



**EASTERN
FISH AND GAME COUNCIL**

***MEETING
AGENDA***

13 April 2021

AGENDA

The 188th Meeting of the Eastern Fish and Game Council

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

Date: **Tuesday, 13 April 2021**

Commences: **12.00 PM**

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

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE 187th MEETING OF THE EASTERN FISH
AND GAME COUNCIL, HELD AT THE ROTORUA OFFICES OF FISH & GAME
NEW ZEALAND ON THURSDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2021 AT 12.00PM**

Present

Crs David Woolner, Murray Ferris, Barry Roderick, Laurance Tamati, Alan Baird, Debbie Oakley, Lindsay Lyons, Ken Coombes, and Ngahi Bidois.

IN ATTENDANCE

Andy Garrick, Kate Thompson, Matt Osborne, Eben Herbert, Lloyd Gledhill, Anthony van Dorp (Eastern Fish & Game); Carmel Veitch (New Zealand Fish & Game).

1.0 WELCOME AND KARAKIA

1.1 Cr David Woolner (Chairman) opened the meeting at 12.04pm, welcomed all present, and invited Cr Ngahi Bidois to open the meeting with a karakia.

2.0 APOLOGIES

2.1 Apologies were received from Cr Geoff Thomas, Dave Conley (Department of Conservation), and Zane Jensen (Bay of Plenty Conservation Board).

2.2 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that the apologies for the 187th meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [21/02/2.2]*

3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (3 DECEMBER 2020)

3.1 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Alan Baird) that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [21/02/3.1]*

4.0 IDENTIFICATION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN COUNCIL POLICY

4.1 *Agreed (??) that Item 9.10 relating to litter which includes any refuse, animal or game remains, or waste matter, or items of any type used in the course of hunting, and 9.12 relating to the prohibition of the use of drones to disturb game birds be included in Council policy. [21/02/4.1]*

4.2 Cr Debbie Oakley queried the use of the word “disturb” as she felt it was not clear what this meant. Eben Herbert advised that the wording of the regulation when it was developed for inclusion in the gazette notice would clarify this. The intention was to prevent birds from being put to flight to enhance hunting opportunities or being harassed for no good reason, as opposed to being chased off a crop for example, or directed towards hunters as part of a culling exercise.

5.0 MATTERS ARISING

5.1 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 3 December 2020.

6.0 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR GENERAL BUSINESS

- Cr Alan Baird - Water quality
- Cr Murray Ferris - Waikaremoana fishing competition
- Andy Garrick - Official Information Act requests
- Andy Garrick - Cawthron research programme

7.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

7.1 Councillors were asked to inform the chair of any conflicts of interest. No conflicts of interest were recorded.

8.0 GOALS AND PRIORITIES FOR THE 2021-2022 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN

8.1 Cr Barry Roderick opened the discussion stating that the Eastern Fish and Game Council needed to support the external review of Fish & Game as he had heard that some other regions were choosing to do otherwise. Cr Murray Ferris and Andy Garrick queried the latter as neither had any knowledge of this. Cr Debbie Oakley felt it wasn't appropriate to stand behind the external review at this point as we were not aware of its findings or recommendations. Debbie noted that the review had been completed and the Minister had advised that it would be ready by the end of March in time for the New Zealand Council's (NZC) April meeting. She suggested while there may be a need to adjust work programmes and budgets once we know the report's content, we shouldn't sit and put planning on hold until then, and added that work currently underway may align well with outcomes from the review. Cr David Woolner added that over the Christmas period and up until now a lot of potential changes had been signalled by the NZ Council, and while no decisions had been made a lot of information had been collected and reviews undertaken or in progress. He commented that there was a lot we don't know at this stage and that it would be sensible not to depart too far from our current goals, priorities and projects for the year ahead. Cr Debbie Oakley suggested Council should work on the basis of 'business as usual' until more information comes to light.

8.2 Andy Garrick advised that we had not yet received confirmation of base funding for the 2021-2022 financial year and hoped that would be coming shortly from the upcoming NZC meeting. He noted it's important to recognise that we are still affected by Covid and are likely to be for quite some time, and that the indications are we'll be asked to restrict our budget to the same level as we've had for this year. Andy advised that we needed to submit a draft budget for 2021-2022 to the NZC office by 24 March, along with any contestable fund bids we might have, for the NZC to consider/approve at its mid April meeting. Andy reminded Council that the 24 March deadline meant that it would not be able to formally review the draft and CF bids prior to these being despatched to the NZC (via Carmel), but as has been the case in previous years, the documents would be up for discussion at our next meeting on 8 April. Council will have the opportunity then to endorse and/or amend the draft budget, and endorse or reject CF bids or applications to use reserve funds. Any changes it might choose to make can then be communicated to the NZC ahead of its meeting on 16/17 April.

8.3 Cr David Woolner noted that the priorities proposed in the agenda paper are pretty much a roll over, business as usual approach, and suggested that no radical deviation in the next little while was the wise thing to do.

8.4 Andy Garrick advised that last year staff had put forward three contestable fund bids for use of its non-resident reserve funds which were subsequently withdrawn due to Covid19. He wanted to resubmit at least two of these with the highest priority being to fund the implementation of a succession plan for hatchery staff, something that needed to be funded whether it be via use of non-resident reserves or not. He said the role in the hatchery was a specialised job and not something that you can pull anyone in off the street for. His ambition was to recruit a partially qualified trainee to work alongside Mark Sherburn and Lloyd Gledhill, and learn the ropes prior to Lloyd's retirement. A graduate in aquaculture from Toi Ohomai or the University of Waikato would be a good

place to start looking for such a person. Cr Murray Ferris agreed that there was a need to recruit/train while the experts are here. Cr David Woolner also agreed having read the Central South Island Region's Governance Policies which included a section on risk management, and felt that this was something that needed to be supported given the major risk to this region if the lake fisheries were unable to be maintained by the hatchery programme.

8.5 Andy Garrick noted that the NZC had passed a resolution late last year to transfer all non-resident managed reserve funds in the regions to a national pool that would be managed by the NZC as a contestable fund pool. This had however, been done with no consultation with regional Fish & Game and regions had asked for the resolution to be rescinded pending a proper consultation process. Whether the NZC will be receptive to receiving applications to utilise non-resident reserves by regions in the meantime is unclear, but Andy is of the opinion we need to give this a go and asked whether or not Council was supportive of doing so. Council briefly discussed the background of the resolution made without consultation to pool the non-resident reserves, and agreed that regardless of the outcomes of further deliberations we needed to put a strong case forward for this proposal.

8.6 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Lindsay Lyons) that Council supports the proposal to put forward a contestable fund bid for a succession plan for Hatchery Management staff. [21/02/8.6]*

8.7 The second proposal Andy had in mind for putting forward again, was for \$5,000 to improve access to the Whirinaki River which is in line with the Council's goal of opening up new angling opportunities.

8.8 Cr Lindsay Lyons suggested that an application be put forward to purchase SMS cameras for duck banding as he was concerned about the high cost involved in getting staff and volunteers on site to band when duck numbers in traps were unknown beforehand. He advised that there were solar operated cameras available which cost in the vicinity of \$400. Staff's view was that this was impractical and it wasn't reasonable to turn away volunteers at the very last minute after they had made arrangements to be available on the day. Staff noted it was only very occasionally that trapping totally failed on the day, and it was very rare not to get sufficient numbers of birds to warrant the effort and numbers of staff and volunteers organised to be there.

8.9 Lindsay also felt that a drone would be a useful tool for checking wetlands and rivers and that \$4,000 should be sought for this. He noted that this could again reduce the high number of man hours involved in field work which could possibly be done more efficiently with the use of a drone.

8.10 Cr Barry Roderick agreed with Lindsay, commenting that banding was very resource hungry and his understanding was that Matt McDougall was now in a position to be able to predict population size based on weather during the breeding season. He questioned whether rather than running a trapping and banding programme it would be better to feed young birds as Matt had previously indicated the duck population was influenced not only by breeding but also by food supply in summer? Eben Herbert advised that research done in the past had shown very low mortality between January and opening. He said the indications were that the population this year is low as the juvenile to adult ratio in the traps was low, but the condition of birds was generally very good and for that reason he didn't see any point in putting funds towards supplementary feeding. Andy Garrick noted that ducks generally consume about 100 grams of grain per night, and based on estimates of the Eastern Region's duck population being in the order of 200,000 birds in recent years, we would need to feed out around 5 tonnes of

of food per day to support just 25% of the population. He added that it is not often that we capture very few ducks as had happened on the occasion referred to recently, and agreed that a drone would be a useful tool but not something we need to rush into, particularly if we're going to be asked to put up a conservative with our budgeting again this year.

- 8.11 Cr Ngahi Bidois commented we need to get on with this meeting and approach it from a governance level as it seems to have lapsed into something of a wish list. His thoughts were that proposals for the OWP seem good, and that we should spend some money on getting someone to improve licence sales.
- 8.12 Cr Lindsay Lyons asked that staff undertake more regular visits to agents and to pursue the tag fish promotion later in the year such as in March.
- 8.13 Cr Barry Roderick asked whether we had a risk matrix for the hatchery water supply. Andy Garrick confirmed that this was in progress and that we were aiming for it to be completed this year.

9.0 REGIONAL RESOURCE ALLOCATION

- 9.1 Cr David Woolner provided an overview of the Regional Resource Allocation project that had been undertaken by Concept Consulting and noted that the results of many of the detailed analyses it undertook were not unexpected. He questioned the merits of a key and very arbitrary recommendation made in the report (as an alternative to resetting budgets from a zero basis) of applying a -10% 'flex factor' to create a nationally contestable pool as a start towards resetting budgets. Council discussed the document at some length, and agreed that there was little point delving too deeply into the detail until the findings from the Fish & Game Ministerial review were known. Andy Garrick agreed that since the terms of reference for this project had been established and contracted out there were many other processes going on, and informed Council that the NZC was interested in feedback on general principles rather than detailed comment on everything contained within the report. He felt that 'Funding based on Activity' was not an appropriate method of resource allocation as the cost of and what was required to manage a resource, was extremely variable across the regions. A better approach would be to review the needs of each region in terms of what it needed to do to manage, maintain and enhance opportunities for sustainable sports fish angling and game bird hunting. To establish needs, operational audits also needed to be undertaken of what regions were doing, whether it represented best management practice, and whether it was being done cost effectively. Cr Barry Roderick expressed concern that activity results reported will have been skewed by the Taupo Fishery, that the physical aspects of this region and the role of the hatchery hadn't been considered, nor the unjustifiable variations in pay scales for some managers particularly in some of the smaller regions. In response to the latter Andy advised that there was work currently underway to review salaries and remuneration of all staff across the country, and noted there were many disparities. In the interests of both employers and employees and being fair and reasonable, there needed to be greater transparency and consistency. Cr Debbie Oakley noted that 'other income' generated by some regions was not recognised, and Cr Ngahi Bidois endorsed the concept of funding being based on needs rather than licence sales.
- 9.2 Council agreed with this approach and endorsed the four sub-goals on page 26 of the agenda for feedback to the New Zealand Council, these being:

- *Fish and Game NZ should allocate sufficient resources at the regional level to reflect the current operational needs of different Councils.*

- *Fish and Game NZ should allocate sufficient resources to NZ Council to meet current operational needs at the national level.*
- *Fish and Game NZ should explicitly consider the future strategic needs of the organisation – and ensure sufficient resource is allocated to achieve this at the regional or national level.*
- *Fish and Game NZ should obtain the best value for money from its spending (i.e. maximise efficiency) at both the regional or national levels.*

10.0 ANGLERS NOTICE REVIEW

10.1 Council discussed the change to the opening of lakes Tarawera, Okataina, and Rotoiti to the first Saturday in October and the resulting need to amend the regulations for the Winter Shoreline fishing dates. To avoid adding complexity to the regulations Council supported leaving Winter Shoreline areas on these lakes open all year round.

10.2 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Lindsay Lyons) that Winter Shoreline Areas on lakes Tarawera, Rotoiti, and Okataina will remain open all year round. [21/02/10.2]*

10.3 Cr Debbie Oakley suggested there may be a need to amend the resolution made in June 2020 (*Agreed (Ngahi Bidois/ Lawrence Tamati) to change the season opening dates for lakes Tarawera, Rotoiti and Okataina from 1 October to the first Saturday in October. Carried 6/3. [20/06/8.13]*) to record that the move to changing the opening of these lakes was a trial. Anthony van Dorp recalled the angst over this change and suggested that it be considered as a trial that could be reversed if necessary, as the word ‘trial’ could not be included within the Angler’s Notice. Matt Osborne agreed that the background could be explained in an article in the Fish & Game magazine and that there was no barrier to altering the anglers notice again later. Cr Ngahi Bidois advised he did not recall discussion of a trial period but would have expected to give it 3-5 years and that a change would come about if anglers did not like it. Ngahi suggested it needed to be given a good shot and be reviewed in 2-3 years’ time. Cr David Woolner felt that there was no need to change the prior minute as the wording was correct. Eben Herbert advised that the change would need to be revoked if Council didn’t support it rather than putting it in for a trial period. By doing the latter you were pre-empting a future Council’s decision. The Anglers Notice was open for review every year but decisions on legal matters could not be pre-empted. Council agreed that there was no need to revisit the resolution.

10.4 Council did not identify any other matters it considered required urgent attention.

11.0 GAME BIRD GUIDES’ LICENCE PROVISIONS

11.1 Council briefly discussed the background to the Game Bird guide licence provisions and agreed that it was rarely utilised and not required.

11.2 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Ngahi Bidois) that Council does not see a need to retain the game bird guides licence provisions in the Wildlife Amendment Act 1996. [21/02/11.2]*

12.0 2021 END OF YEAR MEETING DATES

12.1 Council reviewed the need to alter the final two meetings of the year to align with regional Fish and Game Council elections.

12.2 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Alan Baird) that the Council meetings currently scheduled for 7 October and 2 December 2021 be rescheduled to 28 October and 9 December 2021 respectively. [21/02/12.2]*

13.0 EASTERN REGION GOVERNANCE POLICY

13.1 Council discussed the requirement to review its current Governance Policies three yearly acknowledging it was overdue but agreed that its review should be deferred pending the outcomes of the Ministerial Review. Cr Debbie Oakley suggested some policies could be developed at a National level and applied to all regions.

13.2 *Agreed (Ngahi Bidois/Murray Ferris) that Council defers the review of its Governance Policies for 12 months at which time results from the Ministerial review would be available. [21/02/13.2]*

13.3 Cr Lindsay Lyons had read the Central South Island Council's policy document provided in the Papers for Information and felt that it was very well written and suggested that it could be put to the New Zealand Council. Cr Barry Roderick agreed and wished to acknowledge the quality of the Central South Island document and thanked Andy Garrick for bringing it to Council.

14.0 LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS

14.1 *Conservation Boards*

Zane Jensen had called earlier to update Andy Garrick on Conservation Board matters advising that the Board had met in early December but there was nothing of real interest to Fish & Game on the agenda. He said that the CMS had been delayed and will be well into the new year before this was finalised. Zane had advised that he was happy to take any Council matters to the Board and very happy to assist Council with any work to increase participation through his role at Sport Bay of Plenty.

14.2 *Department of Conservation*

No report.

14.3 *The New Zealand Fish and Game Council*

Debbie Oakley informed Council that Cr Paul Shortis, the Wellington Region appointee to the New Zealand Council, had been appointed temporarily to the role of acting CE (unpaid). She advised that because of the review in progress Council could not yet advertise the position as it was unknown what the role would entail. The Council hoped Paul would be able to remain Acting CE until the role was filled and most Councillors agreed that he should be paid to do this. He was very well experienced for the role.

15.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

15.1 The following topics were briefly discussed;

- Meeting with anglers re Lake Tarawera.
- Improvement in condition of Lake Rotorua trout caught at the Awahou mouth.
- Official Information Act requests.
- Ray Grubb, Andy Garrick and Brian Anderton (F&G) meeting with Dairy NZ.
- Opening of wetland reserves for maimai maintenance.
- Deep Creek wetland spraying investigations.

15.2 *Agreed (Laurance Tamati/Murray Ferris) that Council receives the Management Report and Health and Safety reports. [21/02/15.2]*

15.3 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Laurance Tamati) that Council receives the Finance Report and approves payments for November and December 2020 totalling \$313,888.11. [21/02/15.3]*

- 15.4 Kate Thompson provided an update on licence sales and advised that licence sales had slowed with very few non-resident sales and fewer locals purchasing compared to earlier in the season when there had been higher than normal sales. Cr Lindsay Lyons informed Council that he had heard that Covid was likely to have an impact in NZ for some seven years to come so we should be aiming to cater for the local market for some time yet. Cr Barry Roderick commented on feedback from Sporting Life in Turangi where they had seen significant numbers of anglers in January but February had been very quiet. He asked if there was an opportunity to promote autumn angling within our R3 programme. Andy Garrick confirmed that we would and had been utilising media to promote angling opportunities and we still have a few more large fish in stock that could be released as an incentive to get out and buy a licence. Cr David Woolner suggested there should be a national promotion. Andy Garrick agreed advising that Steve Doughty typically took the lead on these kind of programmes and Andy would be enquiring what's in the pipeline between now and winter.

16.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

- 16.1 Andy Garrick spoke to a one page document on page 96 of the Papers for Information accompanying this agenda. This was an overview of a Cawthron Institute research proposal for five years of funding to investigate native and introduced freshwater fish interactions that was about to be submitted to MBIE. Regional Fish & Game only became aware of this late last month when Cawthron had made contact with regions where it anticipated much of the research would be undertaken, Eastern Region being one of those. Unbeknown to us however, NZC staff had been contacted last November, and the NZC CE in an undated letter following on from discussions they had then, had registered Fish & Game's support for the proposal though at that stage (as indeed we understand is still the case), they were apparently unaware of any detail around what was proposed. Cawthron has advised us on the eve of submitting the proposal that the programme comprises both social and biological research. Some of what is proposed may augment the food web work we've sponsored on Lake Tarawera which would be good. So too is the principle of gathering additional science to assist with the future management of both indigenous and introduced freshwater fish species. However, what sets this proposal apart from what Cawthron typically undertakes as a research provider, is that the programme has a third element to it which involves setting up a policy working group with Te Wai Maori Trust, DOC and Fish & Game, Cawthron's aim being to facilitate "reconciliation discussions" and it appears, "broker solutions/develop policy options" for moving forward. Cr Laurance Tamati advised that Te Arawa Lakes Trust had only just yesterday had contact with Cawthron, but what they were proposing aligns with what TALT is wanting, though they would want a direct relationship with them, not via Te Wai Maori Trust.
- 16.2 Alan Baird raised concerns about the inequities of what the government was proposing around the improvement of water quality and the implications of implementing the new legislation on both farming and the environment. He felt farmers were being unfairly targeted and metropolitan pollution overlooked. Recommendations for land use change, reduction in stock numbers and more forestry being planted wouldn't achieve the improvements the government was seeking, as more forestry would result in more siltation and the ongoing degeneration of rivers and estuaries and their biodiversity. Alan suggested Fish & Game needed to do more to highlight the impact of urban environments and forestry on water quality. Council discussed the concerns Alan raised along with Fish & Game's mandate and what it could or couldn't get involved with,

what the NPS and NES for freshwater were attempting to do, and the shift in Fish & Game's focus from dairy farming to putting the pressure on regional authorities to do what they should be doing.

- 16.3 Cr Murray Ferris thanked staff for their attendance at the Waikaremoana Boating & Fishing Association's recent fishing competition, and advised he had received a lot of positive feedback from anglers. Anthony van Dorp acknowledged and congratulated Murray on his MC role, and noted the success of the competition.
- 16.4 Cr David Woolner noted that the other topic to be discussed in general business (Official Information Act requests) had already been dealt with when Operational Reports were considered.
- 16.5 Cr Lindsay Lyons requested a correspondence schedule on future agendas for Council related matters.

17.0 MEETING CLOSED

- 17.1 The meeting closed at 3pm with a closing karakia by Cr Ngahi Bidois.

.....
David Woolner
Chairman

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

- 2.0 APOLOGIES**
2.2 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that the apologies for the 187th meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [21/02/2.2]*
- 3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (3 DECEMBER 2020)**
3.1 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Alan Baird) that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [21/02/3.1]*
- 4.0 IDENTIFICATION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN COUNCIL POLICY**
4.1 *Agreed (???) that Item 9.10 relating to litter which includes any refuse, animal or game remains, or waste matter, or items of any type used in the course of hunting, and 9.12 relating to the prohibition of the use of drones to disturb game birds be included in Council policy. [21/02/4.1]*
- 8.0 GOALS AND PRIORITIES FOR THE 2021-2022 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN**
8.6 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Lindsay Lyons) that Council supports the proposal to put forward a contestable fund bid for a succession plan for Hatchery Management staff. [21/02/8.6]*
- 10.0 ANGLERS NOTICE REVIEW**
10.2 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Lindsay Lyons) that Winter Shoreline Areas on lakes Tarawera, Rotoiti, and Okataina will remain open all year round. [21/02/10.2]*
- 11.0 GAME BIRD GUIDES' LICENCE PROVISIONS**
11.2 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Ngahi Bidois) that Council does not see a need to retain the game bird guides licence provisions in the Wildlife Amendment Act 1996. [21/02/11.2]*
- 12.0 2021 END OF YEAR MEETING DATES**
12.2 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Alan Baird) that the Council meetings currently scheduled for 7 October and 2 December 2021 be rescheduled to 28 October and 9 December 2021 respectively. [21/02/12.2]*
- 13.0 EASTERN REGION GOVERNANCE POLICY**
13.2 *Agreed (Ngahi Bidois/Murray Ferris) that Council defers the review of its Governance Policies for 12 months at which time results from the Ministerial review would be available. [21/02/13.2]*
- 15.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS**
15.2 *Agreed (Laurance Tamati/Murray Ferris) that Council receives the Management Report and Health and Safety reports. [21/02/15.2]*
15.3 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Laurance Tamati) that Council receives the Finance Report and approves payments for November and December 2020 totalling \$313,888.11. [21/02/15.3]*

7. CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

Ref: 7.02.01

20 March 2021

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

In 2016 the Eastern Fish and Game Council adopted a revised policy and rules for dealing with Conflicts of Interest and these include providing 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.

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;

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.

- (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. PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

Ref: 8.04.05

20 March 2021

1. Purpose

To discuss the findings and recommendations of the Ministerial Review of Fish & Game.

2. Background

In June 2020 the Minister of Conservation launched an independent review of Fish & Game. The purpose of the review was (i) to establish if the functions, powers and organisational structure of the NZ Fish and Game Council and the regional Fish and Game Councils are fit for purpose for a modern regulatory and management Crown agency, and identify any changes required, and (ii) to provide recommendations on how Fish and Game can better implement its responsibilities under section 4 of the Conservation Act to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.

The review panel met with Eastern Region staff and governors on 24 September 2020 and we have been advised that the review will be released and made available to Fish & Game on 10 April 2021.

3. Recommendation

3.1 That the Eastern Fish and Game Council:

(a) pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 excludes the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

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
Confirmation of public excluded minutes from Council meeting of 3 August 2020.	Good reason to withhold exists under section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982	Section 48(1)(a)(ii)
Discuss findings of Ministerial Review.	Section 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA: The withholding of information is necessary to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown.	Section 48(1)(a)(ii): That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.

(b) with the exception of the Eastern Fish and Game Manager who will remain to participate in the discussion relating to the Ministerial Review.

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.”

9. 2021-2022 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN

Ref: 8.02.01

20 March 2021

1. Purpose

To consider proposed projects, budgets and contestable funding bids for the 2021-2022 Operational Work Plan (OWP).

2. Background

Operational Work Plans (which come into force on 1 September each year) are developed over several months from February onwards, and involve a review by Council of strategic priorities, core functions, project objectives, allocation of resources, and performance measures. The process may in some years include seeking Council's approval for the submission of applications to the NZ Council managed Contestable Fund, or for the utilisation of regional reserves to increase bulk funding for specific purposes.

The steps involved in developing the OWP for the 2021-2022 year and an update of where we're at in relation to these are as follows:

- Council reviews priorities and project areas it wishes to focus on over and above core functions (*done, at 11 February 2021 meeting*).
- Staff compile a draft work plan and balanced budget (excluding internal costs and incorporation of any bids or proposals to increase bulk funding) and identify potential contestable funding (CF) bids or proposals to utilise reserves (*done*).
- CF bids, proposals to utilise reserves, and draft budget submitted to the NZ Council by 24 March (*done*) for consideration at the combined Managers/NZ Council meeting on 16 April.
- This Council reviews draft projects, budget, and contestable funding/proposals to utilise reserves (*this meeting*). If Council chooses to make changes to the draft budget or the proposed CF bids/reserve notifications these are communicated to the NZC ahead of its meeting with Managers on 16 April.
- Staff revise projects and resourcing including hours and internal costs to take into account outcomes of the combined Managers/NZ Council meeting on 16 April, and circulate the second draft of the OWP to Council ahead of its 10 June meeting.
- The second draft of the OWP is considered at the June meeting and projects, budgets and targets are reviewed and refined as necessary.
- This draft is then circulated to clubs and other parties for comment if they wish to.
- Any feedback received is considered by Council at its 5 August 2021 meeting and if it deems appropriate, is provided for in the final OWP which it approves at that meeting.

3. Outcomes from Council's Meeting in February

Council did not identify any changes to its current priorities or programmes for the 2021-2022 OWP, the outcome of its February 2021 meeting being to retain the key regional priorities it had identified last year. The question was raised however as to whether the costs of duck banding could be reduced or the programme dropped altogether in favour of alternative initiatives. Other suggestions made were to put more resources into improving licence sales, make more visits to agents, and run the tagged fish promotion later in the year. These

suggestions have all been taken into consideration in the preparation of the draft budget accompanying this agenda. Relatively little change has been needed to accommodate some of these ideas as staff endeavour to run all projects as efficiently and cost effectively as they can be, and the current year's OWP makes provision for greater effort being put into R3 initiatives concerned with increasing public awareness, encouraging greater participation, and increasing licence income and revenue more generally. Very few changes have been made to direct costs this year.

4. Direct Costs

Points to note in relation to direct/external costs in the draft budget prepared for the 2021-2022 OWP year as compared to the Covid revised 2020-2021 plan we're currently operating to are as follows:

- The Species Monitoring output expenditure was reduced in the 2020/21 OWP year to offset loss of revenue arising out of Covid 19. That reduction came primarily from the cancellation of aerial mallard transect and swan trend counts which had been undertaken in recent years, and short term removal of the budget for Lake Tarawera investigations which it had been envisaged could be compensated for from Eastern Region's non-resident levy reserve (which didn't transpire). The planned expenditure for this output in the 2021/22 OWP year remains the same as for this year and funding for the Tarawera research will again be sought from the non-resident levy reserve (see below).
- Harvest Assessment budgets remain unchanged, costs being those associated with angler and game hunter surveys.
- Hatchery costs have been increased by \$470 in response to a change to property rates. Income within the Hatchery output remains at a similar level to the 2020/21 OWP year due to a reduction in orders from other Fish & Game regions.
- Game bird control budget is unchanged and is for the purpose of zon gun servicing and miscellaneous expenses.
- Habitat expenditure budgets remain unchanged, and are for the purpose of reserves management, landowner assistance, habitat creation and enhancement.
- Access budgets remain unchanged and relate to angler access and signage and hunter ballots.
- The information pamphlets budget remains unchanged.
- Angler/hunter training, Huts, Communications and Public Promotions budgets unchanged.
- Visitor Facilities remain unchanged.
- The Ranging budget remains unchanged as we now have an adequate supply of protective equipment for ranging staff.
- Licensing budget is unchanged and relates to the printing of the A4 regulation pads.

- Council's Meeting budget was reduced for the 2020/21 OWP year due to reduced travel costs arising from fewer East Coast representatives on Council. The budget for the 2021/22 year remains unchanged although with Council Elections due this year an increase in this budget could subsequently be required.
- The Management/Strategic Planning budget remains unchanged and was established in the 2020/21 OWP year for the purpose of R3 initiatives.
- Reporting, Audit and National Liaison budgets are unchanged.

Overall operational output expenditure in this preliminary budget has been increased by \$470 and overall revenue from sources other than licence sales unchanged. Revenue in the Administration area has been increased by just \$120 and administration expenses have been increased by \$1,020 which provides for several small tweaks to overhead budgets. Forecasted interest income and asset replacement fund requirements have also reduced by \$5,403 and \$6,773 respectively.

5. Contracting to Hawke's Bay Fish & Game and the New Zealand Council

Provision has been made to provide ongoing but more limited administrative support to Hawke's Bay Fish & Game than has been the case in more recent years, and technical/operational assistance subject to staff availability. Licence sales analysis and other related services up to the value of \$10,000 are currently provided to the NZC and it is anticipated but yet to be confirmed that this will continue into 2021-2022.

6. Resourcing

6.1 Bulk Funding

Eastern Region currently (2020-2021 OWP year) has a bulk funded operational budget of \$1,071,572. Our first draft of the operational budget for the 2021-2022 year remains set at this level in accordance with NZC's recent request for all regions do so, but may increase subject to this Council, and/or the NZC's approval of two proposed CF bids and three proposals to utilise non-resident reserve funds. Details of these are set out in the section following.

6.2 CF Applications and Proposals to Use Non-Resident Reserve Funds

To operate beyond our bulk fund of \$1,071,572, Eastern Region must either enter into a contestable funding process for projects that ultimately will, or are likely to require funding from licence fee increases, or draw down funds from its own reserves. Given the circumstances thrust upon us by the COVID pandemic last year, Eastern and virtually all other regions refrained from putting CF bids forward for the current year. This year however, there are two budgetary items that most if not all regions wish to address, one being CPI adjustments to staff salaries, the other being making up loss of income resulting from much reduced interest rates on funds invested. Contestable funding bids are the only real option for addressing these needs within the Eastern Region. CPI adjustments for the year ending 31 August 2021 will require \$11,785 (note no Fish & Game employees received CPI adjustments for the year to 31 August 2020, and the adjustment being sought for the end of this year does not compensate for that), while the deficit in interest income equates to \$9,702. The NZC has produced forecasts of various scenarios relating to CF applications for CPI adjustments in addition to legal funding and other national and regional needs, and the implication of these for licence fees and reserves. These are matters that will be determined at its joint meetings with Managers and Regional Chairs over 16 and 17 April.

Eastern Region currently holds c.\$135k in its non-resident reserve fund. Council's approval is sought to reinstate three proposals to utilise c.35% (\$48k) of these funds for non-resident reserve qualifying projects that were put forward just prior to the Covid outbreak last year but were subsequently withdrawn in the wake of it. Two of those applications were discussed at Council's last meeting (hatchery staff succession plan and Whirinaki access track), the other being Lake Tarawera smelt monitoring related. These proposals, along with the two proposed CF bids and preliminary budget for 2021-22 are provided in the Papers for Information accompanying this agenda.

6.3 Allocation of staff hours

Staff hours will be reviewed and adjusted where necessary in the next draft of the 2021-2022 OWP. Hours will be allocated in accordance with the project areas and priorities Council has determined to the extent this can be accommodated without compromising our ability to deliver on our core activities and statutory functions including monitoring, licensing, compliance, Council support, planning and reporting, and administration of the Council. The Eastern Region will continue to contribute a component of its overall staff hours to assisting with national Fish & Game programmes including waterfowl monitoring and research, compliance, environmental planning, licensing, Health and Safety, and other tasks as may arise. Eastern's contribution to these national projects is justifiable on the basis of its size and the number of staff it employs, which has enabled it to retain specialists in a number of fields. Some of this assistance is cost recoverable but a substantial component is not, and is provided for the benefit of other regions and that of the organisation as a whole.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1 *That Council considers the draft OWP for 2021-2022 year and the accompanying contestable funding bids and proposals to draw down some of Eastern Region's non-resident reserve funds with a view to approving these in their present or an amended form.***

10. WAIKAREMOANA SPORTS FISH HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND

Ref: 2.01.07.01

21 March 2021

1. Purpose

To consider an application for funding from the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund to incorporate into the 2021-22 OWP.

2. Background

In 1999 ECNZ made a commitment to create a trust known as the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Trust (“Trust”) as part of its consent for the Waikaremoana Power Scheme before its transfer to Genesis. The Trust was set up in response to concerns about the environmental, recreational, social, cultural and economic effects of the Waikaremoana Power Scheme (“WPS”). Due to Inland Revenue issues and the Trust being subject to taxes on interest, the Trust was disbanded soon after its formation, and the settlement was paid to Fish & Game to form the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund (“Waikaremoana Fund”)

The objective of the Trust and now the Waikaremoana Fund is:

"To sustain and enhance habitat for sports fish within the Wairoa River catchment and enhance access of the public to recreational sports fish therein".

In addition to this key objective, there are a number of additional purposes that include:

- *To undertake research that furthers the objectives of the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund;*
- *Identify and evaluate areas in the catchment worth protection, restoration, enhancement, etc.;*
- *Carry out creel surveys;*
- *Carry out trials and monitoring on improving sports fish habitat;*
- *To create, improve, maintain signage and access to sports fisheries.*

The Fund contained an initial investment of \$250,000. When the Fund was established in 2000 the Council agreed that the principal should be protected with an inflation-based adjustment and spending from the Fund should be maintained within the interest generated. The balance of the Fund stands at \$465,300 as of 31 August 2020.

3. Overview of Approved Offset Funding for 2020-21

Since 2017, Council has approved applications from staff each year for funding from this restricted reserve to incorporate into its OWP budget for the year coming to finance ongoing Waikaremoana survey and monitoring programmes, and to compensate for activities that staff would otherwise be undertaking elsewhere within the region, a principle that Council recommended and endorsed in 2016 [16/4/11.2].

Last year Council approved a draw down from the Fund of up to \$8,000 to support the ongoing monitoring, access and buoy related programme during the 2020-21 year.

4. Application for Funding towards Eastern Region's 2021-2022 OWP

The draft 2021-22 OWP provides for an ongoing compliance, monitoring, access and buoy related work programme at Waikaremoana, and Eastern Region wishes to once again apply for \$8,000 from the Fund to incorporate into this budget to offset staff time and expenses associated with the monitoring, access and buoy components of the exercise (compliance activities not eligible for funding from this source).

5. Recommendation

5.1 That Council reviews and approves this application for funding from the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund.

11. SPECIES MONITORING REPORTS

Refs: 1.02.02, 1.06.01

20 March 2021

1. Purpose

To receive the summaries for the 2020 Rotorua Lakes Opening Day Creel Survey report and the 2021 Paradise Shelduck and Black Swan Trend Counts report.

2. Background

The Council annually resources a number of key species management programmes to assess and monitor sports fish and game populations and the success rate and degree of satisfaction of users of the sports fish and game resource. The information collected from these programmes enables the Council to make informed decisions on species management to ensure sustainable populations are maintained for recreational harvest. These programmes also provide valuable information for other parties such as Regional Councils who can use sports fish and game bird data to assess the effects of habitat changes on biological systems. The programmes provide credible datasets not only to underpin management decisions, but are vital for statutory advocacy and public awareness. This agenda item presents the executive summaries for the 2020 Opening Day Creel Survey and 2021 Trend Counts reports. Copies of the full reports are provided in the Papers for Information for this meeting.

3. Executive Summary for the 2020 Rotorua Lakes Opening Day Creel Survey Report

- Fish & Game staff conducted 709 interviews with anglers who had fished for 3,219.50 hours in total and produced 681 fish for measurement during the Opening Day Creel Survey on Thursday, October 1, 2020.
- Lake Tarawera anglers experienced catch rates that were very slightly ahead of the 2019 opening and the past 10-year average with one fish caught for every 2.94 rod hours. The average Tarawera fish caught at the 2020-21 opening was significantly shorter (11mm, $P=0.01$) and significantly lighter (100g, $P=0.01$) and in poorer condition compared to the fish weighed in at the 2019 opening. Hatchery released fish made up a lower proportion of the catch (48%) compared with the 2019 opening (68%) and the hatchery contribution was well below the past 10-year average (66.4%). The two-year-old spring released hatchery fish caught this Opening Day were significantly smaller (21mm, $P<0.001$), significantly lighter (190g, $P<0.001$) and in poorer condition compared to the 2019 Opening Day 2-year-olds. The autumn released 2-yr-olds were significantly smaller (20mm, $P=0.016$), significantly lighter (210g, $P=0.011$) and had a lower condition factor compared to the same aged 2019 autumn released cohort.
- Lake Rotoiti anglers had a slightly improved Opening Day catch rate compared to the 2019 opening with one fish caught for every 4 rod-hours fished. This catch rate bettered the past 10-year average catch rate (0.23 fish.hr). The average fish caught was 5mm shorter, marginally heavier (10g), and in better condition than those caught during the 2019 opening. The two-year-old spring released hatchery fish were on average 2.5mm longer, 70g heavier and in better condition than the same aged fish caught on the 2019 opening day. At 506mm they were 11mm larger than the past 10-year average length (495mm). The

autumn liberated two-year olds were on average shorter (9mm), slightly heavier (30g) and in significantly better condition than the same aged fish caught on the 2019 opening day ($P=0.032$). Rotoiti produced the largest fish weighed in across the three lakes (4.1kg).

- Lake Okataina anglers experienced a significantly better catch rate over the 2020 opening than during the 2019 opening with one legal sized fish caught for every 2.38 hours effort ($P=0.005$). This catch rate was well ahead of the past 10-year average of one fish per 3.57 hours effort. Hatchery liberated fish made up a higher percentage of the catch (75%) compared to the 2019 Opening Day. This was also above the past 10-year average (69% hatchery fish weighed in). The average fish caught was slightly larger (4mm) and 10g heavier, but in marginally poorer condition than at the 2019 opening. The two-year-old hatchery fish were slightly larger (3mm), but 50g lighter, and these fish were in significantly poorer condition ($P=0.032$) than the 2-year-olds caught during the 2019 Opening. The 2019 autumn released LpAd clipped fish were larger (12.5mm), 66g heavier but in slightly poorer condition than the same aged fish caught at 1 October 2019.

4. Summary for the 2021 Paradise Shelduck and Black Swan Trend Counts Report

Monitoring of paradise shelduck (*Tadorna variegata*) and black swan (*Cygnus atratus*) was conducted in the Eastern Fish and Game Region over the period 6 – 16 January 2021. Paradise shelduck were counted at 64 known moult sites from aerial photos, and black swan numbers recorded at 71 ponds, lakes, and estuaries. Results were analysed and presented using three different methodologies; total count with a fitted regression line, total count of sites counted each year since 1991, and, a variant of the route regression method (Geissler and Sauer, 1990), referred to as a trend count.

Season regulations are set as a function of the long-term trend for paradise shelduck and black swan, while swan harvest regulation criteria also incorporate population size thresholds.

The paradise populations, reported by Management Units (A1, A2, B1, B2), were reasonably stable over the long term (19 years), although B1 may have decreased. The short term (two years) trend confidence intervals span zero suggesting no detectable change. The 2021 total paradise shelduck count for sites that have been counted each year ($n=19$) since 1991 was the third lowest (5,496). A cyclical (Sine; 16-year cycle) and linear model was fitted to this data. The linear model fitted the data almost 3 times better than the cyclical model. The linear model indicates that the population at the sites counted each year is decreasing ($P=0.006$).

Long-term counts of black swan indicate that the population is fairly stable in all Management Units, although there was a large decrease in Management Unit A1 between the 2020 and 2021 counts (6,529 cf. 9,113). Swan populations in B1 and B2 are below the threshold (1,000 birds) to hold a season, while A1 is above the relaxed season threshold of 3,000. There was no evidence that the sites where black swan have been counted each year since 1991 ($n=20$) have undergone any consistent change.

12. LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS

12.1 Conservation Boards

- *Tongariro-Taupo Conservation Board*
- *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

13. OPERATIONAL REPORTS

13.1 MANAGEMENT REPORT

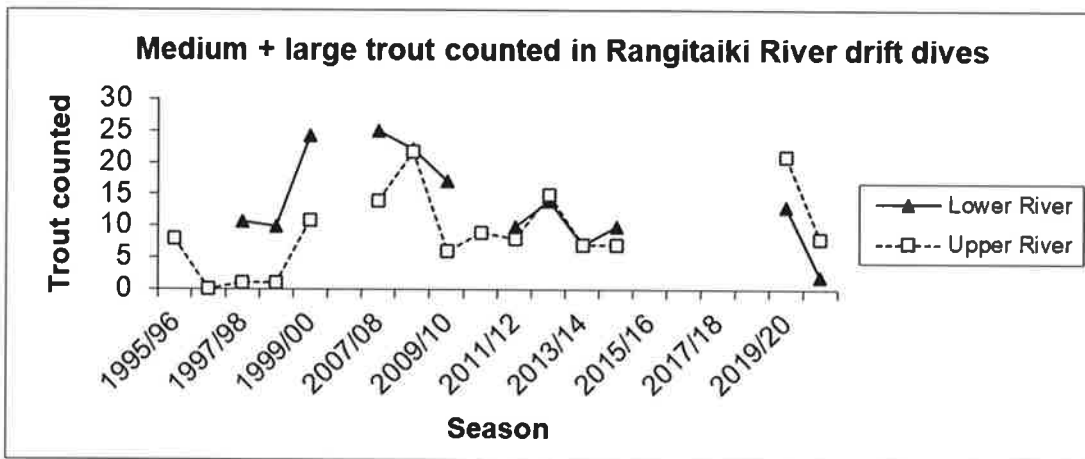
17 March 2021

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

1111 River Fisheries Investigations

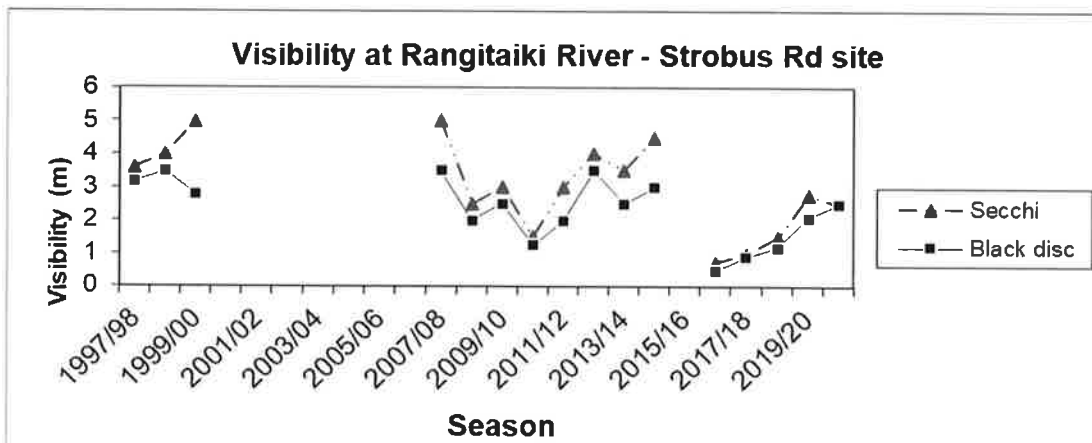
Regional River Fisheries Monitoring Programme

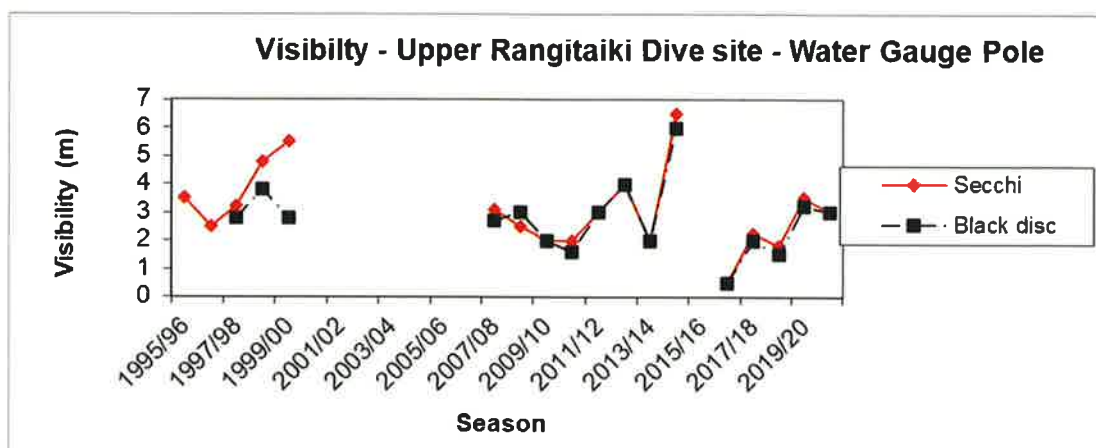
On 5 February, staff undertook a drift dive of the Rangitaiki River at the two sites traditionally surveyed. During the period spanning 2014-15 to 2018-19, drift dives were unable to be completed within the system, the reason being that water clarity had been in such a poor state that visibility rendered dive counts impossible.



The fish population was found to be in a healthy state with numbers either comparable to or better than observed in previous years.

At both the lower site (Strobus Road) and the upper river site near the Napier-Taupo Highway (water gauge pole) the visibility was again below the recommended minimum of 3m secchi disc for drift diving, but was mid-range compared to what has annually been recorded in those locations since monitoring began. Pumice at these sites is readily mobilised and results in instream turbidity and reduced water clarity.





1112 Datawatch

During the six months following the season opening, a total of 281 datawatch tags have been returned and entered into the database. The distribution is as follows:

Lake McLaren	1
Lake Okareka	10
Lake Okataina	60
Lake Rerewhakaaitu	15
Lake Rotoehu	8
Lake Rotoiti	65
Lake Rotoma	14
Lake Rotorua	9
Lake Tarawera	99
Lake Tutira	0
Lake Waikaremoana	0

**Datawatch returns (entered to 24/02/2021)*

Compared with those received at this point in time last year (mid March 2020), the total number of tags returned is up by 48 (20.6%). Returns from many of the lakes are comparable to those recorded in the 2019-20 season but are higher in the case of lakes Okareka, Rerewhakaaitu, Rotoma, and Tarawera (latter 53 more returns to end of February than to mid March 2020). Returns from lakes Rotoiti and Okataina are slightly lower than at this time last year.

1113 Lake Waikaremoana

Waikaremoana Water Quality Monitoring Buoy

The Waikaremoana water quality monitoring buoy was vandalised at 11am on 13 February. We know precisely when, because this was the time and date when data stopped being recorded. The top mast containing solar panels, beacon and weather station telemetry equipment was tampered with. The sub-surface water quality instrumentation continued to stream data via the modem and Vodafone network until 24 February when the battery which had been detached from the solar charging system went flat. Dave Caudwell from the Waikaremoana Motor Camp was a great help as he went out onto the lake to inspect the buoy and report back to us after our staff had noted something untoward had happened. Staff subsequently made a special trip to Lake Waikaremoana to retrieve the equipment on 2 March and fix a temporary light to the

buoy to reduce the risk of a boat colliding with it in poor light or after dark. The damaged equipment has since been delivered to Waikato University for repair. Te Urewera operational staff were advised of the vandalism at the time.

1115 Other Lake Fisheries Investigations

Ngongotaha Stream trap run

The Ngongotaha fish trap was not operated during January 2021. It was however, operated for three nights during February. The timing coincided with lake cooling due to cooler days, rainfall, and wind triggered lake turnover. Just two fish were trapped over the three nights, and no downstream migrating fish were trapped. The next phase of stream movement will be brown trout entering the stream under their spawning migration.

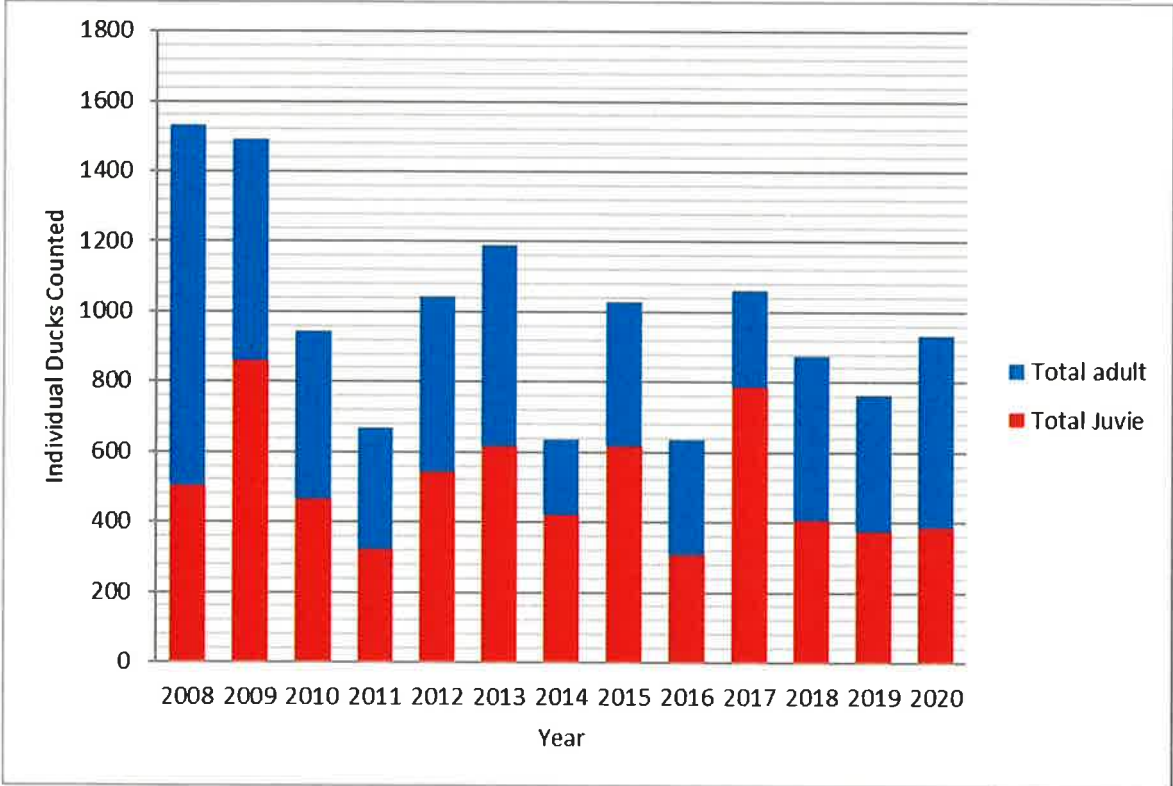
Ngongotaha Stream trap run (February 2021)

	<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>	515	1.80	1	<1	0	
<i>Brown</i>	570	2.35	1	<1	0	50%

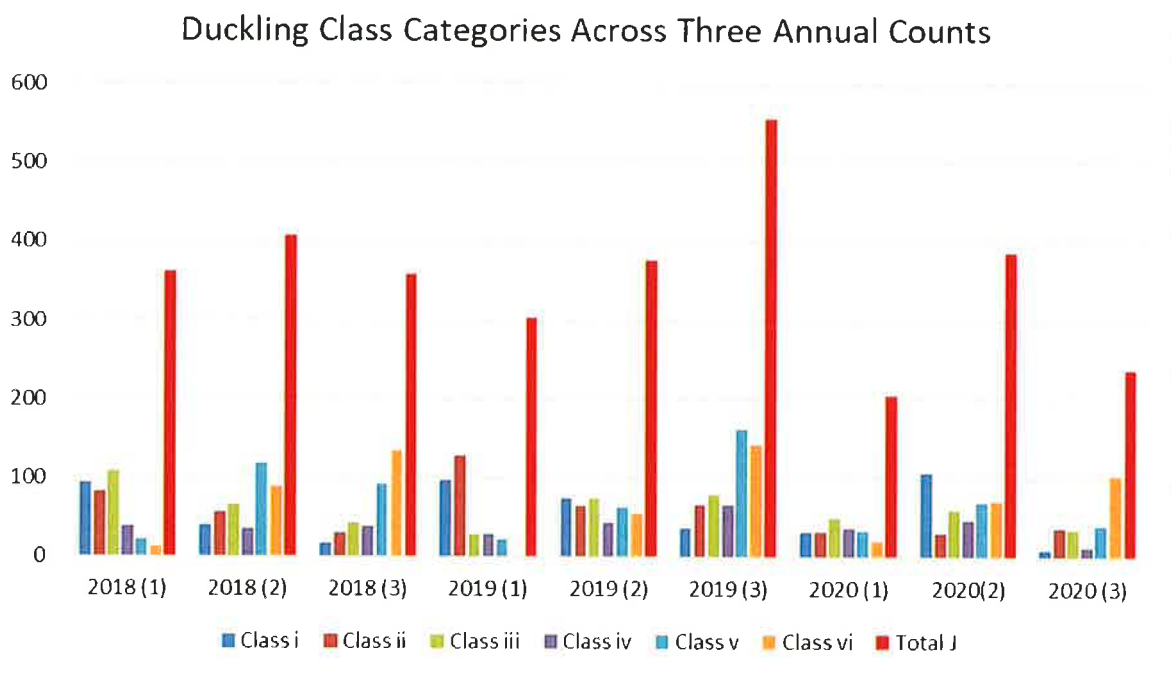
1116 Waterfowl Monitoring

Spring Brood Counts

In October 2020 waterfowl brood counts were undertaken on a series of drains in the region to assess productivity across various drain types, and to monitor the effects of drain management and habitat improvement work. With 387 juvenile Grey/Mallard's counted across all sites, the overall counts obtained this year were about 3% up on last year's counts and 20% below the average from the last ten years.



In addition to our normal annual brood counts, during the last three years staff have conducted brood counts prior to and following our normal counts to assess variability and whether we are undertaking current counts at the optimum time to do so. In 2018 three counts were undertaken at two week intervals from 17 October. In 2019 three counts were undertaken at two week intervals from 8 October. In 2020 three counts were undertaken at two week intervals from 19 October. Our usual count is undertaken in the last week of October, corresponding approximately with Count 2. The graph below shows the results of these nine counts, split into brood classes and the total number of juveniles observed.

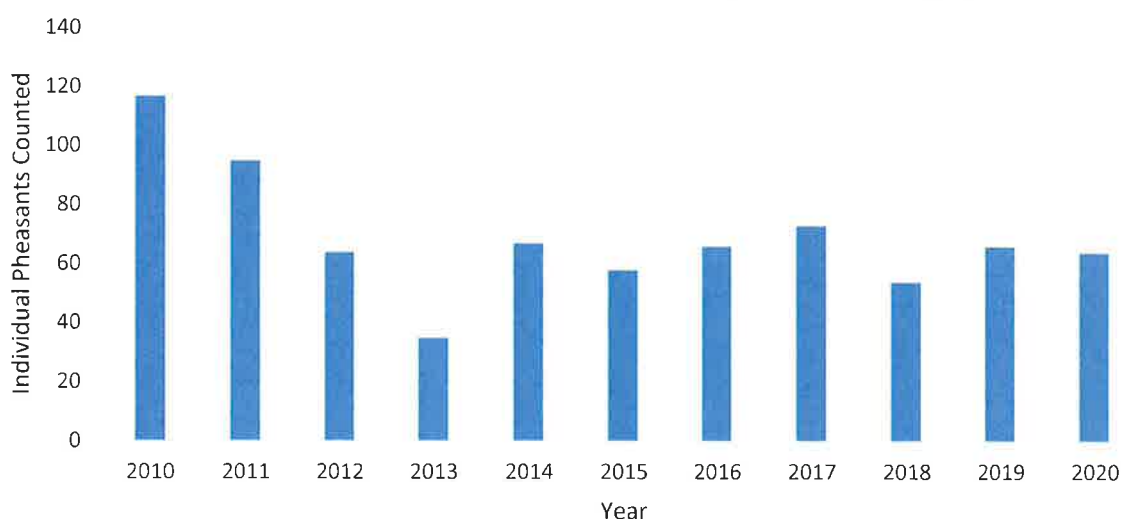


1119 Upland Game Assessments

Pheasant Call Counts

A week of pheasant call counts was undertaken by Fish and Game staff in Kaingaroa Forest in November 2020. At this time of year male pheasants are calling frequently to mark their territories, particularly early in the morning. These counts are undertaken annually to provide some insight into pheasant numbers in Kaingaroa and investigate whether there has been any significant change. With a maximum of 64 cock pheasants encountered on any one day across the 28 sites, this year's surveys were about 3% down on last year's counts and 9% below the average from the last ten years suggesting there hasn't been significant change.

Maximum Pheasants Counted Per Day Across All Sites



1121 Lake Fisheries Creel Surveys

Summer Creel Survey

The summer angler creel surveys for the 2020-21 season commenced in late October and will conclude in mid-April. The 2020-21 schedule adopted a less regimented approach and a reduction in the number of surveys than had previously been intended due to staff availability and Covid impacts on resourcing. Results will be reported prior to end of August 2021.

1122 Opening Day Angler Survey

The 2020-21 Opening Day Survey report was completed (see Agenda Item 12 for Executive Summary).

1141 Hatchery Operations

Fingerlings for spring liberations have been moved to ponds 2 and 3 for on-growing and release in September onwards.

Fish locations at 17th March 2021:

Location	Type	Qty (approx)	Comment
Hatchery	Rt	10,000	Mostly spring libs and orders 2021
Tank A	Rt	10	Brood
Tank C	Bt	1,000	Liberation spring 2021
Tank E	Bt	1,000	Liberation spring 2021
Tank F	Rt	1,000	Akl/Waik liberation, Spring 2021
Pond 2	Rt	20,500	Liberation, spring 2021
Pond 3	Rt	20,500	Liberation, spring 2021
Pond 4	Rt	7,000	Liberation, autumn 2021
Pond 5	Rt	7,000	Liberation, autumn 2021
Pond 6	Rt	7,000	Liberation, autumn 2021
Pond 7	Rt	7,000	Liberation, autumn 2021
Pond 9	Rt	5,000	Rising 2+ for KF programmes

RW	Rt	4,000	2+ for KF programme sales 2021
Kids	Rt	2,000	2+ for Eastern KF programme 2021

1161 Sports Fish Liberations

Liberations, Eastern Region 20 January – 17 March 2021

Water	Date	Mark	Tag	Species	Age Class	Number
Rotorua	17/2/2021	-	-	Rt	3+	15
Tarawera	23/2/2021	Ad	X21	Rt	1+	500
Tarawera	23/2/2021	Ad	-	Rt	1+	500
Rotoiti	26/2/2021	Ad	N21	Rt	1+	500

Fish were also transported on behalf of DOC Turangi to the Capital Trout Centre in Wellington.

1172 Game Bird Regulations

Game season regulations are based on summer monitoring (trend counts for paradise shelduck and black swan, and trapping and banding for mallards) post game season harvest data for mallards, August counts for shoveler duck, and spring brood counts for mallards and November call counts for pheasants. The field work for summer banding was completed on 12 February 2021 with 1,371 mallards and grey duck banded. Trend count flights were completed on 16 January, and the 932 photos produced from that were processed and analysed by 1 February 2021. Recommended regulations were submitted to NZFGC via Share-point on 1 February 2021.

Summaries of the summer paradise and black swan monitoring results are provided in Agenda Item 12 but in brief, both paradise shelduck and black populations appear relatively stable in all management areas as indicated in the tables below.

Table 1. Paradise Shelduck estimate of annual percentage change for each management unit based on the last 19 years of counts.

Area	Management Area			
	A1	A2	B1	B2
Mean (percentage change)	-1.9%	9.3%	-7.2%	-1.2%
lo-95% CI	-7.4%	-23.1%	-16.1%	-6.9%
hi-95% CI	3.8%	55.2%	2.6%	4.9%
n	23	9	20	9
Total Counted 2020	6014	2357	3353	1330
Total Counted 2021	5451	2494	3357	2364

Table 2. Black Swan estimate of annual percentage change for each management unit based on the last 18 years counts.

Area	Management Area			
	A1	A2	B1	B2
Mean	-3.09%	-0.34%	-1.02%	-1.19%
95% CI	-7.61%	-4.00%	-6.62%	-5.29%
95% CI	1.65%	3.47%	4.92%	3.08%
n	26	12	10	10

Total 2019	7,358	1,858	210	723
Total 2020	9,113	1,320	402	840

Mallard populations are predicted using previous years' population estimates and a combination of climate covariates (rainfall and temperature) and adult female annual survival (Figure 1, and refer also to December 2020 agenda). Unfortunately, the best fit model (to date) incorporates summer rainfall which isn't available at the time season recommendations are required. NIWA's prediction for the summer didn't bode well for the ducks, it being:

“Although patterns of higher than normal pressure and drier conditions are expected to start summer, moist, sub-tropical disturbances are expected to reach the country occasionally, particularly the North Island and northern South Island. These systems can cause areas of heavy rainfall and flooding.”

The first model does not incorporate summer rainfall (which was the fifth ranked model and actually didn't get a lot of support), was used to predict the 2021 mallard population size and indicated the mallard population would be 389,000. This is about 11% above the restricted threshold of 350,000 but given the relatively poor predictive ability of this model and NIWA's outlook of a drier than normal summer, (with some possible flooding), it was considered prudent to adopt a conservative approach i.e. restrictive regulations, and this is what was recommended to the Minister.

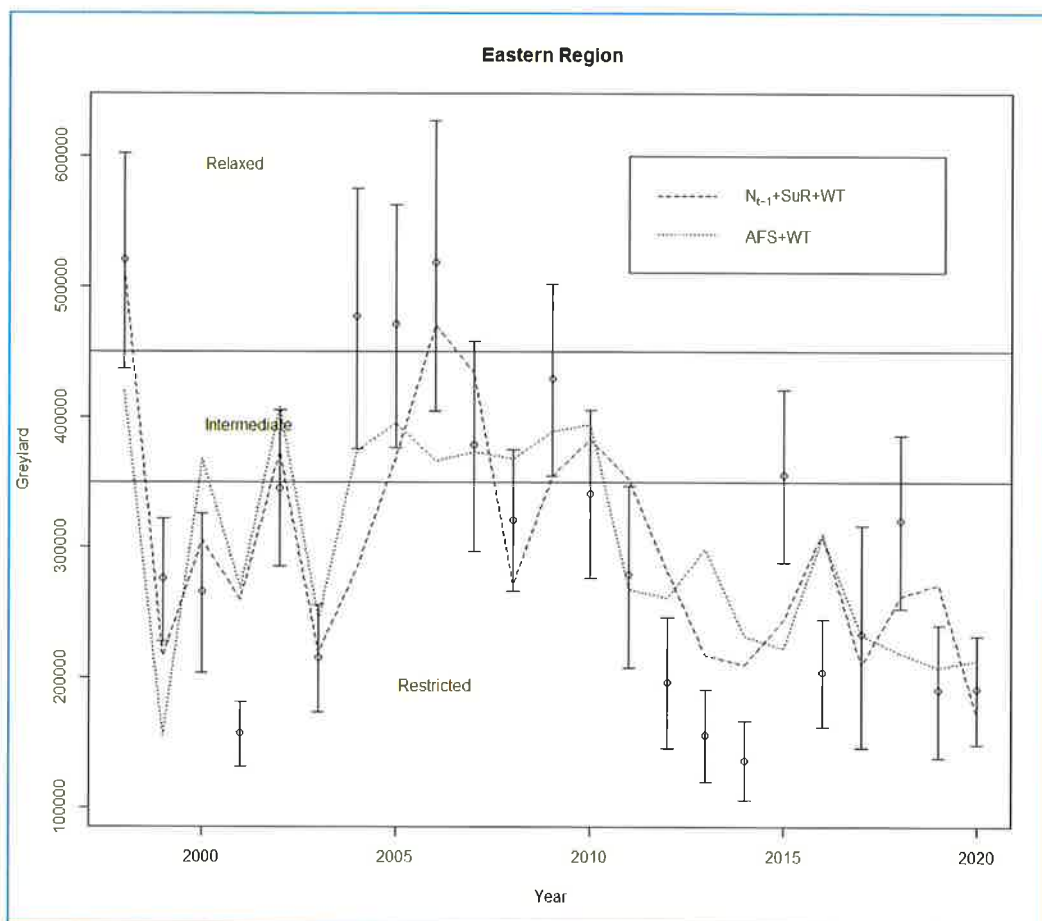


Figure 1 Eastern Region mallard population (open circle; mean \pm 95% BCI) 1998–2020, with three zones of regulation constraint, Restricted, Intermediate and Relaxed. The dashed line shows the model $N(t) = N(t-1) + SuR + WT$ where $N(t)$ =mallard population in year t , SuR =average summer rain (actual), WT =average winter temperature. The dotted line shows the predicted mallard population as a function of adult female survival rate (AFS) and average winter temperature (Whakatane weather station).

Postscript: Since the above report was written, summer rainfall data is available and we are able to refine the prediction provided above. The average Whakatane summer rainfall was about 8% below normal, and given the population going into the breeding season was very low we expected the population would fall into the “Restricted” zone (i.e. a one-month season and a six mallard and grey duck limit). This was confirmed by running the top model¹ with the summer rainfall data which suggests a very low mallard population for the 2021 season (131,500) and well below the “Restricted” threshold of 350,000 birds.

¹ $N_{2021} = 1335918 + 0.3376N_{2020} + 1000.049SuR - 124485WT$ where N is the mallard population estimate, SuR is the average monthly rainfall for December, January and February, and WT is the average Winter temperature (Whakatane Aero Aws).

HABITAT PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE

1211 RMA Planning

Bay of Plenty Regional Council

No new developments on the review of the Schedule of Important Trout Habitats in the region. BoPRC is looking at getting various plan changes underway by the end of the year in order to meet new obligations under the National Policy Statement (Freshwater) 2020.

Waikato Regional Council

In March 2018 Auckland/Waikato and Eastern Fish and Game Council's lodged a joint submission on Waikato Regional Council's Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora: Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1. Council hearings were held mid-2019. Decision were released in May. A/W Fish and Game Council, with support from Eastern, have appealed a number of matters. No new developments.

Gisborne District Council

Following the conclusion of the Gisborne Freshwater Plan, the Motu Catchment Plan process is now underway and Fish and Game will have some involvement in its drafting in mid 2021.

Regional Pest Management Plans

Waikato Regional Council is in the early stages of proposing changes to its Regional Pest Management Plan. Comments are due on these documents in April.

Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy

The public notification of the draft Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy was recently revoked. The purpose of the revocation is to ensure further engagement opportunities are provided. The Department intends to re-notify the draft in April.

1212 Consent Applications

Date	Authority	Applicant	Type	Resource Involved	Action
21 Jan	BOPRC	E Moore	LUC - jetty upgrade	Lake Rotoiti	No Concerns
5 Mar	HBRC	Wairoa DC	LUC - bridge maintenance works	Various streams in coastal Wairoa	No Concerns

1221 Reserves Management

Lower Kaituna WMR

The earthworks and weir installation for the final 10 ha of pastureland being converted to wetland has been completed. Water has been let into all of the new wetland areas created (23 ha WMR and 25 ha BOPRC Tumu Kawa block). Half of these areas have been planted so far and the remainder will be planted this winter. The remaining four paddocks not converted to wetland (approx. 6 ha) will continue to be grazed for another two years until sufficient kahikatea plants have been raised to plant these areas out. The main water reticulation channels and middle and upper oxbows have had weed control undertaken within them using BOPRC's long reach digger, and have been sprayed at culvert and water flow junctions. Vehicle tracks and most stand access tracks have also been sprayed. The Club Pond tracks, and other degraded accessways have had sand deposited on them and levelled, and the main carpark area has been extended and upgraded.

All works within the site will be concluded by 9 April to allow the area to be disturbance free in the lead up to the hunting season.

Awakaponga WMR

The Awakaponga solar water supply system has been replaced, and is now up and running. Some fine tuning of various sensors is still required to maximise its efficiency and ensure it is operating smoothly.

Other Reserves

Pest plants adjacent to vehicle access tracks and water reticulation channels within all but one of the reserves in which works were scheduled to be undertaken have been sprayed. Awaitei water channels were excavated and a collapsed culvert crossing was repaired, but tracks within the reserve were so wet were unable to safely spray. The third round of access track mowing has been completed with a final round proposed mid-April to ensure safe and easy access for hunters.

1231 Respond to Landowner Requests for Assistance

One new landowner request for planting advice has been received.

The significant wetland enhancement project on private land near Te Puke has been evaluated by an engineer and we await design features. BOPRC has subsequently decided to assist with the project and once engineering designs are finalised, we will prepare a wetland management plan, apply for resource consents for works to be undertaken in summer 2021/22.

1232 Habitat Creation and Enhancement Projects

Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust

Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust met to discuss a number of issues including the strategy (is it still relevant), the name of the Trust (it is not easy to remember and may attract more funding applications if it was more relevant). We also discussed how to tap into bequests and met with "Momentum" who have 4,500 people on their books. The Trust explored options with Momentum on how to focus some of these bequests into habitat enhancement/creation projects. Trustees considered there was real potential to generate funds for environmental works and are going to pursue this matter further.

Matt McDougall is managing 17 environmental projects with a number of them coming to an end over the next few months.

Torepatutahi Wetland

The Torepatutahi Stream (Deep Creek) wetland, below Broadlands Road bridge, as previously reported has been severely degraded due to an ill conceived aerial spraying operation undertaken by Contact Energy, as part of its enhancement programme for the site. We are still waiting on the findings of the Waikato Regional Council investigation into the incident. An ecologist contracted by Contact Energy has produced a draft report that we have provided feedback on, and Contact Energy has also conducted an internal review of what occurred and produced what we consider to be a misleading and sub standard report we've yet to comment on. Contact Energy has invited Fish & Game, iwi and DOC to have an input to a revamp of the current site management plan to ensure similar events are not repeated in the future.

1241 Monitor Waterfowl Habitats

Wetland Forum

The forum has not met since Council's last meeting.

ANGLER AND HUNTER PARTICIPATION

1311 Maintain & Enhance Access

Rangitaiki River

Summer access maintenance work has continued within the Rangitaiki River system in Kaingaroa forest. This work is focussed on key fishing locations only.

Whirinaki

We are still waiting for the approval of other parties before we can proceed with Whirinaki access enhancement proposal developed pre Covid.

Waikato River and Hydro Lakes

The new updated Waikato River and Hydro Lakes brochure is now available online and has been promoted elsewhere. New signage has been erected within the Waikato system and the project has generated considerable interest from anglers. Thanks are due to Mercury for permitting angler access at a number of locations on land they own or administer.

1313 Hunter Ballots

While we continue to receive enquiries from hunters looking for a place to hunt, the number who have registered for ballots for the 2021 season is about 50 fewer than in the two preceding years. Permits and licences have been sent to all registered hunters.

1331 Electronic Newsletters

Reel Life was produced in February and March and presented local fishing reports.

1332 Fish and Game Publications

Regional pages for the 2021 Game magazine were submitted to Real Creative on 21 January. For this issue Eastern staff decided to concentrate efforts on R3 related articles (Recruit, Retain, & Reactivate) aiming at retention of game licence holders in particular.

1333 Fish & Game Website

Updates or changes to the Eastern Web site included Council agendas and minutes, updates to the balloted stand and wetlands page, notices re Waewaetutuki junior hunt and lowering water levels at lake Aniwhenua.

1334 Social Media

Recent posts include profiling local fishing action, access work on the Waikato Hydro lakes and Kaingaroa forest, the approaching hunting season, the special black swan and pukeko weekend, bird banding, and the trophy fish release on Lake Rotorua. The page usually reaches around 15,000 people per month and has over 1,100 followers.

1352 Angler/Hunter Training

No angler/hunter training held for the reported period.

1354 Fishing Competitions

Seven fishing competition permits were processed for the period.

1361 Fish & Game Club Communications

There were no club visits for the period.

1371 Fish & Game Huts

Annual maintenance was carried out at Wairua Hut and miscellaneous items were attended to at Waikeremoana Hut.

PUBLIC INTERFACE

1411 Statutory Liaison

Met with Zane Jensen, Bay of Plenty Conservation Board.

1421 Public Communications

Official Information Act Requests

Responded to request from John Smith.

Dairy NZ

Liaised with Dairy NZ re meeting to explore opportunities for on the farm collaboration.

1451 Education

There were no education tours or school visits during the period.

COMPLIANCE

1511 Ranging

Compliance work has focused on summer angler surveys on the Rotorua Lakes and around Lake Rotorua stream mouths, and ranging in other regional locations by staff and honorary rangers. There have been very few issues detected during ranging or reported by the public.

So far for the 2020-21 year, 13 offenders have been dealt with for a total of 16 offences; overall this is a low offence rate.

Contacts year to date through to end of February are at 1602 checks, while this is lower than other years a number of factors have been at play resulting in fewer checks being made. The compliance rate continues to be in excess of 98 % of persons checked found to be fully compliant.

Planning is underway for the ranging operation over the opening weekend of the game bird hunting season commencing the first weekend in May.

Contacts Year to Date 2020-2021.

Figures to date – 1602 contacts.

Contacts: Year 2020-2021

Month	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Last 5 yr average
September	29	21	21	46	16	27
October	903	836	893	726	724	816
November	62	69	20	126	16	59
December	310	390	309	237	287	307
January	217	195	442	246	404	301
February	293	137	307	265	155	231
March	191	199	180	23		148
April	214	178	124	7		131
May	292	226	252	143		228
June	171	172	168	162		168
July	94	80	63	75		78
August	27	33	54	20		34
Total	2,803	2,536	2,833	2,076	1,602	2,562

North Island/National CLE liaison role

Ongoing assistance and advice was provided to regional compliance staff as required in addition to co-ordination of ranger training.

1521 Ranger Training

Eastern Region hosted a ranger safety and communications (CERT) training refresher day in mid-March attended by staff and rangers from three North Island regions.

Rangers

Honorary Rangers continue to contribute around the region as they can. We currently have nine warranted honorary rangers all of whom are active and contributing in varying ways.

1531 Prosecutions

Other than several historic warrants to arrest, six offenders have offences pending resolution, details as per the table below. Some of these are pending court prosecutions.

Prosecutions have been proceeding well with most matters dealt with subsequently resolved via diversion processes in a timely manner.

We do have two significant prosecutions which have been or are in progress in the Rotorua District Court. These involve two offenders who gave false details and false information relating to identity and a family fishing licence on the opening day of the current fishing season. One of those persons was fishing without a licence as well as giving a Fish & Game Ranger false details (false name, address, date of birth etc), and he has been charged with those offences.

The second person was charged with giving false information in relation to the identity of his companion, and in connection with licence matters. Both persons have entered intimated guilty pleas when they first appeared in court in February. These prosecutions are being dealt with by the Tauranga Crown Solicitors office due to circumstances relating to the occupation of the primary offender; that person has been granted interim name suppression and will be sentenced in April. These matters will incur extra prosecution costs but these will be sought in the event of a successful outcome for the prosecution. At the conclusion of prosecution action, it is intended that a formal complaint will be made to the primary offender's employer regarding the standards of behaviour he demonstrated in committing these offences.

Offences 2020-2021 Year:

13 persons dealt with for 16 offences as tabled below.

Offence table 2020-2021 year (to 12/03/2021)

Offence name	Number of offences
Disturbing wildlife	1
Fish with illegal tackle	1
Fish closed waters	2
Fish without a licence	10
Gives false details	2
Total number of offences	16

Offences Pending Resolution

To date (12 March) 21 separate offences by 11 offenders are pending resolution. Five of these offenders are wanted on warrants to arrest.

The table below shows offences currently pending resolution:

Offence name	Numbers
Fish without licence	10
Illegal tackle	1
Possess net-spear-gaff	2

Fish closed waters	2
False details	5
Possess sports fish unlawfully taken	1
Total	21

LICENSING

1612 Analysis of Licence Information

Kate Thompson continues to provide regular updates of licence sales to the New Zealand Council and regions.

1621 Licence Agent Support

Game regulation guides were distributed by staff to agents in mid-March providing the opportunity for agents to liaise with staff about the upcoming Game Season. Agents' requests for licence corrections, brochures, and information attended was to as and when required.

13.2 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Ref: 9.01.07

19 March 2021

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 plan – including Health and Safety as an agenda item for staff and 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.

November-December 2020

1. Implementation and Adherence to the Health and Safety Plan

Regular (weekly) staff meetings.

Minutes from the Health and Safety portion of the meeting are emailed to all staff.

Visitors are required to sign our register, and our hazard register is updated as required.

Tail Gate forms completed for:

January 2021 Drift dive – Rangitaiki River

January 2021 Banding

2020-2021 Budget for Health & Safety \$2,000

2. Monitoring and Reporting

Work Place Accident Register

	28/02/2021	31/08/2020
Number of Workplace injuries in 2019-2020 year	1	1
Number of Workplace injuries in 2018-2019 year	1	1
Number of Workplace injuries in 2017-2018 year	1	1
Number of Workplace injuries in 2016-2017 year	2	2
Number of Workplace injuries in 2015-2016 year	1	1
Total Number of Workplace injuries since 1 Sept 1995	41	40
Total Number of lost work injuries since 1 Sept 1995	3	2
Total number of days since last lost work injury 19/07/2020	224	1,034
Total number of days since prior lost work injury 13/08/2017	1,071	
Total number of days since prior lost work injury 17/12/2013	1,335	
Total number of days since formal register commenced 1/09/95 to first lost work injury 17/12/2013	6,682	

3. Risk Management (identification and treatment)

COVID 19

The following procedures remain in place:

- Property open to public, additional Covid tracing signs put up around property
- If unwell stay at home
- Sanitiser available throughout office for public and staff use

Notes taken for the H&S minutes at the weekly staff meeting and emailed to all staff:

5/01/2021 Slippery boat ramps, boards missing end of Okataina ramp, traffic
11/01/2021 Sunstrike, road works
18/01/2021 No meeting - Banding
25/01/2021 No new hazards identified
01/02/2021 No meeting – Anniversary day
08/02/2021 No meeting – Waitangi day
15/02/2021 No new hazards identified, Covid level 2 precautions
22/02/2021 No new hazards identified

4. Training Programme

Nil

5. H&S Incidents

Nil

6. Recommendation

That Council acknowledges it has received this report.

13.3 FINANCE REPORT

Ref: 8.03.01

22 March 2021

1. Purpose

To inform the Council of the year-to-date financial position and approve payments for the months of January and February 2021.

Tables within this report:

Table 1	Variance Report to 28 February 2021
Table 2	Balance Sheet as at 28 February 2021
Table 3	Profit and Loss to 28 February 2021
Table 4	Bank Transactions 1 to 31 January 2021
Table 5	Bank Transactions 1 to 28 February 2021
Table 6	Credit Card Transactions 1 January to 28 February 2021

2. YTD Profit and Loss

The Profit & Loss statement for the period ending 28 February is attached (Table 3).

Income

Licence revenue is ahead of budget for the year to date \$135,530 and this includes \$15,443 collected for game hunter ballots. The budget for the year was reduced due to uncertainties around COVID 19 and border closures. A more up to date and detailed picture of licence sales performance YTD can be found within the licence sales report.

Revenue from other sources over the period totalled \$17,515 and was made up of the following: fishing competitions (\$378), fish food counter sales (\$17), Court fines (\$1,185), and rentals (\$10,742). Habitat fees were collected for game hunter ballots (\$633) and contract revenue invoiced to the New Zealand and Hawkes Bay Fish & Game Councils amounted to \$4,534.

Species Management

Within the Population Monitoring output expenses are shown relating to the Datawatch tags from Hallprint Australia, flights for trend counts, and wages and fuel for the banding project. The Species Management area is over budget YTD (\$3,707) due to timing of the Datawatch tag purchases.

Hatchery expenses for the period related to fish food, materials for repairing/replacing hatchery screens, shade sails, timber and rope for the rearing ponds, and various other minor maintenance material purchases. Vehicle expenses included seat covers, a puncture repair, and the insurance excess for repairs to the flat deck truck. The regular expenses for electricity, fuel, and oxygen are also reported. Within budget YTD.

Habitat

Works and Management spending for the period included access signage for Lake Tamarenuui, the Lower Kaituna WMR, and the Awakaponga WMR. Bait was purchased for predator control and chemicals for ballot holder habitat maintenance. The Habitat output is over budget YTD (\$14,937) due to the unbudgeted solar install at Awakaponga WMR which has been funded by insurance proceeds currently sitting within "Other Income".

Participation

Within the Participation output expenses are reported relating to equipment for access work, and access signs for the Waikato River and hydro lakes access points. The Access budget funded the new Waikato River access brochure. Minor expenses were also incurred relating to hut maintenance and electricity. Within budget YTD.

Public Interface

Minimal spending for the period relating to cleaning of the public toilet facility, a rod tip repair for rods supplied to Ronald McDonald house, and prizes for children attending the Tangaroa fishing competition. Within budget YTD.

Compliance

The Compliance expenses for the period related to the 0800 Poaching service and cell phone. Within budget YTD.

Licensing

The Licensing cost includes agent commissions and the fees associated with the Public Online and 0800 sales. Within budget YTD.

Council

Expenses were incurred relating to travel reimbursement and catering for the February meeting of Council. Within budget YTD.

Planning

New Zealand Fish and Game levies were paid in January as budgeted. Within budget YTD.

Administration

Salaries	Within budget YTD.
Staff Expenses	Minor expenditure is reported relating to staff meals for work in Gisborne and Waikaremoana, a first aid kit, and earmuffs/plugs. Within budget YTD.
Staff Houses	A rangehood and two bathroom ventilation units were installed into the brick house to comply with new residential tenancy rules. Expenses associated with the staff quarters included a gas bottle replacement and mattress protectors. Overspend YTD (\$2,905) is timing related and will return to within budget in due course.
Office Premises	Standard expenses relating to electricity, cleaning, and alarm monitoring were incurred. The office air conditioning units were serviced and a new LED light installed to replace faulty unit in managers office. Within budget YTD.
Office Equipment	The usual expenses relating to the phone & eftpos leases are reported. Within budget YTD.
Communications/ Consumables	Standard communications expenses are reported for the period including phones, broadband, stationery, and photocopying. Within budget YTD.
General	Minimal expenditure is reported relating to the subscription to Survey Monkey, morning tea expenses, and bank fees. Over budget YTD (\$2,551) due to legal and insurance costs for the fire store. This will be offset by increased rental on the fire store.
General Equipment	Equipment expenditure included repairs to the tractor mulcher, trailer light repairs, maintenance to the fenders on Whio, and

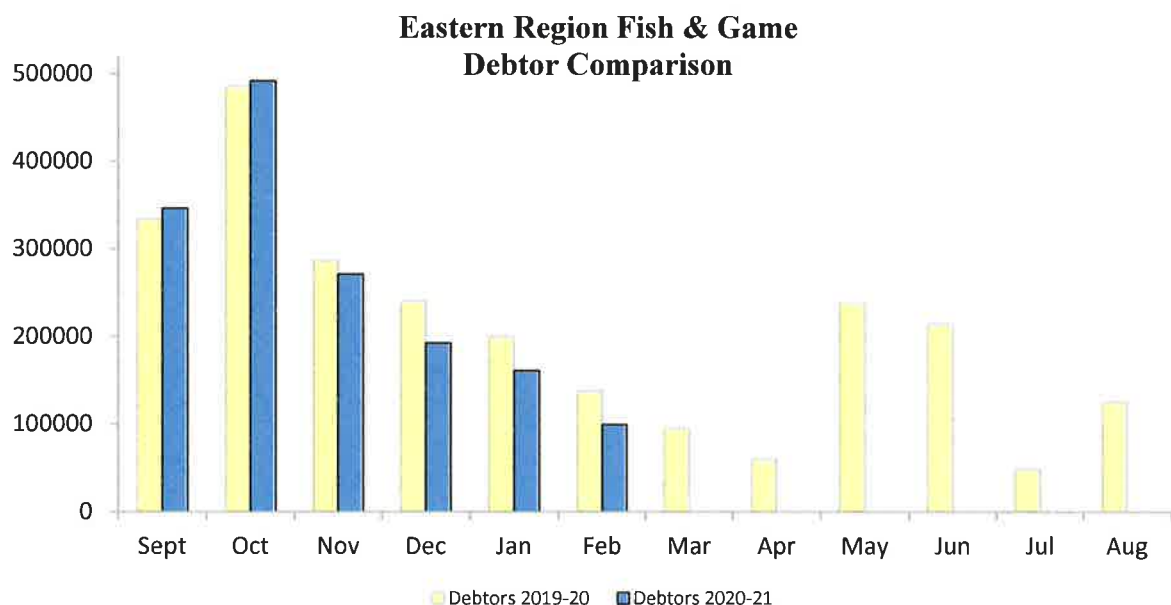
	Kotare's trailer skids. The standard fuel expense is also reported. Within budget YTD.
Vehicles	Vehicle expenses for the period included the two vehicle services, a WoF, a puncture repair, and a fire extinguisher. The usual fuel expense is also reported which includes 40,000 kms worth of Road User Charges. Within budget YTD.

Cash Position: \$1,375,004 (includes \$86,785 asset replacement reserve) as at 28 February 2021.

\$472,393 for Waikaremoana Fund as at 28 February 2021

Debtors: Outstanding Debtors \$99,043 as at 28 February 2021 (\$137,989 as at 28 February 2020).

Eastern Region Fish and Game - Debtors Balance Comparison 2019/20-2020/21



Debtors outstanding as at 28 February were made up primarily of licence sales \$91,203. One licence agent is overdue, and this has been followed up. There are no other concerns.

Fixed Assets

There were no fixed assets purchased within the period reported.

3. Variance Report (Table 1)

The variance report is shown on the following two pages. The year to date 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.

2020/2021 REPORT OF VARIANCES BETWEEN TOTAL BUDGET AND YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME

as at 28 February 2021

Schedule B	Code	Project	EXTERNAL COSTS		HOURS		INTERNAL COST		NETABLE INCOME		NET COST		NET COST	Variance	%
			Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual			
	1110	Species Monitoring	\$ 28,450	\$ 25,307	1,327	\$ 136,996	\$ 76,790	\$ 8,000	\$ 7,299	\$ 155,446	\$ 94,798	\$ 60,649	\$ 61.0		
	1120	Harvest Assessment	\$ 2,400	\$ 60	534	\$ 50,378	\$ 30,913	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52,778	\$ 30,972	\$ 21,805	\$ 58.7		
	1140	Hatchery Operations	\$ 74,550	\$ 35,752	2,900	\$ 186,346	\$ 101,176	\$ 56,500	\$ 51,699	\$ 204,396	\$ 85,229	\$ 119,167	\$ 41.7		
	1160	Releases	\$ -	\$ -	154	\$ 9,896	\$ 4,226	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,896	\$ 4,226	\$ 5,670	\$ 42.7		
	1170	Regulations	\$ -	\$ -	165	\$ 10,602	\$ 753	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,602	\$ 753	\$ 9,850	\$ 7.1		
	1180	Control	\$ 500	\$ -	36	\$ 2,313	\$ 550	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,813	\$ 550	\$ 2,263	\$ 19.5		
		TOTAL - SPECIES MANAGEMENT	\$ 103,900	\$ 61,118	6,171	\$ 396,531	\$ 214,407	\$ 64,500	\$ 58,998	\$ 435,931	\$ 216,527	\$ 219,404	\$ 49.7		
	1210	Resource Management Act	\$ 200	\$ -	1,476	\$ 94,844	\$ 37,281	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 95,044	\$ 37,281	\$ 57,763	\$ 39.2		
	1220	Works & Management	\$ 18,000	\$ 6,077	932	\$ 59,888	\$ 33,749	\$ 12,150	\$ 30,213	\$ 65,738	\$ 9,613	\$ 56,124	\$ 14.6		
	1230	Assisted Habitat	\$ 2,700	\$ 17,537	770	\$ 49,478	\$ 12,678	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52,178	\$ 30,215	\$ 21,963	\$ 57.9		
	1240	Assess & Monitor	\$ -	\$ -	72	\$ 4,627	\$ 203	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,627	\$ 203	\$ 4,424	\$ 4.4		
	1250	Lake Waikaremoana	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.0		
		TOTAL - HABITAT PROTECTION & MAN	\$ 20,900	\$ 23,614	3,250	\$ 208,836	\$ 83,911	\$ 12,150	\$ 30,213	\$ 217,586	\$ 77,312	\$ 140,274	\$ 35.5		
	1310	Access	\$ 5,700	\$ 1,911	650	\$ 41,767	\$ 24,140	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47,467	\$ 26,051	\$ 21,416	\$ 54.9		
	1330	Newsletters/Information	\$ -	\$ -	286	\$ 18,378	\$ 4,573	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,378	\$ 4,573	\$ 13,804	\$ 24.9		
	1340	Other Publications	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,196	40	\$ 2,570	\$ 1,679	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,570	\$ 3,875	\$ 695	\$ 84.8		
	1350	Training	\$ 800	\$ 11	755	\$ 48,514	\$ 15,341	\$ 7,000	\$ 3,057	\$ 42,314	\$ 12,295	\$ 30,020	\$ 29.1		
	1360	Club Relations	\$ -	\$ -	32	\$ 2,056	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,056	\$ -	\$ 2,056	\$ 0.0		
	1370	Hufts	\$ 1,450	\$ 705	32	\$ 2,056	\$ 926	\$ 400	\$ 65	\$ 3,106	\$ 1,566	\$ 1,540	\$ 50.4		
		TOTAL - ANGLER & HUNTER PARTICIP	\$ 9,950	\$ 4,823	1,795	\$ 115,342	\$ 46,659	\$ 7,400	\$ 3,122	\$ 117,892	\$ 48,360	\$ 69,532	\$ 41.0		
	1410	Liaison	\$ -	\$ -	72	\$ 4,627	\$ 289	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,627	\$ 289	\$ 4,337	\$ 6.3		
	1420	Communication	\$ 500	\$ -	120	\$ 7,711	\$ 2,518	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,211	\$ 2,518	\$ 5,693	\$ 30.7		
	1440	Public Promotions	\$ 4,500	\$ 91	104	\$ 6,683	\$ 1,274	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,183	\$ 1,365	\$ 9,818	\$ 12.2		
	1450	Visitor Facilities/Education	\$ 500	\$ 210	392	\$ 25,189	\$ 5,268	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,689	\$ 5,478	\$ 20,211	\$ 21.3		
		TOTAL - PUBLIC INTERFACE	\$ 5,500	\$ 301	688	\$ 44,209	\$ 9,349	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 49,709	\$ 9,650	\$ 40,059	\$ 19.4		
	1510	Ranging	\$ 1,000	\$ 511	914	\$ 58,731	\$ 14,299	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 59,731	\$ 14,810	\$ 44,921	\$ 24.8		
	1520	Ranger Training	\$ 1,000	\$ 325	104	\$ 6,683	\$ 1,505	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,683	\$ 1,830	\$ 5,853	\$ 23.8		
	1530	Compliance Prosecutions	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,165	336	\$ 21,590	\$ 8,365	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,617	\$ 20,590	\$ 6,913	\$ 13,678	\$ 33.6		
		TOTAL - COMPLIANCE	\$ 7,000	\$ 2,000	1,354	\$ 87,004	\$ 24,169	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,617	\$ 88,004	\$ 23,552	\$ 64,453	\$ 26.8		
	1610	Licensing	\$ 600	\$ -	140	\$ 8,996	\$ 2,648	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,596	\$ 2,648	\$ 6,948	\$ 27.6		
	1620	Agent Servicing	\$ -	\$ -	164	\$ 10,538	\$ 1,795	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,538	\$ 1,795	\$ 8,744	\$ 17.0		
		TOTAL - LICENSING	\$ 600	\$ -	304	\$ 19,534	\$ 4,443	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,134	\$ 4,443	\$ 15,691	\$ 22.1		
	1710	Council Elections	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.0		
	1720	Council Meetings	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,873	463	\$ 29,751	\$ 10,304	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,751	\$ 13,177	\$ 22,574	\$ 36.9		
		TOTAL - COUNCILS	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,873	463	\$ 29,751	\$ 10,304	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,751	\$ 13,177	\$ 22,574	\$ 36.9		
	1810	Management Planning	\$ 8,500	\$ -	240	\$ 15,422	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,922	\$ -	\$ 23,922	\$ 0.0		
	1820	Annual Planning	\$ -	\$ -	66	\$ 4,241	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,241	\$ -	\$ 4,241	\$ 0.0		
	1830	Reporting/Audit	\$ 9,750	\$ 6,040	419	\$ 26,924	\$ 10,333	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,674	\$ 16,373	\$ 20,301	\$ 44.6		
	1840	National Liaison	\$ 100	\$ -	260	\$ 16,707	\$ 2,663	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,807	\$ 2,663	\$ 14,144	\$ 15.8		
		TOTAL - PLANNING/REPORTING	\$ 18,350	\$ 6,040	985	\$ 63,293	\$ 12,996	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 81,643	\$ 19,036	\$ 62,607	\$ 23.3		
		TOTAL	\$ 172,200	\$ 100,769	15,010	\$ 964,501	\$ 406,238	\$ 90,050	\$ 94,950	\$ 1,046,651	\$ 412,057	\$ 634,594	\$ 39.4		

		EXTERNAL COSTS		NETABLE INCOME		NET COST		NET COST		%
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	
1910	Salaries	\$ 879,056	\$ 377,036	\$ 8,157	\$ 368,880	\$ 498,597				42.5
1920	Staff Expenses	\$ 23,000	\$ 1,231	\$ -	\$ 23,000	\$ 21,769				5.4
1930	Staff Houses	\$ 13,060	\$ 9,155	\$ 50,000	\$ (36,940)	\$ (20,166)				45.4
1940	Office Premises	\$ 18,750	\$ 10,209	\$ -	\$ 18,750	\$ 8,541				54.4
1950	Office Equipment	\$ 3,600	\$ 865	\$ -	\$ 3,600	\$ 2,735				42.0
1960	Communications/Consumables	\$ 18,357	\$ 7,839	\$ -	\$ 18,357	\$ 7,839				24.7
1970	General	\$ 11,056	\$ 11,864	\$ 1,500	\$ 9,558	\$ 3,185				33.3
1980	General Equipment	\$ 16,000	\$ 8,223	\$ -	\$ 16,000	\$ 8,223				51.4
1990	Vehicles	\$ 44,700	\$ 22,581	\$ -	\$ 44,700	\$ 22,581				50.5
	Administration	\$ 1,027,581	\$ 449,002	\$ 63,080	\$ 42,764	\$ 558,263				42.1
	Total Overhead Net Cost			\$ 964,501	\$ 406,238					
	Total Outputs Staff Hours			15,010	7,018					
	Internal Cost Per Hour			64.26	57.89					

2020/2021 REPORT OF VARIANCES BETWEEN TOTAL BUDGET AND YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME

Schedule C	Code	Output	EXTERNAL COSTS		HOURS		INTERNAL COST		NETABLE INCOME		NET COST		%	
			Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual		
	1	Species Management	\$ 103,900	\$ 61,118	3,704	6,171	\$ 396,531	\$ 214,407	\$ 64,500	\$ 58,998	\$ 435,931	\$ 216,527	\$ 219,404	49.7
	2	Habitat Protection & Management	\$ 20,900	\$ 23,614	1,450	3,250	\$ 208,836	\$ 83,911	\$ 12,150	\$ 30,213	\$ 217,586	\$ 77,312	\$ 140,274	35.5
	3	Angler & Hunter Participation	\$ 9,950	\$ 4,823	806	1,795	\$ 115,342	\$ 46,659	\$ 7,400	\$ 3,122	\$ 117,992	\$ 48,380	\$ 69,632	41.0
	4	Public Interface	\$ 5,500	\$ 301	688	688	\$ 44,209	\$ 9,349	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 49,709	\$ 9,650	\$ 40,059	19.4
	5	Compliance	\$ 7,000	\$ 2,000	418	1,354	\$ 87,004	\$ 24,169	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,617	\$ 88,004	\$ 23,552	\$ 64,453	26.8
	6	Licensing	\$ 600	\$ -	77	304	\$ 19,534	\$ 4,443	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,134	\$ 4,443	\$ 15,691	22.1
	7	Councils	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,873	178	463	\$ 29,751	\$ 10,304	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,751	\$ 13,177	\$ 22,574	36.9
	8	Planning, Reporting	\$ 18,350	\$ 6,040	985	225	\$ 63,293	\$ 12,996	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 81,643	\$ 19,036	\$ 62,607	23.3
	9	Administration												
		Total Overhead Staff Hours			6,968	3,095								
		TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 172,200	\$ 100,769	10,112	964,501	\$ 406,238	\$ 94,950	\$ 90,050	\$ 94,950	\$ 1,046,651	\$ 412,057	\$ 634,594	

Licence Income 2019-20

2019-20 Fish Licence Income	\$ 942,605	\$ 932,428												
Less Commission	\$ 42,417.00	\$ -												
Net Fish Licence Income	\$ 900,188	\$ 932,428												
2020 Game Licence Income	\$ 242,194	\$ 15,942												
Less Commission	\$ 10,899.00	\$ 34,617												
Net Game Licence Income	\$ 231,295	\$ 19,075												
Total Licence Income	\$ 1,164,799	\$ 947,970												
Total Commission	\$ 53,316	\$ 34,617												
Total Net 2018/19 Licence Revenue	\$ 1,131,483	\$ 913,353												

	% of OWP budget spent		Actual Net Cost YTD		50%		39%	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Adjustment to OWP budgets - National Approved Budget			\$ 1,046,651	\$ 412,057				
less Interest			\$ (8,200)	\$ (2,562)				
Plus NZ Fish & Game Levies			\$ 172,709	\$ 86,354				
Less Licence Revenue			\$ (1,184,799)	\$ (947,970)				
Plus Commission Expense			\$ 53,316	\$ 34,617				
Plus Gain Loss on Sale/revaluation			\$ (3,135)	\$ -				
Depreciation			\$ 72,326	\$ 35,987				
Subtotal			\$ 148,868	\$ (391,517)				
Adj to OWP budgets - Waikaremoana Fund								
Less Waikaremoana Fund Interest			\$ (4,115)	\$ 602				
Plus Waikaremoana Fund Expenses			\$ 8,000	\$ -				
Adj to OWP budgets - Non Res Reserve - Lake Tarawera project			\$ 20,000	\$ -				
Adjusted Budget			\$ 172,753	\$ (390,915)				

Table 2		
Balance Sheet		
Eastern Fish and Game Council		
As at 28 February 2021		
Assets	28 Feb 2021	31 Aug 2020
Bank		
Investments	\$705,951.91	\$405,177.27
Waikaremoana Fund Investments	\$472,392.88	\$467,437.53
Westpac Call Account	\$187,786.00	\$231,717.87
Westpac Current Account	\$12,317.59	\$31,090.56
Total Bank	\$1,378,448.38	\$1,135,423.23
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	\$99,042.78	\$125,509.53
Accounts Receivable - Hawkes Bay & External parties	-\$590.23	\$0.00
Inventory - Fish Stock	\$161,122.00	\$161,122.00
Petty Cash & Licence Float	\$200.00	\$200.00
Prepayments and Accrued Income	\$0.00	\$14,755.51
Total Current Assets	\$259,774.55	\$301,587.04
Fixed Assets		
Accum Dep Land & Buildings	-\$687,653.66	-\$673,740.05
Accum Dep Motor Vehicles	-\$134,440.48	-\$119,540.21
Accum Dep Office Equipment	-\$45,550.70	-\$42,170.54
Accum Dep Plant & Equipment	-\$148,041.13	-\$144,248.57
Buildings	\$1,043,849.38	\$1,043,849.38
Land	\$93,500.00	\$93,500.00
Motor Vehicles	\$419,457.84	\$347,591.97
Office Equipment	\$54,075.20	\$54,075.20
Plant & Equipment	\$183,866.13	\$183,866.13
Tree Plantation	\$91,600.00	\$91,600.00
Total Fixed Assets	\$870,662.58	\$834,783.31
Total Assets	\$2,508,885.51	\$2,271,793.58
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$11,091.29	\$23,372.63
Accruals and Prepaid Licences	\$79,254.00	\$196,432.50
Business Credit Card	\$744.59	\$63.33
Employee Entitlements	\$97,412.76	\$100,298.77
Game Bird Habitat Stamp Levy Clearing	\$20.88	\$0.00
GST	\$10,124.33	\$3,762.70
PAYE Clearing	\$10,076.27	\$28,390.98
Rounding	\$0.08	\$0.00
Staff Social Club	\$2,899.72	\$3,078.22
Total Current Liabilities	\$211,623.92	\$355,399.13
Total Liabilities	\$211,623.92	\$355,399.13
Net Assets	\$2,297,261.59	\$1,916,394.45
Equity		
Accumulated Funds	\$1,216,662.53	\$1,192,782.31
Asset Replacement Reserve	\$86,785.00	\$86,785.00
Back Country Fisheries Reserve	\$135,646.65	\$133,206.65
Breeding Programme Reserve	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Current Year Earnings	\$380,867.14	\$26,320.22
Fish for Gold Reserve	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Waikaremoana Sportfish Habitat Enhancement Fund Reserve	\$465,300.27	\$465,300.27
Total Equity	\$2,297,261.59	\$1,916,394.45

Table 3 Profit and Loss - Council
Eastern Fish and Game Council for the 2 months ended 28 February 2021

Income	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Total Budget	Var YTD	Var YTD %
Licence Income	92,394	49,813	945,530	810,000	1,184,799	135,530	17%
Non-Resident Licence Levy Revenue	332	43	2,440	0	0	2,440	0%
Other Income	6,426	11,089	139,674	82,515	168,580	57,159	69%
Total Income	99,152	60,945	1,087,644	892,515	1,353,379	195,129	22%
Operating Expenses							
Depreciation	6,374	6,374	35,987	36,162	72,326	(175)	0%
1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT							
1110 Population Monitoring	15,743	3,150	25,307	21,600	46,450	3,707	17%
1120 Harvest Assessment	0	0	60	400	2,400	(340)	-85%
1140 Hatchery Operations	6,853	1,461	35,752	40,600	74,550	(4,848)	-12%
1180 Game Bird Control	0	0	0	0	500	0	0%
Total 1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT	22,597	4,612	61,118	62,600	123,900	(1,482)	-2%
1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MANAGEMENT							
1210 Resource Management Act	0	0	0	0	200	0	0%
1220 Works & Management	399	524	6,077	9,000	18,000	(2,923)	-32%
1230 Assisted Habitat	0	0	17,537	2,600	10,700	14,937	574%
Total 1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MGT	399	524	23,614	11,600	28,900	12,014	104%
1300 PARTICIPATION							
1310 Access	41	1,126	1,911	2,600	5,700	(689)	-27%
1340 Other Publications	0	0	2,196	2,000	2,000	196	10%
1350 Training	0	8	11	350	800	(339)	-97%
1370 Huts	120	119	705	710	1,450	(5)	-1%
Total 1300 PARTICIPATION	161	1,252	4,823	5,660	9,950	(837)	-15%
1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE							
1420 Communication	0	0	0	300	500	(300)	-100%
1440 Public Promotions	0	27	91	0	4,500	91	0%
1450 Visitor Facilities/Education/Interpretation	36	0	210	250	500	(40)	-16%
Total 1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE	36	27	302	550	5,500	(248)	-45%
1500 COMPLIANCE							
1510 Ranging	57	57	511	525	1,000	(14)	-3%
1520 Ranger Training	0	0	325	300	1,000	25	8%
1530 Compliance	0	0	1,165	2,500	5,000	(1,335)	-53%
Total 1500 COMPLIANCE	57	57	2,000	3,325	7,000	(1,325)	-40%
1600 LICENSING							
1610 Licence Prod/Distrib	0	0	0	0	600	0	0%
1630 Commission	3,158	1,803	34,617	37,800	53,316	(3,183)	-8%
Total 1600 LICENSING	3,158	1,803	34,617	37,800	53,916	(3,183)	-8%
1700 COUNCIL							
1720 Council Meetings	49	714	2,921	3,000	6,000	(79)	-3%
Total 1700 COUNCIL	49	714	2,921	3,000	6,000	(79)	-3%
1800 PLANNING/REPORTING							
1810 Management & Strategic Planning	0	0	0	6,000	8,500	(6,000)	-100%
1830 Reporting/Audit	0	0	6,040	5,890	9,750	150	3%
1840 National Liaison	43,177	0	86,354	86,404	172,809	(50)	0%
Total 1800 PLANNING/REPORTING	43,177	0	92,394	98,294	191,059	(5,900)	-6%
1900 ADMINISTRATION							
1910 Salaries	96,187	32,299	377,036	405,745	879,056	(28,709)	-7%
1920 Staff Expenses	254	46	1,231	4,850	23,000	(3,619)	-75%
1930 Staff Houses	722	1,788	9,155	6,250	13,060	2,905	46%
1940 Office Premises	1,616	270	10,209	10,958	18,750	(749)	-7%
1950 Office Equipment	136	136	865	2,352	3,600	(1,487)	-63%
1960 Communications/Consumables	703	1,450	7,839	10,390	18,357	(2,551)	-25%
1970 General	184	138	11,864	9,314	11,058	2,550	27%
1980 General Equipment	565	799	8,223	9,500	16,000	(1,277)	-13%
1990 Vehicles	3,628	3,919	22,581	25,300	44,700	(2,719)	-11%
Total 1900 ADMINISTRATION	103,996	40,846	449,002	484,659	1,027,581	(35,657)	-7%
Total Operating Expenses	180,004	56,211	706,777	743,650	1,526,132	(36,873)	-5%
Net Profit	(80,852)	4,735	380,867	148,865	(172,753)	232,002	156%

13.4 LICENCE SALES REPORT

23 March 2021

1. 2020-2021 Fish Licence Sales YTD 22 March 2021

- 1.1 Fish Licence sales for the 2020-2021 season compared against the 2019-20 season YTD are summarised in *Table One*.
- 1.2 Fish Licence sales to 22 March 2021 are reporting to be 1.1% behind the 2019-20 season results for the same period. Nationally for the same period, the 2020-21 sales are reporting to be 0.6% behind the prior season.

Table One Fish Licence Sales 2020-21 vs 2019-20 Seasons YTD to 22 March 2021

Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWIA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWC	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish
Agency Online	1338	1039	252	263	1098	2	26	323	1000	696	192	27	125	26	0	11	21	6,439
Public Online	1089	888	237	175	539	4	45	412	1490	610	147	11	145	16	0	8	8	5,824
Eyede Call Centre	18	7	3	7	5	0	1	11	6	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	62
Total YTD 2019-20	2445	1934	492	445	1642	6	72	746	2496	1306	339	38	274	42	0	19	29	12,325
Agency Online	1201	1044	19	272	979	4	21	282	882	9	187	2	87	3	0	0	0	4,992
Public Online	1354	1193	24	230	661	9	29	525	1736	66	189	2	170	4	0	0	0	6,192
Eyede Call Centre	13	8	0	16	6	0	2	4	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	57
Total YTD 2020-21	2568	2245	43	518	1646	13	52	811	2625	75	376	4	258	7	0	0	0	11,241

Summary LEQs YTD to 22 March 2021 (Whole Season Licence Equivalent)

Season	Fish LEQ	Fish Var	Fish \$	Inc/Dec
Total YTD 2019-2020	8,319		\$962,152	
Total YTD 2020-2021	8,232	-1.1%	\$952,007	-\$10,144

2020-21 Summary YTD Actual vs Total Budget

2020-21 Annual Budgeted FISH LEQs	8,150	100.0%	\$942,605
2020-21 YTD Actual	8,232	101.0%	\$952,007
Remaining to meet budget	82	1.0%	\$9,402

Resident Licence Categories

FWF – Family Season, FWA – Adult Season, FLSA – Loyal Senior Season, FLAA – Local Area Season, FWIA – Adult Winter Season, FLBA – Adult Long Break, FSBA – Adult Short Break, FDA – Adult Day, FWJ – Junior Season, FDJ – Junior Day, FWC – Child Season

Non-Resident Licence Categories

FWNA – Adult Season, FDNA – Adult Day, FWNJ – Junior Season, FDNJ – Junior Day, FWNC – Child Season, FDNC – Child Day

- 1.3 The Covid reduced Fish Licence sales target of 8,150 LEQs for the 2020-21 Season has been exceeded by 82 LEQs YTD.
- 1.4 The national budget process determined that in order to fund Operational Work Plans based on these reduced sales targets there would be a need for regions to fund the shortfall from their regional reserves. Any sales achieved over and above the sales target will mean fewer funds need to be drawn from reserves to fund the work plan.
- 1.5 The shortfall for Eastern Region needing to be funded from reserves was budgeted at \$112,798. YTD to 22 March 2021 Eastern Region is ahead of the reduced sales target by \$9,402. Fish Licence sales for the remainder of this year are forecast to be in the order of 393 LEQs (\$45,493). The last two seasons saw sales to NZ residents of 690 LEQs (2019/20) and 855 LEQ's (2018/19) during this period. A very conservative approach has been taken to estimating remaining Fish sales for the season as we suspect a number of anglers purchased earlier in the season this year than they normally would have.
- 1.6 An update on Game Licence sales for the 2021 season will be available at the meeting.