

**Agenda for the Meeting of the
Otago Fish & Game Council to be held on 30th November 2017
At Otago Fish & Game Council office
Cnr Hanover and Harrow Streets Dunedin**

Commencing at

Please note: A Lunch will be provided at 11.45am

1 Present and Apologies	2
2 Declaration of Interest	2
3 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes	3
4 Matters arising from the minutes	11
5 Communications New Zealand Council	12
5.1 <i>Correspondence from NZC to Otago</i>	12
5.2 <i>Correspondence from Otago to NZC</i>	13
6 Health and Safety Report	14
7 Chief Executives Report	15
8 Committee Reports	30
8.1 <i>Clutha Fisheries Trust</i>	30
8.2 <i>NZC Meeting</i>	30
9 Staff and Technical Reports	31
9.1 <i>Long Term Planning for Recreational Amenity for Surface Water in the QLDC Region - N Paragreen</i>	31
9.2 <i>2018 Game Bird Season Regulations - C Halford</i>	34
9.3 <i>Otago Backcountry Fisheries Survey 2016/17 Season - H Trotter</i>	38
9.4 <i>Summary Of Sportfish and Gamebird Licence Sales for 2016/17 - I Hadland</i>	47
9.5 <i>Southern Reservoir – Take a Kid Fishing 2017 and Beginner Adult Fishing Classes 2017 - S Dixon</i>	54
10 Correspondence	63
10.1 <i>Letter from Wyndam Angling Club</i>	63
10.2 <i>Lisa Britts – Casting for Recovery</i>	64
11 General Business	65

1 Present and Apologies

2 Declaration of Interest

3 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes

**Minutes of Otago Fish and Game Council Meeting
Victoria Arms Tavern
19th October 2017
Commencing at 12.15 pm**

1.0 Present

Monty Wright (Chair), Adrian McIntyre, John Jillett, John Barlow, Dan Rae, David Witherow, Richard Twining, Murray Neilson, Ian Cole, Mike Turner, Vicky Whyte, and Alan Hammond.

In attendance: Niall Watson (CE) Ian Hadland (OM) John Roberts (DOC) – part meeting.

Apologies were received from Colin Weatherall and Rick Boyd.
Resolved (Cole/McIntyre)

That the apologies be received.

2.0 Declaration of Interests

There were no new declarations of interests.

3.0 Minutes

Resolved (Witherow/Jillett)

That the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of the meeting on the 17th August 2017 be confirmed as true and correct records subject to minor correction.

4.0 Matters Arising from Minutes.

Nil

5.0 Communications New Zealand Council

5.1 NZC Correspondence to Otago

5.1.1 National Budgets 2017/18

The memo outlining the budgets for 2017/18 was discussed. The CE noted Otago's approved budget was \$984,399, an increase of \$9,565 on the previous year. The increase was to come from Otago's general reserves because the reserves held were above the agreed level. Spreadsheets showing all national budgets and levies were tabled.

The importance of access to legal pool funding and extraordinary use of reserves for legal action over the transition from mining privileges to RMA consents was noted.

Dr Jillett said South Island Fish and Game Councils' levy contributions were continuing to increase as a proportion of overall national levy payments.

5.2 Correspondence from Otago to NZC

Nil

6.0 Health and Safety (H&S)

The OM reported on Council health and safety matters noting that an internal assessment of staff boating skills was being completed.

There were no incidents or accidents to report.

7.0 Chief Executive's Report

7.1 Administration

While expenditure for the year was over budget at the end of the financial year there were adjustments to be made for expenditure from dedicated funds including backcountry fisheries, habitat enhancement and approved extraordinary expenditure on RMA costs.

Income received overall was reported at 105% of budget. Fish licence income for the full year was 107% of budget while game licence income was 106% of budget.

It was noted that accounts preparation was underway for the annual audit.

Licence Sales

Final licence sales figures for the season are not yet available for either fish or game licences but both sales figures are well ahead of budget. Final licence sales figures will be included in the annual report

The interest rate return on the funds held in trust for wetland management was queried.

Capital purchases

Nothing to report

Land and buildings

Freshwater Research Centre – Dr Ella Lawton from ALREC joined the meeting and the report under item 9.6 was discussed. Dr Lawton explained the nature of organisations in the upper Clutha area including ALREC and Lake Wanaka Trust. She noted the proposed ALREC governance structure involved representatives of ALREC, University of Otago, Lake Wanaka Trust and Otago Fish and Game and

advised the group was happy with a 10 year lease without right of renewal for the initial phase of the research centre based on temporary buildings.

It was **agreed** that the momentum on the project needed to be maintained noting Fish and Game's interest in the freshwater research stream arising from the facility.

Location of temporary buildings on areas defined as lots 8 and 9 of the Hatchery property was seen as requiring discussion and agreement between ALREC and Fish and Game but the scale of development at about 400m² of building area was considered acceptable.

It was **agreed** a lease condition should be included covering the way the area is to be left at the end of the lease.

It was resolved (Jillett/Barlow)

That the Agreement for the Establishment of Governance Structures be signed subject to satisfactory legal advice.

That the CE be empowered to sign a lease for ALREC's use of land as described in the report to the October 2017 Council meeting, subject to satisfactory legal advice and after consultation with the hatchery working party noting the above points two points on location of buildings and how the land is to be left.

Other matters in the hatchery report relating to alignment of the walking track between Stone Street and the Alpha Series subdivision, the rate of progress on the springs area restoration, and the preparation of a covenant were noted.

Resolved (Rae/Whyte)

That the finance reports for the period ending 31 August 2017 be approved.

7.2 Species

Contact Energy – the CE advised that discussions were continuing with Contact Energy staff over the option of a salmon hatchery for the Clutha. Neil Gillespie and Daniel Druce had inspected the McKinnons Creek salmon hatchery, (near Rangitata mouth) last month and Mr Wright reported on a good meeting with them both at Macraes hatchery more recently.

7.3 Habitat

Consents

Kye Burn - see public excluded

Minimum Flows

The CE advised a number of minimum flow plan changes were in preparation for the Manuherikia, Cardrona and Arrow as well as Plan Change 1D dealing with arrangements for minimum and residual flows.

Lindis

The CE reported an Environment Court hearing is expected in the New Year.

River Management

Concern was expressed over channel works involving gravel works at Kelso Bridge. **Agreed** that the Council write and express concern to ORC over the works.

Reserves Management

Takitakitoa Wetlands

The OM reported that a planting day had been held at Takitakitoa with volunteer assistance from PGG Wrightsons and Ricoh staff as well as Fish and Game councillors and staff.

Habitat Enhancement Funding

The CE advised that Mr Trotter had reviewed approved but unspent HEF grants which presently totaled \$22,650. One grant for \$2000 for planting at Clutha Lagoon was conditional on agreement for a five metre setback from the water's edge but that could not be achieved.

Resolved (Barlow/Turner)

That the \$2000 grant towards planting at Clutha Lagoon be cancelled

Upper Clutha Boating

The CE advised that a meeting was being arranged with QLDC to discuss consents for commercial use of the water surface in sensitive locations such as the outlet reach of the Upper Clutha and the need for strategic planning to cover waterway recreation and commercial use. He noted the QLDC and ORC speed limit bylaws were open for submissions and that Fish and Game submissions were in preparation.

The OM said he had met with NZJBA representatives recently and his report with proposals from them for speed limit changes (item 9.3) was discussed. Individual uplifts **agreed** as follows:

Kawarau River (Roaring Meg to Nevis Bluff) uplifted for two weekends PA: **supported**

Hawea River uplifted for two weekends PA avoiding peak use at flows >30 cumecs: **supported.**

Upper Shotover (Skippers Bridge to Branches) uplift for last weekend in October and 1st weekend in November – NZJBA members only. The November date was queried.

After discussion it was **agreed** second weekend of November was better as it avoids opening weekend of angling season .

Clutha (outlet to first rapid) Uplift proposed by QLDC: **opposed**

Clutha (Albert Town Bridge to QLDC boundary) Uplift proposed all year round in line with the rest of the Upper Clutha. This matter was considered contentious downriver to the Hawea River confluence because of passive recreation below Albert Town Bridge. There was a view a further boat ramp was required downstream of the

bridge: **agreed** that the status quo be maintained until a recreational review of the river below Albert Town Bridge

Manuherikia. Uplift in August and September above certain flows say 7 cumecs. It was **agreed** that the threshold flow should be 10 cumecs and that initial events should be monitored to assess impact on the stream bed.

Taieri (Pukerangi to Hyde) Uplift proposed August/September above designated flows: **supported at flows >20 cumecs**

Taieri (Hyde to Cogans Bridge) Uplift proposed August/September above designated flow: **opposed because of disturbance to breeding wildlife and because of soft nature of the river banks**

Taieri (Outram to Henley Ferry Bridge) Uplift proposed for two weekends PA above designated flows: **supported at flows >30 cumecs in July and August**

7.4 User Participation

No discussion

7.5 Public Interface

No discussion

7.6 Compliance

No discussion

7.7 Licencing

No discussion

7.8 Council

No discussion

7.9 Planning and Reporting

No discussion

8.0 Committee Reports

8.1 Clutha Fisheries Trust

Mr Cole addressed the meeting noting that the Trust had been continuing work on environmental flows:

- Lindis River
- Completion of Kane Road access
- Long Gully (Lake Dunstan tributary)
- Cardrona

The next trust meeting is on 17th November

8.2 New Zealand Council

Dr Jillett reported on business from the last meeting which included:

- Advice that Martin Taylor would take over as the NZ Council chief executive on 30th October
- Matthew Hall reported back on the classification of financial reserves policy which he said was not intended as a threat to the autonomy of regional councils.
- A South Island salmon symposium was scheduled for November 11/12 this year in Ashburton.
- Approval of legal pool fund applications for Ngararoro WCO (\$170K) Horizons One Plan (\$30K)
- The guides licence was identified as an urgent priority

Progress with the guides licence was discussed with varying viewpoints on how it fitted in to the overall management of angling pressure particularly pressure from non residents.

Council **agreed** that ministerial approval for supporting regulations implementing the guides licence was vitally important.

9.0 Technical Reports

9.1 Backcountry compliance ranging and angler satisfaction survey – van Klink

The report was discussed and Mr Witherow proposed a regime change for waters popular with non residents and expressed frustration with current trends of increasing use by them.

Resolved (Rae/Jillett)

That the report be received and the proposed future work noted

9.2 Shoveler Trend Counts – Trotter

Resolved (Hammond/McIntyre)

That the report be received

9.3 Navigational Safety Bylaws - Hadland

Discussed above

9.4 Compliance Summary Report

Resolved (Jillett/Whyte)

That the report be received and that rangers be thanked for their efforts over the last year.

9.5 HEF Application Limerick Dairy Farm

The report was discussed along with the scale of the development. While the size of the open water area was not large it was eventually **agreed** that the grant should be approved and that planting would enhance habitat values.

Resolved (Witherow/Hammond)

That a grant of \$1000 be approved

9.6 HEF Bullock Creek Wetland

Resolved (Rae/Whyte)

That the grant of \$5000 be approved

9.7 Wanaka Hatchery

Discussed above

9.8 2017 Anglers Notice Review

The report was discussed and it was **agreed** that the issues, options and recommendations be discussed together. Mr McIntyre expressed concern that some media reported on the review in advance of the meeting.

It was eventually resolved (Whyte/Cole)

That all recommendations be accepted

10.0 Correspondence

10.1 Wanaka Gun Club – letter of thanks for grant -

Received

10.2 Contact Energy – Advice that Hawea power generation project is not proceeding - Received

10.3 Kiwianglersfirst – David Linklater’s letter was discussed at some length along with the 4 step hierarchy: resource, resident anglers, NZ guides and, non-residents. The CE explained that the first two steps aligned well with existing Fish and Game policy but that there were difficulties separating guiding from non resident use in the lower order priorities and that both groups would need to be accommodated.

Agreed the letter be received.

There was a call for more intensive management of waters popular with non residents and it was noted that crowding was not confined to angling alone but included other activities including tramping and camping.

10.4 Gore and District Angling Society – Letter concerning crowding of fisheries due to non resident pressure - Received

11.0 General Business

11.1 to 11.3

Resolved (Rae/Jillett)

That the meeting go into public excluded session

see confidential minutes

Resolved (Rae/Jillett)

That the meeting come out of public excluded session

11.4 Guides Licence

Mr Cole reiterated the importance of successfully implementing the guides licence and asked that necessary resourcing be made available.

The meeting closed at 5.30pm

4 Matters arising from the minutes

5 Communications New Zealand Council

5.1 Correspondence from NZC to Otago

5.1.1 Nil

5.2 Correspondence from Otago to NZC

5.2.1 National Policy on Financial Policy Changes



8 November 2017

Lindsay Lyons
Chair
New Zealand Fish and Game Council
Po Box 13-141
WELLINGTON

Dear Lindsay

National Policy on Financial Policy Changes

This is a response to the consultation round on National Financial Policy as outlined in Alison Lyall's memo of July 2017.

Policy 2.7.6 - This policy is a refined version of the existing policy with the addition of an obligation on Councils to include allocations to and from reserves in the budget round. It was developed before decisions establishing new categories of dedicated reserves such as reparation reserves and non resident licence surcharge reserves so it needs to be updated.

Where reserves are dedicated to a specific purpose and funded from an agreed source there is no need to require an actual approval within the budget round especially as decisions on expenditure (eg habitat improvement grants for wetland development) can happen progressively during the year or may need to be made in response to events. These funding decisions should be treated in the same way as Asset Replacement Funds as being the preserve of the individual Council holding the reserve. In these cases advice on likely expenditure during a budget round is the most that is required.

These exclusions should apply to the following reserves:

- ARF Reserves
- Historic Reserves
- Reparation Reserves
- Building Reserves
- 'Backcountry' Reserves

However reserves which are pool funds held nationally such as the Legal Pool Fund or the Research Fund do need to be subject to an approvals process because they serve a collective need.

Policy 2.7.7 – This policy excludes ARF expenditure from Policy 2.7.6. Other exclusions for expenditure from dedicated reserves should also be considered here where sources of revenue have already been the subject of national decisions and purposes of reserves are defined.

Statutory managers of freshwater sports fish, game birds and their habitats

Otago Fish and Game Council

Cnr Hanover & Harrow Sts, PO Box 76, Dunedin 9054, New Zealand. Telephone (03) 477 9076

6 Health and Safety Report

7 Chief Executives Report

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2017

7.1 ADMINISTRATION

Finance and Administration

Financial Reports to 31 August 2017

The finance report for the period from 1 September 2017 to 31 October 2017 is attached.

Key budget figures are included in the front of the Annual Work Plan

Expenditure to date is \$204,028 (including levies \$nil and commission \$14,467 but excluding depreciation (\$13,052) compared with the annual budget of \$1,955,764 (operational expenditure: \$984,399, depreciation: nil, and levies: \$918,122 and excluding commission: \$99,630). Expenditure represents 10% of budget at a point 16.7% through the financial year

Total income to date is \$376,828 compared with budget of \$2,074,287 or 18% of budget.

Fishing licence sales revenue received for the year to 31 October 2017 is \$346,657 (including commission). The fish budget figures for the full year is \$1,670,050 including commission.

Game licence sales revenue received for the year to 31 October 2017 is \$nil (including commission). The year's budget for game licence sales is \$322,536 including commission.

Budget and expenditure figures are exclusive of GST

Licence Sales to 13 November 2017

Sales recorded to 13 November are outlined for fish and game licences in the attached table from Eyede and compared with last year on the same date. Figures are inclusive of GST. Fishing licence sales for the season so far in whole season licence equivalents (LEQs) are 8570 LEQs compare with 8546 for the same period last year.

Funds Position at 31 October 2017

ANZ 00 account	\$157,943.61
ANZ 70 account	\$403,663.98

Reparation Trust Account

Account balance to 31 August 2017	\$ 44,333
Revenue for year to 31 October 2017	\$ 2,100
Less grants to 31 October 2017	\$ <u>1,500</u>
Total	\$ 43,933

There is presently a commitment in grants approved but not spent of approximately \$21,000

Otago Fish & Game Council Meeting - Thursday 30th November 2017

Backcountry Management

Account balance to 31 August 2017 \$70,468

Term investments as at 31 October 2017:

ASB 0079	\$325,456.46 @ 3.60% maturing January 2018
SBS 44624	\$486,209.07 @ 3.70% maturing January 2018

The sum of \$77,745 is held by Anderson Lloyd in trust for wetland management via DOC.

Agents and Debts

One agent has requested temporary relief for one of its Licencing invoices. Payment should be made in full by the end of December.

Capital Expenditure

The Council recently bought a drone and also continues to look at a cost effective option for flow gauging on small streams.

Staff and Health and Safety

A minor incident with a volunteer during the fish salvage operation has been investigated, reviewed and mitigation applied.

H&S folders have been assembled for F&G vehicles so that policy, accident and incident forms and contact lists are readily available to staff if any H&S issues arise.

*Land and Buildings***Freshwater Research Centre Wanaka**

ALREC is understood to be preparing a draft lease for their temporary facilities for our consideration

Dunedin Office

The replacement of ceiling tiles and insulation at Dunedin office is continuing but is not yet complete.

Recommendation

That the Finance and Licence Sales Report for the period ending 31 October 2017 be received.

7.2 SPECIES**Waterfowl Monitoring (1111)**

Nothing to report

Spawning Surveys (1112)

Nothing to report

Population Monitoring:

Nothing to report

Success & Satisfaction (1122)

One period of Backcountry Fishery surveying and compliance has been completed in the Hunter. See separate report on Backcountry fishery effort

Fish Salvage (1131)

Fish salvage operations have been undertaken at Quartz Creek. Around 250 trout were captured (with assistance of Upper Clutha Angling Club members) and returned to the lake

Hatchery Operations

Following liberations, 0+ and 1+ rainbow trout have been divided up to allow for summer growth. The hatching and rearing has gone very well over the spring.

Releases (1161)

Releases to the schedule of approved waters are now complete. Additional 'takable' sized rainbow trout have been released into Lake Tewa ahead of a take a kid fishing event.

Game Notice (1171)

See separate report

Anglers Notice (1172)

Media releases were generated and distributed to highlight the proposed areas for AN review. Public meetings, in association with angling clubs, have been arranged for early December and early February

Game Bird Control (1181)

Nothing to report.

7.3 HABITAT**Resource Management (1211)****Resource Management Complaints 2014/15**

Date/Agency	Issue	Response
January 2017	A complaint was lodged with ORC by a third party about stream channel works in Camerons Creek outside Wanaka	ORC prosecution was successful. Sentencing pending

Resource Consents

There have been further positive discussions with Contact Energy about lower Clutha salmon fisheries mitigation options involving a Clutha catchment hatchery. Contact staff have visited the McKinnon's Creek salmon hatchery and Macraes Hatchery and we are awaiting a further response from them.

Upper Clutha Boating

See separate report

Planning (1212)

Manuherikia Catchment Water Strategy Group

Nothing to report

Minimum and Residual Flow Setting

Manuherikia Minimum Flow – Plan Change 5C

Nothing further to report since ORC released responses to the second round of feedback on Manuherikia minimum flow options for the river.

Kye Burn Residual Flows

Otago Fish and Game's appeal over ORC's decision on Kye Burn went to Environment Court mediation on Friday 20th October. Discussions are continuing directly with Kyeburn Catchment Limited in an effort to resolve differences.

MALF has been recalculated at 490 l/s so residual flows of 160 and 180 l/s in the mainstem are 33% and 37% MALF respectively

CE to Report

Lindis Minimum Flow Plan Change

Environment Court mediation concluded in July without resolution. There was agreement that Lindis Catchment Group's consents should be lodged and referred directly to the Environment Court to be heard in conjunction with the minimum flow. Those consents are about to be publicly notified with submissions closing in December

Minimum and Residual Flows and Transition from Mining Privileges (TMP)		
River	Activity and status	Status
Lindis	Minimum flow & transition from mining privileges (TMP). Overallocated MALF 1860 1750 l/s	ORC decision on Water Plan Change 5A set a summer minimum of 900 l/s. Decision appealed and went to mediation on 8/9 December 2016 in Cromwell and was concluded in early July 2017 without resolution. An Environment Court hearing is scheduled for the New Year. Lindis Catchment Group consents are to be heard concurrently with the minimum flow appeal
Cardrona	Minimum Flow & TMP Overallocated	ORC are actively working on drawing together known information on the Cardrona. ORC advise there is likely to be a community report back in the first quarter of 2018.
Waikouaiti	Minimum Flow Fully allocated MALF 258 l/s	F&G supported a minimum flow of 220 l/s proposed through community consultation. Further action on the minimum flow has been deferred pending more research by ORC on matters including estuary health.

<p>Pomahaka (Concluded)</p>	<p>Minimum flow MALF 4300 l/s</p> <p>Min Flow 3600l/s (84% MALF)</p>	<p>Plan change complete, setting minimum flows of 3600 l/s (summer) 7000 l/s (winter), primary allocation limit of 1000 l/s, and a supplementary allocation minimum flow of 13,000 l/s.</p>
<p>Waiwera (Concluded)</p>	<p>Minimum flow MALF 310 l/s</p> <p>Min Flow 280 l/s (90% MALF)</p>	<p>Plan change complete, setting minimum flows of 280 l/s (summer)..</p>
<p>Manuherikia</p>	<p>Minimum flow Irrigation scheme investigation.</p> <p>MALF Ophir 3,200 l/s (± 800)</p> <p>MALF Campground 3,900 l/s (± 600)</p> <p>Overallocated</p>	<p>The Manuherikia Catchment Water Strategy Group process has been completed and a new water company has been established looking at proposals focused on raising the level of Falls Dam.</p> <p>The Manuherikia catchment has over 220 mining privileges (or deemed permits) in place. The present minimum flow at Ophir at 820 l/s is considered inadequate and ORC are planning to set a minimum flow for the lower river at the Alexandra Campground and possibly elsewhere in the catchment.</p> <p>A minimum flow plan change for the Manuherikia River has started with community consultation but a minimum flow figures have still to be formally notified.</p>
<p>Benger Burn</p>	<p>Minimum flow &TMP. Overallocated</p>	<p>Further action by ORC has been deferred pending more research on water resources and aquifer/surface water interaction.</p>
<p>Sow Burn (Concluded)</p>	<p>TMP</p> <p>Overallocated</p> <p>Residual flow of 70 l/s + off-site mitigation</p>	<p>The Sowburn all-of-catchment consent has been granted by ORC.</p> <p>The residual flow requirement is 70 l/s on a stream that is considered to be ephemeral in nature in the middle reaches.</p> <p>Off-site mitigation conditions include a protective covenant over a large area of the Maniototo wetlands</p>

Kye Burn	TMP Overallocated MALF 490 l/s	A consent application was heard in June 2017 and a ORC decision setting a mainstem residual flows of 180 l/s reducing to 160 l/s at the lowest take point on the river. The decision has been appealed to the Environment Court and went to mediation on 20 th October. Discussions are continuing in an effort to resolve differences F&G position is that a mainstem environmental flow between 200-300 l/s is required.
Low Burn	Minimum flow TMP Overallocated	Catchment group meeting held early 2017
Bannock Burn	Minimum flow TMP Overallocated	Catchment group meeting held late 2016
Arrow River	TMP Overallocated	Community consultation is underway
Quartz Creek	TMP Overallocated	Reports on fishery values have been completed. Some discussion with landholder
Tuapeka River	ORC Management Flow Report MALF 314 l/s	No action
Upper Clutha		Community consultation is underway
12 Mile Creek (Wakatipu)	ORC Management Flow Report	Stream survey work is being undertaken
Fern Burn	Overallocated	Status of flows and takes needs to be investigated. Spawning surveys have been undertaken by Upper Clutha Anglers.
Coal Creek	TMP	Catchment group meeting held May 2017

CE to Report

Transition from Mining Privileges (MPs) to RMA Consents.

A number of smaller applications to transition from mining privileges to RMA consents have been dealt with and there are several under consideration.

Reserves Management (1221)

Otago Fish & Game Council Meeting - Thursday 30th November 2017

Wetland Protection (1232)

Concerns over wetland management issues at Lake Tuakitoto and Clutha River Mouth Lagoon have been the subject of meetings with ORC

CE to report

Assisted Habitat (1230)

See separate HEF reports.

River Management (1233)

Morgan Trotter recently joined the ORC on an aerial flight to look specifically at river control works in the North Otago area.

7.4 USER PARTICIPATION**Access (1311)**

Two confidential OIO applications in the Central Otago have now been inspected and will be reported on shortly. It is unknown how either of these may be affected by the new Government's proposed stance on overseas investment. Both have significant wetland frontages and opportunities to enhance access for hunters and anglers.

Signage (1312)

Nothing to report

Backcountry Fisheries (1321)

A survey commissioned to assess expert angler opinion of trends in the Upper Pomahaka fishery is nearing completion

Magazine Supplements and Newsletters (1331)

An e-newsletter was distributed

Reel Life/Both Barrels

Monthly contributions to online newsletters are continuing

Newspaper Supplements (1332)

Nothing to report.

Publications (1342)

Nothing to report.

Web Site (1343)

The web site has been upgraded nationally and feedback is being given on its look and functionality. Please advise if you spot any problems.

Fishing and Hunting Events (1351)

Staff have attended several fishing competitions.

Take-a-kid-fishing (1352)

Successful take a kid fishing events have been held in Dunedin with support from Councillors and volunteers.

See separate report.

Club Liaison (1361)

Nothing to report

Commercial Use (1362)

Helen Trotter prepared a paper to support the revamped proposal for the guides licence being developed by NZC. The matter is on the agenda for the next NZC meeting and representatives of the NZPFGA are going to attend in support

7.5 PUBLIC INTERFACE

Liaison (1411)

Meetings have been held with the ORC Chair and senior staff on matters including management of regional wetlands, transition from mining privileges, water quality issues and minimum flows.

Staff attended an ORC Biodiversity workshop and community consultation sessions on minimum flows.

Media (1431)

There has been very good media coverage over the first part of the angling season and good coverage locally about minimum flow and mining right renewal issues.

Advocacy (1432)

Nothing to report

Tenure Reviews (1433)

Nothing to report

7.6 COMPLIANCE

Ranging (1511)

Nothing to report

Ranger Support (1520)

By the time of the meeting the annual ranger training weekend will have been completed. Otago Rangers are meeting Southland staff and rangers in the Catlins for a joint training session.

Prosecutions (1530)

One case has been referred to the lawyers for prosecution (caught for a second time FWL) otherwise it has been a quiet period for offences

7.7 LICENCING

Licensing System (1611)

The Eyede Licensing system continues to operate well. The OM, as part of the Licence Working Party is involved in negotiations for a contract renewal with Eyede Ltd.

Agents (1612)

One licence agency (Owaka) has changed hands recently and the Administration Officer is talking to the new owners who are keen to carry on the small but regionally important service.

7.8 COUNCIL

Council (1720)

The Council's AGM is to be held at 3.00pm and the audited Annual Report will be available at the meeting the order of business is:

- Welcome and apologies
- Chairs presentation of the Annual Report for the year ending 31/8/2017
- Questions from the floor

7.9 PLANNING AND REPORTING

Strategic Planning (1811)

Nothing to report

Annual Planning (1821)

Nothing to report

Annual Report (1831)

The audit has been completed and receipt of the audited accounts is anticipated in the very near future

National Liaison (1841)

The NZC's new CE has been invited to Otago Council's February Planning meeting but he has a prior engagement. An alternative date is being sought.

Niall Watson
Chief Executive
November 2017

Summary of Draft Profit and Loss Statement Expenses 31st October 2017
As At 22/11/17

Expense	Total Budget	Actual Expenditure	YtD %	Comment
		Ytd		
<u>Projects</u>				
Species	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 365.00	1%	
Habitat	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 33,405.00	418%	Includes expenditure to be reimbursed \$18109 and donations \$4168
Participation	\$ 16,500.00	\$ 4,904.00	30%	
Public Interface	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 216.00	22%	
Compliance	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 300.00	3%	
Licences	\$ 500.00	\$ 25.00	5%	
NZC Levies	\$ 918,122.00	\$ -	0%	
Agent Commission		\$ 14,467.00		
Council	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 1,847.00	12%	
Planning	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 3,803.00	29%	
Projects Total	\$ 1,009,122.00	\$ 59,332.00	6%	
<u>Administration</u>				
Salaries	\$ 757,913.00	\$ 112,957.00	15%	
Staff Expenses	\$ 15,564.00	\$ 1,850.00	12%	
Office Premises	\$ 82,504.00	\$ 15,366.00	19%	
Office Equipment	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 25.00	1%	
Communication	\$ 25,100.00	\$ 2,926.00	12%	
General	\$ 6,561.00	\$ 1,795.00	27%	
General Equipment	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 85.00	2%	
Depreciation		\$ 13,052.00		
Vehicles	\$ 49,500.00	\$ 9,691.00	20%	
Administration Total	\$ 943,142.00	\$ 157,747.00	17%	
Total	\$ 1,952,264.00	\$ 217,079.00	11%	

Summary of Position 31st October 2017

Total Expenditure		\$ 217,079.00
Less Depreciation		13052.00
Less Levies	\$ 918,122.00	\$ -
Less Commission		\$ 14,467.00
Less RMA Reimbursed		\$ 18,109.00
Net Expenditure		\$ 171,451.00
Budget		\$ 974,834.00
% Spent		18%

Summary of Profit and Loss Statement Income 31st October 2017

As At 22/11/17

Income	Total Budget	Actual Income	YtD %	Comment
		Ytd		
Fish	\$ 1,670,050.00	\$ 346,657.00	21%	
Game	\$ 322,536.00	\$ -	0%	
Prosecutions	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 225.00	5%	
Rent	\$ 43,100.00	\$ 8,382.00	19%	
Interest	\$ 33,601.00	\$ 214.00	1%	
Grants Donations	\$ -	\$ 4,168.00		
	\$ 2,074,287.00	\$ 359,646.00	17%	

Otago Fish & Game Council

Balance Sheet

As at 31 October 2017

CAPITAL	This Year	Last Year End
Anderson Lloyd Investment	(77,745.39)	(77,745.39)
Opening Equity	1,039,201.00	1,039,201.00
Retained Earnings Brght Fwd	<u>1,671,288.48</u>	<u>1,519,497.04</u>
	2,632,744.09	2,480,952.65
Plus Current Year Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	159,748.31	151,791.44
TOTAL CAPITAL FUNDS	<u><u>2,792,492.40</u></u>	<u><u>2,632,744.09</u></u>
REPRESENTED BY		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash on Hand	200.00	200.00
Stock on Hand	18,111.00	18,111.00
Accrued Interest	5,957.15	5,957.15
Prepayments	25,078.97	25,078.97
ASB Investments	325,456.46	325,456.46
SBS Investments	486,209.07	486,209.07
Trade Debtors	293,066.25	163,031.90
ASB 00 Account	10.98	10.98
National/ANZ 00 Account	157,875.21	120,842.51
National/ANZ 70 Account	403,663.98	397,122.48
SBS Account	24.66	24.66
Unbanked	<u>108.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	1,715,761.73	1,542,045.18
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Sundry Creditors	22,688.31	22,688.31
Holiday Pay Accrued	43,091.12	43,091.12
PAYE Control	46.04	3,418.25
GST Received	0.00	61.04
GST Payments/Refunds IRD	42,748.94	0.00
Funds received in Advance	191,877.47	191,877.47
Trade Creditors	<u>53,666.88</u>	<u>92,066.33</u>
	354,118.76	353,202.52
NET WORKING CAPITAL	1,361,642.97	1,188,842.66
FIXED ASSETS		
Vehicles Purchases	281,931.54	281,931.54
M/V Accum Deprn	(138,295.71)	(130,695.71)
Boat Purchases	100,497.93	100,497.93
Boat Accum Deprn	(83,239.81)	(82,479.81)
Plant Purchases	72,806.18	72,806.18
Plant Accum Deprn	(63,047.07)	(61,699.07)
Furniture & Fittings	34,347.94	34,347.94
Furniture Accum Deprn	(29,462.45)	(29,222.45)
Field Equipment Purchases	34,610.96	34,610.96
Field Eq Accum Deprn	(26,981.82)	(26,901.82)
Land Purchases	414,410.77	414,410.77
Buildings Purchases	642,892.49	642,892.49
Buildings Accum Deprn	(341,938.24)	(339,574.24)
Land @ Fair Value	426,260.00	426,260.00
Building @ Fair Value	162,085.11	162,085.11
Buildings @ FV - Accum Deprn	<u>(56,028.39)</u>	<u>(55,368.39)</u>
	1,430,849.43	1,443,901.43
NET ASSETS	<u><u>2,792,492.40</u></u>	<u><u>2,632,744.09</u></u>

**Otago Fish & Game Council
Profit and Loss - Summary
for Period Ended Oct:2017/18**

	Month to Date			Year to Date			Annual Budget	YTD Actual Budget	Last YTD	
	Actual	Budget	% of Budget	Actual	Budget	Variance				
INCOME										
FISH AND GAME LICENCE SA...										
1000	Fishing Licences Dn Agency	(399)	0	0%	(1,070)	0	(1,070)	0	0%	177,596
1002	Fishing Licences Income	346,657	139,171	249%	346,657	278,342	68,315	1,670,050	21%	361,138
1006	Game Licences Income	0	26,878	0%	0	53,756	(53,756)	322,536	0%	0
		346,258	166,049	209%	345,587	332,098	13,489	1,992,586	17%	538,734
OTHER INCOME										
1010	Interest received	116	2,800	4%	214	5,601	(5,387)	33,601	1%	(5,141)
1020	Fines - Fishing & Game Offences	135	417	32%	225	834	(609)	5,000	5%	607
1022	Reparations Trust Fund	500	0	0%	(100)	0	(100)	0	0%	(4,479)
1025	Rent Received	5,617	3,592	156%	8,382	7,184	1,198	43,100	19%	6,774
1065	Fishing Competitions	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	70
1075	Commissions Income	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	290
1090	Sundry Income	4	0	0%	5	0	5	0	0%	0
1092	Merchandise Sales/Other	114	0	0%	237	0	237	0	0%	(6,813)
1094	Donations and Grants Received	4,168	0	0%	4,168	0	4,168	0	0%	1,500
1096	RMA Costs Reimbursed	16,209	0	0%	18,109	0	18,109	0	0%	0
		26,863	6,809	395%	31,241	13,619	17,622	81,701	38%	(7,191)
	TOTAL INCOME	373,121	172,858		376,828	345,717	31,111	2,074,287		531,543
EXPENDITURE										
SPECIES MANAGEMENT										
	POPULATION MONITOR / MMT	78	1,000	8%	78	2,000	(1,922)	12,000	1%	0
	HARVEST ASSESSMENT	0	250	0%	0	500	(500)	3,000	0%	0
	FISH SALVAGE	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
	HATCHERY OPERATIONS	131	834	16%	287	1,668	(1,381)	10,000	3%	4,341
	RELEASES	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	25
	REGULATIONS	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
	CONTROL	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
	SPECIES MANAGEMENT-...	210	2,084	10%	365	4,168	(3,803)	25,000	1%	4,366
HABITAT PROTECTION										
	RESOURCE MANAGEMENT A...	16,576	376	4,409%	18,477	752	17,725	4,500	411%	5,339
	WORKS & MMT COUNCIL LAND	11,815	292	4,046%	14,928	584	14,344	3,500	427%	4,131
	ASSISTED HABITAT	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
	HABITAT PROTECTION-T...	28,392	668	4,250%	33,405	1,336	32,069	8,000	418%	9,469
PARTICIPATION										
	ACCESS	0	250	0%	0	500	(500)	3,000	0%	50
	SATISFACTION SURVEYS	287	0	0%	287	0	287	0	0%	298
	NEWSLETTERS	349	375	93%	1,849	750	1,099	4,500	41%	13,911
	OTHER PUBLICATIONS	60	84	71%	60	168	(108)	1,000	6%	0
	TRAINING	1,126	334	337%	2,635	668	1,967	4,000	66%	919
	CLUB RELATIONS	24	334	7%	74	668	(594)	4,000	2%	0
	HUTS	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
	PARTICIPATION-TOTAL	1,846	1,377	134%	4,904	2,754	2,150	16,500	30%	15,178

**Otago Fish & Game Council
Profit and Loss - Summary
for Period Ended Oct:2017/18**

	-----Month to Date-----			-----Year to Date-----			Annual Budget	% of Budget	
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance			
PUBLIC INTERFACE									
LIAISON	7	0	0%	7	0	7	0	0%	0
COMMUNICATIONS	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
ADVOCACY	209	84	248%	209	168	41	1,000	21%	0
PUBLIC INTERFACE-TOTAL	216	84	257%	216	168	48	1,000	22%	0
COMPLIANCE									
RANGER ADMIN	0	209	0%	0	418	(418)	2,500	0%	37
RANGER TRAINING	31	375	8%	300	750	(450)	4,500	7%	824
COMPLIANCE	0	417	0%	0	834	(834)	5,000	0%	2,286
COMPLIANCE-TOTAL	31	1,001	3%	300	2,002	(1,702)	12,000	3%	3,147
LICENCES									
LICENCE PRODUCT/DISTN	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
AGENT SERVICING	25	42	60%	25	84	(59)	500	5%	0
COMMISSION	14,454	0	0%	14,467	0	14,467	0	0%	15,249
NZFG LEVIES	0	76,511	0%	0	153,022	(153,022)	918,122	0%	209,934
LICENSES-TOTAL	14,479	76,553	19%	14,492	153,106	(138,614)	918,622	2%	225,183
COUNCIL									
COUNCIL ELECTIONS	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
COUNCIL MEETINGS	832	1,250	67%	1,847	2,500	(653)	15,000	12%	1,960
COUNCIL-TOTAL	832	1,250	67%	1,847	2,500	(653)	15,000	12%	1,960
PLANNING / REPORTING									
MMT/STRATEGIC PLANNING	490	0	0%	556	0	556	0	0%	541
REPORTING/AUDIT	3,247	1,084	300%	3,247	2,168	1,079	13,000	25%	(5,985)
NATIONAL LIAISON	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	208
PLAN/REPORT-TOTAL	3,737	1,084	345%	3,803	2,168	1,635	13,000	29%	(5,236)
ADMINISTRATION									
SALARIES	55,960	63,452	88%	112,957	126,904	(13,947)	761,413	15%	49,790
STAFF EXPENSES	1,019	1,299	78%	1,850	2,598	(748)	15,564	12%	2,055
STAFF HOUSES	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
OFFICE PREMISES	9,450	6,878	137%	15,366	13,756	1,610	82,504	19%	16,774
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	13	209	6%	25	418	(393)	2,500	1%	1,630
COMMUNICATIONS	1,057	2,093	50%	2,926	4,186	(1,260)	25,100	12%	2,188
GENERAL	377	548	69%	1,795	1,096	699	6,561	27%	2,228
GENERAL EQUIPMENT	85	209	41%	85	1,418	(1,333)	3,500	2%	157
VEHICLES	4,821	4,126	117%	9,691	8,252	1,439	49,500	20%	9,839
ADMINISTRATION - TOTAL	72,782	78,814	92%	144,696	158,628	(13,932)	946,642	15%	84,660
DEPRECIATION	6,526	0	0%	13,052	0	13,052	0	0%	13,052
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	129,050	162,915	79%	217,080	326,830	(109,750)	1,955,764	11%	351,780
Profit (Loss)	244,071	9,943		159,748	18,887	140,861	118,523		179,763

Otago Sales YTD to 13 November 2017														
Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWJ	FWNJ	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDJ	Total Fish	Fish LEQ	Fish Var
Otago	1,828	2,308	117	452	127	229	3	6	35	812	43	5,960		
Agency Online	985	1,128	266	197	107	110	6	1	24	473	7	3,304		
Public Online	8	1	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	18		
Eyede Call Centre	2821	3437	383	657	234	339	9	7	59	1286	50	9282	8546	
2016-2017 Total														
	1,737	2,364	127	494	111	302	4	5	40	604	34	5,822		
Agency Online	1,045	1,101	251	196	103	140	8	5	30	714	24	3,617		
Public Online	8	4	2	6	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	24		
Eyede Call Centre	2790	3469	380	696	214	443	12	10	72	1319	58	9463	8570	0.3%
2017-2018 Total														

FWF (Family), FWA (Adult), FWNZ (Non Resident), FSLA (Senior Loyal), FLAA (Local Area), FWJ (Junior), FWNJ (Junior Non resident), FLBA (Long Break), FSBA (Short Break), FDA (Adult Day), FDJ (Junior Day)

8 Committee Reports

8.1 Clutha Fisheries Trust

8.2 NZC Meeting

9 Staff and Technical Reports

9.1 Long Term Planning for Recreational Amenity for Surface Water in the QLDC Region - N Paragreen

COUNCIL REPORT NOVEMBER 2017

Report on Long Term Planning for Recreational Amenity for Surface Water in the QLDC Region

Recent consent applications for commercial activities on the surface of lakes and rivers in the Queenstown Regional District Council (QLDC) area have drawn staff attention to the mechanisms used to assess cumulative effects of activities on recreational amenity. In recent years, the QLDC region has experienced significant growth in many areas, including demand for recreational opportunities. The act of partaking in recreation, such as angling, boating or swimming, can have effects on surrounding recreation opportunities; however, there are limits to the physical space available to provide for recreation. Initial consultation with members of the angling community, and discussion with stakeholders representing the wider community, suggests that there are compatibility issues between different classes of surface water users. Demand for surface water recreation in the region is likely to continue to grow and as it does, it is reasonable to expect conflict to develop or intensify and the recreational amenity for individual surface water users may diminish.

The QLDC has delegated powers to manage the impacts of surface water recreation and it does so through two planning tools: the District Plan and the Navigation Safety Bylaw. The District Plan, which is currently in a review process, sets out restrictions on high impact recreation activities, performance standards for certain equipment, matters of discretion when considering consents to undertake commercial surface water activities and general objectives for recreation across the region. The Navigation Safety Bylaw refers only to the issue of safety and sets in place provisions to ensure the risk to water users is minimised; however, it also sets out speed upliftings in the region.

Broadly speaking, the aim of these planning tools is to:

*Enable people to have access to a wide range of recreational experiences on the lakes and rivers, based on the identified characteristics and environmental limits of the various parts of each lake and river - **Policy 21.2.12.2, Proposed District Plan***

There is little guidance at present as to how the characteristics and environmental limits of lakes and rivers will be addressed in assessing the cumulative impact of speed uplifting and commercial consent decisions. It is a concern that QLDC had been relying on applicants for consents to provide information on the cumulative effects of currently consented commercial surface water activities and has few tracking mechanisms of its own at present.

The Upper Clutha Angling Club and Fish and Game formally raised these issues with the QLDC and met with QLDC staff on the 1st of November 2017 to discuss the issue in further

detail with the aim of identifying solutions which could be implemented before conflict between water users became too great. Surprisingly, the QLDC advised that this was the first time community stakeholders had raised this issue formally.

Within the meeting, QLDC staff provided the following advice:

1. Information was provided on the currently consented commercial jet boating activities on the upper Clutha and Lake Wanaka water bodies. Similar information on the currently consented commercial surface water activities across the region for both powered and un-powered vessels was also promised to be provided for future reference. If possible, this would be accompanied by GIS outputs to summarise the data.
2. QLDC staff confirmed the Council did rely on applicants to provide information on currently consented commercial surface water activities and this is checked manually against records of consents granted in the area.
3. No specific mechanisms or tools were used to assess cumulative effects of commercial surface water use applications. The consenting officer would decide on a case by case basis if the application brought the cumulative effect over environmental or community expectation thresholds, taking into account the previous consent decisions in the area and guidance from the District Plan.
4. It would be impractical to implement a plan change as the proposed District Plan chapter referring to these issues had been settled within the last two years and no parties, including Fish and Game, raised these concerns.
5. Development of a long term strategy for managing surface water recreation, which would specifically outline the characteristics and environmental limits of surface water bodies in relation to recreation amenity, was proposed by Fish and Game and all parties agreed that it could be useful if implemented as a non-statutory QLDC document to provide guidance for future District Plan and Navigation Safety Bylaw changes. However, QLDC staff thought resources were not available for this workload presently.
6. Additional political and community pressure would be required if action by the QLDC is desired, so as to demonstrate that this is an issue within the community.

Point 3 highlights the need to specifically identify limits for commercial surface water activities. Without a specific understanding of the characteristics and the environmental limits of water bodies, as well as the community's preferences for recreation activities in each location, assessments on cumulative effects across the region will be ad hoc by nature. It is well established that assessing cumulative effects on a case by case basis increases the risk of cumulative effects exceeding environmental or community expectation thresholds.

From the investigation by staff, it is clear that there is a need for a long term strategy for managing surface waters in the Queenstown Lakes District if the community wishes to avoid or minimise additional conflict between surface water users. This issue appears to be intensifying quickly, as is evidenced from the range and scale of submissions on the proposed Navigation Safety Bylaw.

As an advocate for surface water recreation, the Otago Fish and Game Council is in a position to communicate this need to the QLDC with the aim of encouraging long term planning for the wider public interest.

Recommendation: that this report be received

Nigel Paragreen
Environmental Officer
21 November 2017

9.2 2018 Game Bird Season Regulations - C Halford

COUNCIL REPORT NOVEMBER 2017

2018 Game Bird Season Regulations

Last season regulation changes

Apart from the alteration to dates to fall in line with the first Saturday in May opening and weekend closing dates there were no changes to the game season regulations for the 2017 season.

Population Monitoring

Aerial counts of mallard/ hybrids in the coastal and Lower Clutha areas during April over the past two years indicate a relatively stable population and provide no reason to alter bag limits for the 2018 season.

In addition to this the region has experienced a reasonable breeding season with good numbers of broods and young birds reported.

Recent communication with Central South Island and Southland Fish and Game staff has indicated their regions are likely to retain similar mallard/hybrid bags to 2017.

National trend counts of Paradise shelduck and Black swan will be undertaken in late January to determine daily bag limits for both species.

Aligning regulations and conditions with neighbouring Fish and Game Regions is desirable in the longer term but this would require acceptance from individual council's and respectable communication with hunters. Regional variances will play a key role in this.

Sub- Gauge Shotguns

2018 will be the first year of the four year transition to phase out the use of lead shot in shotguns smaller than 12 gauges. An exemption will remain for the 410 gauge due to the unavailability of non toxic shot for this firearm. The 410 gauge is frequently used by junior hunters and is often the introductory firearm for young hunters entering the sport.

Recommendations for 2018 Season

There is a very tight deadline for confirmation of gamebird regulations to the NZC Office immediately after the January trend count in order to obtain Ministerial approval and get regulations printed in time for the season.

To avoid complications with seeking Council approval after the fact (the February Council meeting occurs after the Ministerial deadline), staff seek a conditional approval of the regulations listed below subject to season duration date changes.

There are no changes proposed to last season's regulations, provided Otago harvest and population trends remain consistent with historic trends. Should January Paradise shelduck or Black swan trend counts indicate a significant increase or decrease Council will be consulted immediately via email.

Last season's regulations have been attached as appendix 1.

Recommendation

That the report be received.

That Council approve the 2018 Game Season regulations in line with 2017 subject to satisfactory monitoring results.

Cliff Halford
Fish and Game Officer
November 2017

Appendix 1

**Table 1: Last Seasons Game Regulations
OTAGO FISH AND GAME REGION**

1 Game That May be Hunted or Killed—Duration of 2017 - 18 Season

Species	Season Duration (dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit	Hunting Area
Grey/mallard duck and any hybrid of those species	6 May to 30 Jul 2017	25	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	6 May to 30 Jul 2017	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	6 May to 27 Aug 2017	12	All areas
	3 Mar 2018	5	All areas junior hunting day (refer to clause 5.4 for this region)
Pukeko	Closed season	0	All areas
Black swan	Closed season	0	Area A
	6 May to 27 Aug 2017	5	Area B
California quail	3 June to 27 Aug 2017	10	All areas
Pheasant	3 June to 27 Aug 2017	5	All areas excluding upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 7 for this Region
	6 May to 27 Aug 2017	No limit	Upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 7 for this Region
Red-legged partridge	6 May to 27 Aug 2017	No limit	Upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 7 for this Region
Chukar	3 June to 27 Aug 2017	2	All areas

2 Definition of Areas

2.1 Area A: The Clutha River catchment upstream from the Clyde Dam.

2.2 Area B: The Clutha River catchment downstream from the Clyde Dam; the Taieri River catchment and all the coastal catchments between Shag Point and The Brothers Point on the east coast of the South Island.

3 Shooting Hours

Area A: 7.00am to 6.45pm

Area B: 7.00am to 6.30pm

4 Decoy Limit

No limit.

5 Special Conditions

5.1 No person shall use or cause to be used on any water within the region for the hunting or killing of game, any fixed stand, pontoon, hide, loo or maimai, except within a distance of 10 metres from the water margin in non-tidal waters, or from the low water mark in tidal waters, or from the outside edge of the raupo growth where raupo abounds, without the prior consent of the Otago Fish and Game Council.

5.2 No person may leave on the hunting ground the bodies or parts of bodies of Black swan or other game shot in the Otago Fish and Game Region.

5.3 Shooting from a boat is prohibited on the Clutha River from 6 to 14 May (refer to first schedule regulation 7).

5.4 The summer Paradise duck season is open on 3 March 2018 for junior licence holders only, and is restricted to locations 200 metres or more from open water.

6 Refuges and Closed Game Areas

The following wetland refuges and closed game areas are closed to hunting:

Refuges	Location
6.1	Lake Hayes Queenstown/Arrowtown Highway
6.2	Hawkesbury Lagoon Waikouaiti – East Otago
6.3	Finegand Balclutha

Closed Game Areas

6.4	Ashley Downs Near Clinton, South Otago
6.5	Tomahawk Lagoon Dunedin
6.6	Kawarau River outlet From Lake Wakatipu downstream to the Shotover River Confluence

7 Upland Game Properties with Special Conditions

7.1 Rough Ridge: The total area of Rough Ridge Farm with special conditions is described as Rough Ridge and defined as approximately 900 hectares of Rough Ridge Farm near Oturehua that includes Section 24 Block XV1, Section 2 Block XV11 Blackstone Survey District, Section 3 Block V1 Poolburn Survey District, and Section 42 PT and Section 10 Block XV1 Blackstone Survey District. The boundaries are marked with signposts reading “Rough Ridge Game Preserve”. The property “Rough Ridge” is owned by Fraser and Murray McKnight.

9.3 Otago Backcountry Fisheries Survey 2016/17 Season - H Trotter

COUNCIL REPORT NOVEMBER 2017

Otago Backcountry Fisheries Survey 2016-17 Season

Introduction

The Otago Fish and Game Region has eight designated backcountry fisheries which require anglers to obtain a Backcountry Licence Endorsement. This requirement has established a database of users which has enabled monitoring via annual email surveys. Past surveys have been undertaken once at the end of the season and have estimated use levels as well as assessed aspects of angler experience such as encounter rates, and overall satisfaction levels. Several years of this survey approach has provided useful data on activity trends and drivers of satisfaction, as well as identifying key management issues for various fisheries. For the 2016-17 season a different survey approach was used with the aim of gathering data on distribution of effort throughout the season and more robust estimates of guided and non resident activity. It is intended that the information collected will inform the development of future management mechanisms for Otago backcountry fisheries.

Survey method

The 2016-17 Otago backcountry fisheries survey took a similar approach to the National Angling Survey, surveying anglers throughout the season (Unwin 2016). Four bi-monthly surveys were undertaken (the survey periods were Oct-Nov, Dec-Jan, Feb-Mar and Apr-May). It should be noted that for the first survey period (Oct-Nov) only the Nevis River was open in October. The Greenstone Controlled Fishery Period was captured by the third survey period (Feb-Mar) and so was not surveyed separately as in past years.

At the end of each survey period an email questionnaire was sent to all current Otago Backcountry Licence Endorsement holders with valid email addresses. The survey was stratified by residency type. Anglers were asked whether they were active within that survey period and for each backcountry river were asked to report:

- i. the number of days fished
- ii. the number of days guided
- iii. the number of fish landed and
- iv. the number of fish kept

Anglers were also given the opportunity to provide any comments. In the second and third survey periods (Dec-Jan and Feb-Mar) anglers were also given an option to say if they had completed their backcountry fishing for the season. These anglers were removed from subsequent survey lists.

Based on angler responses for each survey period the number of active backcountry anglers was estimated as well as the number of days fished, number of guided days and a catch rate.

Results

Response rates were generally good for non residents and residents ranging from 40-50 % for the first three survey periods. Response rates were lower for the final survey period (Apr-May); 23 % for non residents and 35 % for residents. This may be because more anglers had finished fishing for the season or due to survey fatigue.

The survey results from the current survey are not directly comparable with the previous surveys due to significant differences in methodology (Table 1). Recall and non response bias have not been estimated but are expected to vary for each method. The estimated total angler days is similar to that for the previous season but may be more accurate due to less recall bias as anglers were surveyed throughout the season and are expected to have reported their effort more accurately. The participation rate for 2016-17 is based on the estimated number of active anglers compared to the number of endorsements issued at the time of the survey, rather than an overall estimate of the number of anglers who were active at least once during the season as in previous surveys. The highest participation rates were reported in Feb-Mar for both residents and non residents, and the lowest for both groups was the Oct-Nov period.

Table 1: Backcountry participation estimates 2010 - 2016

Season	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
<i>Endorsements Issued</i>	1100	1326	1318	1151	1356	1767	2408
<i>Participation Rate</i>	-	72%	73%	70%	63%	60%	20 – 40 %
<i>Total BC Anglers</i>	-	954	962	806	858	1062	*
<i>Total Angler Days</i>		4220	3805	2915	3101	4129	3907
<i>Average Days per Angler</i>			3.97	3.6	3.6	3.9	*

As in the previous season, non resident Backcountry Endorsement holders outnumbered residents (Table 2). Determination of angler residency has been significantly improved by the introduction of a Non Resident Licence in 2014 so there are some limitations to comparability of estimates pre- and post-2014. There has however been a general trend of an increasing number of non resident backcountry users and this aligns with anecdotal reports of increased pressure from non resident anglers in the backcountry, particularly in the last two seasons.

Table 2: Otago Backcountry Endorsement angler demographics 2010 – 2016

Season	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
<i>Resident Anglers</i>	56%	59%	60%	58%	59%	53%	49%	48 %
<i>Non Resident Anglers</i>	44%	41%	40%	42%	41%	47%	51%	52 %
<i>Guided Anglers (% of total)</i>	18%	23%	20%	16%	18%	21%	17%	10–21 %

The reported proportion of backcountry anglers using guides ranged from 10-21 % for each survey period. While this appears to be in line with estimates from previous seasons again due to differences in survey methods previous estimates based on end of season totals are not directly comparable. Estimates of guided angling have been considered to be unreliable as they are based on reported activity from anglers. The response rates of guided anglers have not been investigated but it is suspected they may differ to non guided anglers. It is known that some guides and accommodation providers offer licence purchasing as part of all inclusive service. It unclear whether this affects the likelihood of the angler responding to survey requests, but it does directly impact the ability of Fish and Game to contact some anglers where incorrect information is provided by the service provider on behalf of the client angler.

Anecdotal reports have indicated an increase in guided activity however this trend has not been fully captured by monitoring surveys (Table 2). It is suspected that this may be due to some of the limitations noted above. The estimated total number of guided days did show an increase (~700 for 2016-17 compared to ~450 in 2015-16), although the differences in survey methods supporting these estimates should be noted. It may also be informative then to consider rates of guiding between residents and non residents across the season (Table 3). It is well documented from previous surveys and (anecdotal evidence) that non resident anglers employ guides at a significantly higher rate than resident anglers; results from the current survey reflect this trend with ≤ 5 % of resident anglers and 18-37 % of non residents reporting use of guide, consistent with previous estimates. Therefore as the number of non resident anglers has increased over time it is therefore likely that guided angling rates have similarly increased.

Table 3: Guided angling rates for Otago Backcountry anglers 2016-17

Survey Period	Oct-Nov	Dec-Jan	Feb-Mar	Apr-May
<i>Resident Anglers</i>	2%	4%	5%	2%
<i>Non Resident Anglers</i>	27%	37%	36%	18%

Total estimated effort was highest on the Hunter and Nevis Rivers and lowest on the Wilkin and Young (Figure 1). For most rivers there was an increase in use over the course of season, however it is important to note that for all rivers except the Nevis the Oct-Nov estimate only represents a one month period and so Figure 1 may not reflect the true effect of early season angling. Considering estimated angler days per days open to fishing for the period, effort was actually higher in the Oct-Nov period than the Dec-Jan for all rivers opening in November, except the Caples. The Dingle Burn was particularly popular in the early season. For six of eight backcountry rivers use peaked in the Feb-Mar period. Estimated peak use for the Hunter was in Apr-May (although use was close to the Feb-Mar period). For the Nevis and Young use dropped off quite dramatically in Apr-May but for other rivers it remained at reasonably high levels until the end of the season.

The estimate for the Greenstone River during the Controlled Fishery Period was ~170 days. Review of the Controlled Period bookings found that the actual number of days allocated was ~100 days. While the survey results overestimated effort, taking error into account the estimate is considered to be relatively close to the actual effort, and provides some confidence in the survey results generally.

Non residents contributed over 50 % of total estimated effort on the Caples for the first three survey periods (Oct-March) and just below 50 % for the final survey period (Apr-May) (Figure 2). A similar pattern was observed for the Greenstone, however there was a decline in non resident effort in the Feb-Mar survey period, which may be associated with the Controlled Fishery Period; guided effort also increased in this period. Overall estimated guided angling effort was lower on the Caples and Greenstone Rivers than other backcountry rivers.

Non residents also made up the majority of angling effort on the Dingle Burn from the second survey period onward (Dec-May); the early season however was primarily fished by residents. Guided non residents represented the greatest proportion of effort in the Dec-Jan and Feb-Mar and the Dingle Burn is the only Backcountry River where there was estimated to occur.

The Wilkin, Nevis and Young Rivers showed a similar pattern with residents accounting for the majority of effort in the first two periods (Oct-Nov and Dec-Jan), but non residents comprising the most effort in the Feb-May periods. The proportion of guided effort was consistent throughout the season for the Nevis (~15-20 % of total). One angler commented on the high levels of guided angling on the Nevis: '*there were five guided groups up there that day, a long way to go for such crowds*'. Guided was higher in the latter half of the season on the Wilkin and Young.

The proportion of the non resident and resident effort on the Hunter was consistent throughout the season, but with a marked increase in guided activity in the Dec-Jan and Feb-Mar periods. Similarly for the Lochy the proportion of non resident and resident effort was relatively stable, with a peak in non resident effort of ~25 % in Feb-Mar.

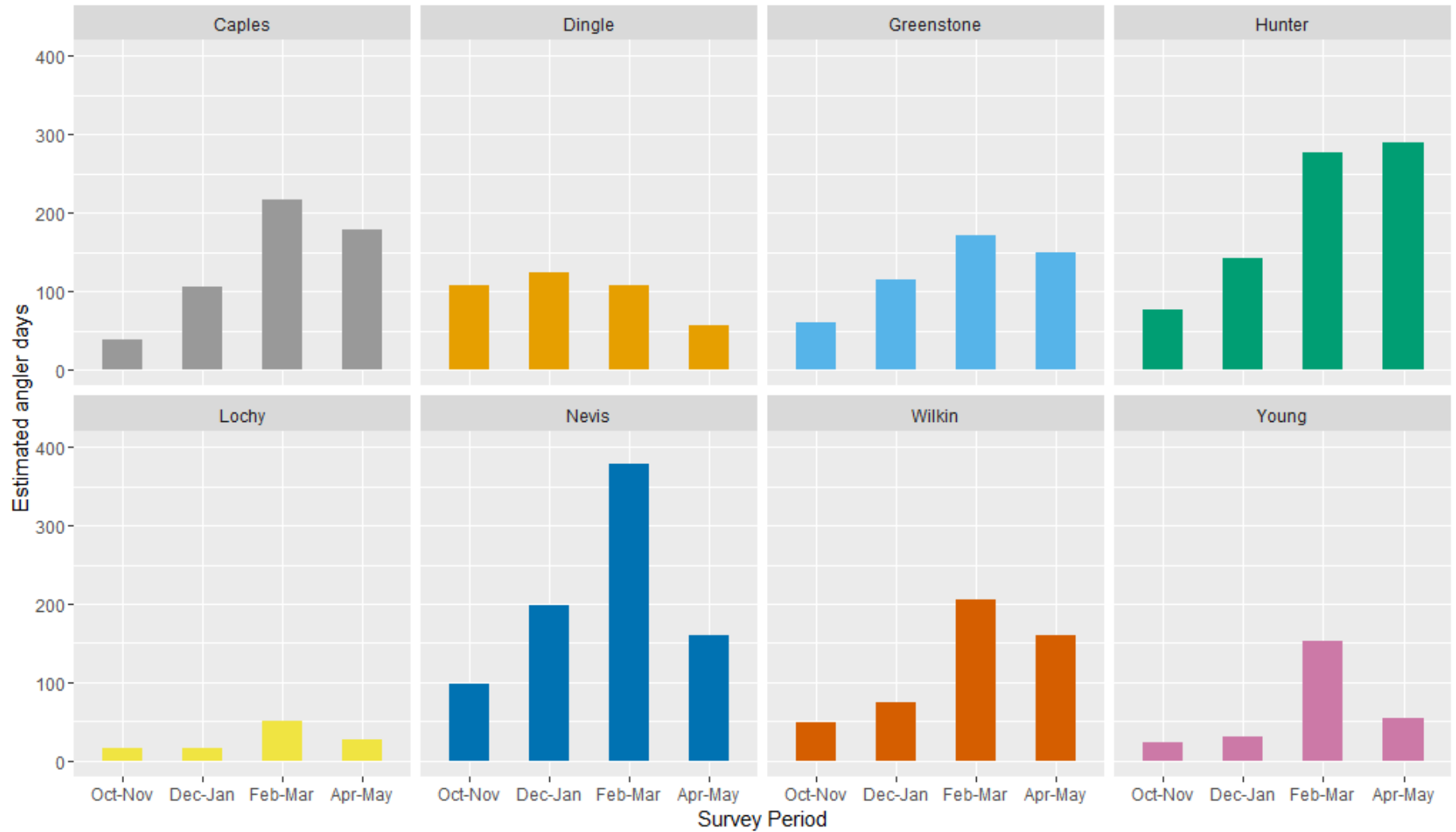


Figure 1: Estimated effort (number of angler days) for Otago Backcountry Rivers estimated from bimonthly surveys of Otago Backcountry Licence Endorsement holders during the 2016-17

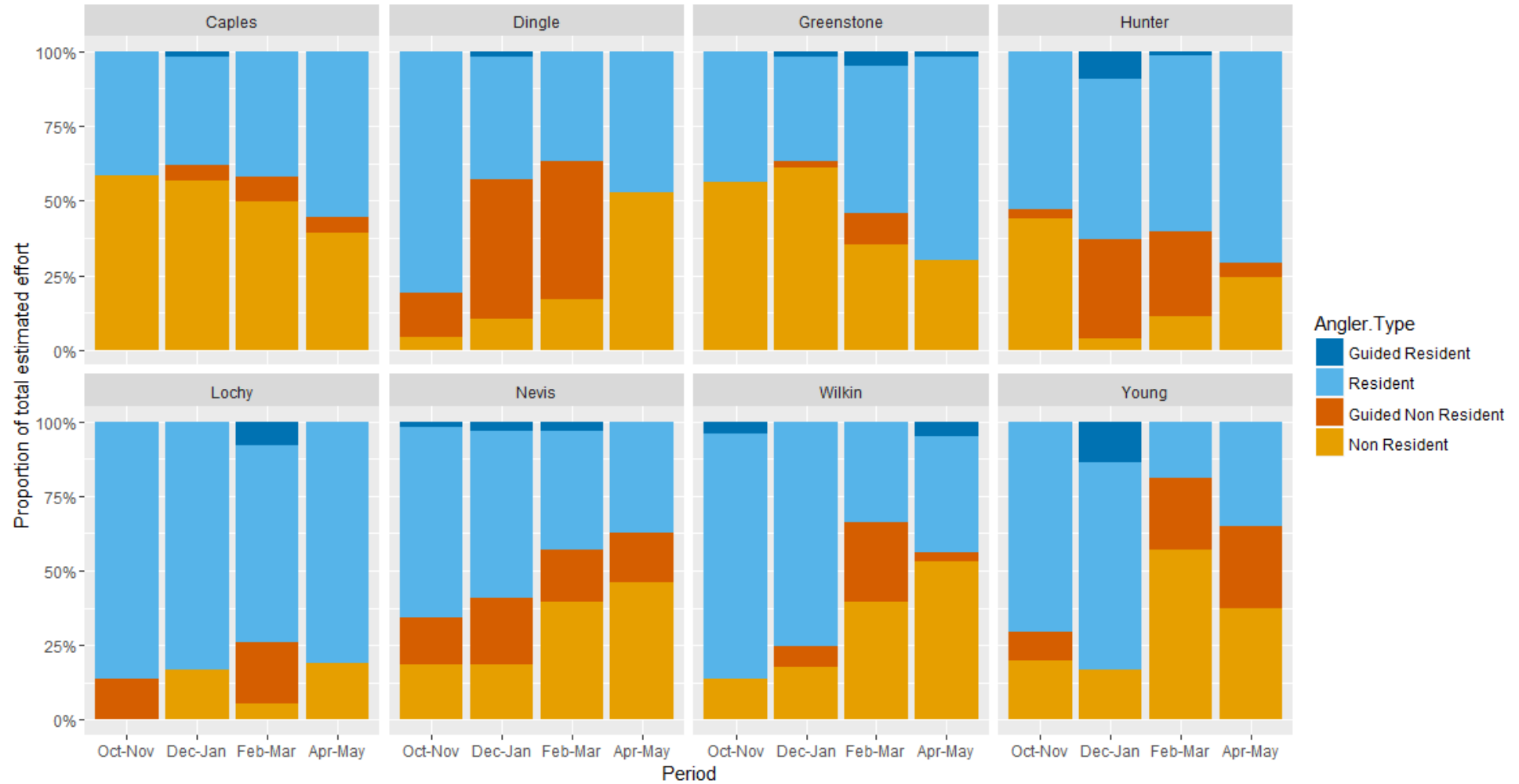


Figure 2: Proportion of estimated effort by angler type (residency and guiding) for Otago Backcountry Rivers estimated from bimonthly surveys of Otago Backcountry Licence Endorsement holders during the 2016-17 season

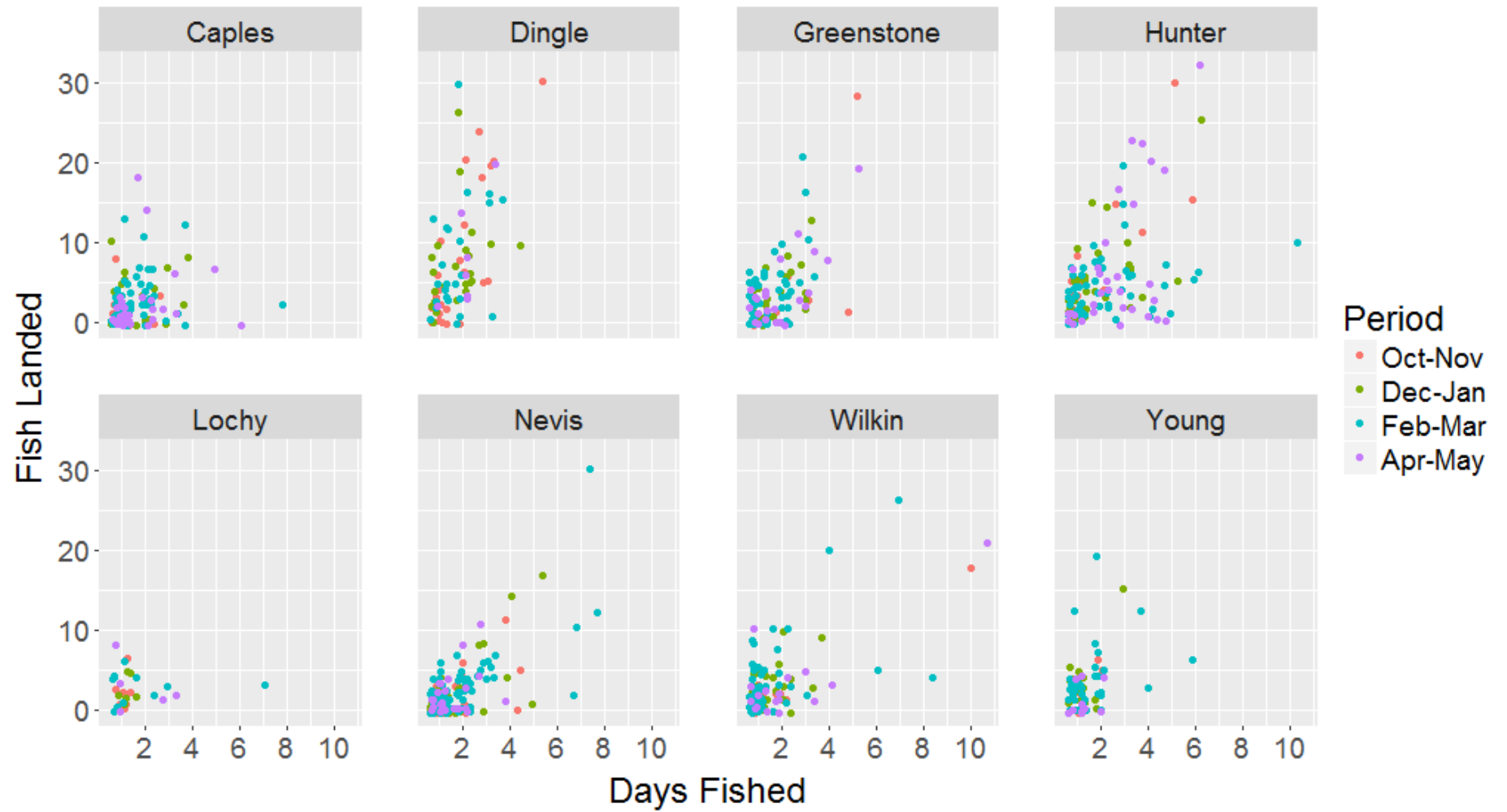


Figure 3: Reported days fished and fish landed for Otago Backcountry Rivers, 2016-17 survey

Reported catch rates (days fished and fish landed) are shown in Figure 3 and the average for each river for each period is shown in Table 4. The overall average number of days fished per river for each survey period was 1.7 with a range of 1-11 days reported. The average number of fish caught per day of backcountry fishing was 1.9 with a range of 0-15¹. While individual angler's skill and the conditions encountered will strongly influence catch rates, some anglers are landing higher numbers of fish which could potentially limit opportunities for other anglers. One angler reported landing no fish on his trip but noted that a party before his said they 'landed 69 fish in 4 days'.

Table 4: Estimated catch rate (average fish landed per day fishing) for Otago Backcountry Rivers

River	Survey Period				Season Average
	<i>Oct-Nov</i>	<i>Dec-Jan</i>	<i>Feb-Mar</i>	<i>Apr-May</i>	
<i>Caples</i>	1.12	2.08	1.70	1.27	1.62
<i>Dingle</i>	3.79	3.53	4.81	2.85	3.91
<i>Greenstone</i>	1.35	1.96	2.16	1.66	1.90
<i>Hunter</i>	2.70	2.87	2.38	2.22	2.50
<i>Lochy</i>	1.88	2.50	1.95	2.40	2.11
<i>Nevis</i>	0.55	0.77	1.04	1.10	0.90
<i>Wilkin</i>	1.03	1.27	2.22	1.36	1.68
<i>Young</i>	1.36	2.26	2.28	1.00	2.00

Reported catch rates were generally consistent with previous surveys. Catch rates were highest on the Dingle Burn and Hunter River and lowest on the Nevis River. Most anglers (>90 %) practiced catch and release fishing. A small number of anglers reported (~7 %) harvesting fish. Harvest rates were highest on the Hunter and Wilkin Rivers and lowest on the Nevis River, Caples and Young Rivers. There was no reported harvest for the Lochy River (which has a zero bag limit) although three anglers reported harvesting over the bag limit (1 per day) on other rivers.

Conclusion and Future Management

Overall, results are consistent with trends and patterns documented in previous surveys with a further increase in the total number of Backcountry Endorsements issued, and levels of use at least as high as the previous season. Similarly angler comments reflected the known key management issues facing Otago backcountry fisheries. The results of the 2016-17 survey has further built on the existing information on trends in angler use and satisfaction by providing useful data on the patterns in effort throughout the season.

The identification of key periods of peak pressure and where there is high demand by commercial and recreational users for each river will assist with the development and assessment of management approaches. Work over the past year had progressed

¹ One angler reported landing 50 fish in 1 day on the Hunter. This data point was considered an outlier and removed from further analysis.

several of the actions recommended in the 2016 report, including implementation of a compliance monitoring programme, development of a Code of Practice for freshwater angling, and continued improvements to liaison and communication with guides, accommodation providers and travel agencies regarding regulations and correct licencing of clients.

Ongoing and future work areas will include:

- Further work in support of an updated proposal for a Guide Licence, and potential implementation planning.
- Investigation of approaches, and development of proposals to better manage pressure from different user groups
- Angler education and promotion of the Code of Practice for freshwater sport fishing with emphasis on ethical angling behaviour and best practice guidelines for catch and release fishing
- Continue implementation of compliance monitoring program for Otago backcountry rivers and development of fisheries monitoring programme.

Recommendation

That this report be received.

Helen Trotter
Fish & Game Officer
21 November 2018

9.4 Summary Of Sportsfish and Gamebird Licence Sales for 2016/17 - I Hadland

**COUNCIL REPORT
NOVEMBER 2017**

Summary Of Sportsfish And Gamebird Licence Sales for 2016/17

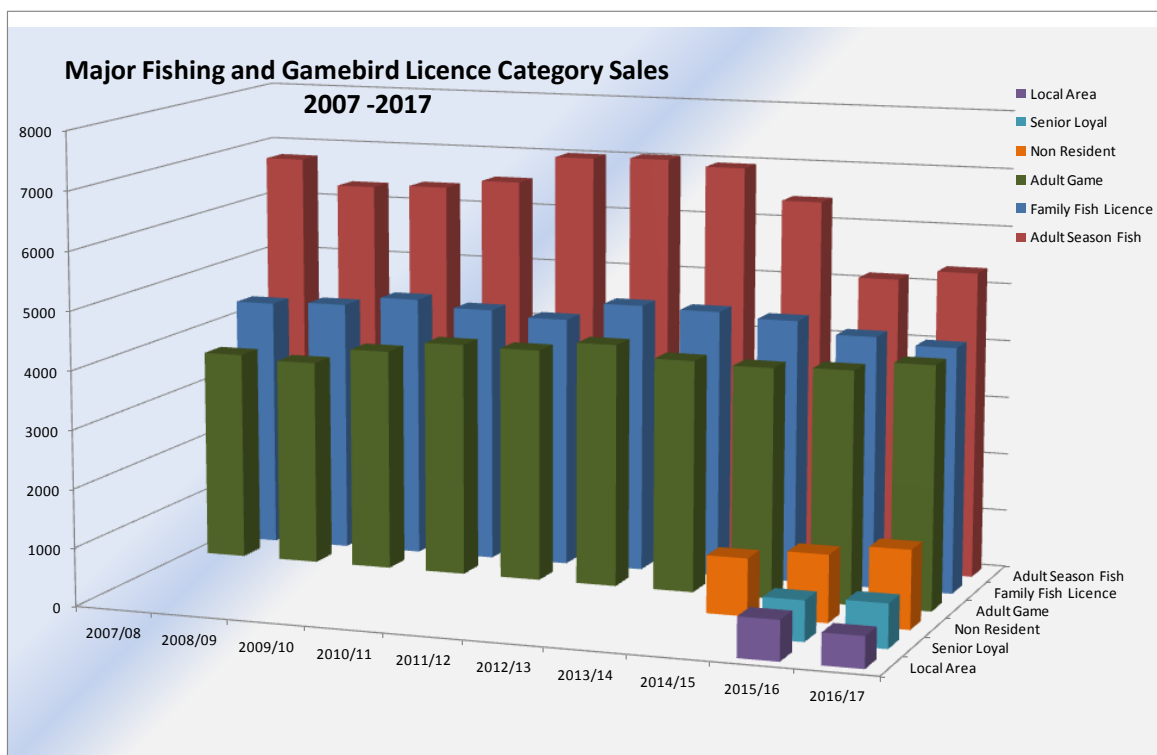
This report summarises licence sales in all categories for the 2016/2017 season and compares these with previous seasons. Data were derived directly from Eyede reporting facility.

Total Licence Sales for Otago

Year	Fish LEQ's	Game LEQ's
2011/12	14535	4089
2012/13	14902	4277
2013/14	14750	4077
2014/15	15073	4034
2015/16	15132	4076
2016/17	15447	4253

Revenue from sales of fishing and gamebird licences was up by 2.1% and 4.3% respectively on the previous season. This positive increase went against the trend for much of the rest of the country which showed a decrease in LEQ. Nationally fish LEQ's were down 2.2% overall and game LEQ's were unchanged.

Sales Trends In Major Categories For Otago



Sales in all major categories have been rather static over previous seasons with the exception of Adult Whole season fishing (red bars) which has been cannibalised by the Senior Loyal, Non Resident and Local Area licence sales. The Non resident category continues to grow steadily and was up 15% on last season to 1339 licence holders.

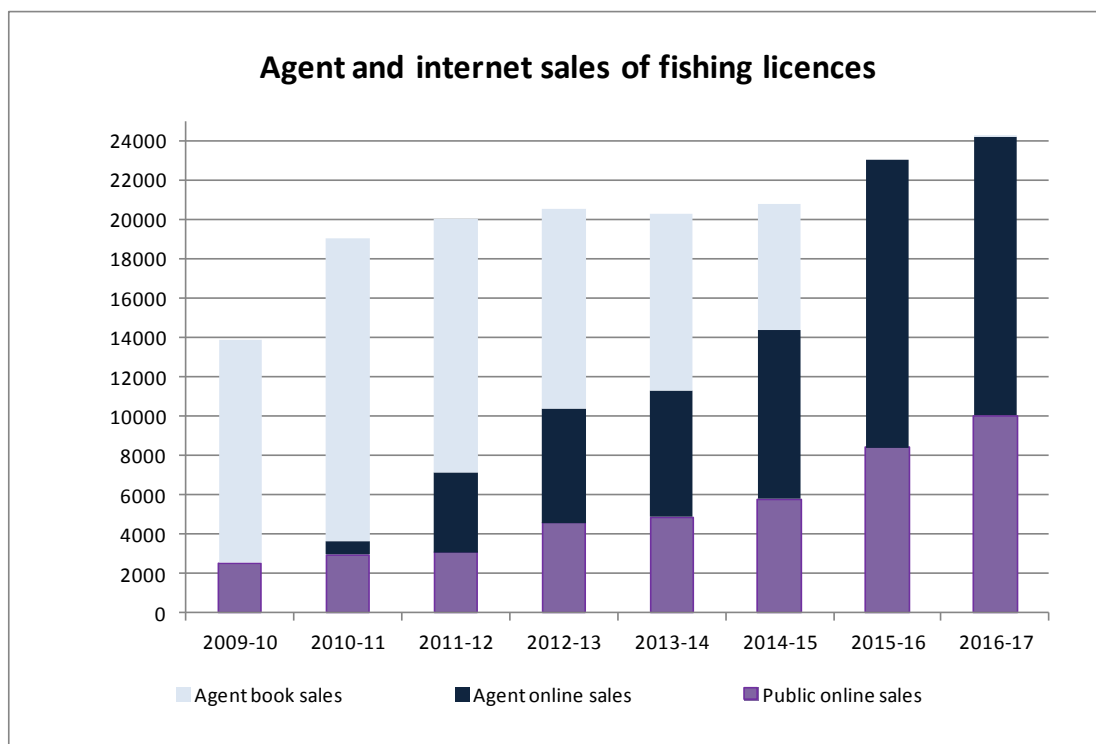
Game licence sales remain steady at 4161 whole season licence holders.

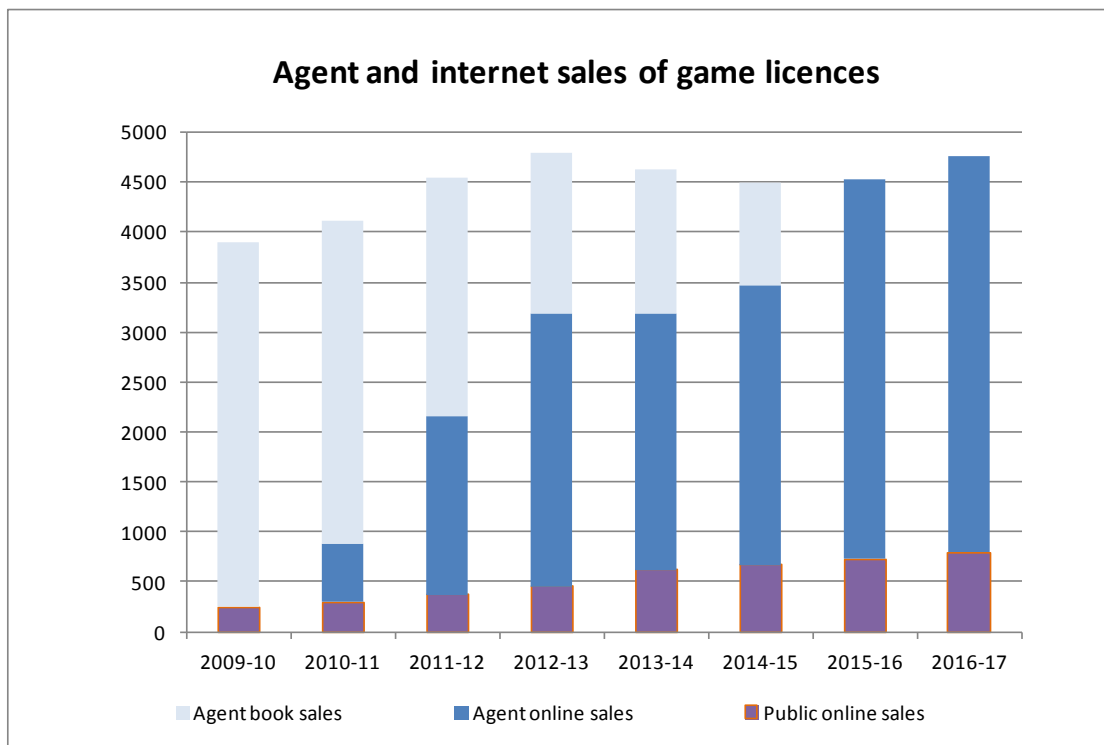
Sales By Channel

Otago Region sold around 29,060 individual game bird and fishing licences last season. Of those, 62% are sold by retailers with the remainder being purchased by licence holders via the website. The proportion of licences sold directly via the website ("Public Online" or POL) increased 18% last year to 38% of all transactions.

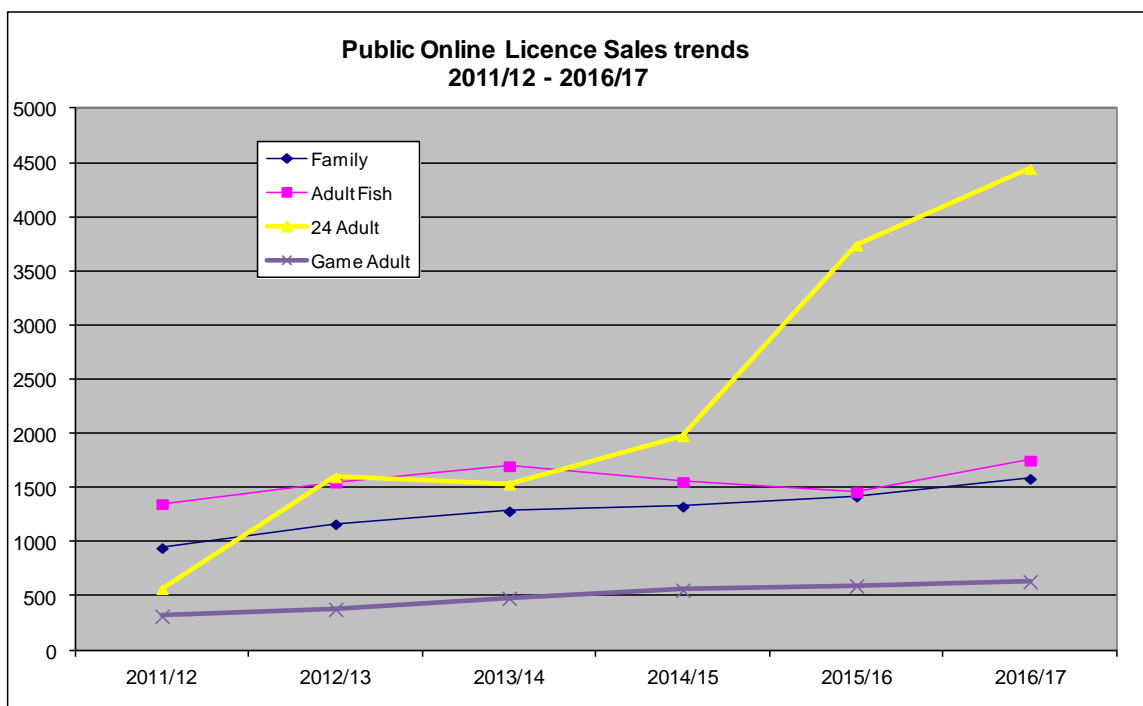
The charts below highlight the now complete transition away from book licencing. The online system (both at agencies and public site) has run almost glitch free since its inception.

Gratitude should be shown to our agents who have moved to online licencing over the last 7 years, and also been at the front end of the implementation of the new licence categories three years ago. That includes the complex non resident licence.



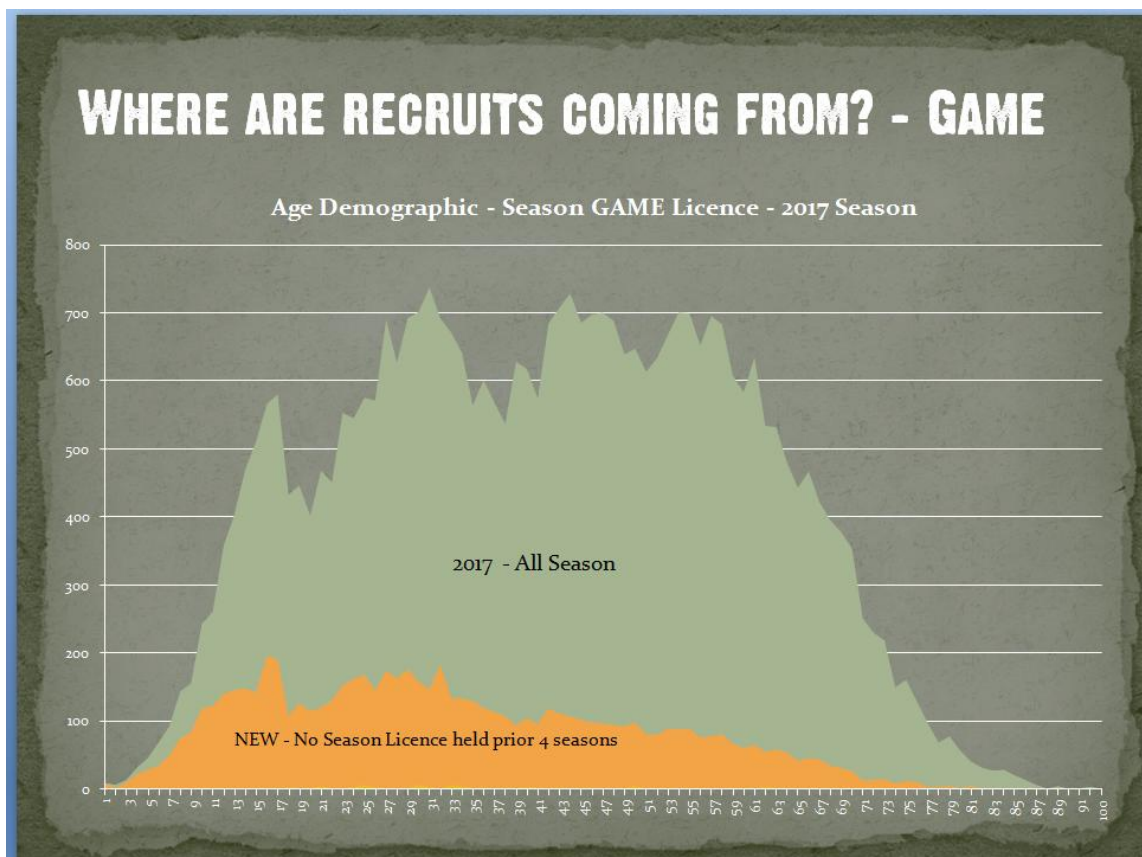


Growth in public online sales of gamebird hunting licences has been slower than for fish. There is anecdotal evidence that hunters still prefer to purchase a licence along with their duck hunting gear and ammunition via an agency.



The growth of public online transactions particularly with fishing is in part due to the number of day fishing licences being sold via the internet - probably via hand held devices. There is some evidence that guides who don't have an agency agreement are making full use of the public online site to obtain licences for their clients.

Demographics Of Gamebird Hunters



At a previous meeting, a councilor asked if we understood where our new gamebird hunter recruits are coming from. The above chart is all NZ gamebird licence holders by age and the orange section is new recruits (not seen in database for previous 4 seasons)

There is good recruitment into junior category and again in the 22yrs to 35 year old group. Point to note here is the sharp drop off and large gap in the 18-20 year bracket. My suspicion is that this might be related to pricing as the whole seasons gamebird fee jumps from \$21 (for under 18yrs) to \$93. Just looking at the data above, there may be a case for the return of a youth licence priced somewhere in the middle to help young hunters transition into dedicated adult licence holders.

New categories review

Licence categories and pricing are proposed to be reviewed during February ahead of fee setting and confirmation of categories with the Minister in June 2018. The new categories have been in place for three full seasons and a review at this time was proposed at the time of their introduction.

The Licence Working Party will be looking at the performance of all categories and pricing ratios with a view to maintaining revenue, improving perceptions of value for money and optimizing opportunities for 'upselling' to higher value categories. None of this review is backed by user surveys so it will simply be a F&G staff analysis of current revenue, licence sales trends in categories and switching behavior. Backcountry licencing will also need to be discussed.

The local area licence has been less popular than expected with sales steady at 3% of total sales. Feedback from agents suggests that the limitations on area are an impediment to most anglers such that the adult whole season licence remains better value. It is also emerging that there could be a cross over with over 65's in the market who have opted for the Loyal senior licence if eligible. Eastern region sales of this category have been very strong but elsewhere they have been reducing quite quickly. This is one category which is likely to face pressure from other regions for its removal.

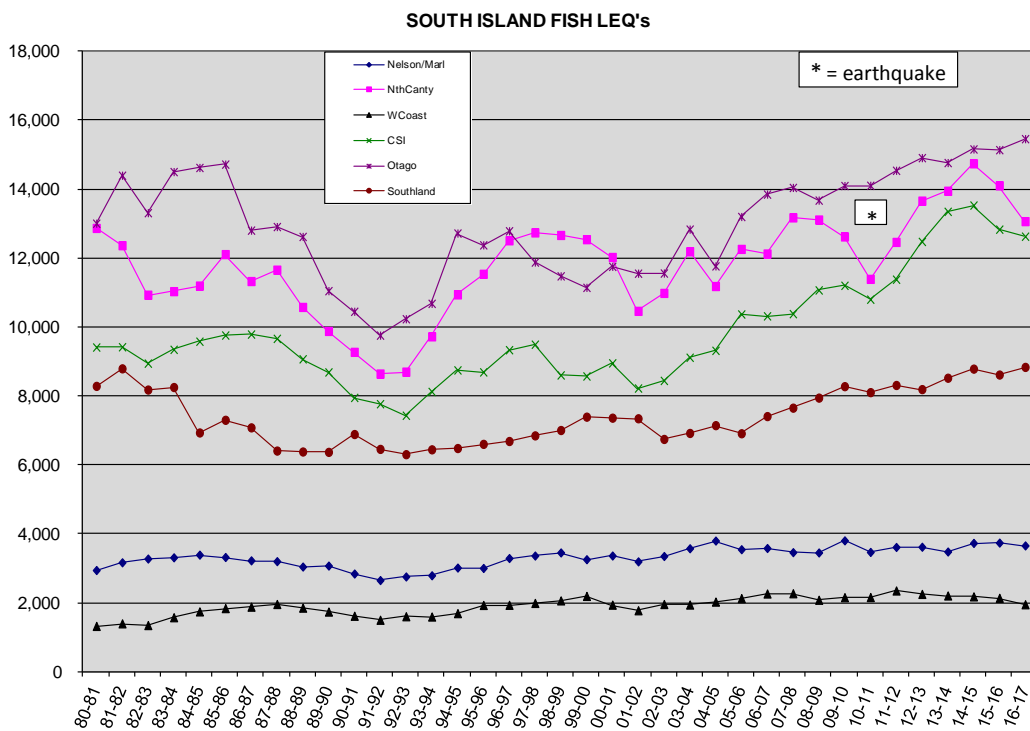
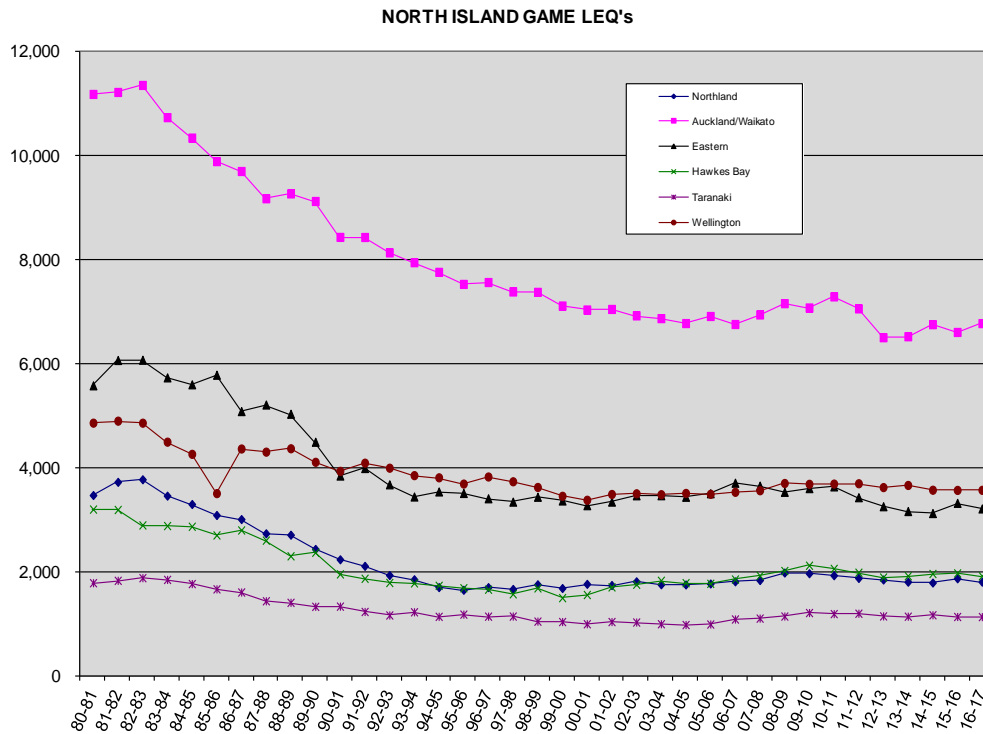
Feedback will be sought from Fish and Game Councils ahead of the final recommendations to NZC.

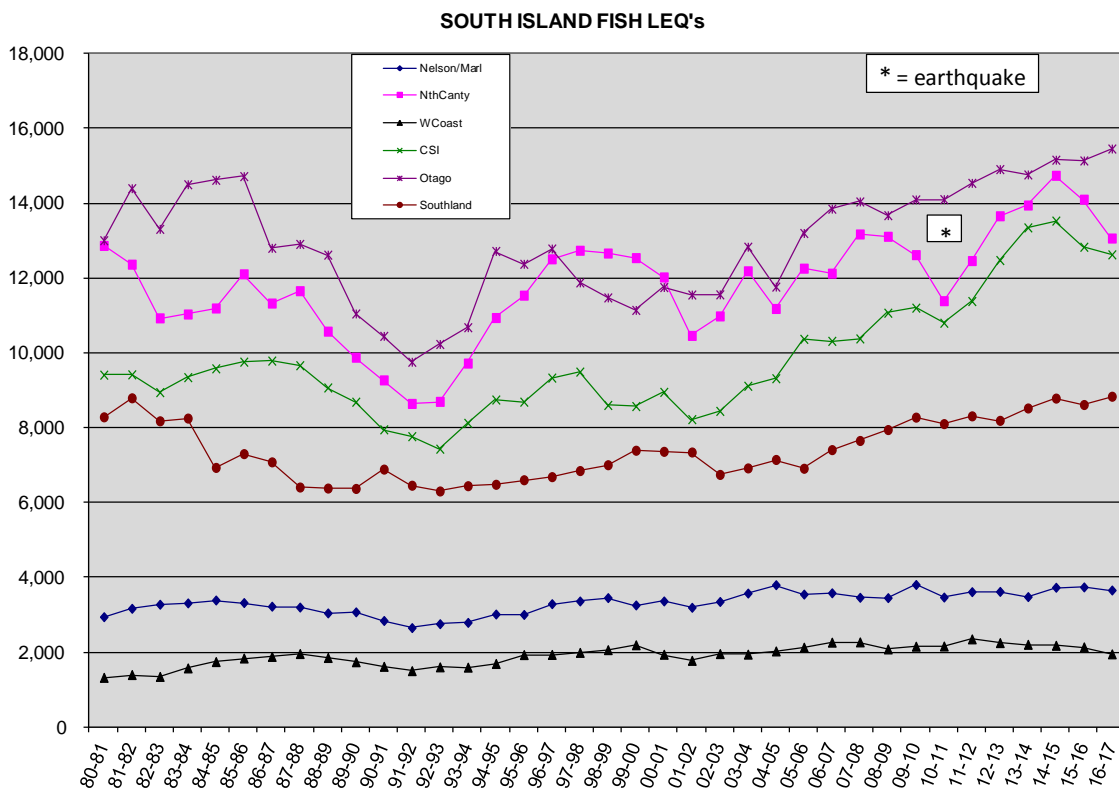
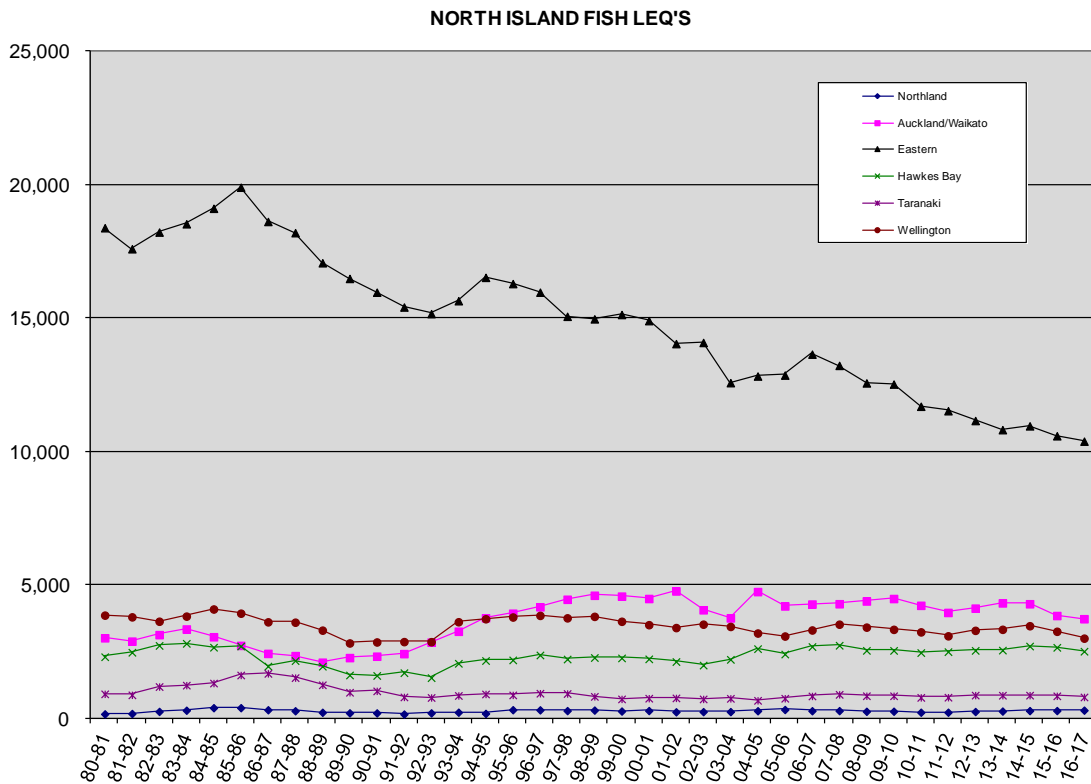
For information

Ian Hadland
Operations Manager
22 November 2017

Appendix 1 – National Licence Sales Trends

Appendix A – National Licence Sales Trends (LEQ'S) up to 16/17 Season





9.5 Southern Reservoir – Take a Kid Fishing 2017 and Beginner Adult Fishing Classes 2017 - S Dixon

COUNCIL REPORT NOVEMBER 2017

Southern Reservoir - Take a Kid Fishing 2017 Beginner Adults Fishing Classes 2017

On Sunday the 24th September and Saturday 30th September 2017, the Otago Fish & Game Council had two ‘Take a Kid Fishing’ (TAKF) events at the Southern Reservoir.

Planning

The DCC approved two Fish & Game Council TAKF events at the Southern Reservoir. A conditional agreement was reached to use the venue.

Sponsorship

An application for assistance with funding for the events was put to Otago Community Trust and the Bendigo Valley Sports & Charity Foundation. The Otago Community Trust generously donated \$3055.00 and the Bendigo Valley Sports & Charity Foundation donated \$2000.00 towards the event. The money was used for things such as: toilet hire, traffic management, a lure for each child, fish transportation & promotions. Allan Millars Hunting & Fishing, West Shell and The Warehouse were asked and kindly donated some items such as rod & reel sets, tackle boxes, lures, fishing vest, books etc for a spot prize draw at the end of each session.

Fish & Game staffs were approached by two businessmen at the end of one event wanting to sponsor money for next year’s events.

Promotion

The TAKF day was promoted by the way of an email that was sent out to all the primary schools and high schools throughout Dunedin informing them of the event and asking them to mention the TAKF days in their school newsletters. It was also advertised on the Fish & Game web site and the new Otago Facebook page.

Access

The Southern Reservoir is closed for fishing for the month of September. This is to facilitate the liberation of trout and help improve catch-rates for the events.

Support

Brighton Surf Life Saving Club provided assistance with 2 life guards per session - A donation of \$300 was given to the Brighton Surf Life Saving Club for their efforts.

Traffic Management & Control Ltd supplied and erected all the road signage for the event.

Refreshments such as coffee, cold drinks etc were provided by “2 peas in a pod” a mobile coffee van.

Entries

All entries were done online through the Fish & Game web site using “Survey Monkey”. This year we had two sessions on each day, session one was from 10am – 12noon and was specifically for children that had never fished before. Session two was from 2pm – 4pm; this one was for children that had fished before. On the day of the event participants lined up at the registration table and received a numbered lanyard. The children also received a goody bag with a free licence (under 12yrs only) spot prize entry form, some stickers and a lure.

The “Take Me Fishing” trailer was set up beside the registration table, children that didn’t have a fishing rod or the rod they bought along was not suitable for trout fishing could borrow one for the event.

Stocking of the Southern Reservoir

Seven hundred two year old rainbow trout and 20 larger fish were set aside at the Macraes Hatchery for the event. Three hundred & sixty fish were transported and released into the reservoir before the 24th September. Another 360 fish were released into the reservoir the week after the first event.

Events

Sunday 24th

Two hundred & forty children signed up for the first day, there were 13 extras and 51 didn’t show. Session 1, 10am – 12 noon According to the spot prize entry form at least 50 fish were caught and of those 20 were returned.

Session 2, 2pm – 4pm According to the spot prize entry form at least 17 fish were caught and of those 6 were returned.

There may have been more fish caught as some people left the event before the end and they didn’t hand in a spot prize entry form. Also I don’t think there is much effort in the participants filling out the spot prize form so some information may not be gathered. The reservoir was closed for fishing after 4pm.

Saturday 30th

Two hundred & forty five children signed up for the first day, there were 9 extras and 47 didn’t show.

Session 1, 10am – 12 noon According to the spot prize entry form at least 41 fish were caught and of those 12 were returned.

Session 2, 2pm – 4pm According to the spot prize entry form at least 6 fish were caught and of those 1 was returned.

I know there were more fish caught than recorded for session 2 but because of the rush to get the spot prize entry form in, catch/return information has not been recorded. The reservoir was closed for fishing after 4pm.

Fish ranged in weight from 800g to 4kg, only 3 of the big fish were caught. The children that caught fish were able keep the fish if they wished which were gutted and cleaned by Fish & Game rangers.

Fish & Game rangers and volunteers walked around the reservoir giving advice on knot tying, casting and assisting with the landing and releasing of fish.

At the end of each session there was a lucky number draw. The items donated by Allan Millars Hunting & Fishing, West Shell & The Warehouse were given out to the lucky kids.

Media coverage

The ODT ran an article 5 day before the first event informing the public about the releases and about the events. There was another article in the ODT on the Monday after the first event and one more on the Monday after the second event. (Attached below)



A Survey form was filled in for each child and number of questions asked:

- How many fish were taken and how many fish released? (Figure 1)
- How did you hear about the event? (Figure 2)
- Have you been fishing before? (Figure 3)

How many fish were taken and how many released?

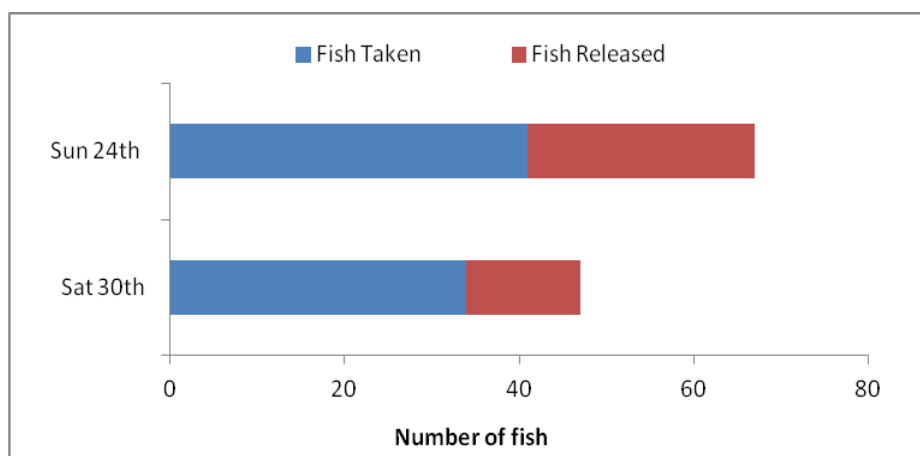


Figure 1: Number of fish taken and number of fish released on Sunday 24th and Saturday 30th at the 2017 TAKF events

Over the two days approximately 114 fish were caught and out of those 39 were released.

How did you hear about the event?

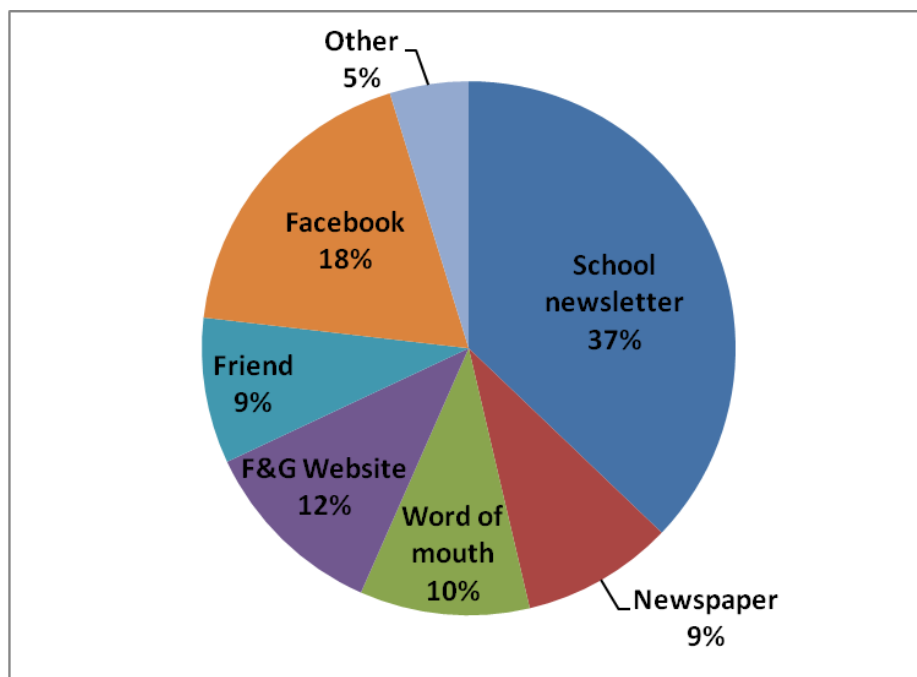


Figure 2: Percentage of people who found out about the 2017 TAKF event through various advertising outlets

The two main sources of promotion for the 2017 TAKF events were the school news letter and used for the first time this year the new Otago Facebook page, which showed to be very popular.

Have you been fishing before?

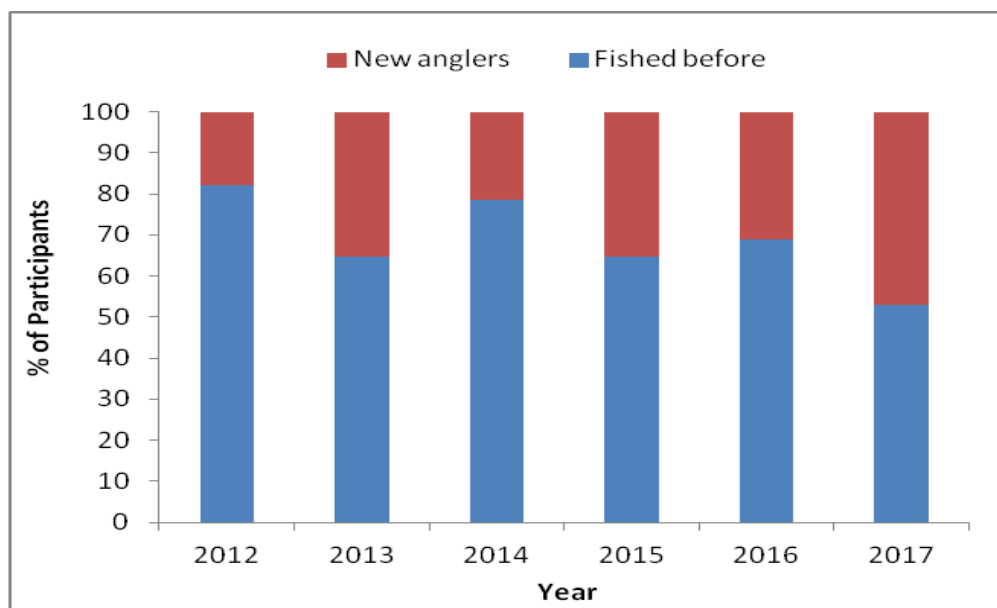


Figure 3: Percentage of participants who had fished previously and who had never fished before.

This year 47% registered as novice fishers, this is the highest we have seen since 2012. Each year we try to encourage more non-fishers to give fishing a go so it was encouraging to see again this year the percentage of children that hadn't fished before was as high as it was.

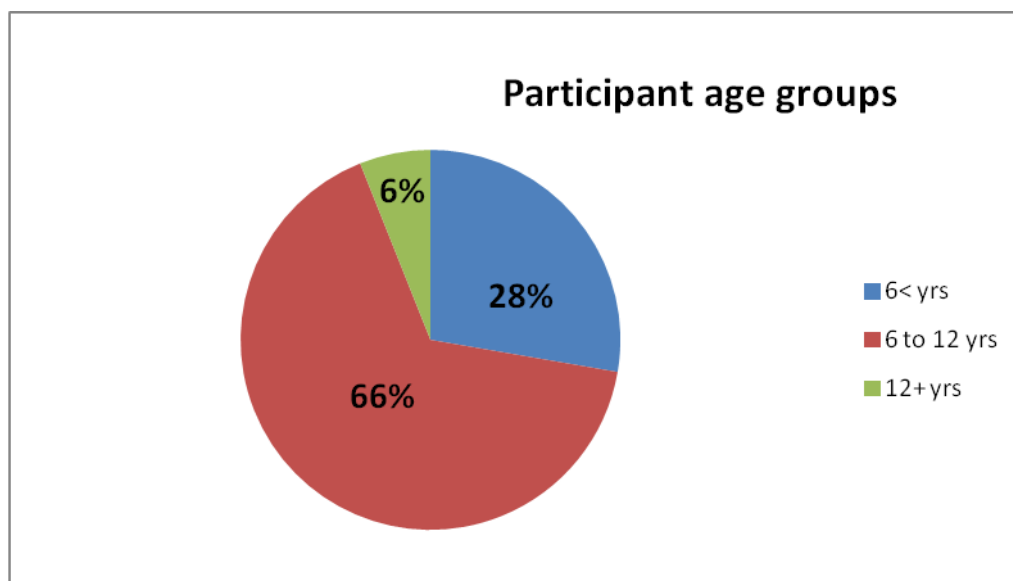


Figure 4: Relative percentage of participants across age groups at the 2017 TAKF events

The most represented group of children were the 6-12 age groups with the pre-teens not showing much interest. This seems to be the trend for the last 6 years.

Catch Rate

Year	Number of fish released	Catch rate (fish per person)
2017	720	0.27
2016	820	0.18
2015	1000	0.19
2014	600	0.39
2013	800	0.55
2012	450	0.26

Figure 5: Summary of the catch rate for the last 6 years.

The catch rate was up again this year and this is probably due to the fish being slightly bigger than the previous two years and the weather conditions were just right for each event.

From year to year we have varied the numbers and sizes of fish released so for the 2018 and subsequent events the Macraes hatchery will release 700x 2yr olds up to 1.2kg and 10 brood stock.

Beginner Adults Fishing Class

For the last four years Otago Fish & Game Council has been running adult beginner fishing classes.

The classes are run in the first week of September and are held at the Fish & Game office on a Thursday & Friday. They consist of a 2hr theory session with a power point presentation on equipment, knots, fish species, where fish can be found, licences etc then on the Saturday the classes are combined and there is a 1.5hr practical session at the Southern Reservoir.

When classes began in 2014 there was one class for novice adults (couples/partners or singles) and one for women only. The woman only class would fill up fast but the novice adult's class would only half full. In 2016 the woman's only class was scrapped and the two groups were combined. This year there were enough participants for three classes.

Advertising was by way of the Fish & Game web site and this year we advertised on Facebook.

(Media coverage below)

Acknowledgements

Otago Community Trust, Bendigo Sports & Charity Foundation, Allan Millars Hunting & Fishing, West Shell, DCC, Macraes Oceana Gold, Brighton Surf Life saving Club, Traffic Management & Control LTD.

Volunteers/rangers - Gordon McManus, Mike Teasdale, Robbie Natta, Gordon Munn, Geoff Dee, Jo Hadland, Adrain Gillions, John Burnip, Brian Hutton

Fish & Game staff - Ian Hadland, Sharon Milne, Steven Dixon

Recommendations

That this report be received.

Steven Dixon

Fish & Game Officer/Hatchery Manager

November 2017

Look what I caught



Nevaeh Cottenden (8), of Brighton, shows off the fish she caught at the Otago Fish & Game Take a Kid Fishing Day at the Southern Reservoir in Dunedin yesterday. Fish and Game officer Steve Dixon said 800 mostly rainbow trout had been released into the dam this month. Mr Dixon said he expected up to 30% to be caught by children over the two days of the event, yesterday and next Saturday. The reservoir would be open to the public on October 1. Mr Dixon said the point of the day was to get children and their families who had never caught a fish to try the activity. It was also a good way to get them away from smartphones and computer screens. About 500 children had registered over the two days of the event. Nevaeh said catching the fish was "kind of hard", as it was her first time. > VIDEO: www.odt.co.nz REPORT: DAVID LOUGHREY/PHOTO: GERARD O'BRIEN

8

NEWS

The Star, October 5, 2017

Hard-fought fun . . .



Green Island School pupil Cassidy Moore shows off her trout at the Otago Fish & Game Take A Kid Fishing event at Dunedin's Southern Reservoir on Saturday.

Cassidy (10) said it was "really hard but fun" to fight and land the nearly 1kg female rainbow trout.

Otago Fish and Game operations manager Ian Hadland said about 450 children fished at four events on September 24 and 30.

About 170 rainbow trout were caught and two weighed more than 3kg, he said.

The fishing season opened on Sunday.

REPORT, PHOTO: SHAWN MCAVINUE

Trout released for children to catch

By SHAWN McAVINUE

THE upcoming trout fishing season is "looking good" but to maximise fishermen's chances, hundreds of "lunkers" are being released in a Dunedin lagoon and reservoirs.

Otago Fish & Game Council field officer and hatchery manager Steve Dixon said about 800 rainbow trout would be released in Southern Reservoir in Dunedin for novice anglers to try to catch at the two council Take A Kid Fishing Day events at the end of this month.

Some of the trout were "lunkers" weighing up to 6kg, he said.

The event on September 24 was full but places were available for September 30.

As the reservoir was closed for the two events, in the name of fairness, the council released more rainbow trout from the hatchery at Macraes' Oceana Gold mine for fishing licence holders to catch from October 1 when the season starts.

The release of about 100 trout in Sullivans Dam began yesterday and about 100 trout

would be released in Tomahawk Lagoon.

The children were expected to catch about 20% of the trout released into Southern Reservoir there would be plenty of fish waiting for licence holders when the season started.

The season was "looking good" and the rivers had recovered from the flood in July. "It's good to get a flush out now and again."

shawn.mcavinue@odt.co.nz

▶ VIDEO: www.odt.co.nz



Game on . . . Otago Fish & Game Council field officer and hatchery manager Steve Dixon prepares to release a rainbow trout at Sullivans Dam in Dunedin yesterday.

PHOTO: PETER MCINTOSH

Novice fishing course 'so cool'

SHAWN MCAVINUE
@thestar.co.nz

A GROUP of adult novice fishers hauled rainbow trout out of a Dunedin reservoir on Saturday and nearly 500 children will get their chance in the coming weeks.

Otago Fish and Game field officer and hatchery manager Steve Dixon said the organisation ran a course to introduce adults to trout fishing.

The course concluded with an afternoon of fishing at the Southern Reservoir on Saturday. The 20 adults fishing were a mix of men and women, aged from 18 to 69.

The group caught 14 rainbow trout, he said.

Several more rainbow trout were hooked but got away.

Course participants and workmates Jo Machebeth and Corrina Beel, both of Dunedin, fished the reservoir.

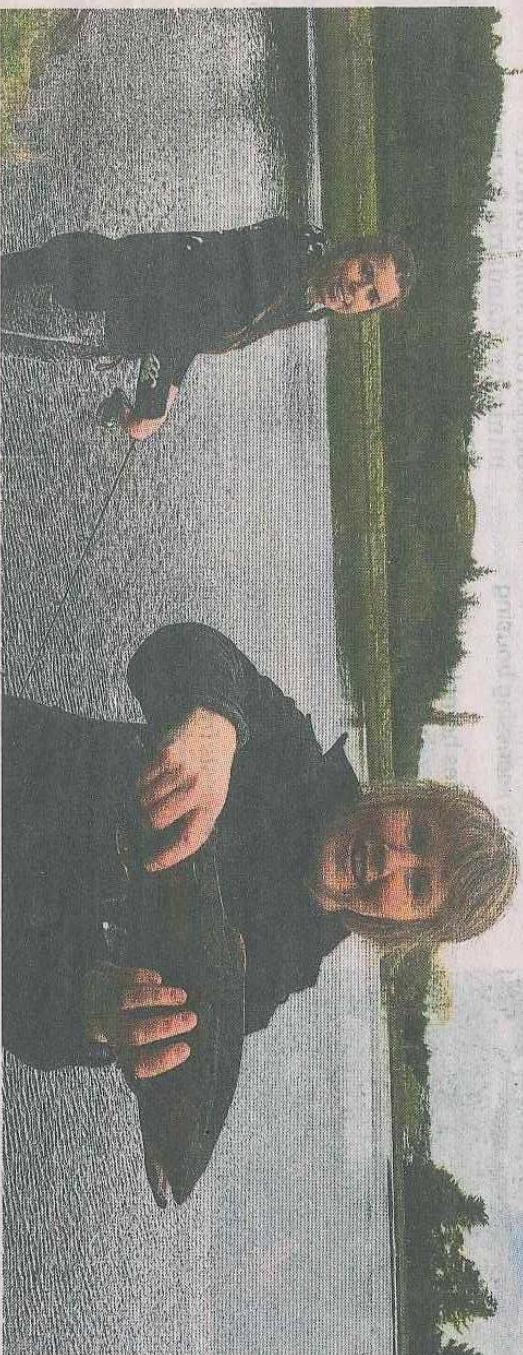
Miss Beel said she hooked a trout but failed to land it.

"I got too excited and I think I threw it off," she said, laughing. Miss Machebeth landed a male rainbow trout.

"It's the first time I've caught any fish at all," Miss Beel said. "It was so cool."

Mr Dixon released 120 rainbow trout into the reservoir for the event.

The trout, weighing from 1kg to



Hooked . . . Workmates Corrina Beel (left) and Jo Machebeth, both of Dunedin, fish for rainbow trout as part of an Otago Fish and Game novice trout-fishing course at Dunedin's Southern Reservoir on Saturday.

PHOTO: SHAWN MCAVINUE

6kg, were from the hatchery at OceanaGold's Macraes mine.

Nearly 500 children had registered for the council's Take A Kid Fishing Day events on September 24 and 30.

The number of children entering was a record. It has been held in Dunedin for the past nine years.

Another 300 rainbow trout would be released in the reservoir before September 24 and another 400 before September 30, Mr Dixon said.

Otago Fish and Game operations manager Ian Hadland said the fishing season, which

begins on October 1, looked "promising" in Dunedin despite the flooding in July.

A good flood "resets the catchment" by clearing out build-up of algae, creating new pools and freshening up gravel beaches, he said.

Rivers, such as the Taieri, were looking "quite good" and the water clarity had been "steadily improving" since the flood.

Adult brown trout were "experts" at finding cover during floods and were known to swim across flooded paddocks to eat worms and insects.

Trout spawning areas, such as Silverstream and Lindsay Creek, had "taken a hit" and eggs laid in early winter would have been "washed out or smothered in silt", he said.

But trout were "resilient" and if eggs were destroyed in a tributary, those hatching in a neighbouring tributary would ensure the impact for fishers was "marginal".

"That's why we advocate for the protection of every known spawning stream — you never know which one might be contributing to propping up the fishery for the future."

10 Correspondence

10.1 Letter from Wyndam Angling Club

From: Coralie & Alan Leitch [<mailto:cw.aj.leitch@xtra.co.nz>]

Sent: Tuesday, 7 November 2017 2:03 p.m.

To: Sharon Milne

Subject: Kiwi Anglers First

Dear Niall,

At our monthly meeting last night Mr Dave Linklater from Kiwi Anglers First addressed us.

We find that we are in agreement with his groups aims and so unanimously agreed to support him.

Everyone at the meeting had anecdotal evidence of foreign anglers and in some cases their guides taking up more than their fair share of the resource. Gone are the days of a leisurely start to the day on some of the better upland waters. It is now a mad dash in the dark to secure a stretch for the day.

This is not the New Zealand way. Enjoyment of our resource has been steadily eroded to the point where ordinary anglers like the ones in our club are saying "we have had enough".

In my own case while staying in Omarama I got in conversation with a Tasmanian who said that this was his eighth straight season on the Ahuriri. No wonder locals are becoming disillusioned! We urge you to do everything in your power to help this group in their aims.

If you could table this letter at your next council meeting showing our support for Kiwi Anglers First and their hierarchy of dealing with the foreign overfishing problem we would be most grateful.

Yours Sincerely

Alan Leitch

Honorary Secretary

Wyndham Angling Club [Inc]

Oldest continuously operating angling club in New Zealand

10.2 Lisa Britts – Casting for Recovery

Hi Sharon

I just wanted to send you through a couple for photos from our first Otago Casting for Recovery weekend in Wanaka. It was a huge success with each and every woman having a fantastic time. Most of the women caught or at least hooked a fish despite the rain!! and many new friendships were made.

Thank you for your support, and for lending Steve to us, he was brilliant

Kind Regards

Lisa Britts

CFR Co-Ordinator



11 General Business

11.1 Didymo – What is happening in Otago region?