



## **EASTERN FISH AND GAME COUNCIL**

# **OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN 2017-2018**

# ANNUAL OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN

**1 September 2017 - 31 August 2018**

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	
1.1 Preamble	2
1.2 Purpose of Operational Work Plan	2
1.3 Mission Statement	2
1.4 Determining Eastern Council Priorities for the 2017-2018 Year	3
1.5 Incorporating NZ Council Priorities in the 2017-2018 OWP	6
1.6 Structure of the Operational Work Plan	8
1.7 Comparative Licence Sales	9
<b>Output 1 Species Management</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Output 2 Sports Fish and Game Bird Habitat Protection and Maintenance</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Output 3 Angler and Hunter Participation and Services</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Output 4 Public Interface</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Output 5 Compliance</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Output 6 Licensing</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Output 7 Councils</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Output 8 Planning and Reporting</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Inputs Administration</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Operational Work Plan; Summary Spreadsheet</b>	<b>33</b>

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Preamble

Fish and Game Councils are required to prepare an annual Operational Work Plan (OWP). This operational work programme is for the period 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018 and is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Conservation Act 1987*, as amended by the *Conservation Law Reform Act 1990*.

### 1.2 Purpose of the Operational Work Plan

Apart from the statutory requirement outlined above, the purpose of the OWP is to ensure the effective use of Eastern Fish and Game Council's resources in achieving the priorities of the region. The annual OWP identifies priorities and strategic undertakings identified in the longer term Sports Fish and Game Management Plan that need to be resourced during the operational year. Specifically the OWP:

- establishes priorities and annual management goals;
- provides direction to Council and staff;
- establishes a basis on which to measure the performance of management and Council.

### 1.3 Mission Statement

*To maintain and enhance opportunities for sustainable sports fish angling and game bird hunting.*

The functions of regional Fish and Game Councils, as described by the *Conservation Act 1987*, include:

- monitoring sports fish and game populations;
- monitoring the success and satisfaction of users;
- maintaining and enhancing the habitat of sports fish and game;
- monitoring the condition and trend of ecosystems as habitats for sports fish and game;
- maintaining and improving access;
- formulating and establishing regulations and policies which ensure the maintenance of sports fish and game populations and the recreational experience;
- securing compliance with sports fish and game regulations;
- promoting recreational angling and game bird hunting;
- representing the interests of anglers and hunters in the statutory planning process;
- keeping anglers and hunters informed.

## 1.4 Determining Eastern Council's Priorities for the 2017-2018 Year

As a precursor to preparing this draft OWP, Council reviewed its priorities in February 2017 and these have been used to confirm existing projects and/or develop new ones. The key regional priorities for 2016-2017 have been retained by Council for 2017-2018, but with a new one being added (fifth bullet point below):

- Enhancement of habitat for greylard production – in particular activities that increase duck numbers and as a result, hunter opportunities;
- Water quality and quantity – addressing in particular, the pressures on our free-flowing water resources and the water quality of the Rotorua lakes;
- Access – making it easier for anglers and hunters to use the resource;
- Maximise fishery opportunities;
- Increase licence revenue.

The OWP targets these priorities via a range of projects and initiatives. Some of these have been refined and/or scaled back for 2017-2018, and some new ones have been added. In addition to these, the OWP ensures the many core output and administrative functions required of Fish and Game Councils are also provided for.

The following tables identify the project areas and specific OWP targets that will be incorporated into the 2017-2018 work plan for the purpose of making ongoing progress towards Eastern Council's key regional priorities.

### 1.4.1 Enhanced habitat for greylard production

<i>Project Area</i>	<i>Projects/Objectives</i>
Species Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboratively monitor greylard populations within proposed Duck Management Units with adjoining Fish &amp; Game regions via a combination of trapping/banding, aerial surveys, and brood counts to investigate productivity, survival, harvest and movements.</li> <li>• Investigate the status of greylard populations in the Reporoa/Broadlands area.</li> <li>• Investigate further, the merits of releasing captive reared mallards into areas in which mallard populations are depressed.</li> <li>• Undertake game bird hunter survey.</li> <li>• Review game season conditions and make changes where needed to address issues impacting on greylard populations and productivity.</li> <li>• Contribute to national research programmes on mallards.</li> <li>• Prepare a five year strategic research and management work plan for greylards.</li> </ul>
Wildlife Management Reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the balloting process with a view to incentivising greater maintenance input from stand holders, and interact more closely with stand holders to ensure habitat quality is maintained if not enhanced.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review rotational maintenance programmes undertaken by staff in Fish &amp; Game managed wetlands and re-assess/confirm existing priorities.</li> </ul>
Assisted Habitat on Non Public Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage in statutory planning processes and make submissions to regional and district plans to amend rules that are barriers to habitat enhancement or hunter opportunities, and support or oppose consent applications that impact on game bird habitat values or hunter access.</li> <li>Develop positive working relationships with landowners and other parties with an interest or involvement in rural land management including local and regional authorities, DOC, Federated Farmers, Fonterra and Dairy NZ.</li> </ul>
Habitat Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide advice to enable and encourage hunters/landowners to develop quality, productive wetland habitat.</li> <li>Advocate for better drain management and enhance habitat in drainage canals.</li> <li>Provide advice on enhancement of stock ponds and implement enhancement projects.</li> <li>Make at least one external funding application for wetland habitat development.</li> <li>Participate on Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust and oversee appropriate projects.</li> </ul>
Social and rural media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use media to encourage the creation and enhancement of wetland habitats.</li> </ul>

#### 1.4.2 Water quality and quantity

<i>Project Area</i>	<i>Projects/Objectives</i>
Rivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to assess trout numbers in the Rangitaiki River fishery and communicate water quality issues to Regional Council and the Rangitaiki River Forum.</li> <li>Monitor trout numbers in the Motu River fishery and communicate water quality related issues to the Gisborne District Council.</li> <li>Maintain input to the didymo awareness and surveillance programme.</li> <li>Participate in collaborative processes and submit on water allocation processes in planning and consenting matters on sensitive waters.</li> <li>Maintain water quality register of Regional Councils' performance.</li> </ul>
Lakes Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue Rotorua lakes fisheries monitoring programmes and participate in fisheries research projects.</li> <li>Monitor and support the Waikaremoana water quality buoy programme.</li> <li>Participate in Rotorua lakes' collaborative processes and use creel survey and NAS results to advocate for improved water quality.</li> </ul>

#### 1.4.3 Access

<i>Project Area</i>	<i>Projects/Objectives</i>
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain current access tracks to the Rangitaiki River and its tributaries (and investigate new opportunities there), the Waioeka River and</li> </ul>

	<p>Tarawera River, and the Ngongotaha and Waiteti Streams. Improve access to Wairoa catchment tributaries including those in the Waiiau River, and commence an investigation of East Coast fisheries north of Gisborne.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allocate balloted hunting stands.</li> <li>• Upgrade signs to brand specifications where required, and maintain signage database.</li> <li>• Advocate for improved access through forestry and resolution of identified captured access areas. Submit to regional/district plans for improved angler/hunter access. Continue to press for greater access to the Rangitaiki River fishery and the Otamatea summer fishery in particular.</li> <li>• Liaise with the Walking Access Commission and lobby for provision for public access in Treaty of Waitangi Settlements and Overseas Investment Act sale and purchase conditions.</li> <li>• Maintain the Fish &amp; Game hut at Wairua.</li> </ul>
Licence holder information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain access pamphlets and website to ensure effective communication of angling and hunting access information.</li> </ul>

#### 1.4.4 Maximise fishery opportunities

<b>Project Area</b>	<b>Projects/Objectives</b>
Species Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor growth and performance of liberations into lake fisheries via the Datawatch programme. Tag and release 8,500 trout.</li> <li>• Monitor Lake Tarawera wild spawning runs.</li> <li>• Complete the monitoring programme of the Waikaremoana fishery and its key spawning tributaries commenced in 2015.</li> <li>• Monitor the Lake Rotorua and Ngongotaha fisheries.</li> <li>• Monitor the Ohau Channel fishery.</li> <li>• Investigate/deploy recently developed sounding technique for monitoring smelt abundance in lake fisheries.</li> <li>• Provide support to external research projects aimed at better understanding lake fisheries.</li> </ul>
Harvest Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake lake fisheries creel surveys to monitor angler catch and satisfaction, and Opening Day surveys to evaluate stocking programmes. Extend current programme on Tarawera, Rotoiti and Okataina to some of the smaller fisheries (Rotoma, Rotoehu, Okareka, Rerewhakaaitu).</li> </ul>
Hatchery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the current approach to selecting brood stock for the hatchery programme.</li> <li>• Produce c.80,000 quality fish to maintain trout fisheries within the region.</li> </ul>
Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain/enhance sports fish resources through refinement if necessary, of the anglers notice using a policy driven review process.</li> <li>• Look for opportunities to increase participation and remove barriers to</li> </ul>

	fishing including simplifying regulations in some fisheries.
RMA planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represent anglers in water quality and quantity planning and consenting processes and advocate for improved habitat, angling experience and access opportunities.</li> </ul>
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and enhance access.</li> <li>• Increase angler communication and information using social media and identify options for increasing participation.</li> <li>• Support childrens' fishing programmes, angler training and angling competitions, and maintain club relations.</li> </ul>
Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain a high level of participant contact and protect fishery sustainability.</li> </ul>
Licensing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make fishing licences readily available and continue to market and assess recently introduced licence categories to existing and potential licence holders.</li> </ul>

#### 1.4.5 Increase licence revenue

<b>Project Area</b>	<b>Projects/Objectives</b>
Niche Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct further research into 'licence churn', establish reasons why particular demographics drop out (e.g. first time licence holders and young adults), and devise strategies to reduce this.</li> <li>• Investigate ways of increasing sales of licences to non resident anglers.</li> </ul>
Promotions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate and develop strategies with Destination Rotorua and other marketing agencies.</li> <li>• Investigate opportunities for promoting hunting and fishing in partnership with organisations such as travel agencies, accommodation providers, real estate agencies, and hunting and fishing outlets.</li> <li>• Investigate means of, or incentives for agents to up sell licence types.</li> <li>• Run another tagged fish event and consider attending a fishing and/or boat show.</li> <li>• Run 'how to be successful' events.</li> </ul>
Opportunity Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise the profile of under-utilised or recognised fisheries e.g. Waikato River, and develop and market 'new' opportunities e.g. summer river fisheries.</li> </ul>
Licensing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to contribute to national Licence Working Party and explore opportunities for increasing revenue via fine tuning licence categories and/or pricing of such.</li> </ul>

### 1.5 Incorporating New Zealand Council Priorities into the 2017-2018 OWP

The Council has also agreed to support long term aspirational outcomes for Fish & Game identified by the New Zealand Fish and Game Council, and these need to be provided for where possible in the OWP. The New Zealand Council's current aspirations are:

- Fish & Game NZ is well recognised and well regarded as a manager of fish and game resources based on a user says/user pays system.

- Fish & Game's values and aspirations continue to be reflected in statute.
- Sports fish and game birds are recognised as valued public resources access that cannot be charged for.
- There is general recognition that wildlife habitat is a finite resource that must be protected.
- Water Conservation Orders are finalised and defended.
- The New Zealand public is sympathetic to Fish & Game NZ's goals.

The New Zealand Council has a focus on increasing public awareness and support of Fish & Game as managers of sports fish and game bird resources, and as advocates for the interests of anglers and hunters, and often in doing so, for those of the wider public. Protecting and enhancing habitats and access to wild areas and resources is important to all New Zealanders, and a fundamental role of the Eastern Council. The Eastern Council contributes significant regional resources to supporting national projects associated with species monitoring and management, public awareness, compliance, licensing and administrative (e.g. financial management) outputs.

### *1.5.1 Regional support for New Zealand Council aspirational outcomes*

<b>Project Area</b>	<b>Projects/Objectives</b>
Public Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to the national public awareness network and support national public awareness events.</li> <li>• Manage our website and use social media to increase awareness of Fish &amp; Game activities.</li> <li>• Produce regular media releases and support the NZ Council North Island PA Adviser.</li> <li>• Engage and communicate with the rural community and landowners.</li> <li>• Promote Fish &amp; Game at appropriate events and in the rural media.</li> <li>• Give presentations to schools and outside organisations and use the Ngongotaha hatchery and grounds to promote Fish &amp; Game to the wider public.</li> </ul>
Statutory Liaison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Manager to periodically meet with senior local and regional authority managers, senior DOC staff, Conservation Boards, and MPs where appropriate.</li> <li>• Continue to meet with Te Urewera iwi entities towards the development of a MOU with Eastern Region Fish &amp; Game.</li> <li>• Develop a closer/more formal working relationship with Te Arawa iwi.</li> <li>• Regional Manager to attend meetings of the Taupo Fisheries Advisory Committee as the NZ Fish &amp; Game Council representative.</li> </ul>
Habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to the improvement of water quality in the Rotorua lakes via Regional Council planning and collaborative processes.</li> <li>• Utilise river investigation projects to advocate for improved water quality in key regional rivers.</li> <li>• Review and support/oppose plans and consents that impact significantly upon sports fish/game bird habitat values, or angler and hunter access.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain inventory of wetlands, assess their vulnerability and identify wetland deficient areas and opportunities for enhancement through stakeholder collaborative processes.</li> </ul>
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocate for improved access and submit to the Walking Access Commission on key issues, and ensure provision for public access is made in relevant Treaty of Waitangi settlements.</li> </ul>

## 1.6 Structure of the Operational Work Plan

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

### Reporting

Completion dates for projects and associated reporting dates are noted for each project where possible. It is not feasible or practical to provide specific, measurable targets for all activities, and this is particularly true of some of the internal tasks that are required to keep the organisation operating smoothly. Where this is the case, the project descriptions do not include specific targets or completion dates. Unless stated otherwise, project reports are forwarded to the Regional Manager and an operational report summary is presented to each meeting of Council.

### Direct Costs

Direct costs in terms of staff time and budgets are indicated for each project cluster. This allows direct and operational costs to be identified when assessing work priorities, particularly if it becomes necessary to adjust the plan during the year due to unforeseen circumstances.

### Resourcing the Work Plan

In addition to contestable funding of \$26,331 obtained from the NZ Council office for the 2017-2018 year, \$12,000 is to be sourced from the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund towards costs associated with lake fisheries surveys programmed for Waikaremoana. Eastern Fish & Game also provides some administrative, technical and managerial assistance to the Hawke's Bay region, and \$30,825 has been budgeted for cost recovery of these services from the Hawke's Bay Council. Hawke's Bay Fish & Game staff will provide field services to the Eastern region and an expense \$2,520 has been budgeted for these services.

## 1.7 Comparative Licence Sales

### Game Licence Sales

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17*
GWA	3,528	3,403	3,484	3,516	3,296	3,140	3,042	3,005	3,203	3,097
GWJ	450	423	412	371	382	360	360	360	344	342
GDA	157	109	147	202	173	179	210	206	218	205
GDJ	6	4	8	8	5	10	14	6	10	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,141</b>	<b>3,939</b>	<b>4,051</b>	<b>4,097</b>	<b>3,856</b>	<b>3,689</b>	<b>3,626</b>	<b>3,577</b>	<b>3,775</b>	<b>3,790</b>
<b>LEQ's</b>	<b>3,656</b>	<b>3,512</b>	<b>3,599</b>	<b>3,632</b>	<b>3,406</b>	<b>3,251</b>	<b>3,158</b>	<b>3,120</b>	<b>3,316</b>	<b>3,207</b>

### Fish Licence Sales

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17*
FWF	3,696	3,677	3,750	3,505	3,432	3,425	3,375	3,220	3,025	2,986
FWA	5,448	4,930	4,851	4,570	4,539	4,297	4,177	4,059	1,955	2,201
FWNA								391	502	554
FSLA									359	355
FLLA									2,002	1,689
FWJ	539	495	483	472	458	427	361	408	503	480
FWIA	1,150	1,307	1,315	1,208	1,142	991	1,034	1,018	644	567
FWIJ	109	127	112	121	130	90	78	84		
FLBA									142	112
FSBA									1,529	1,363
FDA	10,839	9,643	9,309	8,531	8,584	8,856	8,086	7,881	7,133	6,373
FDJ	848	839	829	660	573	566	516	412	536	548
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,629</b>	<b>21,018</b>	<b>20,649</b>	<b>19,067</b>	<b>18,858</b>	<b>18,652</b>	<b>17,627</b>	<b>17,473</b>	<b>18,330</b>	<b>17,228</b>
<b>LEQ's</b>	<b>13,256</b>	<b>12,587</b>	<b>12,537</b>	<b>11,705</b>	<b>11,539</b>	<b>11,170</b>	<b>10,828</b>	<b>10,970</b>	<b>10,599</b>	<b>10,348</b>

LEQ's = Adult Whole Season Licence equivalents

as at 23 August 2017

**OUTPUT 1****SPECIES MANAGEMENT****Goal**

*To manage sustainable populations of sports fish and game bird species for recreational harvest.*

**Description**

A range of information is required to effectively manage populations of sports fish and game birds and angler and hunter effects on these populations. Projects to monitor and research sports fish and game bird populations, hatchery operations, regulating and monitoring harvest and population control collectively meet this goal.

Sports fish populations are monitored through projects based on priority lakes and rivers. The Datawatch tag programme in the region's lakes monitors trout growth and returns from these important fisheries. Summer drift dive programmes on selected rivers within the region including the Rangitaiki and Motu record trout numbers and habitat condition. Winter spawning is assessed in important recruitment areas, and various other monitoring and fisheries projects provide insight into the effects of interventions to improve water quality in lakes fisheries. Game bird population monitoring is undertaken via trapping and banding programmes, aerial transect and trend counts, and productivity surveys. The Council is allocating significant time to waterfowl productivity investigations involving duckling brood counts in wetlands and drains, as well as contributing time to the national mallard research programme. Eastern Region also co-ordinates the national shoveler monitoring project. Upland game monitoring of pheasants will continue in the Kaingaroa forest.

The harvest of sports fish and game birds is monitored through angler creel surveys on priority fisheries and game hunter surveys during the hunting season.

Council will continue to provide an effects based response to landowners and other land managers experiencing site specific issues with game birds impacting negatively on their interests, and will work with external agencies to minimise the effects of disease or other factors contributing to game bird mortality.

The Eastern Council resources a very efficient hatchery operation that has the primary role of providing supplementary stocking for the Rotorua lakes fisheries, while supplying fish to other Fish & Game regions also. The Ngongotaha site is also used to host a Children's Fishing programme aimed at encouraging greater participation in trout fishing. The hatchery

and grounds are open to the public seven days/week and receive a large number of visitors, including organised groups, and this provides an opportunity to increase public awareness.

### Species Management Project Clusters

<b>PC1110: <u>Species Monitoring</u>: Assess and monitor fish and game bird populations within the Eastern Region</b>	
<i>Project and Objective</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<p><b>1111 River Fisheries Investigations</b> Investigate and monitor river fisheries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Drift dive/monitor Rangitaiki, Motu and selected East Coast rivers.</li> <li>(ii) Develop monitoring plan for other rivers within the region that have not been drift dived for some years.</li> <li>(iii) Investigate status of selected Waikato hydro lakes.</li> <li>(iv) Develop an online 'angler diary' facility for anglers to record their efforts, the fish they catch, and any other observations they might wish to make.</li> <li>(v) Identify priority 'back country' river fishery projects to direct 'non-resident' licence funds to.</li> <li>(vi) Continue the regional didymo surveillance programme.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Report river fishery investigation results to Council by 31 July 2018. Provide overview of online diary use to Council by 31 August 2018. Provide report to Council on potential back country river fishery projects by 31 August 2018.</i></p>
<p><b>1112 Datawatch</b> Monitor the Rotorua and Waikaremoana lakes fisheries using the "Datawatch" tagging programme to assess trout growth.</p>	<p><i>Tag and release 8,500 fish. Report on tag returns to each meeting of Council.</i></p>
<p><b>1113 Lake Waikaremoana</b> Monitor data collection and maintain Lake Waikaremoana water quality buoy; complete third and final year of creel survey and key spawning tributaries monitoring programme.</p>	<p><i>Report activities to the following meeting of Council. Submit report on creel survey and spawning tributary monitoring programme to February 2018 meeting of Council.</i></p>
<p><b>1114 Lake Tarawera</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Monitor Lake Tarawera spawning tributaries including the Tarawera Outlet, Te Wairoa and Wairua Streams.</li> <li>(ii) Subject to the outcome of research bids lodged in 2016-17, investigate factors affecting the size, condition and growth of trout, and apply recently developed technology to the monitoring of smelt populations.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Report spawning survey observations to the following meeting of Council, and the results of other investigations by 31 August 2018.</i></p>
<p><b>1115 Other Lake Fisheries Investigations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Contribute to research on other lake fisheries including projects associated with water quality.</li> <li>(ii) Continue to operate the Ngongotaha Stream trap.</li> <li>(iii) Develop an online 'angler diary' facility for anglers to record their efforts, the fish they catch, and any other observations they might wish to make.</li> <li>(iv) Identify priority 'back country' lake fishery projects to direct 'non-resident' licence funds to.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Provide research updates and Ngongotaha trap results to each meeting of Council. Provide overview of online diary use to Council by 31 August 2018. Provide report to Council on potential back country lake fishery projects by 31 August 2018.</i></p>

<b>1116 Waterfowl Monitoring</b>	
(i) Monitor black swan and paradise shelduck populations within the Eastern Region using aerial trend counts, and monitor seasonal usage of Tauranga Harbour by black swan.	<i>(i) Report interim results to the February 2018 Council meeting and provide a full report detailing the status of these populations by 31 August 2018. (ii) Provide final reports for the 2016-2017 year by 31 October 2017 and report interim results for the 2017-2018 year to the February 2018 Council meeting. The reports will compare measures of productivity for greylards with previous years where it is possible to do so.</i>
(ii) Investigate productivity, survival, harvest and movements of greylards by conducting brood counts, and undertaking trapping, banding and aerial transect surveys in conjunction with neighbouring regions; co-ordinate and participate in the national shoveler monitoring programme.	
<b>1117 Botulism</b> Monitor avian botulism outbreaks and minimise these by whatever practical means are available.	<i>Report incidents to the following meeting of Council.</i>
<b>1118 Game Bird Research</b>	<i>Report findings and submit draft work plan to Council by 31 August 2018.</i>
(i) Complete analysis and report on greylard use of drains survey and contribute to national greylard research. (ii) Prepare a five year strategic research and management work plan for greylards.	
<b>1119 Upland Game Assessments</b> Continue upland game population monitoring programme in Kaingaroa.	<i>Report outcomes to the following meeting of Council.</i>
Direct Costs: \$34,000      Hours: 2369	Internal Costs: \$136,761      Total Costs: \$170,761

<b>PC1120: Harvest Assessment: Assess angler and hunter activity and related harvest</b>	
<b>Project and Objective</b>	<b>Performance measures</b>
<b>1121 Lake Fisheries Creel Surveys</b> Conduct annual angler creel monitoring surveys (winter/summer) assessing angler catch and satisfaction from key Rotorua lakes (Okataina, Rotoiti, Tarawera). Extend summer creel surveys to Rotoma, Rotoehu, Okareka and/or Rerewhakaaitu to the extent this can be accommodated without compromising effort on the key lakes.	<i>Report on the 2017 winter creel survey by 28 February 2018 and the 2017-2018 summer creel surveys by 31 August 2018.</i>
<b>1122 Opening Day Angler Survey</b> Monitor opening day catch from Rotorua lakes fisheries to assess characteristics of the catch.	<i>Present report to Council by 30 April 2018.</i>
<b>1123 Game Bird Hunter Survey</b> Assess the harvest of game birds by hunters and hunter effort during the 2018 season.	<i>Present the results of the 2017 game season hunter surveys to Council by 30 November 2017. Complete the 2018 game bird hunter surveys by 31 August 2018.</i>
Direct Costs: \$2,150      Hours: 850	Internal Costs: \$49,070      Total Costs: \$51,220

<b>PC1140: Hatchery: Produce sufficient trout to meet the stocking requirements of the Eastern Region of Fish &amp; Game New Zealand, as well as other Fish and Game Regions</b>	
<b>Project and Objective</b>	<b>Performance measures</b>
<b>1141 Operate Hatchery</b>	<i>Produce c.100,000 fish to meet Eastern Region requirements and regional orders. Update manual by 31 August 2018.</i>
(i) Produce quality fish for stocking of Eastern Region lakes and supplying the needs of other Fish & Game regions.	
(ii) Complete review and revision of hatchery manual.	

<b>1142 Hatchery Maintenance</b> Maintenance of hatchery facilities.	<i>Report activities to the following meeting of Council.</i>
<b>1143 Te Wairoa Trap</b> (i) Operate Te Wairoa trap to obtain suitable brood stock and collect sufficient ova to sustain the hatchery programme. (ii) Commission an external review, and obtain advice, from a geneticist on brood stock selection programme.	<i>Report the results of the trapping programme to each meeting of Council during the period April to August.</i>
Direct Costs: \$69,650      Hours: 2925	Internal Costs: \$168,859      Total Costs: \$238,509

<b>PC1160: <u>Releases:</u> Transfer and release sports fish and game birds to augment populations within the region</b>	
<b>Project and Objective</b>	<b>Performance measures</b>
<b>1161 Sports Fish Liberations</b> Transfer and release hatchery reared trout in accordance with regional stocking strategies.	<i>Report liberations to the following meeting of Council.</i>
<b>1162 Game Bird Liberations</b> Investigate the fate of captive reared mallards released within the region.	<i>Report outcomes to Council by 31 August 2018.</i>
Direct Costs: \$500      Hours: 220	Internal Costs: \$12,700      Total Costs: \$13,200

<b>PC1170: <u>Regulations:</u> Develop regulations to ensure that harvest of sports fish and game birds is within sustainable limits</b>	
<b>Project and Objective</b>	<b>Performance measures</b>
<b>1171 Sports Fish Regulations</b> Maintain sports fish resources through the development of an annual anglers notice.	<i>Recommend fishing season conditions for the 2018-2019 Anglers Notice by 30 June 2018.</i>
<b>1172 Game Bird Regulations</b> Maintain game bird resources through the development of annual game season conditions.	<i>Recommend game season conditions for the 2018 season to the NZ Council by 2 February 2018.</i>
<b>1173 Game Bird Authorities</b> Provide input to permitting processes to capture, hold, breed and release game birds.	<i>Report activities to the following meeting of Council.</i>
<b>1174 Upland Game Properties</b> Monitor upland game properties, liaise with the operators and review annual operating registers.	<i>Report activities of upland game properties to Council by 30 November 2018.</i>
Direct Costs: \$0      Hours: 156	Internal Costs: \$9,006      Total Costs: \$9,006

<b>PC1180: <u>Game Bird Control:</u> Minimise significant damage caused by game birds to private land</b>	
<b>Project and Objective</b>	<b>Performance measures</b>
<b>1181 Game Bird Control</b> Reduce damage to crops or pasture from unwanted aggregations of game birds by assisting landowners and utilising the efforts of game bird hunters wherever practical.	<i>Maintain permit database and report on the number of permits issued annually in the year end Performance Report.</i>
Direct Costs: \$200      Hours: 52	Internal Costs: \$3,002      Total Costs: \$3,202

**OUTPUT 2****SPORTS FISH AND GAME BIRD HABITAT  
PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE****Goal**

*To manage, maintain, and enhance sports fish and game bird habitats to maximise recreational opportunities for anglers and hunters.*

**Description**

The protection, enhancement and management of habitat for sports fish and particularly game birds is an Eastern Fish and Game Council priority. Habitat work that enhances waterfowl productivity, and in particular greylards, will be a focus for the Council, and will involve a combination of directly enhancing wetland habitats including drains and farm ponds, and supplying information and support to landowners and other groups and agencies towards this objective.

This output also seeks to provide for the long term protection of water quality and quantity which is also an ongoing priority for the Council. Water quality in the Rotorua Lakes is being addressed through an active restoration and intervention programme and Fish & Game will continue to participate in collaborative processes for the lakes to protect the short and long term interests of anglers and hunters. These processes are also occurring in river catchments across the region and during the 2017-2018 year it is expected that significant RMA planning participation will be necessary with national planning processes, regional statutory planning, collaborative catchment processes and consent applications to consider.

The Council will continue to manage habitat in the wetland reserves it administers or jointly manages within the region in accordance with a longer term strategy it is preparing.

The Eastern Fish & Game Council will make available information and advice to landowners looking to enhance wetlands, and will also identify and support significant opportunities by seeking funding from external sources. Staff representation on habitat trusts will continue to identify opportunities to enhance habitat and lend support to other organisations' initiatives.

The Council has in the past participated in regional wetland inventory and advocacy groups including Landcare groups, Aquatic Pest Technical Groups and other Regional Council partnerships, and will continue to do so in 2017-2018 as required.

### Sports Fish and Game Bird Habitat Project Clusters

<b>PC1210: <u>Resource Management Act:</u> Effectively represent Fish &amp; Game interests and the aspirations of anglers and hunters in resource management processes and strategies by advocating for sports fish and game bird habitat values, angling, and hunting values in statutory and non-statutory planning processes.</b>	
<i>Project and Objective</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<b>1211 RMA Planning</b> (i) Review plans, policies and strategies and advocate for decisions and conditions that provide for sports fish and game bird interests and the interests of anglers and hunters. (ii) Contribute to the improvement of water quality in the Rotorua lakes via collaborative processes, research, and fishery and angler monitoring. (iii) Minimise effects on fisheries arising from activities aimed at improving water quality in the Rotorua lakes. (iv) Utilise the results of river fishery investigations to advocate for improved water quality in the Rangitaiki and Motu River catchments. (v) Make submissions on regional and district council planning documents to promote rules that facilitate game bird habitat enhancement.	<b>Report activities to each meeting of Council.</b>
<b>1212 Consent Applications</b> Review and respond to consent applications and advocate for decisions and conditions that provide for sports fish and game bird interests and the interests of anglers and hunters.	<b>Report activities to each meeting of Council.</b>
Direct Costs: \$200	Hours: 1154
Internal Costs: \$66,620	Total Costs: \$66,820

<b>PC1220: <u>Works and Management:</u> Wildlife management reserves and other wetland reserves</b>	
<i>Project and Objective</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<b>1221 Reserves Management</b> Manage water levels and habitat in wildlife management reserves; advocate and maintain optimum conditions for waterfowl. (i) Review stand holder habitat maintenance programmes taking into account more recent Health and Safety legislation, and investigate incentives and/or alternative means for undertaking enhancement works. (ii) Continue to implement wetland monitoring and maintenance programmes in the reserves (including water reticulation systems in Kaituna and Awaitei WMRs) in accordance with the five year plan drafted in 2015-16. (iii) Continue to contribute to the design and implementation of habitat creation and enhancement within and adjoining the Kaituna WMR in conjunction with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council and the Department of Conservation (DOC). (iv) Finalise management agreements with DOC for all land it administers which Fish & Game has held appointments to control and manage in whole or part since 1992. (v) Continue to assist with implementation of the Waikato River Authority funded fencing and habitat enhancement programme at Lakes Ngapouri and Tutaeinanga.	<b>Report activities to the following meeting of Council.</b>
Direct Costs: \$14,000	Hours: 1048
Internal Costs: \$60,501	Total Costs: \$74,501



<b>PC1230: <u>Assisted Habitat:</u> Assist habitat enhancement by individuals and organisations and manage significant projects</b>	
<i>Project and Objective</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<b>1231 Maintain and Enhance Game Bird Habitat</b> (i) Encourage hunters and landowners to create wetland habitat on non-public land. Make available information packages and services including land owner site visits and consent advice. Use rural media to encourage wetland enhancement on non-public land.	<i>Respond to all landowners' requests for advice and contribute to the development and/or enhancement of habitat that enhances waterfowl productivity and greylards in particular. Report activities to the following meeting of Council.</i>
<b>1232 Habitat Creation Projects</b> (i) Refine and implement the approach developed in 2016-17 aimed at encouraging landowners to enhance the habitat values of existing ponds in rural environments. (ii) Make one application to external funding providers for a habitat creation project in the Eastern Region. (iii) Assist in wetland habitat creation and enhancement in the Waikato River catchment through WCEET trustee and project manager participation.	<i>(i) Make one application for external funding for an enhancement project.            (ii) Report WCEET activities by 31 August 2018.            (iii) Report activities to the following meeting of Council.</i>
Direct Costs: \$9,400      Hours: 1004      Internal Costs: \$57,960      Total Costs: \$67,360	

<b>PC1240: <u>Assess and Monitor:</u> Assess and monitor regional trends in significant habitat areas</b>	
<i>Project and Objective</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<b>1241 Monitor Waterfowl Habitats</b> Interact with Wetland Forum groups and/or agencies compiling or updating wetland inventories.	<i>Report activities to the following meeting of Council.</i>
<b>1242 Monitor Upland Game Habitats</b> Interact with groups and/or agencies re upland habitats.	<i>Report activities to the following meeting of Council.</i>
Direct Costs: \$0      Hours: 120      Internal Costs: \$6,928      Total Costs: \$6,928	

### OUTPUT 3

## **ANGLER AND HUNTER PARTICIPATION AND SERVICES**

### **Goal**

*To maximise angler and hunter participation while maintaining and improving the quality and diversity of the recreational experience.*

### **Description**

Angler and hunter participation projects are clustered into enhancing physical access and making sure anglers and hunters are well informed of the opportunities available to them. Access to hunting and fishing resources is a priority of the Eastern Council and is implemented for anglers through an extensive signage programme across the region and intensive angler access track maintenance on high use fisheries. Managing hunting access to Fish & Game managed wetlands through a ballot process provides significant hunting opportunities across the region and incentivises hunters to contribute to habitat enhancement in these wetlands. In addition to these physical access works, there are access advocacy roles required by Council through relationships with the Walking Access Commission, Office of Treaty Settlements and a variety of other key stakeholders and land managers.

Informing anglers and hunters of opportunities for fishing and hunting encourages participation and the Council services this function through regular electronic reports and e-zines as well as annual magazine supplements and newsletters. Detailed access information for specific fisheries and hunting areas is distributed in printed pamphlets and is made available through the Fish & Game website. The Council also uses social media to keep licence holders informed and will allocate effort during the year to continually update and increase web based information.

The Council resources junior angling training through the very popular Ngongotaha Children's Fishing Programme and can assist junior hunters through upland game and waterfowl mentoring opportunities. Active Fish & Game support and involvement with angling and hunting clubs also facilitates angler and hunter training, promotes participation and maintains a valuable link between sports fish and game bird managers and licence holders across the region. Fishing competitions also provide the opportunity for increased participation and are supported by the Council via permits and direct involvement in some events.

### Angler and Hunter Participation Project Clusters

<b>PC1310: <u>Angler and Hunter Access:</u> Maintain and enhance access to the sports fish and game bird resources of the Eastern Region</b>	
<i>Project and Objective</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<p><b>1311 Maintain and Enhance Access</b> Physical and legal access to angling and hunting opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Maintain angling tracks in the Ngongotaha and Waiteti Streams, and the Tarawera, Waioeka and Rangitaiki Rivers.</li> <li>(ii) Investigate and create new angling access opportunities to summer fisheries in the Rangitaiki catchment.</li> <li>(iii) Commence investigation of East Coast fisheries north of Gisborne and access to such.</li> <li>(iv) Advocate for improved access through plantation forests such as Kaingaroa, and resolution of areas in which access to fish and game resources has been captured.</li> <li>(v) Make submissions to the Walking Access Commission, Overseas Investment Office and Office of Treaty Settlements to ensure that provision is made for public access where appropriate.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Report activities to the following meeting of Council.</i></p>
<p><b>1312 Signage</b> Maintain signs and enhance access through signage at key fishing and hunting access points. Maintain signage inventory databases.</p>	<p><i>Report activities to the following meeting of Council.</i></p>
<p><b>1313 Hunter Ballots</b> Allocate and manage balloted hunting stands in Fish &amp; Game managed Wildlife Management Reserves/wetlands.</p>	<p><i>Allocate balloted hunting stands.</i></p>
<p>Direct Costs: \$7,500      Hours: 648      Internal Costs: \$37,409      Total Costs: \$44,909</p>	

<b>PC1330: <u>Newsletter, Licence Holder Communications:</u> Effectively inform anglers and hunters of matters relating to Fish &amp; Game and opportunities for increased participation</b>	
<i>Project and Objective</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<p><b>1331 Electronic Newsletters</b> Prepare and circulate monthly newsletters (e-zines) to clubs.</p>	<p><i>Prepare and circulate 12 monthly electronic newsletters (three Both Barrels and nine Reel Life ezines).</i></p>
<p><b>1332 Fish &amp; Game Magazine</b> Prepare and mail two issues of Fish and Game New Zealand to 2017-2018 whole season fish licence holders and 2017 whole season game licence holders. Prepare and distribute pre-season newsletters.</p>	<p><i>Mail fish issue August 2018 (c.9,000), game issue April 2018 (c.3,200). Distribute pre fish and game season newsletters.</i></p>
<p><b>1333 Fish &amp; Game Website</b> Maintain and regularly update Fish &amp; Game information on the Eastern Region website.</p>	<p><i>Report activities to the following meeting of Council.</i></p>
<p><b>1334 Social Media</b> Continue to operate Twitter account and upload material to Facebook page.</p>	<p><i>Report activities to the following meeting of Council.</i></p>
<p>Direct Costs: \$13,000      Hours: 411      Internal Costs: \$23,727      Total Costs: \$36,727</p>	

<b>PC1340: <u>Informational Publications:</u> Assist anglers and hunters to access the hunting and fishing opportunities of the Eastern Region</b>	
<i>Project and Objective</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<b>1341 Information Pamphlets</b> Review and if necessary reprint pamphlets, address information deficiencies and use website and other forms of communication to make access and other information more readily available. Maintain stocks of information pamphlets with licence agents and other outlets throughout the region.	<i>Report on activities to the following meeting of Council.</i>
Direct Costs: \$2,000      Hours: 116	Internal Costs: \$6,697      Total Costs: \$8,697

<b>PC1350: <u>Angler and Hunter Training:</u> Encourage new participants to take up angling and hunting</b>	
<i>Project and Objective</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<b>1351 Children's Fishing Programme</b> Operate the children's fishing programme in conjunction with the Rotorua Anglers Association and invite participation from other clubs where appropriate.	<i>Provide sufficient two-year-old fish to support the fishing programme. Report activities and participation to the following meetings of Council.</i>
<b>1352 Angler/Hunter Training</b> (i) Provide angler and hunter training information and make available novice hunter/angler starter packs. (ii) Conduct angling training seminars. (iii) Conduct a hunter open day. (iii) Continue novice hunter training programme.	<i>Provide at least two angler information seminars and run a hunter open day. Participate in HUNTS programme for hunter training.</i>
<b>1353 Angler/Hunter Enquiries</b> Respond to enquiries for information from anglers and hunters.	<i>Provide information and respond to enquiries promptly.</i>
<b>1354 Fishing Competitions</b> Review applications to hold fishing competitions and grant permits where appropriate.	<i>Respond to applications within five working days and report on permits granted to each meeting of Council.</i>
Direct Costs: \$1,850      Hours: 978	Internal Costs: \$56,459      Total Costs: \$58,309

<b>PC1360: <u>Club Relations:</u> Maintain communications with Fish &amp; Game related clubs</b>	
<i>Project and Objective</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<b>1361 Fish &amp; Game Club Communications</b> Maintain club register and provide news updates to clubs on a monthly basis, attend club meetings as appropriate.	<i>Attend up to 20 club meetings or gatherings by 31 August 2018. Report activities to following meeting of Council.</i>
Direct Costs: \$0      Hours: 95	Internal Costs: \$5,484      Total Costs: \$5,484

<b>PC1370: <u>Fish &amp; Game Huts:</u></b>	
<i>Project and Objective</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<b>1371 Fish &amp; Game Huts</b> Maintain Fish & Game huts at Waikaremoana and Wairua.	<i>Report maintenance activities to following meeting of Council.</i>
Direct Costs: \$1,450      Hours: 36	Internal Costs: \$2,078      Total Costs: \$3,528

## OUTPUT 4

# PUBLIC INTERFACE

### Goal

*To maximise public awareness of the opportunities, values and issues associated with the sports fish and game resource, and support for the management role of Fish and Game Councils.*

### Description

Fish & Game needs to maintain its profile in the public arena to be able to effectively advocate for sports fish and game birds, their habitats and the recreational use of these species by licence holders. This is a significant priority for both the Eastern Fish and Game Council and the New Zealand Fish and Game Council.

Liaison and advocacy with statutory bodies is required to advance statutory planning processes and work effectively with agencies that have wider environmental management roles. Relationships with government departments such as the Department of Conservation and Office of Treaty Settlements, and iwi, are also necessary to maintain effective consideration of licence holder's interests. The Council also needs to ensure government politicians are well informed of how policy decisions affect sports fishing and game bird hunting.

Advocacy work that Fish & Game is involved with often has far wider reaching benefits than to licence holders alone. Our advocacy for clean water, public access and the protection of the outdoors and communication with the public needs to be ongoing if decision makers are to take note. The Council resources a strong regional public communications programme and provides support to the New Zealand Council's North Island Public Awareness Co-ordinator. We will also resource working with key stakeholders during the year and developing stronger alliances with iwi groups across the Eastern Region. Council communication with landowners and land managers surrounding angling and hunting opportunities is also important because of the wide range of angler and hunter activities affected by these stakeholders.

The Council will use public promotions such as boating or fishing events and Fish & Game 'open days' to highlight Fish & Game activities as well as promote participation. The facilities at the Ngongotaha hatchery are used for tours and school education programmes and this will continue to be supported. Further development of the Ngongotaha site during the

year will be investigated to encourage more visitors and a wider understanding of the role Fish & Game plays.

### Public Interface Project Clusters

<b>PC1410: <u>Liaison</u>: Avoid conflicts and maintain effective advocacy and liaison with statutory resource management agencies</b>	
<i>Project and Objective</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<p><b>1411 Statutory Liaison and Political Awareness</b>            Maintain a structured liaison and advocacy programme with key agencies and individuals. Make submissions to senior Regional Council and DOC staff on significant regional matters. Engage in governor-governor meetings where appropriate. Engage with iwi groups and tribal authorities including Te Uru Taumatua and the Tuhoe Board. Ensure political awareness of Fish &amp; Game activities and support for improved habitat performance.</p>	<p><i>(i) Regional Manager to meet with senior Regional Council and DOC staff at least yearly. Staff to attend Conservation Board meetings at least annually.</i>  <i>(ii) Regional Manager to meet with Te Uru Taumatua and/or the Tuhoe Board, and tribal entities including the Waikaremoana Tribal Authority.</i>  <i>(iii) Regional Manager/ Councillors to visit electorate MPs during the year.</i>  <i>(iv) Report activities to following meetings of Council.</i></p>
Direct Costs: \$0	Hours: 216 Internal Costs \$12,470 Total Costs \$12,470

<b>PC1420: <u>Communications</u>: Develop and maintain effective communication with the wider public, the media, stakeholders, and strategic allies</b>	
<i>Project and Objectives</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<p><b>1421 Public Communications</b>            To advocate the interests of anglers and hunters through maintaining effective communication with non-statutory groups or individuals including farmers, iwi and the general public.</p> <p>(i) Implement regional public awareness programme and identify and pursue marketing opportunities.            (ii) Maintain a strong presence in general public media.            (iii) Engage and communicate with rural community and land owners. Develop relationships with groups such as Federated Farmers, Fonterra and Dairy NZ.            (iv) Engage with iwi. Initiate more formal relationships with key iwi groups within the region (e.g. Te Arawa) and participate in Treaty Settlement processes that affect anglers and hunters.</p>	<p><i>(i) Contribute to national public awareness network.</i>  <i>(ii) Manage website for effective licence holder communication and public awareness. Prepare and distribute at least 40 media press releases before 31 August 2018.</i>  <i>(iii) Submit on Treaty Settlements affecting angler/hunter access and develop relationships with key iwi groups.</i>  <i>(iv) Report activities to following meeting of Council.</i></p>
Direct Costs: \$500	Hours: 249 Internal Costs \$14,375 Total Costs \$14,875

<b>PC1440: <u>Promotions</u>: Actively promote the work of Fish &amp; Game with the wider public and the media</b>	
<i>Project and Objective</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<b>1441 Public Promotions</b> Develop and increase Fish & Game New Zealand presence via promotional events such as public "open days".	<b>(i) Support national public awareness events.</b> <b>(ii) Prepare articles for angler/hunter magazines.</b> <b>(iii) Liaise with Destination Rotorua to raise profile of Rotorua lakes fisheries.</b> <b>(iv) Conduct a tagged fish event in October 2017.</b> <b>(v) Report activities to following meeting of Council.</b>
Direct Costs: \$3,500	Hours: 176
Internal Costs: \$10,160	Total Costs: \$13,660

<b>PC1450: <u>Visitors/Education</u>: Educate the wider public on the role of Fish &amp; Game New Zealand</b>	
<i>Project and Objective</i>	<i>Performance measures</i>
<b>1451 Education</b> Educate people in sports fish and game bird management, conservation and angling and hunting; increase use of the Ngongotaha hatchery and grounds to promote Fish & Game to schools and the wider public.	<b>(i) Conduct presentations to groups and provide conducted tours of the hatchery.</b> <b>(ii) Report activities to the following meeting of Council.</b>
<b>1452 Maintenance and Enhancement of Grounds and Facilities</b> Maintain and enhance facilities for the education and benefit of visitors.	<b>Report activities to the following meeting of Council.</b>
Direct Costs: \$1,000	Hours: 568
Internal Costs: \$32,790	Total Costs: \$33,790

**OUTPUT 5****COMPLIANCE****Goal**

*To protect the sports fish and game resource and its users through education and effective enforcement of legislative requirements.*

**Description**

The Eastern Council has a statutory obligation to ensure there are sufficient resources allocated to enforce fish and game regulations. Enforcement of licensing ensures that the cost of managing Fish & Game is shared equally among the users, and enforcement of regulations ensures that the sustainability of the species being harvested is protected. Compliance also serves an additional communication and public awareness function being strongly supported by licence holders and appreciated by the wider public that enjoy the fish and game resource in a more passive way. Given the characteristics of the trout spawning concentrations around the Rotorua lakes, the Council must continue to commit resources to the interception of more serious poaching offences. This requires a high level of staff training and support, and maintaining good working relationships with the NZ Police to increase the effectiveness of compliance activities.

Compliance exercises are complimented by Honorary Rangers who are supported by the Council with comprehensive training, regular contact and operational updates. Assistance provided by the public in notifying Fish & Game of non compliance will continue to be facilitated by the "0800 POACHING" service. The use of remote cameras and a strong media programme should encourage continued public participation, as well as provide an increased deterrent to non compliance.

Operating within the legislative bounds of the Conservation and Wildlife Acts, and other legislation such as the Search and Surveillance Act, requires a high level of understanding and training. The Eastern Council is committed to providing this training, and will continue to contribute to the national Fish & Game compliance effort by providing national co-ordination services from within its staff team. Prosecution and reparation policies have been developed, and adhering to these ensures that offences are dealt with in a transparent and consistent manner and costs of prosecutions minimised.



### Compliance Project Clusters

<b>PC1510: <u>Ranging</u>: Maintain compliance with angling and hunting regulations through enforcement activities</b>			
<b><i>Project and Objective</i></b>		<b><i>Performance measures</i></b>	
<b>1511 Ranging</b>	Maintain a high level of participant contact through enforcement and monitor compliance with licensing and season conditions.	<b><i>Organise ranging activity to achieve 3,500 angler and hunter contacts. Aim for 95% compliance with legal requirements and season regulations from anglers and hunters contacted. Provide report to each meeting of Council.</i></b>	
Direct Costs: \$2,100	Hours: 956	Internal Costs: \$55,189	Total Costs: \$57,289
<b>PC1520: <u>Ranger Training</u>: Ensure effective ranging across the region with suitably trained and resourced personnel</b>			
<b><i>Project and Objective</i></b>		<b><i>Performance measures</i></b>	
<b>1521 Training</b>	Manage the regional network of honorary Fish & Game Rangers and ensure that a sufficient level of training and support is provided for both honorary rangers and warranted staff.	<b><i>Complete one organised training exercise for honorary rangers and warranted staff and report to Council by 31 August 2018.</i></b>	
Direct Costs: \$1,000	Hours: 108	Internal Costs: \$6,235	Total Costs: \$7,235
<b>PC1530: <u>Compliance/Prosecutions</u>: Follow a consistent policy driven approach to dealing with non-compliance to regulations</b>			
<b><i>Project and Objective</i></b>		<b><i>Performance measures</i></b>	
<b>1531 Prosecutions</b>	Follow Council Prosecution and Reparation Policy guidelines to deal with individuals found unlicensed or in non-compliance with season regulations without just cause.	<b><i>Report details of case outcomes to each meeting of Council.</i></b>	
Direct Costs: \$4,500	Hours: 344	Internal Costs: \$19,859	Total Costs: \$24,359

**OUTPUT 6****LICENSING****Goal**

*To optimise the sale of Eastern Fish and Game Council angling and hunting licences as valued products.*

**Description**

Fish & Game management is funded from the sale of fishing and hunting licences and it is important that the Council ensures licences are easily available via a number of purchasing options. The Council will continue to work with an external service provider to produce efficient and effective management of the licensing system. The Council will also continue to support the National Licence Working Party and will continue to focus on implementation and marketing of the new fishing licence categories and encouraging increasing participation of the region's trout fisheries.

While the use of technology to make licences more easily available will be encouraged by the Council, staff will also continue to support licence agents who play a key role in the Fish & Game system by being an ongoing point of contact with anglers and hunters.

**Licensing Project Clusters**

<b>PC1610: <u>Licensing</u>: Maintain and monitor a readily available and efficient licensing system</b>			
<i>Project and Objective</i>		<i>Performance measures</i>	
<b>1611</b>	<b>Licence Production and Distribution</b> Issue fishing and hunting licences and updated regulations in a timely manner; market new fishing licence categories to existing and potential licence holders.	<i>To have available fish licences and regulation guides for the 2017-2018 season by 1 September 2017. To have available game licences and regulation guides for the 2018 season by 31 March 2018.</i>	
<b>1612</b>	<b>Analysis of Licence Information</b> Evaluate licence sales information during the year and identify marketing opportunities for increasing licence sales and revenue.	<i>Provide detailed reports of licence sales performance to each meeting of Council.</i>	
<b>1613</b>	<b>National Licence Management</b> Support the operation of the national licence management provider.	<i>Report activities to the following meeting of Council.</i>	
Direct Costs: \$800		Hours: 322	Internal Costs: \$18,589      Total Costs: \$19,389

<b>PC1620: <u>Agent Servicing</u>: Management and support of Fish &amp; Game licensing through licence agents</b>			
<i>Project and Objective</i>		<i>Performance measures</i>	
<b>1621</b>	<b>Licence Agent Support</b> Communicate and work with licence agents to support the licence management provided by Eyede, and provide agent training as required.	<i>Provide information and respond to enquiries promptly. Complete at least three visits to all significant licence resellers by 31 August 2018.</i>	
Direct Costs: \$0		Hours: 200	Internal Costs: \$11,546      Total Costs: \$11,546

**OUTPUT 7****COUNCILS****Goal**

*To provide for the effective governance of the Fish & Game system by fish and game licence holders.*

**Description**

Regional Fish and Game Councils are elected by licence holders for a three-year term to govern sports fish and game management with roles and responsibilities that are set out in the Conservation Act. Council elections were last held in 2015 so the next election will take place in the early part of the 2018-19 year with preparations commencing in the latter part of 2017-18. The Council meets six times a year to establish priorities, consider issues affecting sports fish and game birds and develop appropriate policies on these issues. The Council also has a number of statutory requirements that need to be met including setting angling and game bird hunting notices and the preparation and approval of an Operational Work Plan and budget to direct staff activities for the coming year. The Council must be well resourced with information for meetings to make informed decisions in the best interests of all licence holders. It is also important to ensure licence holders are aware of the Council activities through making Council information available to licence holders, stakeholders and the public.

**Council Project Clusters**

<b>PC1710: <u>Fish and Game Council election:</u> Prepare the 2018 Fish and Game Election</b>			
<i>Project and Objective</i>		<i>Performance measure</i>	
<b>1711 Council Election</b>	Provide regional support to <i>electionz.com</i> in preparation for, and holding the October 2018 election.	<i>Assist external provider in preparing for, and holding the 2018 election.</i>	
Direct Costs: \$0	Hours: 4	Internal Costs: \$231	Total Costs: \$231

<b>PC1720: <u>Council Meetings:</u> Effective governance and efficient Council support</b>			
<i>Project and Objective</i>		<i>Performance measures</i>	
<b>1721 Council</b>	Provide effective direction and support to the management of Council's business. Keep Council informed of relevant regional and national matters. Prepare information reports and agendas for Council meetings and any minutes resulting from these meetings.	<i>Hold at least 6 meetings of the Eastern Fish &amp; Game Council prior to 31 August 2018. Aim to distribute agendas at least eight working days prior to each meeting and draft minutes within 3 weeks of each meeting.</i>	
Direct Costs: \$10,000	Hours: 880	Internal Costs: \$50,802	Total Costs: \$60,802

**OUTPUT 8****PLANNING AND REPORTING****Goal**

*To ensure cost effective and appropriate business management of the fish and game resource.*

**Description**

Fish and Game Councils have statutory planning requirements that they must meet. These include:

- the preparation of a Sports Fish and Game Bird Management Plan;
- an Annual Operational Work Programme (OWP);
- Statement of Service performance;
- Annual Performance Report and Statements of Account.

The Eastern Fish and Game Council's 10 yearly Sports Fish and Game Management Plan was revised and approved in the 2013-2014 year. Early each year the Council completes the Annual Performance Report and Statement of Service Performance from the previous year, before moving into the planning phase for the following year's Operational Work Plan. Preparation of the 2017-2018 OWP will involve strategic priority setting and project development culminating in a consultative process with licence holders and other parties.

The Eastern Council has also committed to contributing regional resources to supporting the Fish & Game New Zealand national system. It is important that both regional and national liaison and co-ordination occurs for Fish & Game New Zealand to operate effectively and efficiently. Increasing inter-regional co-operation and cohesion has previously been identified as a national priority that the Eastern Council supports. Particular areas in which the Eastern Council contributes include waterfowl research and monitoring, compliance co-ordination, health and safety planning, licensing, review of financial systems, national communication and public awareness support, and development of policy and standard operating procedures. The Eastern Council will continue to contribute to efforts aimed at improving the efficiency of the organisation as a whole as long as it does not compromise regional decision making and efficiency improvements outweigh costs.

### Planning and Reporting Project Clusters

<b>PC1820: <u>Annual Planning</u></b>			
<i>Project and Objective</i>		<i>Performance measures</i>	
<b>1821</b>	<b>OWP preparation</b> Prepare an operational work plan for the 2018-2019 year.	<i>The adoption of a proposed operational work plan for 2018-2019 by the Council by 31 August 2018.</i>	
Direct Costs: \$0	Hours: 125	Internal Costs: \$7,216	Total Costs \$7,216

<b>PC1830: <u>Reporting and Audit</u></b>			
<i>Project and Objective</i>		<i>Performance measures</i>	
<b>1831</b>	<b>Performance Report</b> Prepare a Performance Report including the Statement of Service Performance and Financial Statements for the 2016-2017 year.	<i>Conduct quarterly reviews of performance against OWP targets with staff; produce an Annual Performance Report for the 2016-2017 financial year.</i>	
<b>1832</b>	<b>Audit</b> Arrange to have the Performance Report for the 2016-2017 year audited in accordance with the Public Audit Act 2001.	<i>Audit of the annual Performance Report for the 2016-2017 financial year in time for the public annual general meeting.</i>	
<b>1833</b>	<b>Annual Meeting</b> Conduct a public annual general meeting no later than 1 December 2017.	<i>Adoption of the audited 2016-2017 annual report by Council, and presentation of it to a public annual general meeting no later than 1 December 2017; presentation of the report to the Minister of Conservation.</i>	
Direct Costs: \$9,200	Hours: 528	Internal Costs: \$30,481	Total Costs: \$39,681

<b>PC1840: <u>National Liaison</u></b>			
<i>Project and Objective</i>		<i>Performance measures</i>	
<b>1841</b>	<b>New Zealand Fish &amp; Game Liaison</b> Maintain effective liaison with New Zealand Fish & Game and meet all statutory requirements. Contribute to the efficient management of Fish & Game nationally through meetings of Regional Fish & Game Council managers and participate in working parties, networks and national research and monitoring.	<i>Attend all meetings of the Regional Fish &amp; Game Council managers and participate where required with working parties established by the New Zealand Council.</i>	
Direct Costs: \$100	Hours: 422	Internal Costs: \$24,362	Total Costs: \$24,462

INPUTS**ADMINISTRATION****Goal**

*To support the core functions of the Eastern Region of Fish & Game New Zealand in an effective and cost efficient manner.*

**Description**

Council administration comprises all the non-specific activities that are required for the Eastern Fish and Game Council to function. In determining the actual costs of output areas or projects, administration costs are apportioned at an hourly rate so that all input costs are shared between the projects. Because of the wide range of tasks carried out by staff it is important to communicate effectively within the team, and maintain a high standard of training. It is no less important to ensure that the organisation continues to direct effort to developing and implementing a Health and Safety culture of continuous improvement. Other significant tasks include maintaining the site, plant and equipment, and complying with legal requirements such as Maritime New Zealand safety management systems. These programmes and systems are reviewed as required to ensure they continue supporting operations efficiently and effectively.

**Administration Project Clusters**

<b>PC1910: <u>Staff Salaries and Payroll</u></b>			
<b><i>Project and Objective</i></b>		<b><i>Performance measures</i></b>	
<b>1911</b>	<b>Staff Salaries and Payroll</b> Maintain an efficient payroll system, reviewing against budget regularly.	<b><i>Staff paid per contract and on time.</i></b> <b><i>Provide financial report to each meeting of Council.</i></b>	
Direct Costs	\$912,561	Hours	58
Internal Costs	\$3,348	Total Costs	\$915,909

<b>PC1920: <u>Staff Co-ordination and Training</u></b>			
<b><i>Project and Objective</i></b>		<b><i>Performance measures</i></b>	
<b>1921</b>	<b>Staff Communications</b> Maintain regular staff communications and involvement in overall operations of Fish & Game.	<b><i>Hold weekly staff meetings.</i></b>	
<b>1922</b>	<b>Staff Training</b> Organise training opportunities to suit the individual and collective requirements of staff.	<b><i>Report staff training to each meeting of Council.</i></b>	
<b>1923</b>	<b>Employment</b> Carry out employment procedures as required.	<b><i>Report any activities to Council by 31 August 2018.</i></b>	

<b>1924 Health and Safety</b> Ensure that Fish & Game operations meet Health and Safety standards, and the organisation continues to make progress on the development and implementation of a health and safety conscious culture.	<i>Discuss Health and Safety matters at each weekly staff meeting, review Hazards, Controls and procedures at intervals prescribed in Council's Health and Safety Plan, and implement all other facets of the plan including auditing and reporting requirements. Provide report to each meeting of Council and ensure Councillors are fully informed and meeting their obligations as governors.</i>
Direct Costs: \$23,900      Hours: 1002	Internal Costs: \$57,845      Total Costs: \$81,745
<b>PC1930: Staff Houses</b>	
<b>Project and Objective</b>	<b>Performance measures</b>
<b>1931 Staff House Maintenance</b> Carry out required routine maintenance to Fish & Game houses.	<i>Provide financial report to each meeting of Council.</i>
Direct Costs: \$12,600      Hours: 42	Internal Costs: \$2,425      Total Costs: \$15,025
<b>PC1940: Office Premises</b>	
<b>Project and Objective</b>	<b>Performance measures</b>
<b>1941 Office Maintenance</b> Carry out maintenance and cleaning to ensure that the Fish Game office premises provide a suitable work environment.	<i>Provide financial report to each meeting of Council.</i>
Direct Costs: \$17,500      Hours: 30	Internal Costs: \$1,732      Total Costs: \$19,232
<b>PC1950: Office Equipment</b>	
<b>Project and Objective</b>	<b>Performance measures</b>
<b>1951</b> Maintain register of office equipment including asset schedule. Carry out maintenance as required.	<i>Provide financial report to each meeting of Council.</i>
Direct Costs: \$3,900      Hours: 54	Internal Costs: \$3,117      Total Costs: \$7,017
<b>PC1960: Communications and Consumables</b>	
<b>Project and Objective</b>	<b>Performance measures</b>
<b>1961</b> Maintain effective office and field communications.	<i>Provide financial report to each meeting of Council.</i>
<b>1962</b> Ensure adequate supply of office materials available for staff operations.	
Direct Costs: \$17,910      Hours: 18	Internal Costs: \$1,039      Total Costs: \$18,949
<b>PC1970: General</b>	
<b>Project and Objective</b>	<b>Performance measures</b>
<b>1971</b> Continue to carry out the wide range of general office administration and management tasks in an efficient manner.	<i>Provide financial report to each meeting of Council.</i>
<b>1972</b> Continue to maintain an efficient accounting system.	<i>Review financial performance and compare to budget at monthly intervals. Provide financial report to each meeting of Council.</i>
Direct Costs: \$8,450      Hours: 1702	Internal Costs: \$98,256      Total Costs: \$106,706

<b>PC1980: Equipment</b>			
<i>Project and Objective</i>		<i>Performance measures</i>	
<b>1981</b>	Maintain Register of Eastern Fish & Game Equipment.	<b>Provide financial report to each meeting of Council.</b>	
<b>1982</b>	Carry out a maintenance programme to ensure that equipment is maintained in an effective condition and boats meet MSA requirements.		
Direct Costs: \$16,500	Hours: 106	Internal Costs: \$6,119	Total Costs: \$22,619

<b>PC1990: Vehicles</b>			
<i>Project and Objective</i>		<i>Performance measures</i>	
<b>1991</b>	Ensure that vehicles are maintained in an effective condition and adequate provision is made for their replacement.	<b>Provide financial report to each meeting of Council.</b>	
Direct Costs: \$48,700	Hours: 76		



**APPENDIX I**

The purpose of the following notes is to provide guidance and clarification in relation to accountabilities, delegations and responsibilities within key functional areas.

**Project Management**

Staff delegations for the oversight of projects within each output area in 2017-2018 are as follows:

<i>Functional Area</i>	<i>Staff Member Responsible</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fisheries</li> <li>● Hatchery</li> <li>● Game</li> <li>● Habitat/RMA</li> <li>● Access</li> <li>● Client Services - Clubs/pamphlets</li> <li>● Compliance</li> <li>● Council-National Liaison</li> <li>● Administration-Licensing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Matt Osborne</li> <li>● Mark Sherburn</li> <li>● Matthew McDougall</li> <li>● John Meikle/Eben Herbert</li> <li>● Anthony van Dorp/Nigel Simpson</li> <li>● Mark Sherburn</li> <li>● Anthony van Dorp</li> <li>● Andy Garrick</li> <li>● Kate Thompson/Lynne Sands*</li> </ul>

\*Within the administration area a number of items are managed by other staff as indicated below:

Vehicles:	Matthew McDougall
Computers:	Matthew McDougall
Staff houses:	Kate Thompson
Equipment and boats:	Anthony van Dorp
Grounds:	Mark Sherburn

The staff listed above are responsible for co-ordinating activities and ensuring that projects are planned and implemented in accordance with the operational work plan.

**Financial delegations**

The delegated authority to commit staff and financial resources to limits specified in the annual operational work plan is provided to functional area managers on the premise that commitment of time and resources will achieve the outcomes required in the operational work plan. This applies at a project level only, and the approval is limited to transfers between projects that occur in the same project cluster e.g. access and signage. Budget allocations cannot be transferred between unrelated projects i.e. those that occur in different project clusters. Where regular routine expenditure occurs (e.g. purchase of fish food) functional area managers may delegate approval for these purchases.