
1420 Communication	0	0	0	500	-500	-100
1440 Public Promotions	0	0	715	3500	-2785	-80
1450 Visitor Facilities/Education/Interpretation	96	220	1010	1000	10	1
Total 1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE	96	220	1725	5000	-3275	-66
1500 COMPLIANCE						
1510 Ranging	35	35	317	2100	-1783	-85
1520 Ranger Training	135	0	215	1000	-785	-78
1530 Compliance	0	0	1167	5500	-4333	-79
Total 1500 COMPLIANCE	170	35	1699	8600	-6901	-80
1600 LICENSING						
1610 Licence Prod/Distrib	0	0	0	800	-800	-100
1630 Commission	3475	6093	49594	70053	-20459	-29
Total 1600 LICENSING	3475	6093	49594	70853	-21259	-30
1700 COUNCIL						
1720 Council Meetings	0	1251	5379	10000	-4621	-46
Total 1700 COUNCIL	0	1251	5379	10000	-4621	-46
1800 PLANNING/REPORTING						
1830 Reporting/Audit	0	0	7410	9400	-1990	-21
1840 National Liaison	0	55840	167520	223507	-55987	-25
Total 1800 PLANNING/REPORTING	0	55840	174930	232907	-57977	-25
1900 ADMINISTRATION						
1910 Salaries	67755	104405	598278	895330	-297052	-33
1920 Staff Expenses	844	634	4084	26400	-22316	-85
1930 Staff Houses	8579	1487	14012	6220	7792	125
1940 Office Premises	954	1831	13211	20100	-6889	-34
1950 Office Equipment	194	371	2574	3900	-1326	-34
1960 Communications/Consumables	1848	448	11547	21000	-9453	-45
1970 General	69	119	6936	8620	-1684	-20
1980 General Equipment	1740	333	11589	17000	-5411	-32
1990 Vehicles	2499	3153	30764	50700	-19936	-39
Total 1900 ADMINISTRATION	84483	112780	692995	1049270	-356275	-34
Total Operating Expenses	109525	200242	1119083	1713892	-594809	-35
Net Profit	-22239	-61240	311986	-72275	384261	22

13.4 LICENCE SALES REPORT

Ref: 6.01.05

1 June 2017

1. Introduction

This report provides an overview of licence sales for the 2016-2017 season year to date. The following tables show a comparison of sales between the 2016-2017 season and the 2015-2016 season as at 31 May.

2. 2017 Game Licence Sales

- 2.1 Game licence sales for the 2017 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 1.8% ahead of budget despite being 3.4% down on sales reported for the same period last year.
- 2.3 Nationally to 31 May, game licence sales YTD are also ahead of budget 0.4% but are sitting just below sales reported for the same period last year (-0.3%).

Table One

Comparison of Game Licence LEQs to 31 May 2017

SALES CHANNEL	Adult Season	Junior Season	Child Season	Adult Day	Junior Day	Whole Season Equiv.	% Increase/Decrease on 2016
Agent Online Sales	2721	290	118	23	1	2784	-0.1%
Agent Book Sales	4	1	0	0	0	4	-96.5%
Direct Sales*	354	49	16	16	0	367	2.1%
Total Game 2017	3079	340	134	39	1	3156	-3.4%
<i>Agent Online Sales</i>	<i>2722</i>	<i>290</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2787</i>	
<i>Agent Book Sales</i>	<i>116</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>119</i>	
<i>Direct Sales*</i>	<i>349</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>359</i>	
Total Game 2016	3187	336	149	57	0	3266	
TARGETS	Adult Season	Junior Season	Child Season	Adult Day	Junior Day	Whole Season Equiv.	Actual to date % of Target
2017 Total Budget	2997	334	160	180	10	3101	101.8%
2016 Total Sales	3201	343	153	217	10	3315	95.2%
2017 Estimated year end						3203	103.3%

* Direct Sales - Internet, 0800, Mail order

- 2.4 The decline in Eastern Region game licence sales reported against last season can be related primarily to a shift in sales to the Auckland/Waikato region i.e. more sales were lost to Auckland/Waikato region than gained. The 2016 season saw the reverse happen with more licence sales being gained than lost to Auckland/Waikato. Purchasing behaviour appears to vary from season to season and is sometimes

influenced by promotional offers that agents are providing with the sale of a licence, e.g. Gun City in Hamilton had an attractive deal on ammunition this season.

3. 2016-2017 Fish Licence Sales

- 3.1 Fish licence sales for the 2016-2017 season YTD are summarised in Table Two and are currently reporting to be down on the 2015-16 season YTD results by 1.5%. This is a further decline on results reported at the April meeting of 0.8%.
- 3.2 Nationally Fish licence sales to 31 May are reporting to be 2.3% down on the previous season.
- 3.3 A total of 94.1% of the annual sales target has been achieved YTD. It is expected that the end of financial year result for Fish licence sales will in the vicinity of 97.1% of target.
- 3.4 The variance within the short term categories has grown since the April report with 962 fewer days purchased YTD accounting for 1.2% of the total decline in Fish licence sales. On reviewing daily sales for the two seasons since the last Council report, daily sales are generally down with the only significant event during the period being Easter where a larger decline is reported for 2017. Continuing poor weather is likely to be contributing to the general decline.

Table Two

Comparison of Fish Licence LEQs to 31 May 2017

SALES CHANNEL	Family Season		Adult Season		Adult NonRes		Adult Senior		Adult Local Area		Adult Season		Adult Winter		Adult Long Break		Adult Short Break		Adult Day		Junior Day		Whole Season Equiv.	% Increase/Decrease on 2015-16
	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season		
Agent Online Sales	1710	1206	344	205	1219	304	237	70	685	3056	274	5928	-5.9%											
Agent Book Sales	0	15	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	147	23	40	-73.6%											
Direct Sales*	1271	973	194	150	467	143	167	39	528	2358	187	4056	8.7%											
Total Fish 2016-2017	2981	2194	538	355	1686	452	404	109	1213	5561	484	10024	-1.5%											
Agent Online Sales	1786	1093	353	212	1536	350	283	80	797	3295	251	6297												
Agent Book Sales	41	19	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	474	58	153												
Direct Sales*	1188	839	145	146	464	126	161	58	496	2253	146	3732												
Total Fish 2015-2016	3015	1951	498	358	2000	486	444	138	1293	6022	455	10182												

TARGETS	Family Season		Adult Season		Adult NonRes		Adult Senior		Adult Local Area		Adult Season		Adult Winter		Adult Long Break		Adult Short Break		Adult Day		Junior Day		Whole Season Equiv.	Actual to date % of Target
	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season	Season		
2016-2017 Total Budget	3050	2001	500	400	2000	500	750	150	1500	6400	500	10657	94.1%											
2015-2016 Total Sales	3025	1947	499	356	1976	500	635	142	1489	6928	526	10511	95.4%											
2016-2017 Estimated year end												10348	97.1%											

* Direct Sales - Internet, 0800 Licence

15 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

Ref: 9.01.04

2 June 2017

1. Purpose

To discuss the Eastern Fish and Game Council’s self appraisal of its performance.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely a discussion on the Council’s self appraisal review.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED	REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER	GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION
Information provided in confidence	Good reason to withhold exists under section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982	Section 48(1)(a)(ii)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

ITEM	REASON UNDER ACT	SECTION	PLAIN ENGLISH REASON
Protect the privacy of natural persons.	Sec. 9(2)(a)	Information provided identifies a particular person or can easily be connected with a particular person.	Once the person to whom the information relates consents to its disclosure.
Protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence ... where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied	Sec 9(2)(ba)(i)	Disclosing the information would jeopardise the relationship with the supplier because the supplier may no longer trust the Council to hold its information in confidence.	Not unless there is a public interest in disclosure of the specific information.

Note:

Section 48(4) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides as follows:

“(4) Every resolution to exclude the public shall be put at a time when the meeting is open to the public, and the text of that resolution (or copies thereof):

- (a) Shall be available to any member of the public who is present; and
- (b) Shall form part of the minutes of the Council.”