

PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

Presented to the House of Representatives pursuant to Section 26X of the Conservation Act 1987.

Minister of Conservation Parliament Buildings WELLINGTON

Dear Minister

I have the honour to submit, pursuant to Section 26X of the Conservation Act 1987 and Section 44A of the Public Finance Act 1989, the Performance Report and Financial Statements of the Taranaki Fish and Game Council for the year ended 31 August 2018.

Yours faithfully

Paul Blewman CHAIRMAN

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL 17 November 2018

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PURPOSE OF TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Council is a Public Entity, created by statute (The Conservation Act 1987) to manage, maintain and enhance the sportsfish and game bird resources of its region, in the recreational interests of anglers and hunters. Taranaki Fish and Game derives its revenue from the sale of fish and game licences, interest, contracts for services, grants and miscellaneous sales.

OPERATION OF TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Council currently consists of 11 Councillors who were elected in November 2015. Councillors are elected three-yearly by fish and game licence holders in the Council's region. The Council meets a minimum of six times each year, at sites that enable licence holders to attend one or more council meetings should they desire.

The Council's office is in Whanganui, with a branch in New Plymouth. Council employs two staff, a Senior Field Officer in New Plymouth and a Secretary in Whanganui, and contracts a Regional Manager / Field Officer to provide management and technical skills.

DIRECTORY COUNCILLORS

Name	Locality
Paul Blewman – Chairman	Hamilton
Chris Bright	Raetihi
Gerard Karalus	Hawera
Steve Hugo	Whanganui
David Potroz	Waitara
Chris Donald	Waitara
Romon Sargeson	Waiouru
Craig McEwen	Egmont Village
Alan Flynn – New Zealand Council Appointee	New Plymouth
John Nancarrow	Inglewood
Cory Potroz	Inglewood

STAFF AND CONTRACTORS

Glenn Maclean	Regional Manager / Field Officer, Whanganui
Allen Stancliff	Senior Field Officer, New Plymouth
Jilli Steedman	Secretary, Whanganui

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New Plymouth
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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am pleased to present the 27th Performance Report of Taranaki Fish & Game Council for the year ended 31 August 2018.

A major development this year has been the implementation of an angler diary scheme across the region. This shows considerable promise as a means of monitoring the status of many of the region's fisheries and also as a measure of angler success. The results this year indicated an average catch rate for Taranaki anglers in the order of one large trout per hour. Diary respondents typically are more experienced and skilful anglers nevertheless this catch rate compares very well with other fisheries and highlights the quality of many of our local trout waters.

Council also completed its three-year study into the effectiveness of trout releases into several south Taranaki rivers. The results highlight the general lack of return to anglers from river releases and coincides with a national review of stocking practices which draws similar conclusions. Instead this review suggests the value of stocking is for small lakes and impoundments close to urban centres. This is consistent with where the Council now sees our stocking programme going and indeed fisheries like Lake Mangamahoe or on a smaller scale Sattlers Dam west of Raetihi highlight the success of this approach. Such fisheries which are easily accessible provide valued fishing opportunities for those getting into the sport but also family groups and couples seeking an easy to do, quality and fun experience together. We also recognise that if we can generally avoid stocking rivers then this will also benefit the indigenous biodiversity, albeit that these species face much bigger challenges than trout predation.

In December we repeated a juvenile trout spawning survey in the Manganuioteao River. The original work was done in the early 1980's however our survey confirmed that this river still provides high quality spawning and rearing consistent with its Water Conservation Order status. Over the year we also worked with Horizons Regional Council and Whanganui River Enhancement Trust in association with the local landowners to nearly complete the 3-year riparian fencing programme along the upper river, which will further protect the quality of the river in the long-term. In turn this will also benefit the whio (blue duck) and assist with the objectives of the Kia Wharite biodiversity programme operating in the catchment.

This fencing project is an example of the Council's desire to work with and play its part in the community with respect to addressing water quality and environmental issues. Our regional manager is part of Te Kōpuka, the strategy group for Te Awa Tupua and also on the governance group for the Whangaehu River Improvement Fund. Both of these initiatives which involve iwi, landowners, local and regional government and the wider community represent huge opportunities to collectively work together for the long-term betterment of these respective awa. The Council has also continued to actively work with several Taranaki iwi with respect to water quality and resource consent processes over the year and provided support and advice to a number of landowners seeking to protect or create new wetlands. Indeed over the year landowners in the region were successful in receiving \$28,000 from the Gamebird Habitat Trust and a further \$23,225 from the Council's own Hunting and Habitat Fund. With the significant contributions also made by each landowner this collaboration represents a major investment to reversing the decline in extent of wetlands across the region.

In terms of the Taranaki Freshwater Plan we support the Regional Council deferring this process until the flagged changes in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater and associated National Environmental Standards are clarified. Otherwise significant

resources may be expended only to become redundant once potential changes are clarified and confirmed.

In terms of gamebirds our monitoring indicated numbers in Taranaki were similar to last year which in turn were up on previous years. This reflects that the wet spring created ideal breeding conditions for ducks but these results also highlight the importance of having suitable habitat in more dry years. Our banding study in the Waimarino area over the last two years appears to demonstrate that the hunting harvest of ducks in this part of our region with low hunter numbers is negligible. Now we have this programme working well we will expand this to other parts of the region in future years, however the results to date suggest we do not need to focus too many resources into trying to set and manage precise harvest limits. Rather focusing on habitat will have the greatest impact on duck numbers.

Interestingly the gamebird survey results suggest that despite the high duck numbers over the last two seasons hunter success has only been average. This highlights that success is influenced by many factors including the weather on opening weekend, and not just duck numbers. It is also apparent that the behaviour of ducks particularly later in the season often involves living out in the paddocks rather than flocking to the traditional hunting ponds. A challenge for Council going forward is to encourage and upskill Taranaki hunters to take up these different opportunities that currently are not being well-utilised.

Very pleasing over the season was that while rangers achieved the targeted numbers of both angler and hunter licence checks no offences were detected indicating a very high level of compliance by local hunters and anglers. The Council operates a team of 13 honorary rangers who give up several days a year for training along with often their Opening Day to go ranging and we express our thanks for their efforts and contributions to maintaining their sport.

In the same light we record our appreciation of the efforts of our Hawera hatchery volunteers. These volunteers grow our fish at very low cost and allow us to stock a number of lakes and also cater for several kids fishing days which are always popular with the local community. A feature this year was their success in producing some very large and well-conditioned 2-year old trout for the Stratford Kids Fishing day which were much appreciated by the budding anglers.

Similarly I thank my fellow members of the Taranaki Fish & Game Council for their enthusiastic efforts and professionalism. As I write this new Council elections are underway but I commend the outgoing Council for the way it has gone about its business in a constructive, respectful and collaborative manner which has made for a very effective Council in my opinion. I also thank Alan Flynn for his continued very thoughtful and considered contribution as our National Council representative. Finally I thank our staff for their continued professional efforts and support for this Council. Collectively as this report highlights I think Council and staff have achieved a great deal this year.

Paul Blewman Chairman

17 October 2018

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

- 1. The Council and management of Taranaki Fish and Game Council accept responsibility for the preparation of the annual Financial Statements and the judgements used in them.
- 2. The Council and management of Taranaki Fish and Game Council accept responsibility for establishing and maintaining a system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the integrity and reliability of financial reporting.
- 3. In the opinion of the Council and management of Taranaki Fish and Game Council, the annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2018, fairly reflect the financial position and operations of Taranaki Fish and Game Council.

Chairman Paul Blewman

17 November 2018

Manager Glenn Maclean

7ี November 2018

Statement of Financial Performance For the Year Ended 31 August 2018

	Notes	Actual 2018 \$	Unaudited Budget 2018 \$	Actual 2017 \$
Revenue				
Fish and Game licence sales	1	185,758	180,695	177,117
Grant and Donations	. 1	188,932	188,820	160,575
Interest		12,599	15,848	14,119
Manganuioteao River Riparian Project		30,798	-	26,000
Other Revenue	1	18,046	10,000	20,672
Total Revenue		436,134	395,363	398,483
			·	
Expenses				
Species Management	2	36,441	25,850	24,633
Habitat Protection & Management	2	14,226	15,700	13,572
Angler / Hunter Participation	2	11,546	12,100	12,141
Public Interface	2	3,054	5,000	2,802
Compliance	2	2,533	1,500	2,088
Licencing	2	9,719	9,785	8,974
Council	2	10,184	10,500	9,130
Planning / Reporting	2	6,016	7,300	8,815
Manganuioteao River Riparian Project		44,245	-	5,525
Taranaki Hunting & Habitat Scheme		7,923	-	14,521
Overheads				
Employee and Contractor related costs	2	247,762	237,323	233,471
Depreciation	4	23,103	20,848	24,336
Other Expenses	2	65,122	70,305	50,355
Total Expenses		481,874	416,211	410,365
Surplus / (Deficit)		(45,741)	(20,848)	(11,882)

The accompanying statement of accounting policies and notes form an integral part of this performance report. This performance report should be read in conjunction with the attached Audit Report.



Statement of Financial Position As at 31 August 2018

	Notes	Actual 2018 \$	Unaudited Budget 2018 \$	Actual 2017 \$
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Bank accounts and cash	3	82,692	131,269	88,643
Debtors and prepayments	3	16,850	10,000	29,102
Total Current Assets	·	99,542	141,269	117,745
Non-Currents Assets				
Property, plant and equipment	4	111,678	57,337	82,665
Investments	3	368,072	433,520	434,871
Total Non-Current Assets		479,750	490,857	517,536
TOTAL ASSETS		579,292	632,126	635,281
LIABILITIES				
Current Liabilities				
Creditors and accrued expenses	3	30,875	46,358	41,104
Employee costs payable	3	24,573	25,000	23,816
Income In Advance		13,154	_	13,931
Total Current Liabilities		68,603	71,358	78,851
TOTAL LIABILITIES		68,603	71,358	78,851
NET ASSETS	24.44.774.44.4	510,689	560,768	556,430
ACCUMULATED FUNDS	5	510,689	560,768	556,430

The accompanying statement of accounting policies and notes form an integral part of this performance report. This performance report should be read in conjunction with the attached Audit Report.



Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 31 August 2018

	Actual 2018 \$	Actual 2017 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash was received from:		
Licence Sales	194,723	180,294
Grants, donations and fundraising	188,932	160,575
Interest	13,802	14,682
Other Revenue	30,538	23,145
GST (net)	(12,608)	5,210
Cash was applied to:		
Payments to suppliers	200,754	154,958
Payments to employees and contractors	235,266	220,785
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(20,634)	8,163
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING & FINANCING ACTIVITIES Cash was received from: Sale of property, plant and equipment Sale of investments / deposits	- 66,799	26,087 60,000
Cash was applied to:		·
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	52,116	63,909
Purchase of investments / deposits	-	14,538
Net Cash Flows from Investing and Financing	14,683	7,640
Net Increase /(Decrease) in Cash	(5,951)	15,803
Opening Cash	88,643	72,840
Closing Cash	82,692	88,643
This is represented by:		
Bank accounts and cash	82,692	

The accompanying statement of accounting policies and notes form an integral part of this performance report. This performance report should be read in conjunction with the attached Audit Report.



Statement of Accounting Policies For the Year Ended 31 August 2018

ACCOUNTING POLICIES APPLIED

Reporting Entity

The Taranaki Fish and Game Council is a Public Entity under the Public Finance Act 1989. The Council was established on 4 May 1991 with the passing of the Conservation Law Reform Act 1990. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Section 153-6 of the Crown Entities Act.

Basis of Preparation

Taranaki Fish and Game Council has elected to apply PBE SFR-A (PS) Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Public Sector) on the basis that it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses of equal to or less than \$2,000,000. All transactions in the Performance Report are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. The Performance Report is prepared under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate in the foreseeable future.

SPECIFIC ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The Council is registered for GST. All amounts are recorded exclusive of GST, except for Debtors and Creditors which are stated inclusive of GST.

Revenue Recognition

Taranaki Fish and Game Council derives revenue through the sale of fish and game licences, interest, sale of fish product, contracts, rentals, grants and miscellaneous sales.

Licence Revenue

Licence revenue is recognised in relation to the period the licence fee is earned, for example, a fish licence sold in August of the current year which relates to the next fishing season is treated as income in advance.

Grants Received

Grants are recognised as revenue when they become receivable unless there is an obligation in substance to return the funds if conditions of the grant are not met. If there is such an obligation, the grants are initially recorded as grants received in advance and recognised as revenue when the conditions of the grant is satisfied.

Grant from NZFGC

An annual grant was provided from the New Zealand Fish and Game Council, which is recognised as revenue when it is received.

Interest

Interest revenue is recorded as it is earned during the year.



Other income

Income from contracts to provide technical services, rentals and miscellaneous sales are recorded as revenue in the period they are earned.

Outputs

The Council has allocated expenditure based on the 8 output codes - Species management, Habitat Protection & management, Angler and Hunter participation, Public interface, Compliance, Licencing, Council and Planning and Reporting. These are expensed when the related service has been received.

Employee related costs

Wages, Salaries and annual leave are recorded as an expense as staff provide services and became entitled to wages, salaries.

Performance payments are recorded when the employee is notified.

Superannuation contributions are recorded as an expense as staff provide services.

Levies to NZFGC

A levy is paid each year to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council for the administration of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council, or redistribution to other Council and for advocacy and research.

Bank accounts and cash

Bank accounts and cash comprise cash on hand, cheque or savings accounts, and deposits held at call with banks.

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors are initially recorded at the amount owed. When it is likely the amount owed (or some portion) will not be collected, a provision for impairment is recognised and the loss is recorded as a bad debt expense.

Investments

Investments comprise investments in term deposits with banks.

Deposits with banks are initially recorded at the amount paid. If it appears that the carrying amount of the investment will not be recovered, it will be written down to the expected recoverable amount.

Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment is recorded at cost, less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Donated assets are recognised upon receipt of the asset if the asset has a useful life of 12 months or more, and the current value of the asset is readily obtainable and Significant donated assets are recognised upon receipt at valuation. Significant donated assets for which current values are not readily obtainable are not recognised.

For an asset to be sold, the asset is impaired if the market price for the equivalent asset falls below its carrying amount.

For an asset to be used by the Council, the asset is impaired if the value to the Council in using the asset falls below the carrying amount of the assets.

Taranaki Fish and Game Council Performance Report For The Year Ended 31 August 2018

Depreciation is both Straight Line and Diminishing Value. Rates used are:

Buildinas

25 Years

Plant & Equipment 10 – 21.6% DV

Motor Vehicles

10 - 30% DV

Office Equipment

14.4% to 80.4% DV

Creditors and accrued expenses

Creditors and accrued expenses are measured at the amount owed.

Game Bird Habitat Stamp Levy

Levies of \$3,383 (GST excl) have been collected and are paid to New Zealand Fish and Game Council per the New Zealand Game Bird Habitat Stamp Regulations 1993.

Employee costs payable

A liability for employee costs payable is recognised when an employee has earned an entitlement. These include salaries and wages accrued up to balance date and annual leave earned but not yet taken at balance date. A liability and expense for long service and retirement gratuities is recognised when the entitlement becomes available to the employee.

Restricted & Discretionary Reserves

Restricted & Discretionary reserves are those reserves subject to specific conditions accepted as binding by the Council and which may not be revised by the Council without specific purposes or when certain conditions are met.

Non-Resident Licence Income

The back country fisheries reserve is for the purposes of management of "back country fisheries". The reserve was established with the introduction of the Non-Resident Licence Fee in 2014. A portion of this licence fee is transferred to this reserve based on the number of non-resident licence sales in the financial year.

Hunting & Habitat Scheme

The Hunting & Habitat Scheme fund is for the purpose of enhancing wetlands and upland game habitat within the Taranaki region of Fish & Game. The reserve was established in 2012 to ensure that proceeds from the sale of Tom Watt Farm would be used to enhance wetlands and upland game habitat.

Fisheries Project

The Fisheries Project fund is for the purpose of enhancing freshwater fisheries within the region.

Asset Replacement Reserve

The asset replacement reserve is a reserve set up to enable Council to replace property. plant and equipment.

Manganuioteao River Riparian Project

This is a collaborative project to complete riparian fencing on the Manganujoteao River. External funds are held by Fish and Game on behalf of Fish and Game and two other third parties.

Income Tax

The Council is a Public Benefit Entity and is exempt from the payment of Income Tax in terms of the Income Tax Act 2007.



Budget Figures

The Budget figures are derived from the Council budget that was approved at the Council meeting held on 5th August 2017.

Tier 2 PBE Accounting Standards applied

The Council has not applied any Tier 2 Accounting Standards in preparing its financial statements.

Changes to Accounting Policies

There have been no changes to accounting policies, all policies have been applied on a consistent basis with previous years.



Notes to the Performance Report For the Year Ended 31 August 2018

Note 1: ANALYSIS OF REVENUE	Actual 2018 \$	Unaudited Budget 2018 \$	Actual 2017 \$
Licence Sales			
Fish licence	93,636	92,820	88,915
Non-Resident Levy	1,920	-	-
Game licence	90,202	87,875	88,202
Total	185,758	180,695	177,117
Grants and donations			
National Fish and Game Grant	188,820	188,820	160,370
Donations / koha from the public	112	-	205
Total	188,932	188,820	160,575
			·
Other Revenue			
Administrative Contracts	4,889	7,000	4,519
Gain on sale/disposal of assets	-	-	13,598
Fines / Prosecutions	-	-	304
Summer Season	417	500	435
Trout Liberations	12,180	2,000	1,474
Control	560	500	342
Total	18,046	10,000	20,672
Note 2 : ANALYSIS OF EXPENSES Species Management			
1110 Population Monitoring	8,121	7,800	6,802
1120 Harvest Assessment	2,880	3,050	3,063
1140 Hatchery	7,692	8,000	7,225
1160 Releases	15,896	5,500	6,602
1170 Regulations	. 0,000	-	-
1180 Control	1,852	1,500	941
	36,441	25,850	24,633
Habitat Protection & Management	•		
1210 Resource Management	-	100	
1230 Assisted Habitat	14,226	15,600	13,572
	14,226	15,700	13,572



	Actual 2018	Unaudited	Actual
Angler & Hunter Participation	2018 \$	Budget 2018	2017 \$
		\$	•
1310 Access	1,503	3,200	1,618
1320 Satisfaction Survey	- 0.740	300	40.000
1330 Newsletters & Magazine 1340 Other Publications	9,743	6,800 1,500	10,223
1360 Club Relations	300	300	300
Toda Gido Moladionia	11,546	12,100	12,141
Public Interface			,,,
1430 Advocacy	2,190	3,000	2,802
1440 Public Promotions	864	2,000	-
	3,054	5,000	2,802
Compliance	0.40	500	
1510 Ranging 1520 Ranger Training	242 2,291	500	1 170
1530 Compliance	2,291	1,000	1,179 909
1000 Compilarios	2,533	1,500	2,088
Licencing		-,000	
1620 Agent Servicing	1,470	750	954
1620 Commission	8,247	9,035	8,020
	9,717	9,785	8,974
Council			
1710 Council Election	707	40.500	0.400
1720 Council Meetings	9,477	10,500	9,130
Planning & Reporting	10,184	10,500	9,130
1830 Annual / Other Reporting	6,016	7,200	8,815
1840 National Liaison	-	100	-
	6,016	7,300	8,815
Employee and Contractor related costs	0.45 4.44	004.000	000 000
Salaries and Management Contract	245,441 987	234,623	229,922
Fringe Benefit Tax ACC Levies	311	600 1,100	831 431
Staff training and other expenses	1,023	1,100	2,287
Total	247,762	237,323	233,471
	,		,
Other Expenses			
Office premises	32,997	33,259	19,689
Office equipment	1,774	3,000	3,029
Communications	9,744	9,575	9,151
General Field Equipment	3,448 994	2,350 800	3,572 85
Vehicles	16,164	16,200	65 14,797
Asset Replacement Funding	10, 10 4	5,121	17,131 -
Loss on sale of disposal of assets	-	-	32
Total other expenses	65,122	70,305	50,355
The second secon	<u> </u>		

Note 3: ANALYSIS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	Actual 2018	Actual 2017
	\$	\$
Bank accounts and cash		
Current account balance	80,597	76,596
Manganuioteao River Riparian Project	2,095	12,047
Total	82,692	88,643
Debtors and other receivables		
Accounts receivable	11,054	22,759
Prepayments and accrued income	5,796	6,343
Total	16,850	29,102
Investments		
Term Deposits	368,072	434,871
Total	368,072	434,871
Creditors and accrued expenses		
Trade and other payables	21,370	19,953
Accrued Expenses	7,558	6,595
GST Due	1,948	14,556
Total	30,875	41,104
Employee costs payable		
Accrued salaries and wages	5,277	3,631
Annual leave	16,173	17,118
PAYE owing	3,123	3,067
Total	24,573	23,816



Note 4: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT 2018

	Opening Carrying		Sales /	Current Year Depreciation and	Closing Carrying
Asset Class	Amount	Purchases	Disposals	Impairment	Amount
Buildings	4,369	-	· -	572	3,797
Plant & Equipment	13,482	-		1,357	12,125
Vehicles	64,034	44,773	-	19,956	88,851
Office Equipment	780	7,343	-	1,218	6,905
Total	82,665	52,116	=	23,103	111,678
2017	•	•			

	Opening Carrying		Sales /	Current Year Depreciation and	Closing Carrying
Asset Class	Amount	Purchases	Disposals	Impairment	Amount
Buildings	4,938	-	· -	569	4,369
Plant & Equipment	10,781	3,955	-	1,254	13,482
Vehicles	38,518	59,954	12,489	21,949	64,034
Office Equipment	1,376	-	32	564	780
Total	55,613	63,909	12,521	24,336	82,665

Note 5: ACCUMULATED FUNDS

ole 3. ACCOMOLATED FUNDS		
	2018	2017
	Actual	Actual
Accumulated Funds		
Balance as at 1 September	116,717	153,421
Surplus / (Deficit)	(45,741)	(11,882)
Transfer to Reserves	(71,839)	(114,775)
Transfer from Reserves	109,446	89,953
Total Accumulated Funds 31 August	108,583	116,717
Dedicated Reserves		
Asset Replacement Reserve		
Balance as at 1 September	16,744	44,316
Transfer from Accumulated Funds	34,121	36,334
Transfer to Accumulated Funds	(50,768)	(63,906)
Balance as at 31 August	97	16,744
Non-Resident Levy		
Balance as at 1 September	3,992	2,171
Transfer from Accumulated Funds	1,920	1,821
Transfer to Accumulated Funds		
Balance at 31 August	5,912	3,992
Fisheries Project		
Balance as at 1 September	17,396	17,396
Transfer from Accumulated Funds	-	-
Transfer to Accumulated Funds	(1,510)	-
Balance at 31 August	15,886	17,396
Total Dedicated Reserves	21,895	38,132



Restricted Reserves		
Taranaki Hunting & Habitat Scheme		
Balance as at 1 September	381,106	395,324
Transfer From Accumulated Funds	-	304
Transfer to Accumulated Funds	(7,923)	(14,522)
Balance at 31 August	373,183	381,106
Manganuioteao River Riparian Project		
Balance as at 1 September	20,475	-
Transfer from Accumulated Funds	30,798	26,000
Transfer to Accumulated Funds	(44,245)	(5,525)
Balance at 31 August	7,028	20,475
Total Restricted Reserves	380,211	401,581
Total Equity as at 31 August	510,689	556,430

Note 6: COMMITMENTS & CONTINGENCIES

Commitments

There are no commitments as at balance date (Last year – nil)

Contingencies

There are no contingencies as balance date. (Last year – nil)

Note 7: OTHER

Non-Cancellable Operating Lease Commitments

Operating leases means payments for the Taranaki Fish and Game Council premises in Whanganui and New Plymouth.

Total Operating	Commitment	/ovolucivo	CCTI
Total Oberating	Commitment	rexclusive	(3)

	<u>2018</u>	2017
Less than one year	\$ 31,800	\$ 11,000
Between one and two years	\$ 31,800	\$ 11,000
Between three and five years	\$ 95,400	\$ 33,000
Beyond five years	\$ 102,433	\$ 45,833
	<u>\$ 261,433</u>	<u>\$ 100,833</u>



Note 8: RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Related-party disclosures have not been made for transactions with related parties that are within a normal supplier of client/recipient relationship on terms and conditions no more or less favourable than those that it is reasonable to expect the Council would have adopted in dealing with the party at arm's length in the same circumstances.

Related-party transactions significant to the Council that require disclosure:

		2018 \$	2017 \$	2018 \$	2017 \$
Related Party	Description of the Transaction	Value	Value	Amount Outstanding	Amount Outstanding
New Zealand Fish and Game Council	Grant received	188,820	160,370	-	-
Ruapehu Fish & Game Club	Annual grant paid	300	300		-

Note 9: EVENTS AFTER BALANCE DATE

There were no events that have occurred after the balance date that would have a material impact on the Performance Report.



Note 10: ALLOCATION OF OVERHEADS TO OUTPUT AREAS FOR 2018

In the Statement of Performance, overheads are allocated across the 8 Output areas based on the hours worked within those Outputs over the year. Below is the calculation for distributing the overheads across the output area.

ACTUAL 2018

	Actual		Allocation of	Total Costs
Output Area	Direct	Actual Hours	Overheads	per Output
Species Management	36,441	927	108,958	145,399
Habitat Management	14,226	578	67,956	82,182
Angler & hunter participation	11,546	237	27,835	39,381
Public interface	3,055	404	47,469	50,524
Compliance	2,533	207	24,308	26,841
Licencing	9,720	51	5,967	15,686
Council	10,184	231	27,129	37,313
Planning & reporting	6,016	224	26,365	32,382
Totals	93,719	2,858	335,987	429,707

Actual Overheads

Employee and contractor
costs 247,762
Depreciation 23,103
Other Expenses (incl ARF) 65,122
Total Overheads to Allocate 335,987

UNAUDITED BUDGET 2018

			Allocation	
	Actual		of	Total Costs
Output Area	Direct	Actual Hours	Overheads	per Output
Species Management	25,850	865	85,789	111,639
Habitat Management	15,700	900	89,260	104,960
Angler & hunter participation	12,100	290	28,761	40,861
Public interface	5,000	420	41,655	46,655
Compliance	1,500	282	27,968	29,468
Licencing	9,785	80	7,934	17,719
Council	10,500	180	17,852	28,352
Planning & reporting	7,300	295	29,257	36,557
Totals	87,735	3,312	328,476	416,211

Allocation

Actual Overheads

Employee and contractor
costs 237,323
Depreciation (incl ARF) 20,848
Other Expenses 70,305
Total Overheads to Allocate 328,476



Statement of Performance For the Year Ended 31 August 2018

Introduction

This section of the Annual Report sets out what was planned to be achieved in each of the projects undertaken, as stated in the Council's Annual Plan, and against this reports what was actually achieved.

1100	Species Management				
	External Costs	Hours	Internal Costs	Income	Net Costs
Budget	25,850	865	85,789	3,000	108,639
Actual	36,442	927	108,959	13,157	132,243

PROJECT	FISH POPULATION ASSE	SSMENT
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
To keep Council informed of the state of the region's sports fish populations.	1. Report to Council detailing the status of the sports fish population and implications for management by 31 August 2018.	A fishery monitoring report was received by the Council on 3 November 2018. The report details the successful establishment of a voluntary angler diary scheme which shows an average catch-rate of one large trout per hour across the regions fisheries. These anglers tend to be experienced nevertheless this catch rate is comparable to many much more well-known fisheries.
(Mgt Plan ref para 1.2.7, 2.1.8, 2.2.3)	2. Baseline trout population information obtained and reported for the Manganuioteao River (year 2 of 2). 3. Opportunities to enhance the Timaru Stream fishery investigated and reported to Council.	A 3-day electric fishing survey was carried out in the Manganuioteao River catchment which showed that spawning and rearing conditions remain excellent. The outstanding recreational fishery in this river is reflected in the WCO in place. Work on this planned result was deferred until 2018/19.



PROJECT	GAME BIRD POPULATION	N ASSESSMENTS
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
A robust system of game bird population assessment is operative, to enable sustainable population management.	1. Presentation to the Council detailing population status and implications for management of the region's black swan and paradise shelduck populations. The report to be presented to Council at its first planned meeting in 2018.	A 2018 game bird trend count report detailing the results of summer population assessments of the Taranaki Region's black swan and paradise shelduck populations, with management implications was presented to the Council on 10 February 2018. This report showed shelduck populations were stable but at their low end over much of the region, and declining in Taranaki where they had been at a high point. In response Council reduced the daily bag limit for Opening Weekend in this sub-area.
	2. Study continued into the movement of mallards between the Taranaki high country and coastal regions and the implications for long-term monitoring programme.	Finalised 2017 & 2018 band return details, developed methodology for logging and tracking band returns and calculated an initial Waimarino population estimate. The results indicate that hunting in this area only harvests a very small proportion of the population.
	3. Mallard monitoring protocol based around banding in the Waimarino Region and aerial counts on the Taranaki ring plain implemented and the 2nd year's results reported to Council	Banding carried out at 4 sites in the Waimarino. Aerial counts of dabbling duck were carried out on 6 April 2018 along 20 transects on the Taranaki ringplain. The aerial counts remained high consistent with the wet spring and a successful breeding.
(Mgt Plan ref para 1.2.7, 2.2.3)	4. Pukeko counts conducted in April and shoveler duck counts in August. Analysis presented to Council by 31st of December 2017 as part of the Draft Game Gazette	Pukeko monitoring was carried out in April 2018 in area C. Shoveler monitoring was carried out on 7 & 9 August 2018 as part of a national survey. Counts in this region were consistent with the long-term counts.
	notice.	Reported to Council 2 December 2017 as part of the 2018 Game Gazette Notice.

PROJECT	NATIONAL HUNTER SUR	VEY
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
An effective system of harvest assessment for game birds is operative.	Full participation in Fish & Game New Zealand's national hunter harvest survey during the 2018 game season, and including recording of banded birds shot.	The region participated fully in the national hunter harvest survey during the 2018 game bird season. Survey questions were expanded to enquire about banded ducks.
(Mgt Plan ref para 1.2.7)	2. Hunter survey results for 2017 game season included in analysis presented to Council by 31st December 2017 as part of draft Game Gazette Notice.	Results reported to Council 2 December 2017 as part of the 2018 Game Gazette Notice. The estimated harvest was low compared to long-term trends despite the high duck numbers monitored. This reinforces that many factors affect hunting success rather than just bird numbers.



PROJECT	SPECIAL GAME BIRD SEASONS		
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result	
The maximisation of recreational opportunities for paradise shelduck hunters, and the dispersal and harvest	The co-ordination of a 2-weekend special game bird hunting season for paradise shelduck in Area C.	A 2 weekend special paradise shelduck season was held on 24 & 25 February 2018 and 3 and 4 March 2018, in Area C.	
of post moult congregations of paradise shelduck.	2. Presentation to Council by 31 August 2018 of the results of the 2018 Special Game Bird Season.	A report on the 2018 special paradise shelduck season was received by Council on 9 th June 2018. 137 permits were issued in total. 42 permits were issued free of charge to land occupiers.	
	3. When appropriate promote the use of recreational hunters to landowners with paradise duck problems.	A register of all authorities to disturb game birds has been maintained. Hunter access to one property was facilitated for the 2018 main season.	
(Mgt Plan ref para 3.2.13, 3.2.14)	Income of \$500 was budgeted	Actual income of \$417 was received.	

PROJECT	HATCHERY	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The maintenance of trout fisheries in the region's lakes and rivers by the operation of a cost effective hatchery program.	1. To rear up to 3,000 healthy trout (fingerling, yearling and two year old) consistent with identified needs at the Hawera hatchery.	A total of 2,114 healthy fingerling and yearling trout were successfully raised in the Council's hatchery at Hawera as at 31 August 2018. The reduced number reflects a significant one-off mortality caused by a faulty tap in the hatchery.
		A total of 3,500 eyed rainbow ova were received from the Eastern Fish & Game Region's Ngongataha hatchery on 19 July 2018.
	Trial rearing 300 2- year old trout for Stratford Fishing Day.	The trial rearing was very successful with 290 rainbow trout produced, weighing up to 1.5kg. These fish were very well received by the anglers and volunteers at the fishing day.
		An exotic disease response plan was completed, signed off and a response kit implemented.
(Mgt Plan ref para 2.1.10)	3. Complete review of hatchery requirements and options to meet these and report to Council.	Review waiting on final results of expert angler diary scheme and also National Policy on stocking. Ova numbers reduced to reflect a likely reduced need for releases to rivers.



PROJECT	TROUT LIBERATIONS	The Market
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The maintenance of trout fisheries in the region's lakes and rivers by the operation of a cost-effective liberation program.	1. Release of up to 3,000 healthy trout into lakes and rivers where the species already exists and release is appropriate, these releases reported to Council by 31 August 2018.	During the 2017/2018 financial year, a total of 2,562 fingerling or yearling brown and rainbow trout were released into four lakes and two rivers in the region. The angler diary results indicate these releases sustain valued fisheries in Lake Mangamahoe and the Stony River in particular. A 2017/ 2018 Hatchery and Trout Liberations report was received by Council on 3 November 2018.
	2. Release of up to 900 healthy two year old rainbow trout into approved waters to provide immediate angling opportunity.	A total of 600 two-year-old rainbow trout were released into three lakes in the Taranaki Region, during the 2017/18 financial year. Details of the species and year class of fish released during the reporting period can be found at Appendix 1.
	3. Complete year 3 year study into the value of stocking specific streams and report to Council with recommendations.	Year 3 completed and report on the south Taranaki rainbow release trial with recommendations received by Council on 3 November 2018. This report indicates that stocking rivers to supplement wild populations is ineffective.
(Mgt Plan ref para 2.2.3)	Income of \$2,000 was budgeted	Actual income of \$1,180 from the Stratford Fishing Section was received, and \$11,000 from Trustpower for lower Patea River releases.

PROJECT	KEEP AND RELEASE APPROVALS		
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result	
To meet statutory requirements for the keeping and release of fish and game species.	1. Provision of advice as required on proposals to keep, rear or release game birds and to keep or release sports fish.	Advice and information on rearing and releasing game birds and releasing sports fish into ponds on private land was made available to enquirers throughout the period.	
	Recommendations made to DoC on the issue of such permits.	An agenda paper on captive reared mallards was prepared for Council's 10 February 2018 meeting.	
	Liaison with F&G National Office regarding streamlining the process	Provided advice and comments to National representatives working on this issue	
(Stat Ref Secs 53, 56 Wildlife Act, Sec 26 ZM Conservation Act)	for application and approval to rear and release gamebirds.		



PROJECT	SEASON REGULATIONS		
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result	
Maintenance and improvement of regional sports fish and game bird resources through recommendations to the Minister of Conservation on conditions for fishing and game bird hunting seasons.	1. Draft recommendations and supporting information regarding the 2018 gamebird hunting conditions and 2019 Special Season conditions provided to Council for the December 2017 meeting.	The draft 2018 game bird hunting season condition recommendations were approved by the Taranaki Fish and Game Council on 2 December 2017 and sent to the NZ Fish and Game Council on 17th December 2017 The final 2018 game bird hunting season condition recommendations were confirmed at Council's 10 February 2018 meeting. The only significant change in light of the January moult counts was to reduce the paradise shelduck opening weekend daily bag limit for Area C to 10 birds consistent with the rest of the region.	
	2. Council's recommendations for 2018 game bird hunting season conditions are accurately incorporated into the 2018 Game Gazette Notice and supporting information.	The draft gazette notice and 2018 game regulation booklet were reviewed and signed off.	
·	3. Recommendations and supporting information regarding the 2018/2019 sports fishing conditions provided to Council for the June 2018 meeting.	The draft 2018/2019 fishing season condition recommendations were approved by Council on 9 June 2018 and were dispatched to NZ Fish and Game Council on 13th June 2018. No significant changes were sought.	
(Mgt Plan ref para 2.2.3, 3.2.13)	4. Council's recommendations for 2018/2019 sports fishing conditions are accurately incorporated into 2018 Anglers' Notice and supporting information.	The draft gazette notice and 2018/19 fish regulation booklet were reviewed and signed off.	

PROJECT	GAME BIRD DISPERSAL	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The dispersal or	Proactively assist with	64 permits to disturb game birds were issued
control of	the dispersal of unwanted	reflecting that Council actively worked with
congregations of	congregations of game	landowners to minimise the impacts of
game birds, where	birds that are notified to	gamebird aggregations.
they cause	the Council throughout the	The 2018 Game Bird Disturbance Report was
unacceptable damage	year.	received by Council on 3 November 2018.
to farmers' pasture or		·
crops.		
	Income of \$500 was	Gas gun hire of \$560 received
(Mgt Plan ref para	budgeted from the hire of	•
1.1.1, 2.1.3, 2.2.3)	gas guns.	



1200	Habitat Management				
	External Costs	Hours	Internal Costs	Income	Net Costs
Budget	15,700	900	89,260	-	104,960
Actual	14,226	578	67,956	-	82,182

PROJECT	RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT PLANNING AND CONSENTS		
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result	
The protection and enhancement of habitat by advocacy in Resource Management Act processes, and in	1. Make effective submissions on resource consent applications and statutory plan proposals to best achieve sports fish and game bird habitat	During 2017/2018, the Council continued to be well involved in Resource Management Act Planning and Consents processes, advocating for measures to protect trout and wetland habitat and also access.	
other processes having a bearing on habitat values or hunting and angling opportunities.	protection and enhancement and / or to maintain or enhance hunting or angling access and opportunity.	Resource consent pre-application discussions were held on 18 occasions and 5 approvals were given for consent applications to be processed as non-notified.	
		8 submissions were made to limited-notified resource consent applications.	
		Agreement was reached and Council's request to be heard was withdrawn in relation to 1 limited-notified consent application.	
		Four submissions were made to a draft District Plan and District and Regional Long-term Plans.	
		Hearing and 7 resource consent stakeholder meetings were attended.	
		Staff attended meetings, held discussions with or provided comment to landowners, developers or local or regional authorities on 14 occasions in connection with resource consents or district/regional planning.	
	2. Engage in and actively advocate for protection and / or enhancement of sports fish and game bird habitat in the Taranaki Freshwater Plan Review process.	Notification of the Proposed Taranaki Freshwater Plan has been delayed until 2020. A TRC discussion document on water allocation was reviewed and there was liaison with the TRC about progress with the review. Given the potential changes to the NPS and NES that have been flagged Council supports this process being delayed until there is clarity as to what the plan must achieve.	
(Mgt Plan ref para 2.2.9)	3. Complete strategic review of how Council best engages in RMA processes to achieve habitat and wider outcomes with available resources.	On hold pending development of the Freshwater Plan, the structure and content of which will influence how Council needs to be involved in future RMA processes.	



PROJECT	SPORTS FISH HABITAT ENHANCEMENT		
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result	
The protection and enhancement of trout habitat including the promotion and support for improved riparian management and protection.	Provision of advice and promotion of effective management of riparian land margins throughout the region.	Staff provided advice and information to landowners on the enhancement of riparian land throughout the period. Staff worked with Horizons RC and utilising funding from Whanganui River Enhancement Trust (WRET) to nearly complete the planned work programme for the Manganuioteao River Riparian Project. A summary of expenditure and income was prepared, along with an annual report. This project in association with local landowners ensures that the upper river is protected further protecting the values recognised in the Water Conservation Order. The project also benefits the Kia Wharite biodiversity programme operating in the catchment.	
	2. Take opportunities to advocate for maintenance of flows to protect fishery values in recognized trout streams.	Staff met with Horizons RC to discuss Orautoha Stream monitoring and sediment management and agreed to work together to identify a planned programme of works. Poor water quality in New Plymouth's Lake Rotomanu remains a serious concern to Council and was highlighted in submissions to the TRC & NPDC. The poor water quality is due to the intake now often being higher than the river level. There was also liaison with the TRC about re-survey of Waiwhakaiho River bed levels from SH3 down past Lake Rotomanu.	
(Mgt Plan ref para 2.2.9)	3. Undertake and assist with efforts to keep didymo and other aquatic threats out of the Taranaki Fish & Game Region.	Staff kept up to date with developments in the Ministry for Primary Industries Freshwater Pest Partnership Programme and included the Check, Clean, Dry message in publicity material. There was liaison with the TRC's summer CCD advocate and their attendance at the Stratford kids' trout fishing day was organised.	



PROJECT	GAME BIRD HABITAT ENHANCEMENT			
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result		
The enhancement of game bird habitat.	1. Provision of advice to licence holders and landholders regarding the enhancement of game bird habitat and predator control.	Staff provided information and advice on gamebird habitat enhancement and predator control to hunters and landholders as opportunities arose, including through the gamebird hunting newsletter.		
	2. Provision of information and advice to applicants for GBHTB grants. Act where necessary as referees for	Staff undertook site visits and acted as referees for 4 2018 applications to the GBHTB. Two applications were successful in securing grants totalling \$7,000.		
	projects and monitor the implementation of successful applications to ensure works are carried out to the agreed standard.	Site visits were made and final referee's reports prepared for 2 completed GBHTB projects that were allocated funding in 2017. These projects which also received Hunting & Habitat funding have created extensive and high-quality wetland habitat which is of benefit to all wetland species		
		Staff undertook a site visit and wrote a report on the outcome of a Taranaki project receiving GBHTB funding in 2012, as part of a 5-year rolling review.		
	3. Promote the need for and provide advice and examples regarding predator control programmes and any other outcomes from the Mallard Research project.	Raised with landowners whenever discussing wetland improvements or developments. Undertook a trial to identify predators around a wetland complex using game cameras which highlighted the prevalence of cats as the main predators at the site studied. Reviewed research findings on heavy metals in mallards		
(Mgt Plan ref para 2.2.9)	4. Explore options for a wider Nukumaru conservation area involving the respective landowners and agencies.	No progress with this.		



PROJECT	TARANAKI HUNTING & HABITAT SCHEME			
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result		
The provision of hunting opportunities by developing and enhancing regional game bird habitat	1. Actively promote the Hunting & Habitat Scheme to regional licence holders and landowners including through site visits, regional newspapers, newsletters and other	The Hunting & Habitat Scheme was promoted in the 2018 Hunting Newsletter which was sent to licence holders and all rural delivery addresses within the region. Staff undertook site visits and provided information and advice on the Hunting & Habitat Scheme to hunters and regional		
	media.	landholders as opportunities arose. Council approved funding for 5 projects totalling \$23,225 (GST incl)		
	2. Provide support for applicants to the Hunting & Habitat Scheme including advice on design and construction and onsite assistance to create high quality wetlands and hunting opportunities.	Construction works completed for 2 approved projects with a 3 rd postponed until summer 2018/19 due to the prevailing wet conditions. One project signed off and committed funding paid out.		
(Mgt Plan ref para 2.2.9)	3. Identify and actively pursue suitable opportunities for development of council owned wetlands.	There were no opportunities for the development or purchase of council owned wetlands during the year.		



1300	Participation and Satisfaction of Anglers and Hunters				
	External Co	sts Hours	Internal Costs	Income	Net Costs
Budget	12,100	290	28,761	-	40,861
Actual	11,546	237	27,835	-	39,381

PROJECT	ANGLER ACCESS / OPPORTUNITIES		
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result	
The promotion and improvement of angler access and use of regional sports fisheries.	Resolution of how best to provide access information to licence holders.	Access information and brochures were made available to licence holders and the general public at Fish & Game Offices, Ruatiti Domain and at licence agents throughout the region.	
	 Production of updated Waimarino access pamphlet. Production of an updated Taranaki Ringplain brochure to reflect the new regulations (year 1 of 2). 	A decision was made to focus on using the web to provide digital access information to licence holders, rather than hard-copy pamphlets. This reflects that most people now look to the web to access information, and also represents a significant cost saving to Council. Information can also be more easily updated. The web-based information was reviewed and expanded to provide detailed and useful guidance (in draft).	
	4. Implement any identified opportunities for increased angling access around Lake Mangamahoe and design and erect angling information signs that are consistent with the signs policy.	Approval was obtained from Trustpower and NPDC to construct an additional casting platform at Lake Mangamahoe. It was confirmed that the structure would meet the permitted activity requirements of the TRC's Freshwater Plan. Plans for the structure were drawn up and reviewed by an engineer. There was ongoing liaison with NPDC about incorporating Fish & Game signage into existing signs at Lake Mangamahoe to minimise clutter and the visual intrusion	
	5. Replace / erect new signs consistent with priorities and needs identified in 2017.	A signs register was prepared. Angler regulation signs were removed from 3 rivers. A sign for the Trustpower Patea trout release trial was produced. An updated sign and walking access track markers for Lake Namunamu were designed and agreed with the landowner. All new signs are designed to a consistent and uniform format to improve brand recognition.	
(Mgt Plan ref para 2.2.13, 2.2.16)	6. Liaison with the Walking Access Commission to identify potential improvements in public access.	Met with Walking Access representative along with representative of potential owner of several forests, regarding game bird hunting access. Options identified to allow a number of different users to access the forest in such ways as not to impact on each other.	



PROJECT	HUNTER ACCESS / OPPO	RTUNITIES
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Significant and measurable improvements in the delivery by the Council of opportunities for game bird hunters.	1. Negotiate, allocate and issue access permits to publicly available hunting areas for the 2018 game bird hunting season.	Permits for hunter access to two areas within the region were negotiated and produced free of charge to licenced game bird hunters. Provided recommendations to DOC on behalf of hunters seeking permits to access to three conservation areas.
	2. Actively seek and develop opportunities for game bird hunter access.	Met with potential forest owner regarding access opportunities. There was also promising discussion with the Forest Certification audit regarding hunter access to forests east of Stratford.
	3. Refine mentoring programme for new or young shooters utilising Hawkens Wetland and any other identified opportunities.	Met with the landowner to discuss the direction for this programme and other potential opportunities. To date there has been little interest from young shooters and Council needs to reassess how we approach this.
(Mgt Plan ref para 2.2.13, 2.2.16)	4. Review criteria / policy to rear and release upland game and provide recommendations to Council.	On hold pending the outcome of national discussions regarding delegation of permit authorities.

PROJECT	LICENCE HOLDER SATISFACTION SURVEY		
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result	
To keep Council informed of the level of licence holder satisfaction by the monitoring of hunter and angler activities and opinions.	1. Implement a survey of angler success and satisfaction for key fisheries in the region as identified in 2014/15 National Angling Survey or by other needs.	An angler diary scheme was implemented for major rivers and lakes in the region. Diary information for the 2017-18 season was tabulated and the information included in a report presented to Council's 3 November 2018 meeting. This provided information on average catch-rates which indicate generally high levels of success.	
(Mgt Plan ref para 1.2.7)	2. Survey and report to Council on the aspirations of Upland Gamebird hunters.	A survey was designed and created using Survey Monkey ready to send at the season end. This identified that this survey methodology is also a practical method to assess angler satisfaction above.	



PROJECT	FISH AND GAME MAGAZINE		
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result	
The informing and education of anglers and hunters by the provision of information.	Provide a regional supplement in each of the two special editions of Fish & Game Magazine to be published during the reporting year.	A regional supplement of two pages was provided in Special Editions 46 and 47 of Fish and Game Magazine.	
(Mgt Plan ref para 1.2.7, 2.2.16)			

PROJECT	REGIONAL NEWSLETTER		
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result	
The informing and education of regional anglers and hunters by the provision of information.	Publication of Hunting and Fishing newsletters for regional licence holders and hunting landowners.	An 8 page Regional Angling Newsletter was posted to Taranaki licence holders on 13 December 2017. An 8 page Regional Hunters Newsletter was posted to gamebird licence holders and all rural delivery box holders within the region on 24 April 2018. This has increased the cost but ensures landowners hunting on their own property without a licence still receive the information. It also provides a mechanism	
(Mgt Plan ref para		to interact and share information with other	
1.2.7, 2.2.16)		non-hunter landowners.	

PROJECT	REGIONAL FISH & GAME WEB SITE		
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result	
The informing and education of anglers and hunters by the	Publication of information, material and articles of interest to	Web pages were kept up to date throughout the year.	
provision of information.	hunters and anglers on the regional pages of the Fish & Game web site. Update of existing pages when new platform is available and thereafter information is regularly updated and easy to find and read.	An article promoting the Rotomanu & Opunake Lake kids' trout fishing days was added to the website and the Lake Namunamu information updated. Links to local angling information were resolved so it was easier to find. The introductory text was updated and work advanced on reviewing and updating angling information and access for the Region's rivers and lakes. New draft information on hunting pheasants was also developed.	
	Develop local Facebook page or in association with National Office.	On hold while resolving existing web pages	
(Mgt Plan ref para 1.2.7, 2.2.16)	3. The production of at least 6 Reel life articles and 2 Both Barrels articles.	Staff produced 10 articles for Reel life and 4 articles for Both Barrels ezines.	



PROJECT	CLUB VISITS		
Objective	Planned Result Actual Result		
Represent Council interests at local fishing and hunting clubs.	Council representation at recreational hunting and fishing club meetings across the region.	Councillors D. Potroz, C. Donald, C. McEwen, J. Nancarrow and C. Potroz are members of the Inglewood Rod, Gun & Recreation Club and they attended meetings throughout the year. Councillor Bright is a member of the Ruapehu Fish & Game Club and he attends meetings throughout the year.	
(Mgt Plan ref para 1.2.7, 2.2.19)		The Senior Field Officer attended five meetings of the Inglewood Rod, Gun & Recreation Club.	



1400	F	Public Interface			
	External Costs	Hours	Internal Costs	Income	Net Costs
Budget	5,000	420	41,655	-	46,655
Actual	3,055	404	47,469	-	50,524

PROJECT	LIAISON	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
In relation to planning, to liaise with local Conservation Boards.	1. Liaison with Department of Conservation and Conservation Boards and where appropriate attend Conservation Board meetings within the Taranaki Fish & Game Region.	There was liaison with the Department of Conservation regarding the NPDC's Mangorei Stream weir; 7 water take resource consent applications; fish passage issues at the SH45 Otakeho Stream and Mangatoki Stream Opunake Road culverts, and Project Mounga.
(Mgt Plan ref para 3.2.8, 3.3.8, 3.3.14)	2. Where possible proactively engage and work co-operatively with Regional and District councils, other organisations and groups and the rural community.	Took an active role in Nga Wai Ora o te Whangaheu and agreed to be part of the Governance Group for Nga Wai Ora o te Whangaehu Freshwater Improvement Fund. This programme involving iwi, local and regional government, community and other groups is taking a proactive and collaborative approach to address the health of the Whangaehu catchment. Staff attended the launch of the TRC's "towards a Predator Free-Taranaki" project.



PROJECT	IWI LIAISON	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
To develop effective working relationships with iwi over matters of mutual interest and give effect to the	Proactively engage and work with iwi within the region on matters of mutual interest, concern and benefit.	Taranaki Fish and Game Council worked closely with iwi groups as opportunities arose reflecting that we have many shared concerns and also skills and knowledge to contribute.
principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.		Examples include working with the Te Korowai o Ngaruahine Trust regarding applications to take water from streams for pastoral irrigation, STDC consents for community water supply, fish passage issues at SDC culverts and the Opunake hydro scheme.
•		There was also liaison with Te Atiawa regarding an application to vary a quarry discharge consent.
		There was liaison with Te Kahui o Taranaki regarding applications to take water from streams for pastoral irrigation, the Cold Creek water supply scheme and fish passage issues to two stream road culverts. The launch of the Taranaki Iwi's environmental management plan "Taiao Taiora" was attended.
		There was informal liaison with Ngati Rangi Trust regarding opportunities to work together.
		The Manager agreed to represent Auckland/ Waikato and Taranaki Fish & Game on the Te Awa Tupua Strategy Group and an agenda paper was prepared for the June 2018 meeting. This paper identifies that Council is optimistic for what is an innovative and collaborative approach to looking after Te wa Tupua (Whanganui River) and keen to contribute. Staff also met with students researching this group.
(Stat. ref Sec 4,		
Conservation Act) (Mgt Plan ref para		Staff attended an update meeting with the Office of Treaty Settlements about the Taranaki
3.5.1, 3.5.6)		Maunga negotiations.



PROJECT	ADVOCACY		
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result	
Advocate in the interests of the Fish & Game resource and its users	1. Promote the protection of fresh water, wetland and upland game habitats and the wider benefits of this.	The Council's Senior Field Officer attended 4 meetings of the Taranaki Biodiversity Trust (Wild for Taranaki), but retired from the WfT Board by rotation and did not seek re-election. Staff and the Chairman attended the TRC	
		Environmental Awards where the SFO was awarded an Action in the Community Award.	
		Staff helped with a WfT World Wetlands Day promotion at PukeAriki and a WfT display at WOMAD. The SFO participated in a video to support the launch of WfT's "Restore Taranaki" project and attended the launch.	
	2. Represent the interests of anglers and hunters, and promote the validity of fishing and game bird hunting.	A talk on freshwater sports fishing and environmental protection was given to the Westown Scout Group. A talk on wetlands was given to the Taranaki Hospice. The 2018 gamebird hunting newsletter was sent to all	
(Mgt Plan ref para 4.12.1)		rural delivery box holders in the region.	

PROJECT	INFORMATION TO LICENCE HOLDERS INCLUDING HUNTING AND ANGLING PROMOTIONS			
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result		
Promote recreational angling and encourage participation by young anglers.	Support trout fishing events, using liberations of 2 year old rainbow trout, to encourage participation and family involvement	Three kids trout fishing days held at Lake Rotomanu, Opunake Lake and in the Patea River at Stratford were attended by a total of 303 children. 100 trout were released into Sattlers Dam and publicised with a press release in the Ruapehu Bulletin. This fishing opportunity proved very popular with local families and children.		
	2. Production of Regional Stillwater Sports Fisheries pamphlet with an emphasis on perch (year 2 of 2).	A permit to undertake a winter fishing trial for perch was renewed. With the decision to put all information on the website this information will also go here, and the pamphlet will not now be produced.		
	3. Develop displays that promote local fishing and hunting opportunities in association with National Office	There was discussion with the National Office about working together to design new displays.		



The informing and education of anglers and hunters by the provision of information.	Production of pamphlet "Introduction to Pheasant Hunting in the Taranaki Region.	The 2018 gamebird hunting guide information was updated. A draft of the text to go on the website was completed.
	Provide timely and useful information to licence holders when requested. Proactively	Written and verbal information was provided to licence holders as and when requested throughout the reporting period.
	utilise opportunities such as newspapers, website and public events to make information available.	Information was provided to assist with an article in the Hunting & Fishing game season catalogue. A talk was given at the Whanganui Hunting & Fishing duckshooters' night. The Manager filmed a clip on correctly handling trout for the Pure Fly TV programme. A photo opportunity was organised with the Daily News to highlight issues with Lake Rotomanu water quality.
		29 hunting or fishing articles were provided to newspapers in the region during the year. An article on a kids' trout fishing promotion was provided to 1 radio station.
(Stat Ref 26 Q(1)c(ii), Conservation Act. Mgt Plan Ref para 1.2.7, 2.2.10, 2.2.16)	3. Opportunities for publicity on angling and hunting are taken and copies of coverage reported to Council	At least 20 articles about angling & hunting occurred in print and on-line media as a result of Council press releases. Copies of coverage were reported to Council

1500	Compliance				
	External Costs	External Costs Hours Internal Costs Income Net Costs			
Budget	1,500	282	27,968	-	29,468
Actual	2,533	207	24,308	-	26,841

PROJECT	RANGER MANAGEMEN	Τ
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The protection and enhancement of the region's trout and game bird resources by the operation of an enforcement program consistent with the	1. The recruitment, training and skill maintenance of Council's Honorary Fish & Game Ranger team is consistent with the Compliance Policy and	The Council operated 13 honorary rangers and 2 warranted staff over the year consistent with the objectives of the Compliance Strategy. This included issuing two new Ranger warrants and renewing two other initial warrants. All warrants must be renewed in October 2018 and the warrant renewal process was initiated.
compliance policy and strategy and including utilising properly trained honorary rangers.	Strategy. 2. Provision of safety and compliance training and maintenance of compliance skills is provided on at least two occasions during the year.	A 1-day Ranger training refresher was held on 9 September 2017, attended by 10 Rangers & 2 staff. Two rangers completed CERT refresher training. A game season Ranger training day was held on 21 April 2018, attended by 10 Rangers & 2 staff.
(Mgt Plan ref para	3. Comprehensive report detailing compliance activities including ranger management and results over the year presented to Council by	A 2017/2018 Compliance report was presented at council's 3 November 2018 meeting.
2.2.23)	31 August 2018.	·

PROJECT	COMPLIANCE	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Hunters and anglers comply with all legal requirements and current season regulations.	1. Compliance checks and any prosecutions are completed consistent with the Compliance Policy and Strategy and also the Reparation Policy.	Fish & Game Rangers carried out a successful joint ranging operation with NZ Police on Opening Weekend of the 2018 game season. This was the first time Council has worked with the Police looking at gamebird compliance and also safe firearm use, and in light of the results is an approach we will look to continue. Taranaki Fish and Game Rangers checked a total of 100 anglers and 104 hunters during the year. This reached the targets identified in the Council's Compliance Strategy and represented 8.2% of the Taranaki Fish and Game licences sold during the 2017-2018 year.
(Mgt Plan ref para 2.2.23)		Compliance with the regulations was 100% which is particularly pleasing for the Council. Over the year Council had to defer its reparation policy for minor offences in light of the Pike River High Court decision on such schemes. The Council has replaced this with a formal diversion process.



1600	Licencing			
	External Costs	Hours	Internal Costs	Net Costs
Budget	9,785	80	7,934	17,719
Actual	9,719	51	5,967	15,686

PROJECT	LICENCING	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
To issue hunting and fishing licences in such a way that they are readily available and easily purchased.	Hunters and anglers are aware of and can quickly and easily buy their licences on-line.	2018 game licences were available for sale at licence agents throughout the Taranaki region by 31 March 2018. 2017 / 2018 Fishing licences were made available for sale at licence agents throughout the Taranaki region on 21 August 2017.
(Stat. Ref Sec 26Q(1)(f), Conservation Act) (Mgt Plan ref para 2.2.25)	2. Progress reporting on licence sales provided to the Council throughout the year.	Progress reports on licence sales were provided to the Council during the year. Licence sales are tabulated in Appendix 2 and show a 1% increase in game licence LEQs sold over last season and 6.9% increase in fishing licence LEQs.



PROJECT	LICENCE AGENT SERVICING			
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result		
To maintain a cost effective and efficient licence agent network.	Successfully manage the transition to on-line sales through provision of ready support and	Licence Agents were managed in accordance with Council policy. All agents are now using the online licencing system.		
	assistance to agents.	2018 Game regulation guides were delivered to licence agents on 14 and 15 March 2018. 2018/2019 fishing licence regulation guides were delivered to licence agents on 21 and 22 August 2018.		
	2. An effective solution is in place that allows hunters to easily buy licences where on-line facilities are not available.	Publicity on buying licences through the Fish and Game web site occurs through Fish & Game Magazine, Hunting & Angling newsletters and the Fish & Game Website.		
(No Stat or Mgt Plan	3. Agents are fully aware of and familiar with the new licence categories and able to appropriately advise the buyer.	All agents were made aware of the new licence categories.		

1700	Council			
	External Costs	Hours	Internal Costs	Net Costs
Budget	10,500	180	17,852	28,352
Actual	10,184	231	27,129	37,313

PROJECT	COUNCIL	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The effective direction of the management of the Council's business.	1. Not less than six meetings of the Council that comply with all legal requirements, to be held before 31 August 2018.	At least a quorum of Councillors was present at all 6 meetings of the Council held during 2017/18 as shown in Appendix 3.
	2. Council elections are conducted in an effective, appropriate and timely manner and the new Council provided with familiarisation and	
(Stat. Ref Sec 26 ZD,	governance training as	
Conservation Act)	required.	



1800	Planning and Reporting			
	External Costs Hours Internal Costs Net Costs			
Budget	7,300	295	29,257	36,557
Actual	6,016	224	26,365	32,381

PROJECT	MANAGEMENT PLANNI	NG
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Policies reflect national policies and good governance.	Regional policies are developed and adopted when required.	The following policies were reviewed, amended or written: 14 October 2017 meeting • Consideration of wards 10 February 2018 meeting • Review 5-year Strategic Plan • Reparation Policy 18 August 2018 meeting • Lake Tokaora
(Stat. Ref Secs 26Q(1)(e)(v), 26ZD (8), Conservation Act)	2. The 5-year strategic plan is reviewed and agreed by Council by March 2018.	The Strategic Plan was reviewed on the 10 th February 2018 and provided the bases for developing the Annual Plan.

PROJECT	STAFF MANAGEMENT	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Provide a co- ordinated, co- operative and supportive relationship	Effective management of staff and administration of Council consistent with	There remains an effective, valued and professional relationship between staff, Council and licence holders.
between Council, Staff and licence holders	best practice.	Staff performance reports completed for 2016/17 year and new measures agreed for 2017/18 year.
(No Stat or Mgt Plan ref)		

PROJECT	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Financial and administrative processes and reporting assist staff and Council and are	1. Implement review outcomes re computing requirements including file storage and sharing.	Options for file storage and sharing were assessed. The Whanganui Office moved to Office 365 Business package and a plan to move New Plymouth Office was made.
robust, transparent and effective.	Implement any outcomes of National Council financial review.	Comments provided to national office regarding Reserves Policy.



PROJECT	ANNUAL PLANNING	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
To formulate and adopt an Annual Operational Work Plan.	1. Adoption of a proposed Annual Budget and Operational Work Plan for 2018/19 by the Council by 31 August 2018.	Council's Annual Operational Work Plan and Budget for 2018/2019 was adopted on 18 August 2018. After this was adopted Council received advice on new audit requirements which will be implemented over the next three years, beginning with the review of the 5 year Strategic
(Stat. ref Sec 26Q(3), Conservation Act)		Plan in February 2019.

PROJECT	ANNUAL REPORTING	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
To furnish the Minister of Conservation with an annual report on the operations of the Council for the year.	1. The adoption and presentation by the Council at a public annual general meeting of its audited annual Performance Report for 2016/2017 not later than 31 December 2017, and its dispatch to the	Council's audited Annual Report for 2016/17 was adopted and presented at a public annual general meeting in New Plymouth on 2 December 2017. A PDF version was e-mailed to parliament on 5 December 2017. It was presented to Parliament on 6 March 2018.
(Stat. ref Sec 26X,	Minister directly	
Conservation Act)	thereafter.	

PROJECT	REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LIAISON	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Effective management and planning of cross boundary sports fish and game bird species.	Discussion undertaken with Wellington and Auckland/Waikato regions re consistency with gamebird regulations.	There was liaison with Wellington and Northland regions over shotgun magazine extensions and paradise special season regulations.
(Mgt Plan ref para 3.3.1 and 3.3.2)	2. Effective communications with other regional managers and input and valued comment on issues affecting Fish & Game and sports fish and game bird management.	The Manager regularly liaised with Regional Managers/CEO's and provided input and comments on Fish & Game issues as appropriate.



Effective liaison with New Zealand Fish and Game Council to meet all statutory requirements	1. Representation to New Zealand Fish and Game Council by 31 August 2018, of the Council's recommendations for licence fees, fund redistribution, research requirements, and national policy development.	Council's recommendation for the 2018/2019 licence fee was forwarded to NZ Fish and Game on 13 th June 2017. Council made recommendations on the development of National Policy for; • Angling Code of Conduct • Reserves policy • Captive Reared Mallards • National Salmon Committee • Increasing Participation Report
	Representation at the Fish & Game New Zealand Regional Managers meetings.	The Manager represented the Council at Regional Managers Meetings on 3 occasions within the reporting period.
(Stat. ref Sec 26C(1), Conservation Act) (Mgt Plan ref para 2.2.31, 2.2.32)	3. Effective communication with NZC staff and valued comment provided on Fish & Game issues when requested.	The Manager provided comment to NZ Fish and Game Council on operational matters and items of policy when requested or as appropriate.

STAFF CO-ORDINATION AND TRAINING

The Council's role as a good employer is to ensure that all practicable steps are taken to provide staff with a safe and healthy work environment and that staff have the appropriate training necessary to carry out their duties safely, legally and effectively.

PROJECT	STAFF COMMUNICATION	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Maintain regular staff communications and involvement in overall operations of Fish and Game	Regular staff meetings and / or phone conferences to share information such that all staff are aware of what is generally occurring, and where appropriate have ready opportunity for input into decisions and management direction.	6 staff meetings were held prior to Council meetings during the year as well as regular phone and email conversations.

PROJECT	STAFF TRAINING	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Organise specific training opportunities to suit the individual requirements of staff.	Staff training identified in performance review process is planned and undertaken.	The SFO attended a 4-day NZ Freshwater Sciences Society conference in Hamilton in November 2017.



PROJECT	ACCOMMODATION	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Work place is safe and comfortable, meets work requirements including accessibility to the public and is cost effective.	Review of options for New Plymouth and Whanganui offices are completed and decision made by Council as to best solution for the medium term.	Decision to shift the New Plymouth office made by Council on 14 October 2017. Agreement to Lease agreed and Exceptional Funding bid prepared & accepted. Office shift completed on 31 January 2018 and building signage in place on 19 April 2018. This office provides much improved working conditions and also storage for field equipment. Renewal of Whanganui office lease completed.



PROJECT	HEALTH AND SAFETY	
Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Ensure that Fish &	1. All processes and	Staff held 6 Health & Safety meetings during the
Game operations	activities are consistent	year.
occur safely and are	with Council Health &	
consistent with	Safety Policy and hazard	A detailed Health and Safety report was included
Occupational Safety	control plans, reviews	in every Council meeting agenda. This
and Health policy,	and audits occur as	highlighted that the identified hazard control
standards and best	scheduled, all necessary	plans were in place and updated as required,
practice.	equipment and training	that all reviews and audits occurred as
	is provided and new	scheduled and any new hazards that were
	hazards are identified	identified and how these were addressed.
	and addressed appropriately.	
	appropriately.	
	2. All accidents are	
	reported and recorded in	No accidents were reported in the period.
İ	the accident register,	The decidence were reported in the period.
	investigations completed	
	and any identified	
	actions implemented	
	and reported to Council	
	at the next meeting.	
	2 Henry Control Plans	
	3. Hazard Control Plans are identified and	All plans identifications at a set of a set
	developed / amended	All plans identified were developed and/or
	for any new activity.	reviewed over the year to address any new activities.
	Tor arry new activity.	delivities.
	4. An annual review of	
	Health and Safety	Reported to October 2017 Council meeting.
	Management is	2018 review completed in July 2018.
	completed in September	·
	2017 and reported to	
	Council.	·
	5. Compliance with	
	HSAW requirements	This is a formal agenda item at each meeting.
	and policy and any	Staff have developed and demonstrate a strong
	issues identified are	Health & Safety culture.
	reported to each	The same of the same of
	meeting of Council.	
	6. Two monthly staff	Six two monthly staff meetings to discuss HSAW
	meetings which include	were held during the year.
	a specific agenda item	
	to discuss HSAW are held.	
	, noid.	
	7. Staff are actively	Monitored and reported on at each Council
	involved in implementing	meeting
	HSAW policy and	
	ensuring a safe	
	workplace.	



Appendix 1

Taranaki Fish and Game Council Trout Liberations, 2017/2018

Releases of fingerling or yearling brown and rainbow trout into Taranaki Region rivers and lakes during the 2017/2018 financial year. Other than the lower Patea release all the trout were raised at the Hawera Hatchery and originated from Lake Tarawera-strain ova received from the Eastern Fish & Game Region. The lower Patea release comprised fingerling trout supplied direct from Eastern Region Fish & Game.

Water		Number Released
Lake Namunamu		357
Lake Ratapiko		100
Lake Mangamahoe		200
Lake Rotomanu		50
Stony River		65
Patea River (upper)		290
Patea River (lower)		1,500*
	Total Released	2,562

^{*} includes 1,000 brown trout

Releases of 2-year old hatchery rainbows in the Taranaki Region during the 2017/2018 financial year:

Water	Date	Hatchery Origin	Number Released
Lake Rotomanu	27.10.17	F&G Ngongataha	250
Opunake Lake	27.10.17	F&G Ngongataha	250
Sattlers Dam	16.02.18	DOC Turangi	100
Total Released			600

Appendix 2

Licence Sales

FISHING LICENCES	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Family	141	146	114	125	137	145	144	129	134	125
Adult Season	556	574	546	537	597	573	556	472	437	477
Junior Season	76	56	75	55	73	57	72	56	49	75
Non-Resident Adult					*****		22	49	58	61
Non Resident Junior										1
Loyal Senior								46	44	55
Local Area								28	22	25
Winter Adult	59	45	48	54	40	61	54	26	13	27
Winter Junior	11	2	12	12	8	5	7	0	0	0
Long Break								6	5	4
Short Break								64	57	51
Adult Day	316	253	242	259	324	326	312	277	269	170
Non-Resident Adult Day										110
Junior Day	33	35	32	17	27	15	27	38	23	28
Non-Resident Junior								4	1	2
LEQ Total	857	855	789	797	880.5	873	877	870	810	866
Actual Total	1,192	1,112	1,069	1,059	1,206	1,182	1,194	1,195	1,112	1,212

HUNTING LICENCES	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Adult	1100	1169	1154	1162	1110	1106	1128	1099	1,104	1,113
Junior	153	136	119	125	120	109	108	100	79	93
Child	42	50	49	41	33	53	41	47	53	28
Adult Day	37	45	27	26	38	38	41	44	44	50
Junior Day	8	. 1	2	2	4	5	-	1	3	1
LEQ Total	1,143	1,207	1,186	1,195	1,145	1,136	1,158	1,132	1,129	1,141
Actual Total	1,340	1,401	1,351	1,356	1,305	1,311	1,318	1,291	1,283	1,285



Appendix 3

Attendance at Council Meetings 2017/2018

Taranaki Fish and Game Council meetings were held as follows.

Date	Place	Councillors Present
2 December 2017	Whanganui	11
10 February 2018	Raetihi	9
24 March2018	Whanganui	6
9 June 2018	Waitara	9
18 August 2018	Opunake	8
3 November 2018	Stratford	11

Councillors attended meetings as follows

Councillor	Number of Meetings Attended.
P Blewman	5
A Flynn	6
G Karalus	5
R Sargeson	6
C Donald	4
C McEwen	4
D Potroz	. 5
C Bright	5
S Hugo	6
C Potroz	4
J Nancarrow	· 4





INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE READERS OF TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Taranaki Fish and Game Council (the Fish and Game Council). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Vivien Cotton, using the staff and resources of Cotton Kelly, to carry out the audit of the financial statements and statement of performance of the Fish and Game Council on his behalf.

Opinion on the financial statements and the statement of performance

We have audited:

- the financial statements of the Fish and Game Council on pages 9 to 22, that comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 August 2018, the statement of financial performance, and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information; and
- the statement of performance of the Fish and Game Council on pages 23 to 50.

In our opinion:

- the financial statements of the Fish and Game Council: on pages 9 to 22:
 - o present fairly, in all material respects:
 - its financial position as at 31 August 2018; and
 - its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
 - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with the Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Public Sector) framework; and
- the statement of performance of the Fish and Game Council on pages 23 to 50:
 - o presents fairly, in all material respects, the Fish and Game Council's performance for the year ended 31 August 2018, including for each class of reportable outputs:
 - its standards of performance achieved as compared with the forecasts included in the Annual Plan for the financial year; and
 - its actual revenue and expenses as compared with the forecasts included in the Annual Plan for the financial year; and
 - o complies with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.

Our audit was completed on 22 November 2018. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

The basis for our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Council and our responsibilities relating to the financial statements and the statement of performance, we comment on other information, and we explain our independence.

Basis for our opinion

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Responsibilities of the auditor section of our report.





We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of the Council for the financial statements and the statement of performance

The Council is responsible on behalf of the Fish and Game Council for preparing financial statements and a statement of performance that are fairly presented and comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.

The Council is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable it to prepare financial statements and a statement of performance that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements and the statement of performance, the Council is responsible on behalf of the Fish and Game Council for assessing the Fish and Game Council's ability to continue as a going concern. The Council is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless there is an intention to merge or to terminate the activities of the Fish and Game Council, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Council's responsibilities arise from the Public Finance Act 1989, the Crown Entities Act 2004, and the Conservation Act 1987.

Responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements and the statement of performance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and the statement of performance, as a whole, are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures, and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of readers taken on the basis of these financial statements and the statement of performance.

For the budget information reported in the financial statements and the statement of performance, our procedures were limited to checking that the information agreed to the Fish and Game Council's Annual Plan.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the financial statements and the statement of performance.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and the statement of performance, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit
 procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an
 opinion on the effectiveness of the Fish and Game Council's internal control.
- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Council.



- We evaluate the appropriateness of the reported performance information within the Fish and Game Council's framework for reporting performance.
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Council and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fish and Game Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements and the statement of performance or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fishing and Game Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements and the statement of performance, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements and the statement of performance represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

Other Information

The Council is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included on pages 4 to 8, but does not include the financial statements and the statement of performance, and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements and the statement of performance does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements and the statement of performance, our responsibility is to read the other information. In doing so, we consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and the statement of performance or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on our work, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independence

We are independent of the Fish and Game Council in accordance with the independence requirements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of the Professional and Ethical Standard 1 (Revised): Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than the audit, we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Fish and Game Council.

Vivien Cotton Cotton Kelly

On behalf of the Auditor-General Palmerston North, New Zealand