



TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL

AGENDA PAPERS

COUNCIL MEETING

**SATURDAY
15 OCTOBER 2016**

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

Taranaki Region

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AGENDA

SATURDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2016

TO BE HELD AT
OFFICES OF TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL
124 RIDGWAY STREET, WHANGANUI

COMMENCING AT 10:00AM

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TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL, HELD AT SANDFORD EVENT CENTRE, TASMAN STREET, OPUNAKE ON 6TH AUGUST 2016, COMMENCING AT 10:00AM.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:12am. He welcomed his fellow councillors, fish and game staff and visitors to the meeting.

1. PRESENT

Councillors, Paul Blewman, Alan Flynn, Gerard Karalus, Steve Hugo, John Nancarrow, Chris Donald, Chris Bright and Cory Potroz

IN ATTENDANCE

Manager Glenn Maclean, Field Officer Allen Stancliff and Secretary Jilli Steedman.
Derryn Phillips – Opunake Sporting Shooters Club and Graeme Mackenzie and Blue Cumberworth

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from councillors Curly McEwen, David Potroz and Romon Sargesson.

MOVED HUGO/BRIGHT

THAT THE APOLOGIES RECEIVED BE SUSTAINED
CARRIED

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were none that hadn't already been notified at previous meetings.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING 11 JUNE 2016

MOVED DONALD / NANCARROW

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING, HELD ON 11 JUNE 2016 IN HAWERA,
BE CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.

CARRIED.

5. MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Karalus asked about progress on the fish and game web-site.

6. AGENDA MANAGEMENT

The manager spoke to his tabled paper which outlined planned actions for progressing angling access and signage at Lake Mangamahoe.

Councillors discussed the boundary sign on state highway 3 between Taranaki Fish & Game (Whanganui) and Wellington Fish and Game (Palmerston North). Councillors discussed the pros and cons of having a boundary sign. The manager noted that the placement of the sign on state highway 3 was misleading as the true boundary runs along the highway for approximately 6km. However the public awareness value of having the boundary sign with our logo indicating that you are crossing to another Fish and Game region was noted. The Chairman asked the manager to continue the process of replacing the boundary sign.

Councils' nomination of Paul Blewman to the Gamebird Habitat Trust Board was not successful.

The manager and Chris Bright visited Sattlers Dam on Friday and advised Councillors of the next steps required in reinstating the dam. The good condition of trout taken last summer was noted.

Councillor Karalus asked about progress on the updating of our Waingongoro River pamphlet.

7. HEALTH AND SAFETY

Councillor Karalus advised of an opportunity to attend a free one day quad bike course and will email details to staff.

The manager noted the National Health and Safety manual, currently being finalised by Carmel Veitch of Eastern Fish and Game, will not differ too much from the Health and Safety manual this Council has already adopted. Staff will update the manual once the new template is received however in the interim the manager is confident we are meeting our obligations under the HSAW act.

The manager advised council that compliance training for staff and rangers currently meets all required standards.

Councillor Donald asked about the fish tankers trailer, in light of the injury to Allen Stancliff while transferring trout from the trailer to a river. He wondered if a lay flat system of clipped together hoses could solve that problem. A plan is in place to install a fish release valve and hoses.

Allen Stancliff has completed a comprehensive first aid training course, which will need to be renewed in two years.

MOVED HUGO / DONALD

THAT THE MANAGERS HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT, BE RECEIVED

CARRIED

8. 2015 GAME SEASON REPORT

The decline in mallard harvest and hunting hours was discussed and it was noted that Taranaki would seem to have experienced some decline consistent with the trend elsewhere in the NI. Gamebirds not retrieved was discussed and Councillor Hugo thought encouraging hunters to use dogs was a good idea.

MOVED NANCARROW / C POTROZ

THAT THE REPORT ON THE 2015 GAME SEASON, DATED 20TH JUNE 2016, BE RECEIVED.
CARRIED

9. REVIEW OF KIDS FISHING DAYS

There was discussion on the value of kids fishing days and the ultimate aim of them to encourage kids to continue with the sport. The importance of volunteers and sponsorship and also ongoing opportunities was noted. The kids' fishing day in Stratford should be occurring in mid-December to encourage on-going participation during the school holidays.

MOVED HUGO / FLYNN

THAT TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL APPROVE THE SUGGESTED POLICY IMPLEMENTATION DETAILED WITHIN THE AGENDA ITEM (POINTS 1 TO 7) WITH REGARD TO OPTIMISING THE COUNCIL'S LONG-TERM PROGRAMME TO ENCOURAGE CHILDREN INTO FISHING.

CARRIED

10. WHANGANUI RIVER ENHANCEMENT TRUST PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

The manager noted our administrative role in this project and explained the work program. Progress on this project will be reported to Council at each meeting.

MOVED C POTROZ / KARALUS

THAT THE COUNCIL APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SEPARATE ACCOUNT TO BE USED SOLEY FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE MANGANUIOTEAO RIPARIAN PROJECT
CARRIED

11. CLARIFICATION OF REPARATION POLICY

MOVED DONALD / BRIGHT

THAT THE TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL CLARIFIES THAT ITS REPARATION POLICY MAKES PROVISION FOR FORFEITURE OF ILLEGAL EQUIPMENT AS PART OF ANY REPARATION OFFER AND AT THE DISCRETION OF THE REGIONAL MANAGER, HOWEVER

THAT AS A GENERAL RULE ANY LEAD SHOT USED WITHIN 200M OF OPEN WATER WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE FORFEITED.

CARRIED

12. 2016/2017 ANNUAL OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN AND BUDGET

Councillor Hugo noted that there was no provision for population assessment of upland game. Councillors discussed the difficulty in achieving effective monitoring and data. Councillor Hugo also asked whether governance training for new councillors would be beneficial.

MOVED DONALD / HUGO

THAT THE 2016/2017 ANNUAL OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN AND BUDGET BE ADOPTED.

CARRIED

13. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman noted the contact he has had with staff.

MOVED BLEWMAN / HUGO

THAT THE CHAIRMANS VERBAL REPORT BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

MOVED HUGO / C POTROZ

THAT THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE FOLLOWING PARTS OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THIS MEETING NAMELY:

CONSIDERATION OF THE MANAGERS CONTRACT

THE PURCHASE OF A NEW VEHICLE

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

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

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by

Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

ITEM	REASON UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982	SECTION	PLAIN ENGLISH REASON	WHEN REPORT CAN BE RELEASED
Management Contract	Protect the privacy of natural persons	Sec.9(2)(a)	Information provided identifies a particular person or can easily be connected with a particular person	Once the person whom the information relates consents to its disclosure
Vehicle Purchase	Protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information	Sec. 9(2)(b)(ii)	Commercial information about a third party would likely prejudice the commercial position of that party if released.	Once the third party to whom the information relates consents to its disclosure

MOVED FLYNN / NANCARROW
 THAT THE PUBLIC BE READMITTED.
 CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

MOVED NANCARROW / C POTROZ
 THAT THE TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL APPROVE PURCHASE OF A FORD RANGER XLT TO REPLACE THE MITSUBISHI UTILITY CURRENTLY USED BY THE NEW PLYMOUTH SENIOR FIELD OFFICER.
 CARRIED

Break for lunch 12:30
 Reconvened 1:15

15. NATIONAL COUNCILLORS REPORT

National Council appointee Alan Flynn advised councillors on the last National Council meeting which was held in Wellington on 22nd and 23rd of July 2016.

MOVED FLYNN / DONALD

THAT NATIONAL COUNCIL APPOINTEE, ALAN FLYNN'S VERBAL REPORT BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

16. WORK PLAN AND BUDGET PROGRESS REPORT TO 31 MAY 2016

MOVED DONALD / C POTROZ

THAT THE PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT TO 20TH JULY BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

17. CORRESPONDENCE

MOVED KARALUS / DONALD

THAT INWARDS AND OUTWARDS CORRESPONDENCE SCHEDULES TO 27TH JULY 2016, AS SHOWN ON PAGES 98 AND 99 OF THE AGENDA, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

18. FINANCIAL REPORT

MOVED HUGO / FLYNN

THAT GST EXCLUSIVE PAYMENTS OF \$94,127.62 AND GST EXCLUSIVE INCOME OF \$97,283.55 FOR MAY AND JUNE 2016 AS SHOWN ON PAGES 102 TO 104 OF THE AGENDA, BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

19. GENERAL BUSINESS

PREPARATION OF A NATIONAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The chairman introduced this late agenda item which is included as the deadline for feedback to National Council is before our next scheduled meeting. There was considerable discussion and concern over the lack of a strategic discussion in support of the stated objectives.

MOVED HUGO / BRIGHT

THAT THE MANAGER AND CHAIRMAN PUT TOGETHER A RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL OUTLINING THE CONCERN OVER THE LACK OF ANY STRATEGIC DISCUSSION IN SUPPORT OF THE SUGGESTED RM OBJECTIVES

CARRIED

The secretary advised council that she would be on annual leave from 11-16 August.

Graeme Mackenzie noted that there is no project for predator control within the Annual Operational Work Plan. It was noted that predator control is mentioned within a number of projects. It was agreed to include a discussion on possible projects in the next agenda.

The annual grant of \$300 to Ruapehu Fish and Game Club needs to be paid by direct credit. Chris Bright will provide the secretary with bank account details for the club.

Councils discussed the appearance of plastic shotgun shells on Taranaki beaches. Members of the Inglewood Rod, Gun and Recreation Club advised council that when holding their club shoots, biodegradable fibre wads are compulsory.

20. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 15th October 2016, at Whanganui.

21. CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 3:15pm.

APPROVED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

CHAIRMAN _____

DATE _____

TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Taranaki Fish & Game Council

AGENDA MANAGEMENT

Council should do the following things;

- Review progress with items on the Action List, these items derived from past Council meetings
- Review the Annual Program for Meeting Agendas, and decide if any items should be added/ moved or deleted from this
- Review the Current Agenda and decide on the order of items, the timing requirements for items, any items to be deferred, or any new business to be tabled.

No resolutions should be necessary here, unless to resolve debate on a future course of action. The Minutes will record all issues that Council agrees, and these will be reflected in future Action Lists, Annual Programs, and Agendas as may be appropriate.

Glenn Maclean
Regional Manager
23 September 2016

TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL

ACTION LIST ARISING FROM COUNCIL DECISIONS

Meeting and Subject	Responsible	Target Date	Item Update – Actions Required
11 June 2016			
Reinstatement of sign at Lake Mangamahoe/ erection of fishing platforms	Manager	June 2017	Inspected Virginia lake platform. Exploring whether we need a railing and awaiting contact details for person who identified provisions to build a wheel chair accessible ramp without rails in SI with full approvals
Taranaki / Wellington boundary sign on state highway 4	Manager	October 2016	Made application to NZTA and received approval on the 21 September
Discussion on Predator Control	Manager	Next Meeting	Included in agenda
Council submission to National Council on RMA strategy document	Manager/ Chairman	August 2016	Letter completed by Manager and Chairman and sent to National Council
Investigation into reinstatement of Sattlers Dam	Manager	June 2017	Met with Ernslaw engineer on site and informal agreement for us to explore options. Have identified preferred option, however need to check depths to ensure it is worth continuing and also avoid creating a 'Large Dam' (20,000m ³) which has major construction and compliance obligations
Update OSH reference in Annual Plan to HSAW	Jilli	September 2016	Completed

TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA PROGRAM

Meeting	Board	Operational	Statutory	Strategic/Policy
13 February 2016 Raetihi	All Board Items	All Operational Items, to be received	Confirm Game Season Regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review 5 year Strategic Plan
16 April 2016 Waitara	All Board Items	All Operational Items, to be received	Consider Draft 2016/2017 Annual Operational Work Plan & Budget. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fish Season Regs. Licence fee recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Reparation Policy
11 June 2016 Hawera	All Board Items.	All Operational Items, to be Received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt 2016 / 2017 Annual Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nominations for Bruce McKenzie Memorial Award
6 August 2016 Opunake	All Board Items.	All Operational Items, to be Received		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive nominations for Bruce McKenzie Memorial Award 2015 Game Season Report Kids fishing day review Clarification – reparation policy WRET funding arrangement Public excluded – Management contract
15 October 2016 Whanganui	All Board Items.	All Operational Items, to be Received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End of Year Project Reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2017 meeting dates
3 December 2016 New Plymouth Ordinary meeting and AGM	All Board Items.	All Operational Items, to be Received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2017 Game Gazette Notice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Taranaki Fish and Game Council

HEALTH AND SAFETY – October 2016

Background

As part of its commitment to Health and Safety and providing a safe workplace the Council requires a report at each meeting detailing the implementation and adherence to the Health and Safety policy and manual including;

1. any new issues or hazards that have arisen and how these have been addressed
2. progress with any ongoing issues
3. outcomes of audits and reviews required in the Health and Safety manual
4. any near misses or injuries and including investigation outcomes and recommendations

Update

1. New issues or hazards	
<p>New Health and Safety at Work Act (HSAW) came into effect on 4 April 2016.</p> <p>CERT safety training required for 3 Taranaki F&G honorary rangers</p>	<p>Draft HSAW Plan and Policy for Council consideration included as an agenda item. Still to complete</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trout releases HCP• Children's Fishing Days HCP• Tailgate form• Intentions form• Evacuation Plans• Hazardous substances register• Details of LPG storage <p>Looking at options for rangers to attend courses elsewhere</p>

3. Ongoing issues	
<p>Confusion regarding landowner responsibilities regarding people recreating on their property.</p> <p>Safe use of quads.</p> <p>First aid certificates for field staff expired</p> <p>Slippery pathways at hatchery</p>	<p>Ongoing. No new initiatives in this period</p> <p>Allen attended first day of training, follow up day in October. An issue is that Allen needs to complete some practice beforehand and requires access to a site and equipment?</p> <p>Glenn completed refresher in Taupo on the 23rd June. Allen completed comprehensive Red Cross course in the first week of August.</p> <p>Sprayed and concentrate left on site for ongoing control</p>
4. Audits , reviews and meetings	
<p>HSE included as agenda item for staff meeting</p> <p>Annual review of Health and Safety Manual</p> <p>2nd meeting of F&G compliance coordinators</p>	<p>Staff meeting held by phone on 23 September 2016 including discussion on new HSAW Plan</p> <p>Completed March 2016</p> <p>Ongoing discussion as to how best to address the safety of rangers in the medium term. Biggest concern is over rangers who decide to check someone while out recreating themselves particularly where they have no communications. Are encouraging our rangers to consider purchasing a PLB if they don't already have one</p>
5. Near misses and injuries	
<p>Nil</p>	

Glenn Maclean

Manager

October 2016

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

New Health and Safety Policy

The Council currently has a comprehensive Health and Safety policy and manual in place. However with implementation of the new Health and Safety at Work legislation which came into effect 1 April 2016 it is necessary to update this policy and manual to reflect the changes in the legislation.

Attached is a new draft policy and Health and Safety Plan (manual) developed from a national template for F&G. The document is in 3 sections:

1. Health and Safety Plan prefaced with a suggested Health and Safety Policy for Council
2. Hazard and Substance Register which contains the Hazard Control Plans and Hazardous Substance Register
3. Appendices which contain supporting documentation

The Plan has been modified to reflect the nature of the Taranaki region and the operations we undertake. Note that under the new legislation the only two documents Council is required to have is an accident register and list of hazardous substances kept on the premises. However Council is also required to have a system which identifies and manages the risks created by the work we do, but this system does not need to be complex. Rather it just needs to clearly identify the risks and record the steps Council have put in place to manage and communicate the risks.

Briefly this Plan proposes a system similar to our current approach, however with an additional step to ensure all risks are fully considered before any field work is undertaken. The manual is based around an ongoing process which involves all staff to identify any new hazards and develop appropriate and effective controls for these, which are then listed in the hazard control plan for this activity. This has proven an effective approach to date and it is intended to roll the existing Hazard Control Plans (HCPs) into the new manual.

However the draft manual also proposes the use of a 'tailgate form' to be used prior to leaving the vehicle. In essence this is a check to ensure that the relevant HCP/s has been considered, however it also requires a final collective assessment of the risks prior to departure to identify and resolve any unexpected issues or developments, assess the effect of the current weather and so on. For larger activities the tailgate form maybe developed well in advance, however for staff undertaking routine activities on their own it is just a final written assessment before they leave the vehicle. The template is yet to be developed however it is intended that field staff will carry a bound booklet of tailgate forms in their vehicle, and that each form should take no more than 5 minutes to complete.

In addition there is also a requirement to use a written intentions form when undertaking field work.

Collectively the use of the hazard control plans, tailgate form and intentions form should provide a practical, succinct and documented approach to identifying and managing risks in the field and most importantly in keeping Council staff and volunteers safe.

RECOMMENDATION

That Taranaki Fish & Game adopt;

1. The draft Health and Safety Policy on page 2 of the draft Health and Safety Plan October 2016
2. The draft Health and Safety Plan October 2016 so as to address Council responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015

Glenn Maclean

Regional Manager

22 September 2016

HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN



TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

October 2016

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL HEALTH and SAFETY POLICY

Council Commitment

The Taranaki Fish and Game Council is committed to providing and maintaining a safe and healthy workplace by complying with relevant health and safety legislation (Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 and associated regulations), and various New Zealand standards and approved codes of practice.

Scope

This policy applies to all Fish and Game Council workers.

Key Elements of the Policy

The Council will, as far as is reasonably practicable, comply with the provisions of legislation dealing with health and safety in the workplace, by:

- providing a safe physical and emotional work environment;
- ensuring a health and safety strategy/plan is in place and that engagement and consultation with staff on the strategy occurs;
- providing adequate facilities and any safety equipment deemed necessary, including ensuring access and ensuring property and equipment is safe to use and workers are not exposed to hazards;
- ensuring there is an effective method in place for identifying, assessing and controlling hazards. This includes the recording and investigating of injuries, and reporting serious harm incidents;
- having a commitment to a culture of continuous improvement.

A Councillor cannot be prosecuted under the HSA Act for failing to comply with his or her duties as each Councillor is a volunteer officer.

The **Regional Manager**, as an Officer, is also responsible for implementing this policy and therefore must:

- exercise due diligence in accordance with the provisions of the health and safety legislation;
- take all reasonable steps to protect workers, volunteers and visitors in the workplace from unsafe or unhealthy conditions or practices;
- ensure there are effective processes to deal with unacceptable behaviour, such as non compliance;
- provide information and training opportunities to workers;
- keep Council fully informed;
- advise the Council Chair of any emergency situations as soon as possible.

The Regional Manager, as an officer may be personally liable if they fail to meet or comply with health and safety obligations.

All workers (employees, contractors, and volunteer workers) are expected to play a vital and responsible role in maintaining a safe and healthy workplace through:

- being involved in improving health and safety systems at work;
- following instructions, rules, procedures and safe ways of working;
- reporting any pain or discomfort as soon as possible;
- reporting all injuries, incidents and near misses;
- helping new staff members, trainees, volunteers and visitors to the workplace understand the risks and hazards and why they exist;
- reporting any health and safety concerns or issues through the reporting system;
- keeping the workplace tidy to minimise the risk of any trips and falls;
- wearing protective clothing and equipment as and when required to minimise exposure to workplace hazards;
- take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and of others in the workplace.

Workers may be personally liable if they fail to meet or comply with their health and safety obligations.

All others (e.g. visitors) in the workplace must:

- follow all instructions, rules and procedures while in the workplace;;
- report all injuries, incidents and near misses to the Manager;
- wear protective clothing and equipment as an when required to minimise their exposure to hazards.

Signed: _____ (Regional Manager)

Signed: _____ (Chairman)

Date: _____ 3/10/2016

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DRAFT

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

Taranaki Fish and Game Council is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy working environment for the safety and health of all our workers and other persons in our workplace.

It is EVERYONE'S business and every worker is expected to share in the commitment to avoid the risks and accidents which may cause personal injury, property damage or any other type of loss.

Most accidents occur while undertaking routine activities rather than high risk activities - everyone must consider Safety in all situations.

This plan is set out to provide you with information to ensure you know what procedures need to be followed in relation to health and safety in our workplace.

Please take the time to familiarise yourself with our Health and Safety plan. If you have any questions or suggestions on improvement please let your Regional Manager know.

1.1 POLICY

The Health and Safety policy statement provides workers with a written point of reference about Taranaki Fish and Game Council's commitment to Health and Safety. The policy is the first stage in the organisation's Health and Safety plan and includes the following:

- A description of Council and Management's commitment to Health and Safety and their place within the culture of Fish and Game Councils;
- Council and Management's legal responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 and the Health and Safety at Work (General Risk and Workplace Management) Regulations 2016;
- The responsibilities of the Regional Manager, workers and others in the workplace;
- Reference to training and information;
- Statutory requirements as minimum standards; and
- A culture of continuous improvement processes.

The Key elements of our Policy are set out on page 2. This needs to be signed and a copy displayed for all workers to see.

1.2 HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK ACT 2015 (HSWA)

The guiding principle of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (HSWA) is that workers and other persons should be given the highest level of protection against harm to their health, safety, and welfare from work risks as is reasonably practicable.

HSWA is the key work health and safety law. It sets out the health and safety duties that must be complied with.

Purpose of the HSWA

To provide for a balanced framework to secure the health and safety of workers and workplaces by:

- protecting workers and other persons against harm to their health and, safety and welfare by eliminating or minimising risks arising from work.
- providing for fair and effective workplace representation, consultation, co-operation, and resolution of issues
- encouraging unions and employer organisations to take a constructive role in promoting improvements in work health and safety practices and assisting PCBUs and workers to achieve a healthier and safer working environment
- promoting the provision of advice, information, education and training in relation to work health and safety
- securing compliance with the Act through effective and appropriate compliance and enforcement measures
- ensuring appropriate scrutiny and review of action taken by persons performing functions or exercising powers under the Act
- providing a framework for continuous improvement and progressively higher standards of health and safety.

Other Legislation/Regulations that needs to be adhered to:

The regulations and information from Worksafe are intended to support businesses to understand what they need to do to comply with the general duties of the Act:

Regulations Applicable to Fish and Game:

1. Health and Safety at Work (Worker Engagement, Participation and Representation) Regulations 2016. Worker Engagement, Participation and Representation Regulations 2016;
2. Health and Safety at Work (General Risk and Workplace Management) Regulations 2016. General Risk and Workplace Management Regulations 2016;
3. Employment Relations Act 2000
4. Injury Prevention, Rehabilitation, and Compensation Act 2001
5. Land Transport NZ
6. Electricity Act 1992
7. Transport Accident Investigation Commission Act 1990
8. Smoke-free Environments Act 1990
9. Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 (HSNO)
10. Environmental Risk Management Authority www.ermanz.govt.nz
11. Factory and Commercial Premises (First Aid) Regulations 1985
12. Arms Act 1983
13. Maritime Transport Act 1994
14. And all common NZ law.

Approved Codes of Practice

The list below outlines Approved Codes of Practice that are applicable for Fish and Game.

They can be downloaded from: <http://www.business.govt.nz/worksafe/information-guidance/approved-codes-of-practice-acops>

Hazardous Substances: Management of in the workplace.

Noise: in the workplace

General Safety Guidelines

The following guidelines can be downloaded from:

<http://www.business.govt.nz/worksafe/information-guidance/all-guidance-alphabetical-listing>

Robbery: Guidelines for the Safety of Staff from the Threat of Armed Robbery or Violent

Offenders

Computers: Guidelines for Using Computers

Chainsaws: A Guide to Safety with chainsaws

Machinery: Guidelines for the Provision of Facilities and General Safety in Machinery Vehicle or Vessel Operation

Shift-work: Advice for Employers and Employees

Stress: and Fatigue

Legal Documentation required under the Act

Under HSWA there are only two documents that you are legally required to have

- an accident register and
- a list of all of the hazardous substances kept on your business premises.

However, you are required to have a system which identifies and manages the risks created by the work you do. The system doesn't need to be complex, it just needs to clearly identify the risks and record the steps you have put in place to manage and communicate the risks.

If a notifiable event occurs, then you will be required to keep a record of the event for five years. Notifiable events are those workplace incidents that result in a death, serious injury or serious illness.

Best practice is to maintain all hazard registers, document Health and Safety process's associated with field work (via tailgate forms) and all worker engagement meetings.

Further Information on the HSWA

For further information see "The Introduction to the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (March 2016) - By visiting:

<http://www.business.govt.nz/worksafe/information-guidance/legal-framework/introduction-to-the-hsw-act-2015>

1.3 SUMMARY OF TERMS IN THE HSWA

Duty Holders

There are four types of duty holders that have work health and safety duties:

- Persons conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU)
- Officers
- Workers
- Other persons at the workplace (e.g. visitors)

Meaning of PCBU

The PCBU is a 'person conducting a business or undertaking'. Taranaki Fish & Game as an Entity is a PCBU.

Primary Duty of Care

The PCBU (Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking) must ensure, so far as reasonably practical, the health and safety of workers, and that other people are not put at risk by its work. This is called the "Primary Duty of Care".

The Primary duty of care is a broad and overarching duty. It includes, but is not limited to, so far as reasonably practicable:

- providing and maintaining a work environment that is without risks to health and

- safety;
- providing and maintaining safe plant and structures;
- providing and maintaining safe systems of work;
- ensuring the safe use, handling and storage of plant, structures and substances;
- providing adequate facilities for the welfare at work for workers;
- providing any information, training, instruction, or supervision that is necessary to protect all persons from risks to their health and safety arising from work carried out as part of the conduct for the business or undertaking;
- monitoring the health of workers and the conditions at the workplace for the purposes of preventing injury or illness of workers arising from the conduct of the business or undertaking;
- provide healthy and safe worker accommodation.

PCBU has two duties:

- to **engage** with workers who carry out work for them on health and safety matters that may directly affect them;
- to have practices that give workers reasonable opportunities to participate effectively in improving health and safety in the business or undertaking on an ongoing basis.
(**worker participation practices**)

Officer

An officer includes Councilors and the Regional Manager for Taranaki Fish & Game.

Officers need to exercise due diligence to make sure that the PCBU complies with its health and safety duties.

Persons that have 'Officer' in their job title such as Fish and Game Officer, are NOT deemed an Officer within the definition of the HSWA Act 2015.

Workers

A Worker is an individual who carries out work in any capacity for Fish & Game.

A Worker includes an employee, a contractor or subcontractor, an employee of a contractor or subcontractor, an employee of a labour hire company who is working for Fish & Game, an apprentice or trainee, an outworker, a person on work experience or work trial, a volunteer worker, other persons per section 19 of the HSWA.

An Honorary Ranger or Hawera hatchery volunteer are both considered a Worker within the HSWA.

Workers have their own health and safety duties.

Workers must "so far as reasonably practical":

- take reasonable care for their own health and safety;
- take reasonable care that what they do, or do not do, does not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons;
- co-operate with any reasonable workplace health and safety policy or procedure that has been notified to workers;
- comply, so far as reasonably able, with any reasonable instruction given by the PCBU, so the PCBU can comply with HSWA and regulations.

Other Persons at Workplaces

Other persons at workplaces include workplace visitors, public, school groups. Other persons need to:

- take reasonable care for their own health and safety
- take reasonable care that others are not harmed by something they do, or do not do
- comply, as far as they are reasonably able, with the PCBU's reasonable health and safety instructions that are given so that the PCBU can comply with HSWA or regulations

So far as is Reasonably Practicable

The primary duty of care requires the PCBU to ensure the health and safety 'so far as is reasonably practicable'. In this context, something is reasonably practicable if it is reasonably able to be done to ensure health and safety, having weighed up and considered all the relevant matters, including:

- How likely are any hazards or risks to occur?
- How severe could the harm that might result from the hazard or risk be?
- What a person knows or ought to reasonably know about the risk and ways of eliminating or minimising it?
- What measures exist to eliminate or minimise the risk?
- How available and suitable is the control measure?

Definition of a Hazard

HSWA clarifies that "hazard" includes behaviour that has the potential to cause death, injury or illness (physical or mental).

Offences & Penalties

Prosecutions and penalties may be applied not only to a PCBU but also an Officer and an individual worker.

1.4 HEALTH AND SAFETY ANNUAL TIMETABLE

Staff meetings

Staff meetings are to be held monthly with all staff present (in person or by telephone conference).

Health and Safety will be a permanent agenda item at these meetings.

The staff meeting is the integral for staff engagement and becomes the vehicle for staff to discuss, identify and review hazards as well as a place to formulate controls and implement actions for improvement.

Health and Safety Policy Review

To be reviewed by Council every 3 years.

OWP and Budget

Fish & Game OWP and Budget will be reviewed annually. Direct costs, hours and training requirements need to be reviewed and provided for as they apply to Health and Safety. This review will take place between February and April each year.

Health and Safety Plan Review (this document)

Fish and Game Health and Safety Plan will be reviewed annually. This review will take place between July and August each year, and at other times when required.

Hazard Control Plan Review

A review of all hazards within each hazard control plan (HCP) will be undertaken annually. Refer H&S 1 - Annual Hazard and Audit Timetable. In addition, any new hazards identified through a health and safety meeting, tail gate meeting or at any other time will be added to the hazard control plan at the time of identification along with appropriate controls to manage this hazard. Likewise, a new process or piece of machinery will go through the hazard identification process and either be added to the appropriate HCP or a new HCP created (refer H&S 15 for template).

Tailgate Reviews

A review of the site specific hazards (via a Tailgate form) relating for example, to a wetland project or planned ranging activity, will be completed before the trip or activity is undertaken. Any new hazards identified through the tailgate form will be added to the relevant hazard control plan.

Training

Training will be undertaken when needed or where legislation requires. The nature of the tasks to be undertaken will determine the training and the timing of training and refresher courses.

Any training that is identified as being required to minimise a hazard will be included on the HCP as a control.

Audits

A regular timetable of Audits needs to be established. Refer H&S 1 - Annual Hazard and Audit Timetable and H&S 2 - Manager Audit Checklist.

1.5 AUDITS AND PLANNED INSPECTIONS

Audits will be undertaken by Workers and Managers as appropriate, noting that with only two field staff including the Manager that they are routinely involved in nearly all work activities anyway. These are timetabled as per Refer H&S 1- Annual Hazard and Audit Timetable.

1. Workplaces will be inspected on a rotating basis (over the course of a year the whole workplace will be covered).
2. An inspection checklist will include general housekeeping matters in addition to all hazards.
3. Any new hazards identified will be incorporated into the relevant HCP and all workers informed.
4. Any new machinery/plant/task will have a hazard assessment undertaken prior to commission.

The Manager may undertake random audits at any time - refer H&S 2 - Manager Audit Checklist.

Audit checklists should be used, signed off and filed when completed.

1.6 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Legal Documentation

There are two documents that you are legally required to have:

1. An accident register and
2. a list of all the hazardous substances kept on your premises.

Other Reports/Documentation

1. Minutes of the Health and Safety meetings
2. Hazard Control Plans
3. Tailgate forms
4. Audits completed
5. Health and Safety Report for Council Meetings (bi-monthly). This is to include;
 - The status of the audit and review requirements in the Manual
 - Adherence to the Manual
 - Any new issues or hazards that have been identified and how these have been addressed
 - Progress with ongoing issues including resourcing
 - Any near misses or injuries

1.7 WORKER PARTICIPATION IN HEALTH AND SAFETY

Taranaki Fish and Game Council is committed to ensure all workers engage and participate in matters relating to Health and Safety.

In order for efficient use of resources a two tier approach to Health and Safety is being utilised. (Regional and National level).

Two Tier Approach to Health and Safety

Regional

- Monthly meetings to discuss issues relating to health and safety within the workplace. Minutes from these meetings must be taken and circulated to all workers.
- If hazards are identified outside meeting times and require action - these hazards need to be reported to the Manager or Health and Safety coordinator to ensure procedures are put in place to eliminate, isolate or minimise the Hazard and added to the Hazard Register.
- After an incident or near miss, the reporting procedures must be adhered to as per 1.11 Accidents/Incident/Reporting.

National

Staff and management from the North and South Islands are elected to be representatives on the **National Health and Safety Committee**.

The National Health and Safety Committee is part of the national framework to help improve the management of workplace Health and Safety nationally. The National Health and Safety Committee is a forum for collective discussion regarding Health and Safety to:

- Comply with the legislation;
- Implement a process of continuous improvement;
- Specifically support worker involvement.

See appendix H&S 3 - Roles of the National Health and Safety Committee.

1.8 INFORMATION, TRAINING AND SUPERVISION

Employer Responsibilities

Taranaki Fish and Game Council will take all practicable steps to ensure that every worker who does work, uses plant and equipment, or deals with a substance of any kind is adequately trained and understands the training given for the safe use of all plant and equipment, objects, substances, and protective clothing and equipment they may be required to use or handle, or otherwise is supervised by a person who is qualified to use the plant and equipment and/or substances to ensure the worker will not be harmed or cause harm to another worker.

Taranaki Fish and Game Council will take all practicable steps to ensure workers are given information in a manner that they can reasonably understand, taking into account language, literacy and culture.

Worker Responsibilities

- Workers have a duty to:
- Protect their own Health and Safety;
- Ensure that they do not act in any way that could bring harm to themselves or any other person;
- To use safe and healthy work practices at all times;
- To use the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) provided.

If a worker is unsure of any safe method for work practice then the worker must not continue until they seek advice from their supervisor.

Worker Induction

Any new staff member, as part of their induction must be taken through the Health and Safety plan and once they have been trained and aware of the hazards they are to sign the H&S 4 - Employee Health and Safety Agreement.

1.9 HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL

Taranaki Fish and Game Council strives to ensure, so far as reasonably practical, the health and safety of workers, and that other people are not put at risk at work. The organisation has in place a regime of regularly assessing risks in places of work (i.e. previously existing, new and potential risks) and regularly reviewing these to see whether these risks are significant and require further Health and Safety action. There is an on-going opportunity for workers, volunteers and employee representatives to be actively involved in identifying and managing risks in the workplace.

Where there is a significant hazard the Council will take all practical steps to eliminate the hazards. If elimination is not practical, we will take all reasonable steps to Isolate the hazard.

Where isolation is impractical, the hazard will be minimised by:

- Good work practices being maintained;
- Workers being properly trained and/or supervised;
- Protective clothing and equipment being provided and used by all workers at all times necessary; and,
- If required, and with the consent of the worker, worker's health will be monitored in relation to the exposure to the hazard.

Fish & Game Identification Procedure

All workers will be given an opportunity to identify and manage risks/hazards within Fish & Game.

1. At any time: To raise new risks at any time they identify such risks
2. Monthly staff meetings (or telephone conference call): A permanent agenda item on the monthly staff meeting is Health and Safety - Workers are able to use this to identify any new risks that have developed over the period and or risks that will be associated with the work that is planned for the coming month.
 - a. At every meeting, any hazard identified will be documented with assigned responsibilities and timeframes. Refer H&S 5 - Monthly Health and Safety Minutes. Minutes from this meeting will be distributed to all staff by email. Many hazards identified may already be included on the hazard register and the minutes become a reminder to all workers to be continually focusing on safety at work. The minutes also become a register of maintenance that is required around workplace.
 - b. Update the Hazard register as required and make sure all workers are aware of the new Hazards, and incorporate hazards into relevant tailgate forms/Field Safety Plans.
 - c. When a hazard register has been updated, print off the new hazard register and ensure all staff sign off as "read and understood".
3. Tailgate meetings: Before workers start a new project or task in the field, a tailgate meeting will be held to discuss the risks associated with that project/field work and to refresh workers of the risks. The tailgate form is preprinted and any new hazards identified on site will be added to the tailgate form and signed off by all party

members. When back in the office this should be filed.

4. **Audits:** There are a number of regular audits that workers/managers have at their disposal. These Audit checks need to be carried out as per the timetable. H&S 1 - Annual Hazard and Audit Timetable and signed off and filed.
5. **Review of the Hazard Control Plans:** As part of the annual review of each hazard control plan all staff will be included in the review process.
6. **New machinery/equipment is purchased:** When **new or modified equipment, material, services or work processes are introduced into the workplace**, it is important that hazards present are identified and controlled appropriately, and added to the appropriate hazard control plan or a new plan developed. (e.g. new machinery that emits fumes or noise).

Procedure for the discovery of a New Hazard

Upon discovery of a new hazard at work:

- Anyone immediately affected by the hazard needs to be informed
- The hazard is to be Eliminated, Isolated or Minimised - in that order and before work continues
- The hazard and controls will be documented (may be on the Tailgate form)
- Workers are to be informed of any controls implemented
- The hazard and controls will be recorded in the Hazard Control Plan
- The updated Hazard Control Plan needs to be read and understood by all workers

1.10 CONTROLLING HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

All hazardous materials/chemicals used, stored or handled in the workplace shall be correctly labelled, identifying:

- The hazardous substance
- Appropriate hazard symbols or risk phrases
- Precautions when handling
- Procedures for emergency treatment

Only properly labelled and approved containers will be used for storage and dispensing of hazardous materials. Every substance will have an accompanying, material safety data sheet (MSDs).

Documentation Required

Under the HSWA a list of all of the hazardous substances kept on your business premises must be maintained. Refer HzS 01 - Hazardous Substance Register.

Material safety data sheets shall be made available to end-users and displayed where hazardous substances are stored. A Hazard Substance Register - Refer to HzS 01 - Hazardous Substance Register will be maintained with the relevant MSDs at each relevant location and kept with all hazardous materials. Suppliers must provide copies of MSDs when supplying products.

Training

All workers using a hazardous substance must either be suitably trained or be supervised by a suitably trained person.

Storage and Spill Plan

For a detailed plan how to store and handle Fuel refer HzS02 - Fuel and Spill Management Plan.

1.11 ACCIDENTS/INCIDENT/REPORTING

It is important that all accidents and near misses are reported to enable Fish & Game to meet its legal responsibilities, to inform others and to identify further controls to minimise or prevent accidents from occurring in the future.

Fish & Game and the HSWA 2015 require:

- All accidents and near misses to be reported;
- Notifiable events must be reported to the Regional Manager immediately and as a result Worksafe must be notified.
- An Accident register to be maintained.

A notifiable event is when the following results as a result of work:

- Death;
- Notifiable illness or injury; or
- Notifiable incident.

Refer H&S 6 - What is a Notifiable Event for details regarding notifiable events.

Accident, injury and incident investigation

Where appropriate and unless directly involved, key employees will investigate accidents as soon as possible in conjunction with the injured party, witnesses and other appropriate personnel. (Refer reporting/recording/investigation flow chart)

The Regional Manager or appointed investigator will complete an investigation within 24 hours of the incident occurring. If deemed necessary (Notifiable events only), external assistance with the investigation may be sought. (Refer H&S 7- Procedures for Notifiable Event)

In the event that an investigation is required, the following points must be observed:

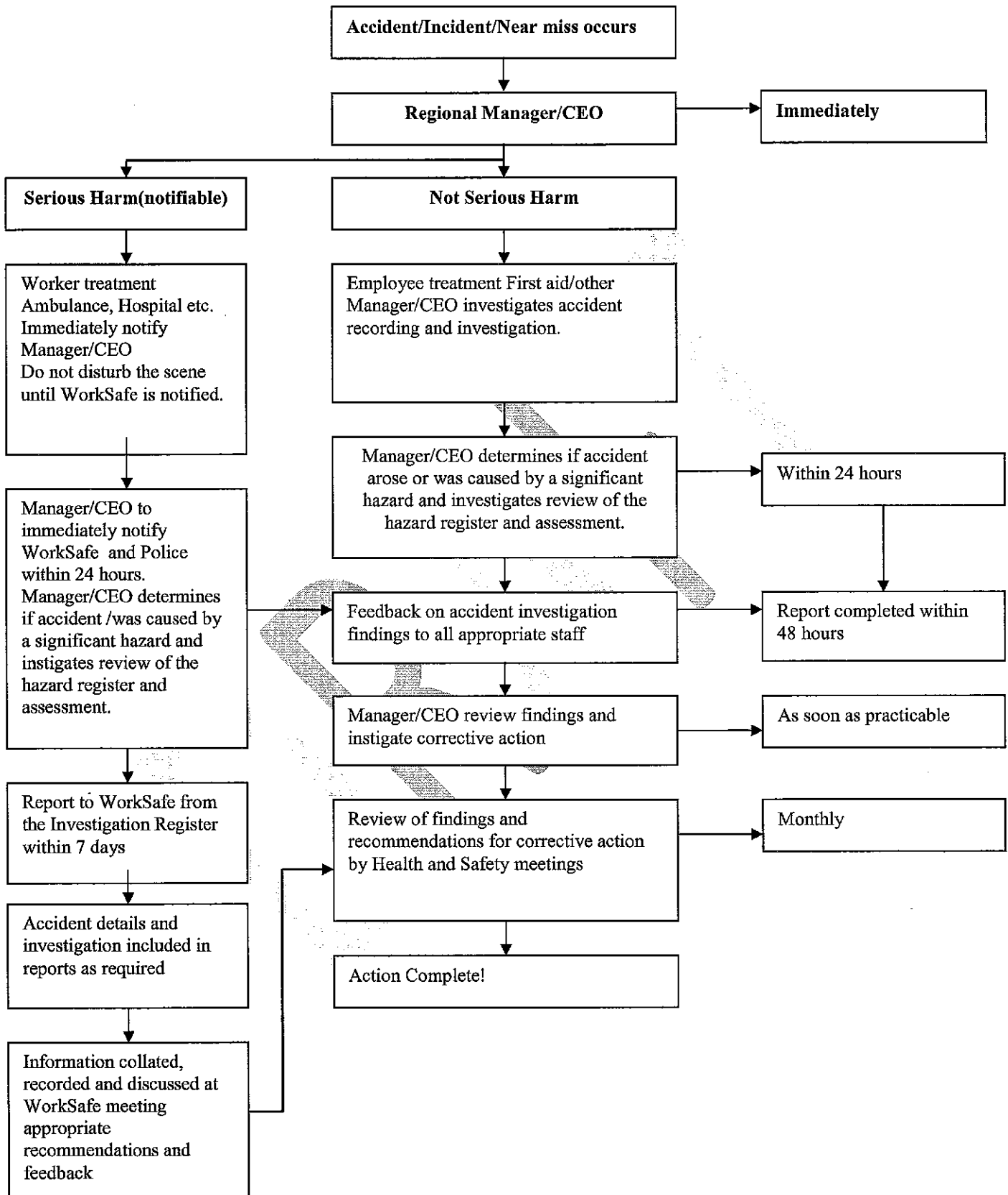
- Complete the Investigation as soon as possible. (Refer H&S 8 - Accident Investigation Procedures);
- Be non-judgmental and without blame as this will assist on gaining the correct facts;
- Aim to ensure there is no recurrence of injury;
- Ask questions of the injured party and other witnesses ensure that you understand exactly what happened;
- Ensure you record what people have said and the effect on equipment, productivity etc;
- Once a problem is identified, use the follow process to get all the facts and get to the root cause:
 1. What controls are in place?
 2. Why didn't they work?
 3. What is now needed for prevention?
 4. Establish underlying causes.
 5. Is there a need to inform, train/retrain workers?
 6. Find out if the accident was caused by a significant hazard?
 7. Review hazard management plans.

8. Gather information from the worker maintaining confidentiality.
9. Feedback on accident investigation findings to all appropriate staff.

Where new hazards are identified as part of the investigation, they must be entered into the Hazard Control Plan. If the cause is from an existing hazard, review the controls within the Hazard Control Plan and update as required.

REF

Accident Reporting/Recording/Investigating Flow Chart



Accident in the Field/Office

In the event of an emergency in the field, evacuation may be required. Dial 111 and if there is no coverage get a team member to travel to coverage, if practical. In circumstances when there is no coverage, make use of the InReach™ device or activate the PLB.

Motor Vehicle Accident

Refer H&S 9 - Procedures in the Event of a Motor Vehicle Accident.

What Information do I have to give?

Refer H&S 10 - Information required in the Event of a Motor Vehicle Accident.

1.12 SAFETY TO OTHER PERSONS AT FISH & GAME

"Other Persons" include people on tour of a Fish & Game site and visitors to Fish & Game for meetings or appointments.

On arrival:

- In the absence of a written hazard plan, a verbal briefing of known hazards, work place procedures and safety requirements is to be provided;
- All visitors (other than those who remain in the reception area of the Whanganui Office) will sign the on-site register acknowledging that they have been briefed on health and safety matters. Visitors will also sign the register on their departure from the site (H&S 11 - Visitor Register);
- Where a hazard control plan exists, visitors will be expected to read it. They will also receive a verbal briefing.

1.13 CONTRACTORS AND SUB CONTRACTORS (OTHER PCBU_s)

Taranaki Fish and Game Council are required to manage contractors, sub contractors and visitors to ensure they are not harmed or cause harm to others while undertaking and performing their work. In effect this means that Taranaki Fish and Game Council have a duty of care and must take reasonable steps to ensure the contractors and their workers are not harmed and do not harm anyone while carrying out their work.

Taranaki Fish and Game Council will engage contractors that are able to demonstrate a good Health & Safety record and evidence that they are complying with the HSWE Act.

As Contractors are considered Workers they also have responsibilities to adhere to the Health and Safety on site. Regional Managers/CEOs will be responsible to ensure that a Health and Safety induction for contractors is undertaken at any site.

Approved Contractors

Taranaki Fish and Game Council will ensure contractors meet the following requirements:

- The necessary technical skills;
- A Health and Safety compliance programme in place that is compatible with Fish and Game;
- Can provide Fish and Game with a Health and Safety policies and procedures.

Refer H&S 12 - External Contractors Health and Safety Agreement. This agreement should be sent out to all contractors working with Fish and Game Staff - both on site and in the field.

This letter can be sent out to regular contractors such as electricians and plumbers - once on file this does not need to be updated every time the contractor comes on site.

Consulting with other PCBUs (Contractors)

Taranaki Fish and Game Council will ensure that they consult with contractors to exchange important Health and Safety information about the following:

- Work activities;
- Health and safety risks; and
- Other important health and safety information.

Refer H&S 13 - Contractors Induction Checklist. Use this form when the Contractor comes on site.

1.14 VOLUNTEER WORKERS

Certain volunteers are classified as volunteer workers.

Honorary Rangers and volunteers at the Hawera Hatchery are considered volunteer workers because:

- Fish & Game knows they are doing the work and have given consent for it to be done;
- the volunteer does the work on an ongoing and regular basis; and
- the work is an integral part of Fish & Game's business.

Fish & Game owe the same duties they owe to workers to volunteer workers (except for worker engagement and participation duties). Volunteer workers must still raise health and safety concerns as with Fish & Game.

Volunteer workers have the same duties as other workers, as described in 1.3 of this plan.

SECTION 2: TARANAKI REGION AND ACTIVITIES

2.1 OVERVIEW OF THE REGION

The Taranaki Fish and Game Council's region runs from Mokau in the north down to Turakina in the south, and includes the Taranaki ring plain across to the western and southern slopes of Mount Ruapehu. Away from the ring plain and coastal margin much of the region is remote, heavily forested with incised rivers and no cell phone coverage.

Key trout fishing resources are concentrated around the ring plain and also in the Waimarino (Ruapehu district), these regions also providing extensive gamebird hunting opportunities along with the coastal margin of Whanganui and inland to west of Taihape.

Taranaki Region is resourced with a Regional Manager/ Field Officer and also administrative Officer based in Whanganui, and a Field Officer based in New Plymouth. The region also operates a small hatchery at Hawera which is run by volunteers.

Because of the diverse and isolated nature of much of the Region considerable time is spent by Field Officers driving in vehicles, and working in wetlands and rivers - often working alone.

Fortunately within the region we do not generally deal with hardened offenders with respect to non-compliance, however this element is present within the wider community.

2.2 FIELD WORK

Field work is a major component of the work undertaken by Regional Fish and Game Councils. Given the challenges posed by working, often alone, in this region then Health and Safety in the field is of paramount importance. All workers must take all reasonable steps to ensure that accidents in the field are minimised, and that all field parties have the equipment and training to cope adequately with any foreseeable situation.

There are many hazards associated with field work that are potentially dangerous. Before embarking on field work workers are required to;

1. refer to the appropriate Hazard Control Plan/s relating to the work undertaken.
2. refer to H&S 14 – Procedures for Field Work
3. Complete a tailgate form (H&S 16)
4. Complete an Intentions Form (H&S 17)

Don't take risks. If in doubt don't do it.

2.3 WORKING ALONE

In many situations it is unavoidable for field officers to work alone. Safety is paramount and the following is expected:

- The staff member informs an appropriate person (Office or Designated Person) of their intended itinerary, including location, and expected time of return, using H&S 17 - Intentions Form (note Designated Person may be the Staff members partner when

- working outside normal office hours)
- On return and/or when in Cell phone coverage, the staff member will inform the appropriate person (Office or Designated Person)
 - An overdue time should be set, after which procedures to find the staff member will be undertaken - this will include notification to the Regional Manager or designated staff member who will take responsibility for what future action should occur, including potentially contacting the Police and the commencement of search and rescue
 - The staff member must carry a cell phone and PLB/inReach™ when alone in the field
 - A Tailgate form (H&S 16) must be completed before the field work is undertaken and the worker(s) must assess the conditions to ensure his or her safety at all times.

2.4 RANGING

Ranging is one of Fish and Games functions that has potential to cause harm for workers and volunteers. For this reason there is a Fish and Game Ranging Guide and Health and Safety Manual, and also a Ranging Hazard Control Plan specific to the Taranaki Region.

No person may range unless they are warranted and approved to do so and have had the appropriate training (CERT Ranger Safety and Fish and Game ranger training-including field procedures).

No person should put themselves in situation where there is the potential for harm - seek assistance as required - call for backup from Fish and Game or from the Police.

Where there is known potential for hazardous situations e.g. ranging in known problem areas, ranging in closed water locations and ranging in areas where offences against spawning fish are likely to occur a risk analysis should be undertaken. Minimum measures should involve ranging with at least two staff members and where there is considered a high offender risk – further assistance such as police may be required.

2.5 MOTOR VEHICLES

Vehicle travel is a high risk activity. Particular care is to be taken when using vehicles:

- Vehicles are not to be driven when drivers are fatigued;
- ATV's/SxS's, TRUCKS AND TRACTORS are not be used without appropriate driver certification/training;
- 4WD vehicles are not to used off road without appropriate training and/or supervision;
- All Vehicles will have a first aid kit and fire extinguisher - it is the responsibility of the person in charge to ensure during the annual audit that these are up to date;
- All road vehicles must comply with the NZ Land Transport Act.
- All Vehicles will have a Health and Safety folder (yet to be completed) outlining the policies and procedures.

In the event of an accident refer to H&S 9 - Procedures in the Event of a Motor Vehicle Accident and H&S 10 - Information Required in an Motor Vehicle Accident.

2.6 BOATING

Motorised Vessel:

Only approved and certified skippers may operate motorised vessels. Vessels must be in survey and Maritime NZ approved. All operations must be in accordance with the F & G NZ

Maritime Transport Operator Plan (MTO) – which includes a Health and Safety manual and operating procedures.

In the situation of a notifiable event caused by a Boat – Maritime NZ is the regulator.

REF

SECTION 3: OPERATIONAL PLANS AND PROCEDURES

3.1 EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Who	Location	Phone
EMERGENCY		111
Taranaki Fish and Game Council	124 Ridgway Street, Whanganui	06 345 4908
F&G New Plymouth Office	290A Devon Street East, New Plymouth	06 757 9676
Glenn Maclean	Regional Manager	021 270 0231 07 895 5826 (hm)
Allen Stancliff	Senior Field Officer - NP	027 263 9152 06 758 7461 (hm)
Jilli Steedman	Administrative Officer	021 270 0239 06 343 1977 (hm)
Paul Blewman	Chairman	021 775 617 07 854 3342 (hm)
Police		
- New Plymouth	95 Powderham St, New Plymouth	06 759 5500
- Whanganui	1D Bell St, Whanganui	06 349 0600
- Ohakune	10 Clyde St, Ohakune	06 385 0100
Hospital		
- Taranaki Base	David Street, New Plymouth	06 753 6139
- Whanganui	100 Heads Rd, Gonville	06 348 1234
- Taumarunui	Kururau Rd, Taumarunui	07 896 0020
DML - Keryn	(Office Alarm)	027 292 8752
NZ Poisons Centre	24 hours a day 7 days a week	0800 POISON (0800 764 766)
Worksafe	24 hours	0800 030 040

3.2 DISPLAY OF SAFETY INFORMATION

Taranaki Fish and Game Council will ensure all appropriate Health and Safety information is displayed. This includes:

- Organisation Health and Safety Policy (per page 2)
- Health and Safety Plan
- Health and Safety meeting minutes (these are emailed to each staff member following each meeting)

This also includes signage relating to:

- First aid kits
- Accident Register
- Emergency exits
- Emergency procedures/wardens
- Fire extinguishers (type and use)
- Chemical storage (if any)

3.3 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES

Fire, earthquakes, gas leaks, chemical spills, power failures, bomb threats and armed hold-ups are all risks that Fish and Game Workers may have to deal with in both the Office and the Field.

In the event of an emergency, the first priority is the protection and safety of all Workers and visitors in the workplace.

Buildings must comply with the Fire Service Act 1975 ("Act") and the Fire Safety and Evacuation of Buildings Regulations 2006.

All buildings must have up to date, approved and working smoke alarms installed.

The Whanganui and New Plymouth office shall have an evacuation plan along with the Hawera Hatchery. This is a plan that describes how occupants will escape to a place of safety if there is a fire, earthquake or other threat. Refer H&S 18 - Evacuation Plan (under review)

Emergency Services dial 111.

Refer H&S 19 - Emergency Procedures.

3.4 FIRST AID

A First Aid Kit must be kept in each Office, and accessible to all workers at all times.

All vehicles shall carry a First Aid Kit (to be maintained by person assigned to that vehicle) and Audit checklist to be completed annually.

Field parties should carry a First Aid Kit, where practical.

All employees are required to attend first aid/CPR training.

3.5 COMMUNICATION DEVICES

All Workers are to have an appropriate communication device accessible to them to ensure reliable communication with the office, a responsible person or emergency services.

Cell Phones

All Field Staff are to carry their cell phone with them. If in an area with cell phone coverage this is to be used to communicate.

In the situation where cell phone coverage is limited or nonexistent, one of the following devices must be used by staff in the field.

Inreach™ Explorer

Taranaki Fish and Game Council has one registered Inreach™ Explorer satellite communicator (used by Regional Manager). This enables two way communications, with built-in navigation with waypoints and routing.

Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs)

Taranaki Fish and Game Council has one registered PLB with the National Rescue Coordination Centre (NRCC) (carried by NP Senior Field Officer). If activated, the NRCC will know that is Taranaki Fish & Game's PLB and will ring the office and/or registered person to find out who has the device.

If PLB is accidentally activated - contact NRCC - 0508 472 269 (0800 4 RCCNZ)

When working in remote areas with no cell phone coverage the Inreach™ Explorer and or the PLB must be taken as a second source of communication. In the event of an emergency involving danger to life these devices must be activated.

3.6 PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Within Health and Safety at Work (General Risk and Workplace Management) Regulations 2016, if Personal Protective Equipment is required to be used to minimise risks to health and safety then Fish and Game will provide the personal protective equipment - unless it has been provided by another PCBU.

Workers have specific responsibilities to:

1. Take all practicable steps to use protective equipment; and
2. Wear the protective equipment that is provided.

When issuing PPE Fish and Game must ensure that:

1. It is suitable for the nature of work;
2. It is of suitable size and fit;
3. It is maintained and repaired; and
4. Workers are adequately trained in wearing/using the PPE.

At all times PPE will meet industry standards/recognized codes of practice.

3.7 MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT

- All equipment owned and used by Fish and Game workers must be maintained in a safe and sound condition;
- Equipment should be inspected thoroughly before use. Any repairs, maintenance or servicing required should be undertaken immediately or scheduled to be completed before the equipment is used;
- Some equipment owned by Fish and Game can only be serviced by professionals specialising in those fields. Workers should not attempt to undertake maintenance and servicing of equipment without appropriate training;
- Vehicles are to be maintained as per Fish and Game vehicle policy;
- Any faulty, malfunctioning or obsolete equipment must be reported and acted upon.

3.8 OTHER RESOURCES

The following should be read in conjunction with the Health and Safety Plan:

1. Health and Safety plan - Appendices
2. Health and Safety Plan - Hazard and Substance Register

3.9 LAST WORDS

REMEMBER, THERE IS ONE GOLDEN RULE - **SAFETY FIRST**. SAFETY FOR YOURSELF, YOUR CO-WORKER AND THE PUBLIC MUST NEVER BE COMPROMISED. EVERYONE ON THE WORKSITE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING SURE THAT SAFETY IS MAINTAINED.

Please take the time to familiarise yourself with our Health and Safety plan. If you have any questions or suggestions on improvement please let the Regional Manager know.

HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN
Hazard & Substance Register



TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

October 2016

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HAZARD CONTROL PLANS

1. **NEW PLYMOUTH OFFICE**
2. **[REDACTED]**
3. **FIELD GENERAL**
4. **RANGING**
5. **HAWERA HATCHERY**
6. **FISH RELEASES**
7. **[REDACTED]**

HZS 01 HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE REGISTER

HZS 02 FUEL STORAGE AND SPILL MANAGEMENT PLAN

HZS 01 Hazardous Substance Register (to complete)

Location	Product Name	Use	Supplier	Comment	MSDS √
Hatchery	Aqui-s	General fish Anaesthetic			
	Ethyl P-Amino Benzoate	General fish anaesthetic			
	Ethanol	Used to mix Ethyl P-Amino Benzoate			
	Isopropyl Alcohol	Used to mix Ethyl P-Amino Benzoate			
	Methylated Spirits	Used to mix Ethyl P-Amino Benzoate			
	Chromide of Lime	Used for general cleaning			
	Basol 88	Cleaner			
	CCL Super Shine	Cleaner			
	Formalin	Anti Fungus Agent			
	Round Up	General Weed Killer			
	Biocil Antiseptic Solution	Disinfectant			
Workshop	LPG Cylinders	Bird Scarers			
Lab	Ethanol	Sample Fixative			
	Janola	Didymo Cleaning			
	Disinfectant	Didymo Cleaning			
(obtain the material safety data sheet) MSDs from the supplier					

HzS 02 FUEL STORAGE AND SPILL MANAGEMENT PLAN

FUEL STORAGE

Petrol, diesel and oil are the most common hazardous substances we encounter. These substances fuel our vehicles, homes and businesses. If these substances are stored, handled or disposed of inappropriately, it can be a hazard to our health and environment.

Unlabelled or badly stored fuels and oil could be mistaken for drinks or toys by small children and pets. Badly stored and disposed fuels and oil can contaminate our soils, air and water. In Canterbury, large quantities of water are taken from rivers and groundwater for use as drinking water or for irrigation. Contamination can make the water unfit for these purposes.

Petrol and diesel are hazardous substances that can cause harm to the environment, stock and the health of your family if not stored and used appropriately. If not maintained and checked, storage tanks can leak fuel into the ground, groundwater or waterways. If that happens, drinking water, stock water and water for irrigation is at risk from poisoning.

For example, tanks must be situated away from bodies of water and secondary containment may be required. If your tank does not meet the conditions, you will need a resource consent.

LPG Storage ~~(To complete)~~

SPILL MANAGEMENT

A spill of any hazardous substance on your site can pollute the environment if it is not dealt with properly. A spill outdoors may run straight into the storm water system and pollute the nearest stream, river, beach or groundwater - unless you know what to do and do it immediately.

Even seemingly harmless things like sugar or milk are lethal to stream or sea life. Bio-degradable substances like foodstuffs and some cleaning agents as well as many other everyday hazardous substances such as petrol can harm our environment.

Every spill must be cleaned up, to:

- Protect staff safety.
- Prevent water pollution.
- Allow safe, prompt disposal.
- Minimise your environmental liability.

If spills get down the storm water drain and into the environment:

- Contamination will affect a wide area.
- Members of the public may be placed at risk.
- Controlling the pollution is much more difficult.
- Clean up costs are greatly increased.
- Enforcement action could be taken against you or your company.

We've provided some key tips below for managing spills on your site.

Spill clean-up and disposal equipment

Any company that uses hazardous substances should have spill containment and clean up equipment. This should include equipment for:

- Containing and cleaning up a spill such as a shovel, broom, drain covers, sandbags, booms and absorbent material. All spills need to be handled with compatible materials.
- Storing and disposing of spilled material such as safe containers, bags, and drums.
- Protecting the health and safety of your staff.

You either:

- buy a standard kit or kits, or
- buy a wheelie bin and fill it with what you have identified you will need.

Check the specific Safety Data Sheets for the equipment that is required to clean up spills of the chemicals on your premises. The spill kit should be able to handle the maximum likely spill volume.

Personal protective equipment

Many hazardous substances look harmless but they may be dangerous to people, even in small amounts. All sites that use hazardous substances should have personal protective equipment.

At a minimum this should include:

- Gloves
- Goggles
- Boots
- Aprons and overalls

You should also consider the need for things like respirators, chemical protection suits (double layers and taping), buddy systems, first aid and emergency treatment.

Check the specific Safety Data Sheets for the equipment that is required to handle the chemicals on your premise.

Drain protection

Protect storm water drains by blocking off access to them by either:

- Covering the drain with drain mats or sandbags; or
- Containing the spill with absorbent products from the spill kit.

Spill procedure

Ensure you know what to do if there is a spill on your site. The key steps are:

1. Be safe

- Do you know what the spilt material is?
- Do you need personal protective equipment?
- Get the right safety equipment before you act.

2. Stop the source

- Turn off the tap or valve, plug the leak or roll the drum over - if it is safe to do so.

3. Protect storm water

- Confine the spill with sandbags or booms.
- Liquid spills: contain with compatible materials, so they can't spread.
- Powder type spills: cover with plastic to stop them blowing around.
- Block off access to storm water grates, sumps and interceptors.

4. Notify

- Tell your supervisor.
- Inform agencies such as the Fire Service if it is a major risk to people or the environment.

5. Clean up

- Liquid spills: pump into a safe container, absorb them with appropriate materials or mix them with a compatible solid so you can sweep them up for disposal. Don't use dispersants or emulsifiers.
- Powder spills: sweep or vacuum up and put them in a safe container.
- If the spill needs to be neutralised, get a properly qualified staff member to supervise. Otherwise, phone the Fire Service, a reputable waste disposal contractor or Environment Canterbury and tell them what the material is.
- Keep the contaminated area as small as possible. If it can be avoided, don't walk through the spill.
- Clean up the area and any contaminated equipment or clothing after removing

the spill - keep within the contained area, stop wash water or sweepings getting into storm water or soil.

6. Dispose responsibly

- Dispose of contaminated materials and clean up gear or clothing as a hazardous waste or ask your waste disposal contractor to dispose of it for you.
- Do not hose spill, or tip wastes down the storm water drain.
- Re-use uncontaminated materials wherever possible.

7. Restock and review

- Replace any containment equipment or protective gear immediately.
- Do a spill report immediately to find out how and why the spill happened.
- Check your spill procedure: do you need to update it to be better prepared

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

2015/16 Compliance Report

The annual plan requires production of a compliance report detailing compliance activities including ranger management and results over the year. The 2015/16 plan also requires development of a compliance strategy to address how best to meet our ongoing compliance needs, and a draft strategy is included in this meeting agenda.

Ranger management and training

The Taranaki Region began the 2015/16 year with 11 honorary rangers. All honorary warrants are issued for 3 years and were required to be renewed on 1st October. As part of this process two rangers retired including Ian Stoneman who has spent a lifetime firstly in a professional capacity and then as an honorary ranger enforcing natural resource regulations. However at the same time we also welcomed Councillors Sargeson and Karalus who had just completed their CERT training, so maintaining a team of 11 honorary rangers and 2 fully warranted staff.

Sadly early in 2016 we lost Councillor Bruce Wilkinson who had been a much respected ranger and valued member of our team covering the Waimarino region for 10 years.

Then in August we were welcomed an experienced ranger from Northland who has recently moved into the Whanganui area. He is fully trained and currently warranted and so despite the changes over the year we still ended at with 11 honorary rangers, along with Councillor Hugo who is in training.

Over the year refresher training days were held in New Plymouth in September and April, and Raetihi in September. All but one ranger attended at least one training day and 10 rangers and staff attended the April refresher which had an emphasis on the new HSAW act and application of health and safety.

Having recently attended 2 meetings for CLE coordinators across F&G it is my impression that the skills and professionalism of our honorary rangers are as good as anywhere in the organisation and perhaps substantially greater than in many regions. To some degree this reflects that Taranaki region is very fortunate to have Brad Dannefaerd (CERT systems) willingly contribute his expertise at each training session along with the support of Darcy Forrester (also of CERT systems) in the field over Opening Weekend.

Staff also maintained regular contact with rangers through the reporting period providing advice and general support.

Compliance activities

Collectively the following numbers of hunters and anglers were checked and offences detected (table 1).

Table 1 Number of hunters and anglers checked and offences detected over the 2015/16 season

	Number of checks	% of total licences sold (using provisional 2015/16 figures)	Number of offences detected	User compliance rate (%)
Anglers	78	6.5%	1	98.7%
Hunters	166*	12.9%	9 (8 individuals)	95.2%

* includes 21 hunters checked over the Special Paradise Duck season

The number of anglers checked did not reach the target of 10% (120). However considerable efforts were made both in the Taranaki and Waimarino regions and the low number checked reflects that anglers were generally few and far between, consistent with the nature of the fishing resource in the Taranaki region. Nevertheless compliance was excellent with only one angler found to be fishing without a licence.

By contrast the target for number of hunters checked was well exceeded, in part helped by checking several very high use areas which had large numbers of hunters in close proximity. Overall the target for compliance was achieved (noting that this is based on the number of hunters complying with all the regulations rather than the total number of offences detected), however more concerning was that of 11 hunters checked in rural Whanganui 7 were found to have either no licence or be using lead or both. This was an area that had not been ranged for a number of years and highlights the importance of getting into the more remote corners of the region (as identified in the draft Compliance Strategy), even if this comes at the expense of the total number of users checked.

The hunting and fishing offences detected above were the first to be dealt with in this region by way of the Reparation Policy. This worked very well in terms of getting good outcomes while minimising associated time and costs to the Council, and was well received by the offenders. In total \$3050 was received by way of reparation payments which were deposited in the respective Hunting and Habitat and Fisheries Project funds.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Taranaki Fish & Game Council accept this compliance report for 2015/16 noting that;

- recruitment, management and training of honorary rangers met the planned result in the Operational Plan
- compliance checks of anglers did not meet the target of 10% of licence holders
- compliance with the regulations exceeded the target of 95% of licence holders

Glenn Maclean

Regional Manager

28 September 2016

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

DRAFT COMPLIANCE STRATEGY

This paper outlines a strategy designed to ensure compliance with our hunting and fishing regulations, and is in support of the Council's Compliance (April 2014) and Reparation (April 2016) Policies

There are two general types of rules that are often applied to trout fishing and/ or gamebird hunting; those designed to protect the sustainability of the resource and those designed to protect the users experience and including sharing the resource equitably between different users.

Hopefully any rules are in place for good reason and it is important people comply with these rules so they are effective and achieve the desired outcomes. Compliance with the regulations may often occur because people support the intention of the rule and/ or the need to follow any legislation for the good of the resource, however for a number of users and indeed perhaps the majority they comply because they don't want to get caught. This may be about the actual penalty involved however for others it is more about their social conditioning or the potential derision they might face from their friends or family, or the embarrassment they might feel in the community or whatever.

Therefore successful compliance is a mixture of developing support for the need for particular regulations and also reinforcing that there is a real risk they could get caught if they don't comply. However the practical reality is that the Taranaki Region is a very large area with lots of remote corners and we have only limited resources. On the other hand an angler or hunter can never quite be sure if a ranger is around or not, the risk exaggerated for an angler by making repeat visits or for a hunter by firing shots that maybe heard by anyone nearby and by often hunting traditional and known locations.

Thus a key is to reinforce this perception that they might encounter a ranger. There are a number of ways this can be achieved both through direct contact and more subtle mechanisms which raise the profile of Fish & Game and awareness that we are around. Building this consciousness of Fish & Game and perception of risk if people don't comply with the regulations is the basis of this strategy.

1. Active Compliance

Fundamental to any compliance strategy is to be seen in the field undertaking effective compliance activities and including successful reparation/ prosecution for offences detected.

To achieve this Council will maintain a team of fully warranted and skilled honorary rangers to undertake active compliance. This compliance will involve

- planned operations over times of high participation including opening day of both seasons, holiday periods on high profile fisheries such as the Manganuioteao River, special paradise duck season and associated with trout releases or competitions

- planned operations in response to known or likely offending
- checks of hunters and anglers encountered while out and about, whether actively ranging or impromptu as part of other activities. Within the Taranaki region such encounters may be very low, however the worth of stopping a single person in the back of beyond who then talks within the local community can be immense in terms of fostering that uncertainty that the ranger might be around.

Performance measures

National policy requires 10% of licence holders are checked each year with a target for compliance of 95%. However defining targets for the number of checks annually in a region like Taranaki where the users are infrequent and spread out over a large geographic area is fraught with difficulty, and does not recognise that the value of a single check in some remote location may outweigh many more checks in high use easily accessible locations where people 'expect' to be checked. Similarly when getting into remote areas that haven't been visited for some years there is often a greater chance of encountering offending which spread over relative few checks will exceed the 95% threshold.

Typically Taranaki sells in excess of 1,150 fishing licences and around 1,300 game licences, noting that the family fishing licence covers more than one angler but also that many short-term licence holders may hold more than one licence over the season. Bearing in mind the above discussion it is proposed that the collective ranging activity should ideally achieve at least 100 checks of anglers and also 100 checks of hunters each year but also to include coverage of more remote locations as well as high profile areas. For example in planning for opening weekend of the gamebird season at least 1 team should always be allocated to range in a remote location.

Similarly the target for compliance is set at least 95%, however noting that a policy of poking into remote corners that haven't been visited for several or more years is likely to make this difficult to achieve.

Management of honorary rangers

While generally the people we deal with within the Taranaki region are inherently reasonable there is always a risk in this day and age that our rangers will encounter a potentially violent offender or someone affected by drugs. Therefore in order to keep our rangers safe it is essential that all rangers are well trained and resourced. Similarly from a Fish & Game perspective it is important that rangers are professional, tidy and reflect well on the organisation. From experience a team of 12 rangers plus staff represents a good balance between achieving the required coverage and the practicalities of providing effective training, resourcing and support.

It is also important to acknowledge that within a group of this size that at any time there will be some who are more active than others depending on what else is going on in their life at the time. Similarly it is not expected that rangers have to necessarily range on Opening Weekend of the gamebird season if they are keen hunters for example, so long as they can contribute elsewhere or at other times. This reflects that honorary rangers are volunteers who are making a considerable commitment (which will only rise if training demands increase in response to HSAW requirements) and in order to retain their involvement it is recognised that it has to work for each ranger as well.

However by the same token if ultimately a ranger is not able to at least participate regularly in training and other activities over the longer term then the warrant will not be renewed (all honorary warrants expire every three years unless formally renewed).

Rangers will be selected on the basis of their ability to meet all of the following criteria;

- undertake the role competently, safely and with integrity,
- relate to licence holders and reflect well on F&G
- and to ensure adequate representation and coverage over the whole region

As part of supporting honorary rangers the Council will hold two training days each year leading up to the respective opening days for the trout fishing and gamebird hunting seasons. Rangers are expected to attend at least one training day each year along with a formal CERT Systems refresher every three years. Currently Council is very fortunate to have ready access to Brad Dannefaerd of Cert Systems who is a national trainer for Fish & Game NZ and whose ongoing contribution greatly increases the quality of all our training.

While generally the risk posed to honorary rangers from violent or abusive offenders is very low in this region there may on occasion be areas identified where the level of this risk is increased as a consequence of certain people visiting or residing in a particular area. Where a significant risk of violent behaviour is recognised then as a matter of policy honorary rangers will not be used in these situations, and will be formally notified that they are not to undertake compliance activities in these areas.

Although it is imperative from both a health and safety perspective and also in terms of the potential risk to F&G that any person working on their own is fully trained and warranted, there is however provision made in this strategy for non-warranted people to assist fully warranted rangers. This provides an opportunity for prospective rangers to get a feel for what is involved, these experiences also useful when they then undertake later training. It also provides an opportunity for people who can't commit to the full training to still help out and provide useful support for the warranted ranger. However there are also risks with this approach that need to be carefully managed and any such activity must have prior approval from the Regional Manager. The manager's consideration will include the nature and location of the operation, number of warranted rangers present and an assessment of the person assisting. As a general rule any unwarranted (and untrained) person must not be involved in front-line interactions with licence holders and others as they have not had the necessary training.

2. Publicity of Compliance Successes

To reinforce our compliance efforts it is important to actively publicise successful operations using local media and our own publications to underline that we are out and about and rangers will take action if they come across an offence. However as part of this it is essential to avoid any reference that identifies the offender/s involved as has sometimes been past practise, as this would be in breach of any reparation agreement and also risks double jeopardy in the case of a court prosecution (as in effect we are administering an additional penalty, that of public embarrassment on top of that already decided by the Court).

3. An Increased Profile in Rural Communities

There are a number of opportunities to develop the profile of Fish & Game within the community and particularly in rural areas. This has a number of wider benefits also, however with respect to compliance the objective is that users and landowners are more aware of the organisation and are conscious that we are around and may appear at any time.

- Taking opportunities to engage one on one with landowners such as moult counts, advice on disturbing gamebird aggregations or undertaking wetland developments. Advantages of site visits include establishment of a personal link and awareness of our activities, and also that the land owner is then conscious that we know the property and including its layout. Even if not hunters themselves they may well raise this awareness with hunters visiting the property or talk about the visit with their neighbour which further builds our profile in the area.
- Use of 'Notice of Entry' forms when gamebird ranging to highlight to a landowner that the property was visited even when no one was encountered. Similarly leaving a Notice of Entry form or staff business card in an empty maimai is a useful means to create discussion and awareness amongst the hunters when they return.
- Development of a readily recognisable 'brand' that increases awareness of our activities and that we are out and about. Its simple stuff however as an organisation we often don't do it well, with different regions using a variety of different sign formats, different colours of vehicles which may or may not have logos and so on. Nevertheless within Taranaki, Wellington and Eastern Regions we have moved to a consistent vehicle colour (dark blue) with a white logo which hopefully will become more readily recognised over time, such that when we drive a rural road for example local farmers will note we are in the area. Similarly we need to develop a consistent sign policy and including use of our logo in advertising and the like so that the brand is readily recognised and our presence noted.
- Targeted use of the media to raise our profile and also support for what we do. To date our attempts to use the rural press have not been very successful, however is a matter of exploring other avenues including other media, flyers through rural delivery operators, rural supply stores and sports shops, and also making use of social media. There is also currently discussion around enabling hunting landowners to voluntarily register (there is no political support for any form of compulsory licence even if free) to receive ongoing information from F&G.
- Involvement in community activities like club shoots, activity evenings through sports shops, 'Wild Food festivals', school visits and the like
- Encouraging landowners to take responsibility for ensuring hunters on their property comply with the regulations. There are already a number of farmers who run very well organised and controlled shoots including requiring that all hunters are licenced, and where we know there is no need to visit other than to occasionally acknowledge their efforts. In turn this allows them to get on and enjoy their hunt without our interruption.

4. Sensible Easily Understood Regulations

Obviously a key influence on compliance is whether hunters and anglers support the intent of a regulation or find it frivolous and unnecessary. Therefore it is essential that our regulations are easy

to understand and make sense to our licence holders, are kept to the minimum necessary to achieve our goals and are effective.

Occasionally however it will be necessary to introduce a regulation to protect the sustainability of the resource which because it restricts opportunity may not be popular, such as the regulations around the use of steel shot. In these cases it is essential that

- in the first instance the new regulation is well thought out and practical
- the reasons for the decision are sound, well publicised and easy to understand
- we promote and enforce the new regulation with consistency and irrespective of any personal views.

RECOMMENDATION

That Taranaki Fish & Game Council adopt this Compliance Strategy to guide operational planning, compliance delivery and resourcing.

Glenn Maclean

Regional Manager

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

Review of Sub Gauge Lead Exemption

NZ Council has received a letter from the Minister of Conservation asking the Council to consider bringing forward the planned 2017 review of the use of lead shot in sub-gauge shotguns, and as part of such a review asking for advice as to *"why lead shot should not be phased out for all waterfowl hunting in NZ, given that many other countries are already doing so?"*

NZ council has resolved to consult with regional Fish and Game Councils before a decision is made regarding this request hence this discussion paper.

When the decision was made by NZ Council to timetable a review in 2017 this was in part to allow further research to be completed which might inform their decision as to whether the prohibition on using lead shot around water for waterfowl hunting should be extended to cover the use of shotguns smaller than 12 gauge (sub-gauge shotguns). Therefore on the basis that completing the planned research would assist consideration of the issue it seems prudent to stick with the existing timetable for review.

However the Minister's letter changes the context of the discussion as the Minister is now seeking advice as to why a prohibition should not otherwise go ahead. In this context the research would need to provide reasons why a prohibition is not appropriate, which was not the brief and which the research will not do. As such delaying the review on the basis of waiting for the results of the research is inferring that the research may offer something that isn't actually the case.

Therefore in line with the Minister's request it is recommended that the review is brought forward and the issue dealt with once and for all.

In light of this recommendation National Office has suggested it would also be helpful for Council to indicate its thoughts regarding what the outcome of any review should be. It is noted that the use of lead shot is a contentious issue with many points of view, however for a comprehensive summary of the latest research findings from around the world on lead toxicity, effects of lead ammunition on wildlife and the transition to non-lead cartridges it is recommended to read *"Proceedings of the Oxford Lead Symposium"* (www.oxfordleadsymposium.info) which was held in December 2014.

The original exclusion of sub-gauge shotguns from the general prohibition on using lead shot for hunting waterfowl around water was in response to concerns that non-toxic cartridges for these shotguns were not generally available, and if they were might not be effective.

In terms of whether there are valid reasons not to include sub-gauge shotguns in the prohibition on using lead for waterfowl hunting there are three questions which need to be addressed;

1. Is there a need for sub-gauge shotguns in waterfowl hunting?
2. If so are there non-toxic alternatives available?
3. Are these alternative loads effective?

The need for sub-gauge shotguns

There appears to be general agreement (though not universal) that there is a need to allow for the use of smaller sub-gauge shotguns to cater for youngsters or those adults who because of injury or other reasons can't manage a full size 12 gauge shotgun and associated recoil. Certainly kids hunting with their dad are a major pathway for recruitment into our sport, and also an ideal opportunity to provide early tuition in safe gun handling. However many boys in particular only grow in their mid-teens and prior to this are simply unable to handle a full sized shotgun. For these reasons it is recommended that provisions are retained that allow effective use of sub-gauge shotguns for waterfowl hunting.

Are there non-toxic alternatives available?

Experiences overseas indicate that the impetus for the manufacture of any particular load is driven by certainty of demand. Furthermore this certainty is only associated with a regulatory requirement to use a particular shot type as hunter uptake has inevitably always been low when it has been voluntary.

The use of non-toxic shot in all gauges has been compulsory for waterfowl hunting in the US since 1991. As a consequence 20 gauge steel cartridges are widely available from US and to lesser degree European manufacturers, and at a similar price to equivalent lead loads. However it is reported that concerns over excessive pressures preclude the loading of steel shot in gauges smaller than 20ga.

Other non-toxic alternatives such as bismuth and tungsten (Hevi-shot and Tungsten-Matrix) are also available. This shot can also be loaded in smaller gauges but comes at much greater cost relative to lead cartridges. For example a box of 10 Hevi-shot cartridges in 28ga retails for approximately \$35US and .410bore for \$30US in that country. A strong reliable market would be required to make these cartridges more widely available in 16ga, 28ga or .410 bore and use in NZ alone would not be sufficient. Even then it is in effect a circular argument as manufacturers only make what is necessary to cater for the demand and demand is driven by price.

Therefore in practical terms at this point in time there are non-toxic alternatives for 20ga users, however not for 28ga or .410 users

A move to 20ga steel shot in NZ would require time for manufacturers to plan and upscale production, and for this to arrive in the country. Experiences in the US suggest a transition of three years from the date of legislation is a reasonable period.

Is 20ga steel effective?

When hunters first used steel loads in NZ they were often disappointed with the results. In part this reflected a combination of poor quality cartridges and erroneous advice over suitable shot sizes and

chokes. In turn hunters switched to using 3½ inch cartridges to increase the payload and/or ultra-fast loads to overcome the perceived shortcomings. That the 20ga steel loads couldn't match these characteristics led to a perception that they would be ineffective.

However over time many hunters have revised their approach concentrating on achieving a suitably dense pattern using #3 or #4 steel shot at more moderate velocities. Such 32g (1¼oz) or 36g (1½oz) loads are now proving very effective on grey and mallard ducks out to about 40metres. Indeed a number of studies now highlight that the main constraints on the effectiveness of appropriate steel loads within 40m are the hunters shooting skill (or lack of) and ability to judge range, which is exacerbated by high wind and the number of shots fired.

Given that individual pellets in a 20ga load are travelling just as fast and hit just as hard as their 12ga counterparts then the only difference is the reduced number of pellets. A 24g 20ga load (28 and 30g loads are also available) will have 70% of the pellets of a 36g 12ga load. Some simple maths suggests for a 12 gauge pattern that is suitable for mallard sized ducks out to 40m (100 pellets in a 30" circle) that this effective range would reduce to just under 35m with 30% less pellets (in terms of achieving the necessary density of pattern).

So while a 20ga will clearly not have the range of a 12ga the impact on range is perhaps not as great as we might imagine and steel loads in 20ga still make for an effective option. This is borne out by the significant number of North American waterfowl hunters who choose to hunt with a 20ga by choice.

An additional argument against a prohibition on using 20ga lead shot shells is the constraint this may impose on existing owners of 20ga guns who may have purchased these for duck hunting in good faith. However in this case the review of lead shot use and potential for change has been flagged for many years in many forums and it is difficult to imagine anyone buying a 20ga in recent times without being aware of the risk, if indeed this was a concern.

Therefore there appears no good reason not to prohibit the use of lead shot shells when using a 20ga to hunt waterfowl near water, however noting that a period of transition would be necessary.

What to do with the .410 (and 28ga)?

Using an inexpensive break open single shot .410 with its small size and low recoil has been many boys (and girls) first introduction to gamebird hunting. Such a firearm provides an ideal tool for supervising and teaching safe gun handling, however is limited by its small 14g or so payload which means it is actually a weapon better suited to the experienced and skilled shot rather than a beginner.

Given that non-toxic shot is not a practical option for this calibre at this point because of cost then there appear to be two options; either to make an exemption just for this bore to allow continued use of lead shot or to prohibit lead shot for any gauge and in effect prevent its use, in turn potentially delaying a youngster's introduction to the hunting ranks by several years.

Ultimately children graduate to larger gauge shotguns as soon as they can manage because they are more effective. Therefore while the ideal is for no lead to be used for waterfowl hunting, the actual quantities fired by the group of youngsters using single shot 410's around the country each year is

expected to be minimal. For example in a random survey of 117 duck hunters in Taranaki in 2015 107 (91.5%) were using a 12 ga and 10 (8.5%) using a 20ga shotgun. In this particular survey no children using a 410 were encountered at all.

Therefore in the interests of maintaining this opportunity for youngsters to enter the sport at a time when they can share these moments with their mum or dad and including receiving tuition in safe firearm handling, it is recommended that an exemption is made for holders of a Junior licence only to be able use lead shells in a 410 or 28ga shotgun.

A related issue

Studies from both Europe and US indicate the main constraint on the effectiveness of steel shot for gamebird hunting are hunters shooting skills and their ability to accurately estimate range. Therefore in order to minimise wounding and maximise hunter satisfaction it is important to encourage hunters to practice before the season.

However practicing on clay targets using lead cartridges is not helpful and actually detrimental, as these loads travel at slower velocities than steel hunting loads and the sight picture and amount of lead required is quite different. Therefore ideally hunters will practise using their steel hunting loads, however a major constraint for any organised pre-season shoot is that these are invariably held on ranges belonging to members of the NZ Clay Target Association. The association requires that all ranges used for competition shoots are set out to prescribed standards which ensure range safety using lead shells only, and as a consequence the rules of operation preclude the use of steel shot.

This creates an obvious and increasing tension both for F&G who want to encourage hunters to practice using steel not lead, and the clubs who rightly value these days as a way to introduce new people to the sport and as a source of revenue. Therefore it is suggested that at a national level Fish & Game explore with NZ Clay Target Association what options there might be to enable the rules and range standards to be modified to allow for the use of steel (as occurs in Norway for example).

RECOMMENDATION

That Taranaki Fish & Game Council recommend to National Council that;

1. The planned review in 2017 of the use of lead shot in sub-gauge shotguns is bought forward as per the Minister's request
2. The prohibition on the use of lead shot is extended to all waterfowl hunting within 200m of open water with the exception of the holder of a Junior gamebird licence who may use lead in a .410 bore or 28ga shotgun only.
3. That this change is introduced via a transition period to allow for suitable sub-gauge cartridges to be ordered, produced and delivered.
4. National Office undertake initial discussions with the NZ Clay Target Association regarding the issue of allowing for the use of steel shot on association ranges

Glenn Maclean

Regional Manager

8 September 2016

BAN ON USE OF LEAD SHOT

Memorandum to: Regional Fish and Game Councils

Prepared by: Robert Sowman, Planning & Policy Manager
New Zealand Fish and Game Council

Dated: 26 July 2016

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council (NZ Council) at its meeting of 22 – 23 July 2016 considered a letter from the Minister of Conservation on the use of lead shot near waterways and resolved to consult regional Fish and Game Councils before a decision is made:

Resolved (Noel Birchall/Colin Sherrard)

That the letter from the Minister of Conservation be sent to regions noting the Minister's request to bring forward the review of the sub-gauge exemption for the use of lead shot with responses to be received in time for consideration at the November NZ Council meeting.

Your feed-back on this request will be submitted for NZ Council consideration at its 25 – 27 November 2016 meeting. Please provide any comments you wish to make before Friday 11 November for inclusion in that agenda mailout.

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

PREDATOR CONTROL

Following discussion at the last meeting it was agreed to include an agenda item for Council to discuss potential predator control projects for inclusion into the 5 year Strategic Plan and subsequent Annual Plans.

Background

The mallard is one of the most well-studied birds in North America. Results of these studies indicate different factors may determine the overall population size in different areas, however key influences invariably include nesting success and brood survival. Not as common but occasionally breeding incidence can also be critical; that is not all females necessarily attempt to breed each year if they are not in good condition.

Analysis of the data from the current mallard research project includes developing similar population models for the Waikato and Southland populations, which will provide further information on just what the key influences are likely to be in this region. It is quite feasible that NZ populations may function somewhat differently to North American populations, however results to date suggest brood survival at least is likely to be a key, particularly in the first 10 days of life. In part this is about thermoregulation and obtaining sufficient food and the Southland study has found survival is positively correlated to the age of the hen (older hens are often bigger and in better condition and so produce bigger eggs which in turn hatch ducklings with greater fat reserves, though they may also be better mothers as well) and access to protein-rich ephemeral (temporary) water in the first 10 days post hatching. However survival is negatively correlated to the amount of dense cover, the distance travelled by the brood and how close to human activity (buildings and roads) the brood is.

These three negative influences are all likely linked to predation. It is important to recognize that predation is a natural and significant part of the population dynamics of mallards (and other gamebirds) and a key reason why the average brood size is 8 or 9 ducklings. However clearly in New Zealand a number of new predators have become firmly established in more recent decades and in association with habitat changes that may increase vulnerability to predation then the collective impact of rats, hedgehogs, stoats, weasels, ferrets, cats, swamp harriers and pukekos is almost certainly more significant than in the past.

As a consequence there is a lot of enthusiasm to launch into predator control and this was discussed at the recent Managers meeting in relation to potential opportunities as part of Predator Free NZ. However there was also significant concern that we don't yet know what is actually required to achieve effective predator control so as to make a real difference; that is rear more ducks. It is easy enough to kill predators but we need to know where to target, what species and when and on what scale, such that ultimately our efforts will result in significantly more ducklings fledging. Conversely the risk is that we could encourage a lot of feel good activity with associated costs which achieves very little or nothing and risks diverting our attention and resources.

It was agreed that this is a key topic and as a starting point for Andy Garrick (Regional Manager - Eastern Region) to collate existing information on predator control in and around wetlands (recognising Andy's background and contacts in this area). The current mallard research should also provide direction with respect to key habitats to focus on. There is also research underway on stoats and particularly cats in relation to wetlands by Southland F&G, noting that the current pond study is identifying visits by farm cats from neighbouring properties 3km or more away.

From a Taranaki perspective I would suggest the opportunity in the interim is to trial an approach or two in association with interested hunters and/ or landowners to see what we can actually achieve. Any trial needs to be of sufficient scale, robust, well documented and results measurable in terms of ducks (or pheasants) reared. While the trial/s is ideally about producing more birds it is also an opportunity to explore the logistics, practicalities and obstacles to undertaking and perhaps more importantly maintaining an effective programme. However if successful we then have actual examples of how to go about effective predator control in these situations.

Two opportunities that have been previously identified are around the proposed Pakahi wetland development (mallard and grey duck at Raetihi) and also at Nukumaru (upland game and ducks). Ideally Nukumaru would be on large scale and involve other partners, and we would want to be more certain about just what is required before launching into this. However potentially several smaller trials could be undertaken within this area based around improving pheasant recruitment (or at least in the first instance getting a grasp of just what and how many predators are present along the coastal margin) and also duck recruitment associated with dairy farms and riparian strips (consistent with the use of these areas in Southland as per Erin Garrick's research). Alternatively such a project could be repeated elsewhere on the Taranaki ring-plain. Whatever it needs to be sufficiently robust and including comparison with brood success elsewhere or before and after the predator control occurred.

In terms of the 5 year plan and budget Council can probably resource 2 or 3 projects depending on size, need for staff input and the like without major disruption to the 5 year plan or budget, and recognising that the Hunting and Habitat fund could also be used in support. However either a major and/ or additional programmes would require reallocating other work programmes and resources.

As further research is undertaken nationally and additional knowledge collated and refined then this will also influence the design of any projects into the future.

RECOMMENDATION

That Taranaki Fish & Game Council make provision in the 5 year Strategic Plan for up to 3 projects to develop and refine the methodology for effective predator control around wetlands and upland game areas, and including robust monitoring of the results.

Glenn Maclean

Regional Manager

27 September 2016

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

2015/16 Hatchery and Trout Liberations Report

1. Introduction

The Council's 2015/16 Annual Operational Plan has the objective of the maintenance of trout fisheries in the region's lakes and rivers by the operation of a cost effective hatchery and liberation program. The project planned results are:

- To have reared 5,000 healthy fingerling and yearling trout at the Hawera hatchery by 31 August 2016
- Release of 5,000 healthy fingerling and yearling trout into lakes and rivers where the species already exists and release is appropriate
- Release of up to 1,200 healthy two year old rainbow trout into approved waters to provide immediate angling opportunity
- The presentation of a report detailing the releases by 31 August 2016.

2. Hatchery

There were 1,734 adipose-fin clipped rainbow trout yearlings from the 2014 year class held in the Hawera hatchery at the beginning of the 2015/16 financial year. These fish originated from 6,000 eyed ova received from the Eastern F&G Region's Ngongataha hatchery in July 2014.

An estimated 4,500 trout fry (4,200 rainbow and 300 brown) from the 2015 year class were also held in the Hawera hatchery at the beginning of the 2015/16 financial year. These fish originated from an initial early-July shipment of 4,000 eyed rainbow ova and 2,000 eyed brown ova from the Eastern Fish & Game Region which showed poor survival (probably due to shocking during transit) and then two replacement shipments of 2,000 rainbow ova received later in July.

Trout from the 2015 year class were adipose fin-clipped on 23.03.16, at which time the count was 3,854 rainbow trout and 24 brown trout. The brown trout were very stunted and had failed to thrive.

Newly fertilised rainbow trout ova for the 2016 year class were collected from the DOC Te Whaiu trap at Lake Otamangakau in July 2016, but unfortunately these failed to develop, most likely due to oxygen deprivation during transport. A total of 3,000 replacement (eyed) rainbow ova were received from the Eastern F&G Region's Ngongataha hatchery on 28th July 2016

3. Releases of Fingerling or Yearling Rainbow Trout

During the 2015/16 financial year, a total of 3,735 fingerling or yearling rainbow trout from the 2014 and 2015 year classes were released into five rivers and five lakes in the region (Tables 1&2), where the species already exists. An additional estimated maximum of 1,877 rainbow trout yearlings from the 2015 year class were held-over in the hatchery at 31st August 2016.

For the 2014 year class, the total number of rainbow trout raised through to release was 4,920 fish from the 6,000 ova received in July 2014. This gave a survival to release of 82%, which was an excellent result.

4. Planned Result for Hawera Hatchery Trout Releases

A total of 5,612 trout were reared in the hatchery during the year (3,735 released and 1,877 held over), so that the planned result to have reared 5,000 healthy fingerling and yearling trout at the Hawera hatchery by 31 August 2016 was met.

The planned result was to achieve the release of 5,000 healthy yearling rainbow and brown trout into lakes and rivers where they already exist. A total of 3,735 healthy fingerling and yearling trout was released into lakes and rivers where they already exist during the 2015/16 financial year, which was 74.7% of the planned result.

5. Releases of Two Year Old Rainbow Trout

A total of 1,260 healthy two-year-old rainbows from the Eastern Fish & Game Region's Ngongataha and DOC Turangi hatcheries were released into three lakes and two rivers in the Taranaki Region during the 2015/16 financial year (Table 3). This was 60 fish in excess of the planned result of 1,200 fish released.

Well-attended kids fishing promotions were held at Lake Rotomanu (New Plymouth), Opunake Lake and in the Patea River at Stratford following the releases. A total of 60 2-year rainbows were also released into the Stony River in February 2016 (Table 3), but a headwater erosion event soon after the release probably killed most of them. A further 100 2-year rainbows were released into Sattler's Dam in mid-February 2016 (Table 3).

6. Cost Effectiveness of Hatchery Releases

The Council's Annual Plan Objective includes a requirement that the operation of the hatchery and liberation program be cost effective.

Cost of brown and rainbow trout yearlings

Operating costs for the Hawera hatchery over the period 1 September 2015 - 31 August 2016 came to \$9,784.49 + GST. This included the cost of ova (\$2,453), fish food (\$3,527.69), insurance (\$522.70), power (\$558.54), liberation expenses (\$438.62), volunteer & hatchery expenses (\$982.80) and resource consent monitoring fees (\$1,301.14), but excluded staff time.

With a total of 5,612 trout raised at the hatchery in the 2015/16 financial year, (3,735 released and 1,877 held-over) this puts the average cost of raising trout at the Hawera hatchery at \$1.74 per fish (all figures GST exclusive). This is higher than in previous years (i.e. 2014/15 (\$1.39 per fish), 2013/14 (\$1.46), 2012/13 (\$1.63), 2011/12 (\$1.55) and 2010/11 (\$1.50), reflecting an increase in costs and a reduction in the number of fish raised.

The figure of \$1.74 per fish still compares favourably with the cost of purchasing brown and rainbow trout yearlings directly from the Eastern F&G Region (\$2.65 each, plus transport @ \$2.54/km). Having trout available at Hawera retains the flexibility to release fish when receiving water

conditions are suitable. Council should be mindful that the figure of \$1.74 relates to the cost of each fish released and not the cost per fish returned to the angler.

Cost of two year old rainbow trout

In the 2015/16 financial year, 700 2-year rainbows were purchased from the Eastern F&G Region in October 2015 at a GST exclusive cost of \$6,149.56, including transport, driver expenses and accommodation, for kids' fishing promotions at Lakes Rotomanu and Opunake. The 700 trout therefore cost the Council \$8.79 each (net). The kids' trout fishing promotions at Lakes Rotomanu and Opunake also cost an additional \$738.71 to run, including advertising but excluding staff time. The Opunake Surfcasting and Angling Club met running costs associated with the event at Opunake Lake. These additional expenses brought the net cost per fish of the promotion to \$9.84.

A total of 460 2-year rainbows were obtained from the DOC Turangi National Trout Centre in mid-February 2016 and released into the Patea River at Stratford (400) and the Stony River (60). These fish were donated by DOC with the cost of transport and driver expenses met by Fish & Game and coming to \$1,797.49. Additional event expenses, including advertising, incurred by Fish & Game came to \$239.25, giving a total expenditure of \$2,036.74. A grant from the Taranaki Electricity Trust (i.e. grant minus Stratford Fishing Club expenses) of \$1,741.85 (GST excl.), meant the net cost to the Council of these 460 well-grown 2-year-old trout was \$294.89 (excluding staff time), or \$0.64 per fish.

An additional 100 2-year old rainbows were also donated by DOC and these were transferred direct into Sattler's Dam using the Council's trailer mounted tank.

7. RECOMMENDATION

That the 2015/2016 Trout Liberation Report dated 29th September 2016, be received.

Allen Stancliff

Senior Field Officer

29th September 2016

TABLE 1 - Releases of fingerling or yearling rainbow trout into Taranaki Region rivers and lakes during the 2015/2016 financial year. All fish were raised at the Hawera hatchery from Lake Tarawera-strain ova received from the Eastern Fish and Game Region.

Water	Release Date	Fish Year Class	Number Released
Stony River	23.09.15	2014	200
Stony River	09.11.15	2014	120
Oakura River	23.09.15	2014	200
Kapuni Stream	07.09.15	2014	312
Retaruke River	09.10.15	2014	311
Lake Namunamu	16.09.15	2014	339
Lake Ngangana	24.09.15	2014	252
Lake Rotomanu	30.03.16	2015	150
Lake Mangamahoe	30.03.16	2015	150
Kapuni Stream	30.03.16	2015	700
Kaupokonui Stream	29.06.16	2015	500
Kapuni Stream	12.07.16	2015	300
Lake Opunake	25.08.16	2015	201
Total Released			3,735

* = not adipose fin clipped

^a = single fish included in a brown trout release

TABLE 2 - Total number of fingerling or yearling rainbow trout released into each water during the 2015/2016 financial year

Water	Number Released
Stony River	320
Oakura River	200
Kapuni Stream	1,312
Retaruke River	311
Kaupokonui Stream	500
Lake Namunamu	339
Lake Ngangana	252
Lake Rotomanu	150
Lake Mangamahoe	150
Lake Opunake	201
Total Released	3,735

TABLE 3. Releases of 2-year-old hatchery rainbows in the Taranaki Region during the 2015/2016 financial year.

Water	Date	Hatchery Origin	Number Released
Lake Rotomanu	16.10.15	F&G Ngongataha	400
Opunake Lake	16.10.15	F&G Ngongataha	300
Patea River	12.02.16	DOC Turangi	400
Stony River	12.02.16	DOC Turangi	60
Sattlers Dam	16.02.16	DOC Turangi	100
Total Released			1,260

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

2015/16 Trout Monitoring Report

The Council's 2015/16 Annual Operational Plan has an objective for fish population assessment "To keep Council informed of the state of the region's sports fish populations". The Planned Result provides for:

- Baseline trout population information obtained and reported for the Mangawhero River and Kaupokonui Streams;
- Opportunities to enhance the Stony River fishery investigated and reported to Council;
- Report to Council detailing the status of the sports fish population and implications for management by 31 August 2016.

Mangawhero River

A juvenile trout survey of the upper Mangawhero River, Ohakune, including the Makotuku and Makara Stream tributaries, was carried out using a Smith-Root LR-24 Electrofisher on 2nd and 3rd December 2015 and a report prepared for Council. The survey found that the upper Mangawhero River supports significant brown trout spawning and large numbers of juvenile brown trout. In contrast the upper Makotuku and Makara Streams have much lower densities despite ideal spawning conditions in the headwaters.

Kaupokonui Stream

A major flood in the Kaupokonui Stream just prior to the planned survey meant that this survey did not proceed last summer, however it is rescheduled for 2016/17.

Stony River

The latest in a series of headwater erosion events occurred in February 2016, leaving the river very unstable with few pools and significant bed movement occurring on freshes. While the Stony now clears quickly following rainfall, there is still little good trout habitat available. There have been very few reports of anglers catching yearling hatchery rainbows released into the Stony, which suggests that they do not survive well. Two-year rainbows have been more successful, but a release of 60 fish on 12th February 2016 occurred just a few days prior to the latest headwater erosion event. The next date for a possible release of 2-year rainbows into the Stony is 9th December 2016 and the stability of the river will be re-assessed in late November to determine whether another release will be worthwhile.

Waingongoro, Kaupokonui and Kapuni angling diary scheme

The 2015/16 season marked the first year of a 3-year study to investigate the contribution of hatchery stocked rainbows to the total catch from the Waingongoro, Kaupokonui and Kapuni rivers. In this study rainbow releases have been stopped on the Waingongoro, continued as usual for the Kaupokonui and increased into the upper Kapuni Stream. Results to date indicate that nearly all the rainbows caught by diarists in each of the three rivers are wild, rather than of hatchery origin.

Mangamahoe and Mangorei Stream trout spawning surveys

Trout spawning surveys were carried out in Mangamahoe and Mangorei Streams on 6th July 2016. A record high count of 45 adult trout (38 browns and 7 rainbows) was obtained from Mangamahoe Stream (Table 1, Figure 1). Twenty-eight of these were paired up, indicating that there was still a

significant amount of spawning to go and the final redd count would have been higher than that observed during the survey (Figure 2).

In contrast, only five brown trout (including 1 pair) were seen in the lower 1.8km of Mangorei Stream above the Waiwhakaiho River confluence (Table 2, Figure 3). This, and the presence of 14 spawning redds (Table 2, Figure 4) indicated that spawning was well advanced.

RECOMMENDATION

That the 2015/16 Trout Monitoring Report dated 28th September 2016 be received.

Allen Stancliff

Field Officer - Taranaki Fish & Game

28th September 2016

TABLE 1 - Trout spawning surveys in Mangamahoe Stream and Lake Mangamahoe inlet 1990 to 2016. Counts are not adjusted to redds or fish per km.

Stream	Site	Survey Date	Km. Surveyed	Spawning Redds	Brown Trout	Rainbow Trout
Mangamahoe	Lake to waterfall	28.06.90	1.65	14	22	2
Stream	Lake to waterfall	11.07.91	1.65	16	8	5
	Lake to waterfall	22.06.92	1.65	22	32	12
	Lake to waterfall	30.06.95	1.65	13	32	1
	Lake to waterfall	05.07.96	1.65	---	19	4
	Lake to waterfall	23.07.97	1.65	6	16	3
	Lake to waterfall	20.07.98	1.65	7	12	0
	Lake to waterfall	30.06.99	1.65	3	12	0
	Lake to waterfall	07.07.00	1.65	3	6	0
	SH3 to waterfall	29.06.01	1.50	10	10	4
	SH3 to waterfall	02.07.02	1.50	10	4	0
	SH3 to waterfall	14.07.03	1.50	14	24	0
	SH3 to waterfall	08.07.04	1.50	22	27	1
	SH3 to waterfall	12.07.05	1.50	24	27	3
	SH3 to waterfall	26.06.06	1.50	16	32	3
	SH3 to waterfall	27.06.07	1.50	10	20	1
	SH3 to waterfall	14.07.08	1.50	13	19	1
	SH3 to waterfall	13.07.09	1.50	12	9	0
	SH3 to waterfall	12.07.10	1.50	10	4	0
	SH3 to waterfall	13.07.11	1.50	11	5	0
	SH3 to waterfall	02.07.12	1.50	6	9	0
	SH3 to waterfall	26.06.13	1.50	7	15	0
	SH3 to waterfall	07.07.14	1.50	15	16	0
	SH3 to waterfall	13.07.15	1.50	12	17	0
	SH3 to waterfall	06.07.16	1.50	11	38	7
Lake inlet	Lake inlet	01.07.12	0.05	2	3	0
	Lake inlet	26.06.13	0.05	4	2	1
	Lake inlet	07.07.14	0.05	4	1	1
	Lake inlet	13.07.15	0.05	3	1	0
	Lake inlet	06.07.16	0.05	1	4	6

FIGURE 1 - Counts of brown and rainbow trout in a 1.5km section of Mangamahoe Stream upstream from Lake Mangamahoe. No surveys were undertaken in 1993 and 1994.

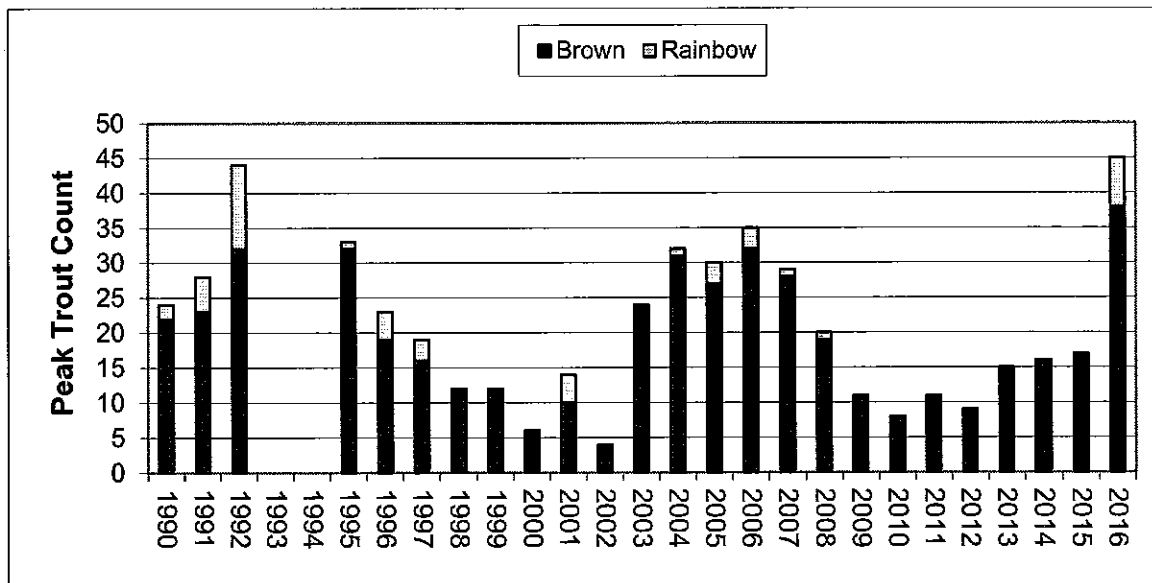


FIGURE 2 – Trout spawning indices calculated from red counts in a 1.5km section of Mangamahoe Stream upstream from Lake Mangamahoe. No surveys were undertaken in 1993 and 1994.

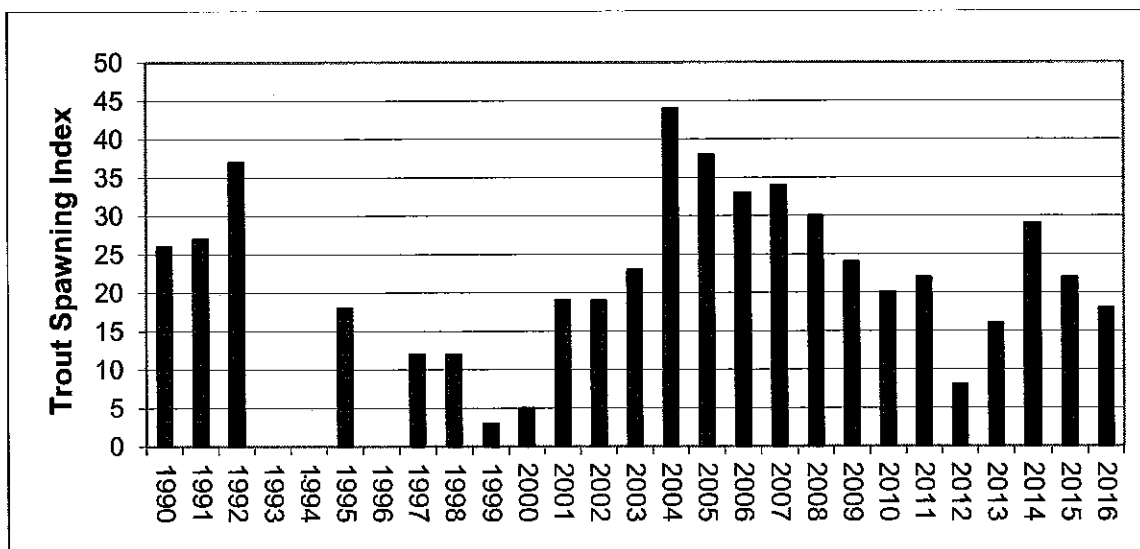


TABLE 2 Trout spawning survey results in Mangorei Stream 1990 - 2016

Survey Date	Km. Surveyed	Brown Trout	Rainbow Trout	Small Redds	Medium Redds	Large Redds	Redds/Km
06.07.90	3.40	4	0	0	1	1	0.6
23.06.92	1.65	4	0	3	2	10	9.1
06.07.01	1.65	3	0	2	4	2	4.8
15.07.02	1.10	0	0	4	2	2	7.3
02.07.03	2.00	4	0	3	3	1	3.5
05.07.04	1.80	7	0	4	2	3	5.0
01.07.05	1.80	7	0	6	5	4	8.3
26.06.06	1.80	20	0	5	10	8	12.8
09.07.07	1.80	12	1	1	5	7	7.2
30.06.08	1.80	11	0	8	7	5	11.1
22.06.09	1.80	10	0	6	4	2	6.7
12.07.10	1.80	3	0	2	4	3	5.0
21.07.11	1.80	1	0	4	7	3	7.8
05.07.12	1.80	8	0	5	4	2	6.1
26.06.13	1.80	9	0	3	4	3	5.6
07.07.14	1.80	16	0	1	6	2	5.6
13.07.15	1.80	1	0	3	1	1	2.8
06.07.16	1.80	5	0	4	6	4	7.8

FIGURE 3 - Counts of brown and rainbow trout in the lower 1.8km of Mangorei Stream. No surveys were undertaken in 1991 and 1993 - 2000.

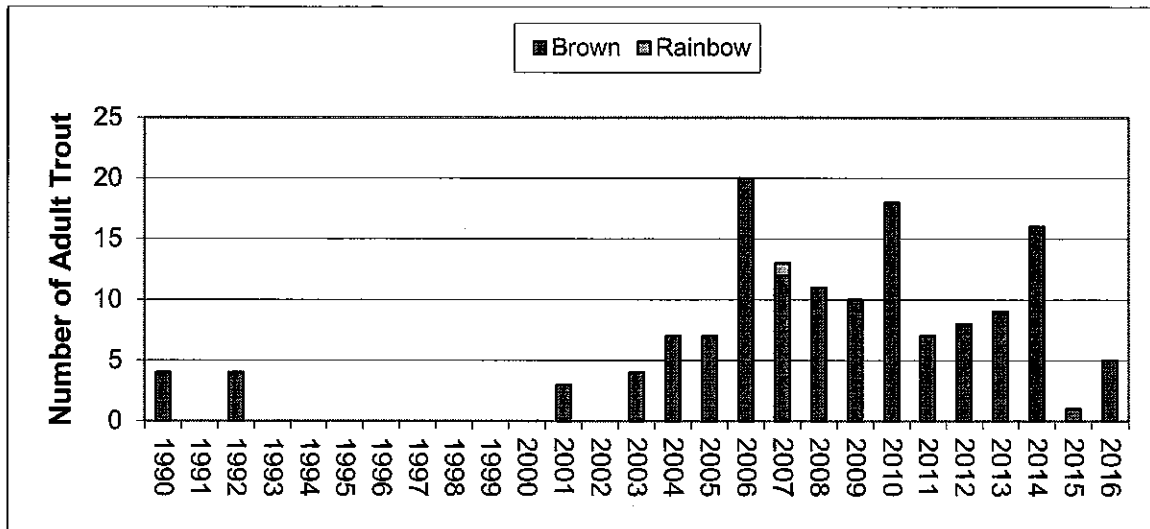
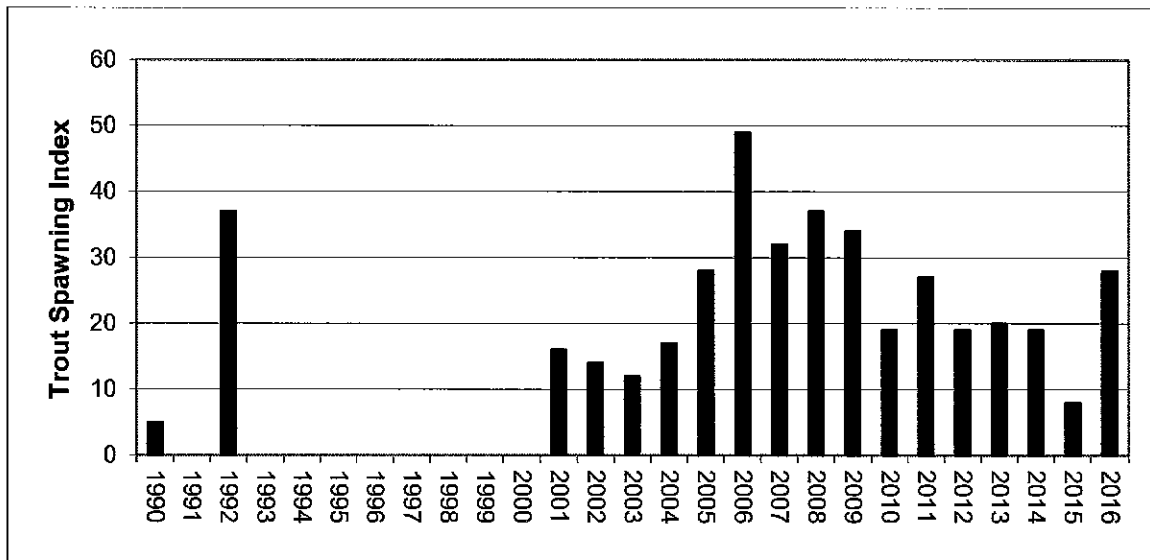


FIGURE 4 - Trout spawning indices calculated from red counts in the lower 1.8km of Mangorei Stream. No surveys were undertaken in 1991 and 1993 - 2000.



TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

LAND OCCUPIER LICENCE TO FISH AND HUNT

As one of the authors of this paper it was the intent of the original proposal to explore whether there was any opportunity to require landowners/ occupiers to hold a free licence for the reasons detailed in the attached paper. This reflects that currently we have an unknown but likely significant group of key users and land managers with whom we have no contact, despite trying several avenues to encourage them to voluntarily subscribe to our database.

Subsequent discussions with the Minister of Conservation suggest little support for such a requirement which would require legislative amendment to the Wildlife and Conservation Acts. The proposal has subsequently been amended to promote the option of a voluntary 'free licence' for land owners which would not actually have any legal basis.

As such the proposal now is simply another voluntary option which to date have been singularly unsuccessful. That is not to say that there is no merit in having an option for such users to be able to easily sign up to using the licence database and so receive the hunting regulations for example. There are also other options we are exploring including sending our hunting newsletter to all rural delivery box holders, however ultimately none of these mechanisms will achieve the ideal outcome of having contact details for all our users.

Nevertheless it is recommended that provision is made for hunters in particular to be able to sign up using the licence database to receive a copy of the hunting regulations and other helpful information. However rather than calling this a free licence it is suggested that it is based on completing an occupier declaration for which there is already a legal basis, at least in the case of multiple owners or occupiers (s19(4)(b) Wildlife Act 1953). Furthermore s19(5) requires Fish & Game "*endorse on the appointment a certificate that it has been so produced....*" which potentially could be some form of certificate similar to a licence.

Going down this path would require us to enforce the notification requirements around owner/ occupier status more stringently than often done at present, however if it is a simple process attached to the licence issuing system then this would not represent an unreasonable demand. Furthermore having the occupier pass over an occupier certificate on demand would simplify compliance.

Potentially we could encourage all landowners to follow this process whether technically they needed to or not OR explore amending the Wildlife Act to clarify that all occupiers need to fill out an occupier declaration which would then achieve the original objective, and ultimately benefit both parties.

RECOMMENDATION

That Taranaki Fish & Game Council recommend to NZ Council that;

1. provision is created in the licence administration system to issue 'occupier certificates' consistent with the intent of the Wildlife Act
2. all occupiers are encouraged to complete an occupier declaration on line
3. consideration is given to amending s19(4)(b) the Wildlife Act to require all occupiers exercising their right under the Act to obtain a current occupier certificate

Glenn Maclean

Regional Manager

9 September 2016

LAND OCCUPIER LICENCE TO FISH AND HUNT

Memorandum to: Regional Fish and Game Councils

Prepared by: Robert Sowman, Planning & Policy Manager
New Zealand Fish and Game Council

Dated: 26 July 2016

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council (NZ Council) at its meeting of 22 – 23 July 2016 considered a paper that Glenn Maclean and Robert Sowman had originally prepared for discussion at a meeting of managers:

Resolved (Kevin Williams/Andy Harris)

That the NZ Council consult with regions on a proposed free fish and game licence for land occupiers when fishing or hunting on their own property.

That regional Fish and Game Councils be asked to respond to this proposal by 14 November for consideration by the NZ Council at its 25 – 27 November 2016 meeting.

The NZ Council also requested that the relevant wording of the legislation be included, noting that it uses wording “without a licence” meaning that another word than a “free licence” may need to be applied.

Conservation Act 1986

26ZO Occupier may fish without licence

(1) Subject to this Act, any person who is the lawful occupier of any land may fish on such land or waters within such land without a licence or payment of fee, within the period and upon such terms and conditions, as may be specified in any notice issued pursuant to section 26ZL, or in any Anglers Notice applying, or in any regulations made under section 48 or section 48A, without being liable to any penalty for so doing.

(2) For the purposes of this section, the term *lawful occupier* includes the owner of the land and any person who has the right to occupy the land pursuant to a written agreement for a period of not less than 6 months; but does not include the manager of a marginal strip.

(3) Every person who claims to be the lawful occupier of any land pursuant to an agreement referred to in subsection (2) shall produce the agreement on demand by a warranted officer or fish and game ranger or at any office of the Department or Fish and Game Council within 7 days of a demand by a warranted officer or fish and game ranger.

Wildlife Act 1953

19 Licence to hunt or kill game

- (1) Except as provided in subsection (3), every person who hunts or kills game of any species during an open season in any area, unless that person is the holder of a licence under this Act to hunt or kill game of that species available in that area during that season, commits an offence against this Act and is liable on conviction to the penalty set out in section 67E(3).
- (2) [Repealed]
- (3) Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this section, the occupier of any land, and the wife, husband, civil union partner, or de facto partner and any one son or daughter of the occupier, may, during an open season, hunt or kill on that land without a licence (but subject to all other restrictions imposed by or under this Act) any game that may lawfully be hunted or killed under a licence in the district within the boundaries of which that land is situated.
- (4) In subsection (3) the term *occupier*, in relation to any land, means—
- (a) the person whose permanent and principal or only place of residence is on the land, if he resides on the land by virtue of the fact that he is—
- (i) the owner of the fee simple of the land; or
 - (ii) the owner of a lease or licence of the land and the owner of the fee simple does not himself personally reside on the land; or
 - (iii) the manager of a farming business carried on on the land by such an owner who does not himself personally reside on the land; or
 - (iv) the sharemilker under a sharemilking agreement entered into with such an owner who does not himself personally reside on the land;
- (b) where there are several such persons, such one of them as is, by notice in writing signed by all of them and delivered to the Fish and Game Council for the area concerned, appointed to be the occupier for the purposes of that subsection. Every such appointment shall continue in force during the whole of the open season in respect of which it is made and shall lapse at the end of that season.
- (4A) In subsection (3) the term *occupier*, in relation to any land, does not include a person appointed under the Conservation Act 1987 to be the manager of a marginal strip.

LAND OCCUPIER LICENCE TO FISH OR HUNT

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting, July 2016

Prepared by: Based on a paper to regional managers prepared by Glenn Mclean and Robert Sowman

Introduction

1. Under the Conservation Act 1987 the 'lawful occupier' which includes the owner and any person who has the right to occupy the land may fish on that land without a fishing licence. Similarly under the Wildlife Act 1953 the occupier and their spouse and one son or daughter may hunt on that land without the need to hold a gamebird hunting licence. These long time provisions recognise and reward that the landowner may make a valuable contribution to the protection of gamebird and aquatic habitats.

Issue

2. By not having to hold a licence unless they also fish or hunt off their property, then Fish & Game has no record of these users. This is likely to represent an unknown but significant number of hunters and, to a lesser extent anglers, who by definition are also landowners or occupiers. Therefore we have no direct way of contacting this key group of users.
3. There are a number of implications and lost opportunities for Fish & Game and also for the landowners that arise from this;
 - a. Any estimate of use based on licence sales may significantly under represent the actual importance of fishing and hunting in the region
 - b. Estimates of use (NAS) or harvest (gamebird survey) are immediately flawed because not all users can be potentially surveyed
 - c. It is difficult to pass on information regarding;
 - i. regulation changes
 - ii. that assists or enhances the user's experience and enjoyment
 - iii. that helps with managing the impacts of gamebird aggregations
 - iv. managing and creating habitat, controlling pests and improving hunting prospects including funding opportunities
 - d. Fish & Game lacks a profile and identity within part of the rural community which limits further contact and interaction (it is anticipated that there is a whole group of sports fish and game users who apart from being aware that Fish & Game exist have no idea of what it does, its role or how it can help or work with them). This hinders Fish & Game's creation of a sense of community.
 - e. Assists with undertaking compliance activities on private land, in particular where to focus resources.

4. These disadvantages are not new, and in 2002 Fish & Game explored a requirement for landowners who hunt or fish to hold a licence (at no cost) with the Minister of Conservation. However no progress was made at that time.
5. It is understood an argument has been made in the past by Federated Farmers that such a requirement would 'represent the thin edge of the wedge'. Recent discussion with the current Minister of Conservation suggested no support likely for charging land occupiers for such a licence. Both indicate a difficult setting in which to get the proposal accepted and operative.

Wider merit

6. However it is suggested the key is how Fish & Game "sells" the requirement and that the reason for it, is as much to assist the rural community as it is for Fish & Game. That said, some regions already require land owners hold a permit anyway to take part in local Special Seasons to disperse paradise duck.
7. Other benefits from an occupier's perspective would be free advice from Fish & Game on set-backs, wetland development, referees for Game Bird Habitat Trust grants and making them aware of the rules.
8. One advantage now is that with online licencing it would be straightforward for a landowner to register their interest and obtain a licence so this would not represent any additional burden. There would be a cost to Fish & Game to provide the licence and booklet including postage, however we argue the advantages and benefits of having contact with this group would far outweigh this cost. Fish & Game may well be able to find a sponsor with Farmlands or a similar agri-business company to support such a programme, sponsor research on farm habitat, etc.
9. Another way to attract participation may be to organise a competition with good prizes targeting those who take up a "free occupier licence" and then promote this heavily via rural press and social media.

Recommendation

1. That the NZ Council consult with regions on a proposed free fish or game licence for land occupiers when fishing or hunting on their own property.
2. That regional Fish and Game Councils be asked to respond to this proposal by 14 November for consideration by the NZ Council at its 25 – 27 November 2016 meeting.

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

CATCH & RELEASE ETHICS

NZ Council has asked that *"In order to instigate wider debate, regions be invited to discuss whether Fish & Game should develop a policy on the ethics of catch and release fishing, and if so what such a policy might include"*. This is in response to a paper from West Coast Fish & Game Council (attached).

Catch and release is a fundamental and valuable management tool that allows anglers to release fish they don't want or need, or that don't meet certain criteria designed to protect the sustainability of the fishery such as bag and size limits. However it is not without cost to the fish, both in terms of risk that it may suffer a fatal injury particularly through poor handling or how it is hooked, and also through being subject to sub-lethal stresses. Not surprisingly such experiences will influence the fish's later behaviour leading to the issue raised by West Coast F&G.

This issue of catchability is a symptom of a deeper concern however, that is that some anglers are choosing to subject large numbers of fish to such stresses with no intention of ever actually keeping any fish. They see their practice of catch and release as being an elite behaviour when it is actually very hard to defend from outside criticism that the angler is simply having fun at the expense of the fish.

Put simply if a fishery is fragile enough that catch & release is imperative then there is a responsibility on us as anglers to be circumspect about our impact on the resource. And this is the key - that as anglers we need to always be thinking about what is appropriate for the particular fishery we are targeting and modifying our actions to reflect this. In this way rather than having a voluntary limit which might vary according to what river the angler is on anyway, we would rather promote the concept that the angler always thinks about the impact of their actions relative to the waterway they are on.

This reflects that ultimately ethics is a personal thing and very difficult to 'define', however by providing anglers with information on the potential impacts of their actions we can influence their decisions in this way.

Therefore we recommend that as a policy Fish & Game simply promotes that anglers always consider the impacts of their actions and what is appropriate relative to the river or lake they are on. As part of this the policy should highlight that sometimes taking a fish is entirely appropriate even necessary, however in other situations catch and release is essential but comes with costs for the fish which a responsible angler needs to limit. Furthermore that limiting the costs to the fish involves utilising appropriate release techniques, minimising the time the fish is out of the water for photos and the like, and regulating how many fish they subject to catch and release.

Furthermore the production of information detailing effective and appropriate release techniques which maximise survival and minimise unnecessary stresses on the fish would seem a fundamental step to support such a policy.

RECOMMENDATION

That Taranaki Fish & Game Council supports;

1. a policy be developed as detailed above which encourages anglers to think about their actions and what is appropriate relative to the waterway they are on
2. the production of information detailing effective and appropriate release techniques which maximise survival and minimise unnecessary stresses on the fish.

Glenn Maclean

Regional Manager

9 September 2016

ANGLING ETHICS – CATCH & RELEASE

Memorandum to: Regional Fish and Game Councils

Prepared by: Robert Sowman, Planning & Policy Manager
New Zealand Fish and Game Council

Dated: 26 July 2016

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council (NZ Council) at its meeting of 22 – 23 July 2016 considered a paper from the West Coast Fish and Game Council on angling ethics. The NZ Council agreed to support the recommendation contained in that paper:

Resolved (Paul Dixon-Didier/Kevin Williams)

In order to instigate wider debate, regions be invited to discuss whether Fish and Game should develop a policy on the ethics of catch and release fishing, and if so what such a policy might include.

Your feed-back on this proposal will be submitted for NZ Council consideration at its 25 – 27 November 2016 meeting. Please provide any comments you wish to make before Friday 11 November for inclusion in that agenda mailout.

ANGLING ETHICS – CATCH AND RELEASE

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting, July 2016

Prepared by: Andy Harris, NZ Council West Coast Fish and Game Council Appointee

1. Concern has been expressed to West Coast Fish and Game over the high number of fish being landed by some [mostly guided] anglers leaving some fisheries stressed and the fish uncatchable by local and less skilled anglers.
2. After discussion it was resolved to promote a voluntary code of ethics proposing a 6 fish limit per angler per day for fish landed and released, and also to promote best practice handling of catch and release fish.
3. Fish and Game is required to promote ethical standards of behaviour by anglers and hunters, and catch and release is an area where our ethics are potentially open to criticism.
4. Although voluntary, such a code would at least raise the issue of overfishing on our more sensitive fisheries. It would also give guides who are disposed to do so some support to encourage clients to be more selective in the fish they target rather than endeavouring to catch every fish in the river.
5. It would help to promote better survival outcomes for released fish. DOC has a publication for the Taupo Area Fishery detailing best practice for releasing fish and it would be good if Fish and Game had something similar.

Recommendation

In order to instigate wider debate, regions be invited to discuss whether Fish and Game should develop a policy on the ethics of catch and release fishing, and if so what such a policy might include.

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

2015/2016 Game Bird Dispersal Report

This paper reports on operational activity conducted during the reporting period under project 1181 within the 2015/2016 Annual Operational Work Plan. The objective of this project is to ensure the dispersal or control of congregations of game birds where they cause unacceptable damage.

A total of 37 permits to disturb were issued by Taranaki Fish & Game staff within the reporting period. (No change to number of permits issued last year).

The area with the highest number of permits issued was Taranaki (23) then Whanganui (9) and Waimarino (4) 28 Permits were issued between the months of November and May.

Income of \$440.00 for the hire of gas guns was received during the year,

MALLARD

There were 5 permits issued for the disturbance of Mallard (1 including Paradise shelduck and 1 including Pukeko)

PUKEKO

17 permits were issued for the disturbance of pukeko (one including mallard). Compared to 20 permits issued 2014/2015.

Problem	No. permits issued	Disturbance method used
Damage to gardens	11	Trip traps – 10 .22 rifle – 1
Damage to crops & Pasture	2	Gas gun – 1 .22 rifle 1
Fouling Water Supply Pond	1	Shotgun
Aggressive and Killing Wildlife	3	Trip trap – 1 Air Rifle – 1 .22 rifle - 1

PARADISE SHELDUCK

17 permits were issued for the disturbance of Paradise shelduck (1 including Mallard). Compared to 16 permits issued 2014/2015.

Problem	No. permits issued	Disturbance method used
Damage to crops	12	Shotgun – 1 Gas gun(s) – 11
Damage to pasture	5	Shotgun – 4 Gas gun - 1

Recommendation

That the Game Bird Dispersal Report – 2015/2016, be received.

Jilli Steedman

SECRETARY

23 September 2016

Date	Area	Problem	Method	Species
16.9.15	Stratford	Damage to Red Clover Crops	.22 rifle and shotgun	Pukeko
2.10.15	New Plymouth	Damage to gardens	Trip trap	Pukeko
22.10.15	Whanganui	Damage to Gardens & killing wildlife	Trip trap	Pukeko
23.11.15	Hawera	Damage to Chicory crops	Shot gun / gas gun	Black Swan & Paradise shelduck
23.11.15	Normanby	Damage to Maize, Wheat & Barley crops	Shot gun / gas gun	Pukeko
5.12.15	Raetihi / Ohakune	Damage to crops & new pasture	Gas guns	Paradise shelduck
4.12.15	Opunake	Damage to Turnip crops	Shot gun / gas gun	Paradise shelduck
7.12.15	Inglewood	Damage to Turnip crops	Gas gun	Paradise shelduck
11.12.15	Whanganui	Damage to Chicory crops	Shot gun	Paradise shelduck
14.12.15	Inglewood	Damage to feed on cow feed pad	Gas gun	Mallard
11.1.16	New Plymouth	Damage to gardens	Trip trap	Pukeko
13.1.16	Stratford	Damage to turnip crops	Shot gun	Paradise shelduck
14.1.16	Whanganui	Damage to crops and pasture	Gas gun	Black swan & Paradise shelduck
14.1.16	Whanganui	Damage to crops & pasture	Shot gun	Paradise shelduck
18.1.16	Raetihi / Ohakune	Damage to crops	Gas gun	Mallard
3.2.16	Opunake	Damage to crops	Gas gun	Paradise shelduck
15.2.16	Whanganui	Damage to crops	Gas gun	Paradise shelduck
10.2.16	Warea	Fouling water supply pond	Shot gun	Pukeko and Mallard
19.2.16	Oaonui	Damage to Chicory crop	Gas Gun	Paradise shelduck
22.2.16	New Plymouth	Damage to gardens	Trip trap	Pukeko
10.3.16	Whanganui	Damage to gardens & aggressive	Air rifle	Pukeko
21.3.16	Raetihi / Ohakune	Damage to chicory crops	Gas gun	Paradise shelduck
15.3.16	Urenui	Damage to pasture	Shot gun / gas gun	Paradise shelduck
23.3.16	Whanganui	Damage to pasture	Gas gun	Mallard
29.3.16	Inglewood	Damage to pasture	Gas gun	Paradise shelduck
4.4.16	Whanganui	Damage to new pasture	Shot gun	Paradise shelduck
7.4.16	Marton	Damage to new pasture	Shot gun	Paradise shelduck
13.4.16	Raetihi / Ohakune	Damage to crops and new pasture	Gas guns	Paradise shelduck & Mallard
20.4.16	New Plymouth	Damage to gardens	Trip trap	Pukeko
5.5.16	Whanganui	Damage to gardens and killing wildlife	Trip trap	Pukeko
20.5.16	New Plymouth	Damage to gardens	Trip trap	Pukeko
21.6.16	New Plymouth	Damage to gardens	Trip trap	Pukeko
22.7.16	New Plymouth	Damage to gardens	.22 rifle	Puekeo
29.7.16	New Plymouth	Damage to gardens	Trip trap	Pukeko
29.7.16	New Plymouth	Damage to gardens	Trip trap	Pukeko
17.8.16	New Plymouth	Damage to gardens	Trip trap	Pukeko
30.8.16	New Plymouth	Damage to gardens and killing wildlife	.22 rifle	Pukeko

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

FUNCTIONS FOR SOP TREATMENT

NZ Council has asked each region to consider what they consider are the top 5 priorities of regional Fish & Game functions that lend themselves to initial SOP treatment.

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) may be defined as *“a set of step-by-step instructions compiled by an organisation to help workers carry out routine **operations**. SOPs aim to achieve efficiency, quality output and uniformity of performance, while reducing miscommunication and failure to comply with industry regulations”* - en.wikipedia.org.

In other words SOP's are about implementing best practice by defining the mechanics of particular tasks, rather than determining management directions. Ideally SOPs provide a structured, complete and robust methodology to undertake routine or repeated actions. The test we previously used was that if someone new picked up an SOP they should be able to effectively complete the task simply by following the SOP, which in turn necessitates more detail rather than less. Used in this way they can be a very valuable resource. The current Rangers Guide is an excellent example of just this.

Depending on the activity SOPs often work best from an approach where if you chose to do something then the SOP provides several options and guidance on how to undertake each approach appropriately, which can then be tailored for the particular circumstances. Particularly on a national scale this provides the flexibility to account for the subtle variations that are often needed to address regional differences. A good example is the current mallard monitoring protocol.

SOP's are 'living documents' that need to be regularly reviewed and updated. This is best achieved by limiting the scope of each SOP rather than being large and all encompassing. Indeed given the level of detail that should be included to provide the necessary guidance then if the objective is to broad any document can quickly become 'bigger than Ben Hur'. However in turn, a group of SOP's may collectively comprise a 'tool box' to address a much broader objective.

It is likely some of the tasks best addressed first already have much of what is needed in some shape or form, reflecting that the particular need has often already been recognised. Thus development of these SOP's may be as much about collating and organising this existing information in a consistent format, as developing new protocols. This provides the prospect for some quick and easy wins and a ready opportunity to develop support within F&G for this approach.

Therefore in the first instance it is recommended that the initial SOPs focus on already identified needs including;

Fishery Management

1. Drift diving surveys
2. Creel and satisfaction surveys
3. Electric fishing survey design and methodology

4. Fish stocking (including when and when not to)

Gamebirds

5. Mallard monitoring techniques

Compliance

6. Ranging (in effect the Ranger Guide)
7. Reparation and prosecution guidelines

Administration

8. Financial reporting (using Xero) including year end
9. Licence administration

This list is by no means exhaustive however reflects a series of SOP's that would be both very helpful and relatively easy to complete as a first step.

RECOMMENDATION

That Taranaki Fish & Game Council recommend to NZ Council that the above 9 topics are considered for development of SOP's in the first instance.

Glenn Maclean

Regional Manager

14 September 2016

FUNCTIONS FOR SOP TREATMENT

Memorandum to: Regional Fish and Game Councils

Prepared by: Robert Sowman, Planning & Policy Manager
New Zealand Fish and Game Council

Dated: 27 July 2016

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council (NZ Council) at its meeting of 20 May 2016 considered the outcomes of the Governors Forum to determine what needs to be actioned. It was agreed regions should be asked for their top 5 priorities of Fish & Game functions that lend themselves to initial SOP treatment. This would allow the NZ Council to prioritise SOP activity for the new financial year.

The Governors Forum, held in Wellington on Saturday 21 March 2015 established the following:

<u>Outcome</u>	<u>Progress</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call for standardised approach to common tasks. • NZ Council favours the adoption of SOPs for all councils to apply. • Financial efficiencies can be achieved within the planned financial review. • Review and audit of national health and safety policy and implementation. • Training of governors (induction following elections) and in the medium term new managers (health & safety, employment relations). • Chairpersons' training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries SOP & Anglers Notice 1st Schedule are first initiatives started • Work Group formed. Work underway. • Work Group formed. Work underway • NZ Council induction completed. •
<p>Other important points raised at the governors workshop that the NZ Council identified and would wish to follow up in subsequent initiatives included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise the significance of the urban population • Uphold the retention of public access to resource • Promoting centres of excellence within the organisation • Promote Rivers Trust. Approach funders or identify a facilitator to do so. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comms staff focus on urban population. • Collaborating with WAC, et al. • Utilising regional staff with resource management, finance, compliance, licensing •
<p>It is accepted that there are certain givens such as sustainable fish and game populations that will need to be followed over and above the initial tasks identified above.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing monitoring and research.

The summary of staff perspectives (presented by Anthony van Dorp and Zane Moss):

- Staff proud of the strengths of the organisation
- Strong demand for consistency in operations
- Strong desire for NZ Council to provide leadership
- Need to reduce parochialism and better utilise resources across regions
- Development of appropriate SOPs and an audit system strongly encouraging adherence appears to be supported

Please consider your Council's top 5 priorities of regional Fish & Game functions that lend themselves to initial SOP treatment.

Feed-back on this request will be submitted for NZ Council consideration at its 25 – 27 November 2016 meeting. Please provide any comments you wish to make before Friday 11 November for inclusion in that agenda mailout.

Fish and Game Council Functions as set out in the Conservation Act 1986

26Q Functions of Fish and Game Councils

(1) The functions of each Fish and Game Council shall be to manage, maintain, and enhance the sports fish and game resource in the recreational interests of anglers and hunters, and, in particular,—

- (a) to assess and monitor—
 - (i) sports fish and game populations; and
 - (ii) the success rate and degree of satisfaction of users of the sports fish and game resource; and
 - (iii) the condition and trend of ecosystems as habitats for sports fish and game:
- (b) to maintain and improve the sports fish and game resource—
 - (i) by maintaining and improving access; and
 - (ii) by maintaining the hatchery and breeding programmes, where required for stocking or restocking the sports fisheries and game habitat; and
 - (iii) by formulating and recommending to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council conditions for fishing and game seasons; and
 - (iv) by ensuring that there are sufficient resources to enforce fishing and hunting season conditions; and
 - (v) by undertaking such works as may be necessary to maintain and enhance the habitat of sports fish and game, subject to the approval of the Minister, the land owner, or the administering authority, as the case may require:
- (c) to promote and educate—
 - (i) by defining and promoting ethical standards of behaviour to be followed by anglers and hunters; and
 - (ii) by promoting recreation based on sports fish and game; and
 - (iii) by keeping anglers and hunters informed on matters affecting their interests:
- (d) in relation to costs,—
 - (i) to assess the costs attributable to the management of sports fish and game; and
 - (ii) to develop and recommend to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council appropriate licence fees to recover costs and game bird habitat stamp fees; and
 - (iii) to represent the region's interests with the New Zealand Fish and Game Council in the determination and distribution of levies on licences:
- (e) in relation to planning,—
 - (i) to represent the interests and aspirations of anglers and hunters in the statutory planning process; and
 - (ii) to formulate and adopt an annual operational work plan; and
 - (iii) to prepare draft sports fish and game management plans in accordance with this Act; and
 - (iv) to identify and recommend to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council the region's sports fish and game requirements for research; and
 - (v) to implement national policy determined by the New Zealand Fish and Game Council; and
 - (vi) to liaise with local Conservation Boards; and
 - (vii) to advocate the interests of the Council, including its interests in habitats:
- (f) to issue—
 - (i) licences to hunt or kill game, and game bird habitat stamps, in accordance with the Wildlife Act 1953 and any regulations made under it; and
 - (ii) licences to take sports fish, in accordance with this Part and any regulations made under this Act; and
 - (iii) game hunting guide licences in accordance with the Wildlife Act 1953 and sports fishing guide licences in accordance with this Act:
- (g) to sell or arrange the sale of, in New Zealand or outside New Zealand, game bird habitat stamps and associated products:
- (h) to recommend to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council the form of game bird habitat stamps.

(2) Each Fish and Game Council shall have such other functions as are conferred on it by or under this Act or any other Act

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Taranaki Fish and Game Council

2015/2016 Licence Sales Reports

Please find attached the licence sales report for the 2015/2016 Fishing and Hunting Seasons. Comparisons for the three prior seasons are included

Jilli Steedman
SECRETARY
3rd October 2016

RECOMMENDATION

That the Licence Sales report shown on page 98 and 99 of the agenda, be received

Regional Sales - Complete Seasons - 2012/13 to 2015/16

Fish Licences

Taranaki 2015 - 2016 Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWJ	FWNJ	FWIA	FWIJ	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDJ	Fish Total	Fish LEQ	Fish \$	Total Value	
Agency Online	70	284	21	39	16	34	0	2	17	0	3	37	132	29	684			
Eyede Call Centre	2	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	10			
Mail Order	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Public Online	48	141	28	6	12	17	0	2	9	0	3	23	113	4	406			
Retail Book	9	46	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	5	97			
Total	129	474	49	46	28	56	0	4	26	0	6	64	277	38	1,197	853.06	\$107,592.00	\$107,592.00
Taranaki 2014 - 2015 Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWJ	FWNJ	FWIA	FWIJ	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDJ	Fish Total	Fish LEQ	Fish \$	Total Value	
Agency Online	65	292	8	0	0	9	0	0	18	0	0	0	93	4	489			
Eyede Call Centre	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2			
Mail Order	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Public Online	41	110	14	0	0	19	0	0	16	3	0	0	106	7	316			
Retail Book	38	152	0	0	0	44	0	0	20	4	0	0	113	16	387			
Total	144	556	22	0	0	72	0	0	54	7	0	0	312	27	1,194	876.62	\$108,838.00	\$108,838.00
Taranaki 2013 - 2014 Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWJ	FWNJ	FWIA	FWIJ	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDJ	Fish Total	Fish LEQ	Fish \$	Total Value	
Agency Online	40	135	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	12	2	193			
Eyede Call Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Mail Order	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Public Online	42	116	0	0	0	12	0	0	18	1	0	0	69	4	262			
Retail Book	63	324	0	0	0	44	0	0	42	4	0	0	246	9	732			
Total	145	575	0	0	0	58	0	0	62	5	0	0	327	15	1,187	875.69	\$105,959.00	\$105,959.00
Taranaki 2012 - 2013 Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWJ	FWNJ	FWIA	FWIJ	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDJ	Fish Total	Fish LEQ	Fish \$	Total Value	
Agency Online	3	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	33			
Eyede Call Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Mail Order	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Public Online	36	94	0	0	0	5	0	0	6	1	0	0	49	4	195			
Retail Book	98	476	0	0	0	68	0	0	34	7	0	0	280	23	986			
Total	137	597	0	0	0	73	0	0	40	8	0	0	332	27	1,214	879.84	\$105,581.00	\$105,581.00

Regional Sales - Complete Seasons - 2012/13 to 2015/16

Game Licences

Taranaki 2015 - 2016 Channel	GWA	GWJ	GWC	GDA	GDJ	Game Total	Game LEQ	Game \$	Total Value
Agency Online	709	72	21	11	0	813			
Eyede Call Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Mail Order	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Public Online	122	10	9	14	0	155			
Retail Book	268	18	17	19	1	323			
Total	1,099	100	47	44	1	1,291	1,127.84	\$104,088.00	\$104,088.00
Taranaki 2014 - 2015 Channel	GWA	GWJ	GWC	GDA	GDJ	Game Total	Game LEQ	Game \$	Total Value
Agency Online	208	17	6	20	0	251			
Eyede Call Centre	0	0	0	1	0	1			
Mail Order	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Public Online	107	10	7	27	0	151			
Retail Book	813	81	38	18	0	950			
Total	1,128	108	51	66	0	1,353	1,163.19	\$106,230.00	\$106,230.00
Taranaki 2013 - 2014 Channel	GWA	GWJ	GWC	GDA	GDJ	Game Total	Game LEQ	Game \$	Total Value
Agency Online	43	3	5	0	0	51			
Eyede Call Centre	1	0	0	0	0	1			
Mail Order	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Public Online	58	7	6	6	2	79			
Retail Book	1,004	99	42	32	3	1,180			
Total	1,106	109	53	38	5	1,311	1,135.96	\$103,722.00	\$103,722.00
Taranaki 2012 - 2013 Channel	GWA	GWJ	GWC	GDA	GDJ	Game Total	Game LEQ	Game \$	Total Value
Agency Online	14	0	0	0	0	14			
Eyede Call Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Mail Order	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Public Online	57	3	6	6	1	73			
Retail Book	1,038	117	27	32	3	1,217			
Total	1,109	120	33	38	4	1,304	1,141.55	\$103,060.00	\$103,060.00

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

Hunting and Habitat applications October 2016

Three applications for wetland development were made to the Gamebird & Habitat Trust in June. Of these one was successful for the full amount (\$2875), another (Mangatotara) received \$2,000 out of \$13,864 applied for, while the third (Pakahi Wetland - \$7,411) was unsuccessful.

Mangatotara and Pakahi Wetland have subsequently made applications for additional funding from the Council's Hunting & Habitat Fund as per the Council's criteria.

Status of the Hunting & Habitat Fund

The fund was established to assist landowners to create suitable habitat and hunting opportunities for gamebirds on private land. Currently the fund has reserves of \$395,323.

Historically habitat creation has focused on the development of large farm ponds often involving significant and very expensive earthworks to dam steeply sided valleys. However more recent studies, particularly those in Southland and Waikato as part of the Mallard Research Project are highlighting that the needs of ducks may be quite different and based much more around shallow, food rich ponds with good cover and also breeding areas adjacent to wet paddocks.

This is very much work in progress however potentially there are some practical and inexpensive opportunities here which are exciting, though just what to concentrate on will become clearer when the current research is completed and the implications fully assessed. Similarly, there is also opportunity to trial some small scale works now that build on these ideas to see just what we can achieve, and what gives the 'best bang for buck'.

Pakahi Wetland (see GBHT application with agenda)

This wetland east of Raetihi comprises an existing extensive area of shallow ponds and flooded margins, with a larger pond downstream which drains into the Mangawhero River. Much of the wetland has already been fenced out by the landowner in conjunction with Horizon's Regional Council (estimated length of fence 1100m) and the landowner has also sprayed the large willows, removed a series of old pine trees and planted amenity plantings.

In the absence of GBHT funding the landowner is now seeking \$9,411 incl GST to complete the fencing (450m) of the lower pond and to also erect a small bridge midway up the wetland. When completed this fencing will keep stock from the whole wetland (currently stock can access most of the area) while the bridge and associated railings will allow stock to be moved from one side of the block to the other without damage to the wetland.

The wetland has many of the features highlighted as favourable in recent research and related work, however we have identified significant potential to further improve the wetland and the landowner is willing for Council to trial some approaches. These are low cost ideas around manipulating the

vegetation and water levels, creating additional wet areas and planting cover on the western edges consistent with recent research findings. The landowner also intends to implement a predator control programme and the wetland would also make for an ideal trial of the effectiveness of predator trapping in this sort of environment.

This wetland has potential to be an excellent example of what can be easily done and is readily accessed from the Raetihi – Ohakune road. The owner is willing for it to be used for demonstration and if the project proceeds we will document what is done and the outcomes achieved with the objective of producing a brochure for other landowners.

The application meets the H&H criteria for 50% funding up to \$20,000. Given the recently completed fencing is approximately 1.1km then the current application represents only about a third of the total fencing cost (not including the costs incurred with willow control, pine removal and amenity planting).

Therefore it is recommended that this application for \$9,411 (\$8,183 GST excl) be approved.

Mangatotara Wetlands (see GBHT application with agenda)

This 1.5ha wetland is located near Toko east of Stratford. It lies next to an 8.3ha block of native bush that has been approved for a QEII Covenant and designated as a TRC “Key Native Ecosystem” and also next to a 6.6ha pine block which was partially harvested in summer 2016, with harvest due for completion in summer 2017. The QEII Covenant boundaries will be extended to include the wetland and regenerating native bush in the felled pine block as soon as there are sufficient open space values.

Originally, the wetland consisted of a single pond created by damming and a downstream swampy paddock. Following an unsuccessful application to the GBHT in 2015, the Council allocated \$9,563 from its H&H fund for damming to create two areas of shallow open water in the swampy paddock. This was completed in April 2016, with the TRC contributing \$4,000 for fencing and planting of the wetland and the Taranaki Biodiversity Trust contributing \$600 for stoat boxes and rat bait stations.

In June 2016 the landowner submitted a second application to the GBHT seeking \$13,864 for damming to create two additional areas of open water (total 5) to complete the project. The GBHT approved a grant of \$2,000 towards the project. The landowner is therefore seeking a grant of \$11,864 incl. GST from the Council’s H&H fund.

The wetland is located close to several other GBHT & H&H projects (Caskey [5 ponds], Waite, Otterson) and is already home to a good number of mallards. The wetland will be formally protected with a QEII Covenant and subject to on-going predator control. It will provide a hunting opportunity for local licence holders as well as a feeding, breeding and loafing area for ducks.

The project meets H&H Objective 2 (Benefits gamebird populations and hunting opportunities on nearby properties) and a 50% funding level (size of wetland 1ha), which would equate to \$6,932 (i.e. 50% of \$13,864) less the \$2,000 grant approved by the GBHTB = \$4,932.

Therefore it is recommended that this application for \$4,932 (\$4,192 GST excl) be approved.

RECOMMENDATION

That Taranaki Fish & Game Council approve funding from H&H Fund for;

- Pakahi Wetland - \$9,411 GST incl
- Mangatotara – \$4,932 GST incl

Glenn Maclean and Allen Stancliff

3rd October 2016

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Taranaki Fish and Game Council

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council needs to decide when to hold its meetings.

Section 26 ZD (1) of the Conservation Act 1987 provides as follows;

"Meetings of any Fish and Game council shall be held on at least six occasions in the period commencing on the first day of February and ending on the 31st day of December in each year, at such times and places as the Council or the chairperson from time to time appoints."

Taranaki Fish and Game Council has scheduled 6 ordinary meetings per year, starting at 10am on a Saturday. These dates are usually the second Saturday following National Council meetings, unless it coincides with a public holiday, which are;

Wellington Anniversary	23 January 2017
Auckland Anniversary	30 January 2017
Waitangi Day	6 February 2017
Taranaki Anniversary	13 March 2017
Good Friday	14 April 2017
Easter Monday	17 April 2017
Anzac Day	25 April 2017
Queens Birthday	5 June 2017
Labour Day	23 October 2017

Council should discuss their preference for the location of meetings and the AGM. A recommended schedule of meeting dates is as follows;

MEETING DATES AND VENUES FOR 2017

<i>Proposed Taranaki Fish & Game Council Meeting Dates</i>		<i>UnConfirmed New Zealand Fish & Game Council meeting dates</i>
Date	Location	Date
11 February 2017	Raetihi	24 – 26 March 2017
8 April 2017	Waitara	20 May 2017
10 June 2017	Whanganui	21 June 2017 T/C
6 August 2017	Opunake	21 - 22 July 2017
14 October 2017	Whanganui	29 September 2017
9 December 2017	?????	24 - 26 November 2017

RECOMMENDATION That the schedule of meeting dates and venues decided by Council for 2017, be adopted.

Jilli Steedman
SECRETARY
3rd October 2015

Taranaki Fish & Game Council
Project Progress Report to 31 August 2016

OUTPUT	Budget external costs	YTD external costs (31/5/16)	Comments on significant variations	Budget Hours	YTD hours
Population Monitoring	10,500	8,982 (86%)	Field work reduced on original plan	365	403.25
Harvest Assessment	3,700	3,567 (96%)		50	44.75
Hatchery	6,250	7,284 (117%)		45	41.5
Liberations	8,000	8,077 (101%)		95	119
Season Regulations				30	90.5
Gamebird Dispersal	800	2,145 (268%)	Includes unbudgeted purchase of new Zon gun	140	97.75
RMA	100	909 (909%)	\$500 contribution to Ngati Rangī witness costs, information costs from TRC	500	479.75
Habitat Management & Enhancement	600	895 (149%)	Includes cost to spray Hawken's Lagoon (unbudgeted)	410	330
Hunter / Angler Access	1,820	347 (19%)	L. Mangamahoe information sign on hold	50	70.25
Satisfaction Survey	300			10	1
Magazine / Newsletter / Ezine	9,800	6,205 (63%)	Under due to reduced magazine costs	150	88.25
Other Publications	1,475		Stillwater pamphlet	30	6
Clubs	300			10	10.75
Statutory Liaison				60	19
Iwi Liaison				40	15.25
General Advocacy				250	188
Hunting & Angling Promotions	2,750	2,915 (106%)	Advertising costs	70	149
Ranger Management	2,000	1,176 (58%)		72	118.25
Compliance		384		170	200
Licensing & Commission	9,895	9,536 (96%)		105	62.5
Council Meetings & Administration	8,500	11,019 (129%)		20	261.25
Management, Strategic & Policy				70	11.5
Business Planning				65	30
OSH & Other Reporting	8,900	6,764 (76%)	Savings by changing to Xero	55	94.75
National Liaison	100	183 (83%)		160	173.5
Total Expenditure	75,790	70,288 (93%)		3,022	3,105 (103%)

	Budget Income	YTD Income	
Project Income			
Harvest Assessment	650	570	Special season permits
Liberations	1,765	1,742	Cost recovery from Stratford Club
Gamebird Dispersal	800	440	Gas Gun Hire
Compliance	1,000	2,348	Reparation
Hunter / Angler Access	173		Will be nil as no longer charging for gamebird access permit
Total Income	4,388	5,100 (116%)	
Net Expenditure	71,400	65,188 (91.3%)	

	Budget	YTD
Overheads		
1910 Salaries & Management Contract	220,758	226,211
1920 Staff Expenses	3,200	2,953
1930 Staff Houses		
1940 Office Premises	19,759	19,429
1950 Office Equipment	3,000	3,827
1960 Communications / Consumables	8,025	10,153
1970 General	3,500	2,513
1980 General Equipment	1,300	438
1990 Vehicles	15,300	16,815
Total Overheads	274,842	282,339

	Budget	YTD
Other Income & Expenses		
Interest	-17,984	-16,318
Wellington Fish & Game Admin	-6,800	-6,411
Sale of Shot Gun		-783
Donation	-24,784	-1,000
		-24,512

	Budget	YTD
Nett Project, Overhead and Other Expenditure/Income	321,458	323,015 (100.5%)

**SPECIES MANAGEMENT
2015/2016 Annual Plan**

Fish Population assessment

Baseline trout population information obtained and reported for the Mangawhero and Kaupokonui streams.

Progress in period

Mangawhero survey carried out on 2&3 December 2015 and report prepared. Kaupokonui survey deferred due to impact of major flood in late summer Inspected Retaruke River which is running discoloured but is not a re-activation of the major slip in Erua Forest

Explore opportunities to enhance the Stony River.

The Stony River's habitat is currently compromised by an erosion event in its headwaters.

Undertake assessment of the value of hatchery releases to the Waingongoro, Kaupokonui and Kapuni Streams

Angler Diaries sent out to 34 licenced anglers. 10 completed diaries returned so far.

Trout spawning habitat enhancement was carried out in Mangamahoe Stream on 01.06.16 and trout spawning surveys were undertaken in Mangamahoe Stream, Mangorei Stream and Lake Mangamahoe inlet on 06.07.16.

Gamebird Population Assessment

Population status and implications for the management of black swan and paradise shelduck. Study into the movements of Mallards.

January 2016 trend counts carried out and reported to February Council meeting for paradise shelduck and black swan.

Trial Mallard monitoring protocol.

Banding trial completed in February, methodology was successful however trial highlighted need to begin feeding out earlier than normal practice. Results forwarded to Darryl McKenzie for review. Explored requirements and training to be able to undertake banding

Pukeko, Mallard and Shoveler counts conducted in April and August

In Taranaki, decision made to increase the number of mallard monitoring transects on ring plain to 20 and trial use of a helicopter in April increased counting effectiveness.

Pukeko monitoring carried out in April in Areas B & C.

Shoveler monitoring carried out on 10.08.16 as part of national survey.

National Hunter Survey

Full participation in National Hunter Survey.

Data entry completed for 2015 season, graphical analysis of results received, and report prepared once out of region hunting results were available.

Hunter interviews and data entry carried out for the 2016 game season.

Special Gamebird Season

Review of paradise special season. *(and to include Pukeko - 5 Year Plan)*

Paper adopted by Council at December 2015 meeting and new regulations included in 2016 Gazette Notice. 2016 2-weekend season held, results collated and report presented to June Council meeting.

Hatchery

Exotic disease plan response.

Fingerling trout adipose fin-clipped. Count was 3,878 rainbow trout and 24 brown trout on 23.03.16.

Agreement received from DOC Turangi to supply 2016 ova. 4,000 newly fertilised rainbow ova were lodged in the Hawera hatchery on 15 July 2016, but they failed to develop and 3,000 eyed rainbow ova were obtained from the Eastern F&G Region on 28.07.16 as replacements.

A dinner for hatchery volunteers was held on 03.08.16

Trout Liberations

Release of 5,000 fingerlings.

Final 120 Hawera rainbows from the 2014 year class released into the Stony River.

Release of up to 1,200 two year old trout.
(Review children's fishing day objectives, organisation and costs – 5 Year Plan)

Fingerling rainbow trout from the 2015 year class released into Kapuni Stream (700), Lake Mangamahoe (150) and Lake Rotomanu (150) on 30.03.16. Rainbow trout releases were made into Kaupokonui Stream (500) on 29.06.16, Kapuni Stream (300) on 12.07.16 and Opunake Lake (200) on 25.08.16.

2-year rainbows released into the upper Patea River (400) and Stony River (60) on 12.02.16 and Sattlers Dam (100) on 16.02.16.

Keep & Release Approvals

Provision of advice as required on proposals to keep, rear or release gamebirds and to keep or release sports fish

(Review criteria/policy to rear and release upland game – 5 Year Plan)

Advice provided to a hunter on rearing and releasing pheasant.

Discussed national strategy re permit delegations with Manager eastern Region and Robert Sowman

Season Regulations

Recommendations and supporting information for the 2016 gamebird hunting conditions.

Recommendations to be sent to NZ Council by 10 December 2015

Presented and adopted at December 2015 meeting and recommendations included in draft Gazette Notice

Recommendations and supporting information for the 2016/17 sports fishing conditions

Recommendations to be sent to NZ Council by 30th June 2016

Draft discussion papers presented at February and April Council meetings. Completed draft Schedule 2 tabled at June meeting, along with discussion paper on proposed schedule 1 changes. Gazette changes proofed and agreed.

Gamebird Dispersal

Proactively assist with the dispersal of unwanted congregations of game birds that are notified to Council.

38 permits to disturb were issued during the 2015/16 financial year. All gas guns were collected prior to the start of the 2016 game season.

HABITAT PROTECTION & MANAGEMENT

Resource Management Act

Make effective submissions on resource consent applications and statutory plan proposals.

Reviewed RDC waste water consent applications for Ohakune and Raetihi – follow up meeting in August 2016 re progress on consent process

Met with Oaonui Water Supply Ltd. regarding their application to increase the take from Oaonui Stream. A short-term consent allowing a 500m³/day increase has been granted through to April 2016. Provided information to the consultant working on the Oaonui Water Supply re-consenting and submitted on three limited-notified applications on 19.07.16. Reviewed and provided comments on STDC AEE for renewal of consent to discharge treated effluent from the Waverley wastewater treatment ponds. An amended application was received, with STDC seeking a short-term 5-year consent to allow alternative options to be explored. Fish & Game's non-notified approval was provided on 15.07.16

Liaised the Cold Creek Community Water Supply Ltd. regarding the establishment of sites to monitor macro-invertebrates in Taungatara Stream and Cold Creek.

Liaised with Stratford District Council regarding the de-silting of the Victoria Park pond and fish salvage.

Provided comments to TrustPower on the draft trout restocking programme for the lower Patea River. Agreement reached and TrustPower will fund the stocking of 1,000 tagged brown trout and 500 tagged rainbow trout for 5 years in spring 2017-2021. A TrustPower Patea stakeholders meeting was attended. Provided comments on the TrustPower Patea fish trap & transfer 2015/16 annual report.

Provided comments on a proposal by Ravensdown to build a fertiliser storage facility next to Mangaone Stream in the Waiwhakaiho catchment.

Gave approval for SDC (Red Jacket) to replace Toko Stream road culvert and repair two road bridges on Makuri Stream in May/June 2016.

A submission was made to notified applications by Fonterra Whareroa to take water from Tawhiti Stream and Tangahoe River and discharge pre-filter sediment. A meeting to discuss financial contributions and then a pre-hearing meeting to discuss consent conditions was attended. F&G comments on the draft conditions were provided to all parties on 05.08.16.

Approvals were given to variations of the existing Fonterra Whareroa consents to allow commissioning of the Tangahoe River intake to proceed.

Discussions were held with NZTA (Opus) regarding the reinstatement of the Te Henui Stream SH3 motorway culvert fish pass, which was destroyed in 2013. Plans for the new fish pass were commented on and the pass will be rebuilt in summer 2016/17.

Pre-application discussions were held with Inglewood Metal (BTW) regarding renewal of consents to discharge quarry washwater and stormwater to Kurapete Stream. A submission was then made when the application was limited-notified and there have been on-going discussions around

suitable consent conditions, including adoption of a closed-loop wash-water system.

A site visit was made to assess an application to extract substantial quantities of aggregate from the Waiwhakaiho River upstream of the meeting of the waters reserve. Fish & Game declined to give approval for the work to proceed in May 2016.

Approval was given for a change in intake screen size for the Normanby Power Scheme (Renewable Power).

Section 42A Officers Reports and Supplementary Reports for the Proposed South Taranaki District Plan were reviewed and a statement in support of Fish & Game's submission was presented at a Hearing on 07.06.16.

A submission was made on limited notified applications by Stratford District Council to re-consent town water supply takes from the Patea River and Konini Stream (10.06.16).

A submission was made to STDC notified applications by TrustPower Ltd for construction of a wind farm at Waverley (14.06.16). The TRC decided to grant consents allowing TrustPower to drain and fill several ponds within the wind farm envelope as non-notified without written approval, which denied F&G an opportunity to make submissions.

Information relating to notified applications by Stratford District Council to re-consent the discharge from the Stratford town oxidation ponds to the Patea River was reviewed and a submission lodged on 28.07.16. A meeting was subsequently held with SDC staff and consultants Harrison Grierson on 22.08.16. Discussions were held with a landowner and the TRC about the timing and extent of proposed instream works associated with construction of a bridge over Little Dunns Creek. A site visit was made on 25.07.16, where the bridge builder and contractor agreed that works should be delayed until there is a period of fine weather.

A community meeting was attended at Fonterra's Kapuni lactose plant (20.07.16) to discuss environmental performance and the timing of re-consenting.

Engage in and actively advocate for the protection and/or enhancement of sports fish and game bird habitat in the Taranaki Freshwater Plan Review.

Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement

Provision of advice and promotion of effective management of riparian land margins

There was liaison with the TRC to ensure that an additional MCI monitoring site was added in the lower Waiwhakaiho residual flow reach from 2016/17 to better assess the effects of the diversion of water for TrustPower's Mangorei Hydro Scheme. Information on a proposed 66ha Wairau Estate subdivision in the Wairau Stream catchment at Oakura was reviewed. Discussion with Beca re nature and timetable of works on the Mangawhero River to repair Parapara highway. Fish & Game gave affected party approval for WDC to remove gravel from the Whanganui River at Parikino.

Interim decision received on NZE consents for Makotuku Stream. Provisions in the One Plan ruled to apply protecting take but limiting it to existing quantities. Ngati Rangī have appealed decision to the High Court on several points of law.

The TRC notified stakeholders that notification of the regional freshwater plan would be delayed, possibly until 2020. TRC reports on outstanding waterbodies and native fish were reviewed.

The SFO was interviewed by MfE about the TRC's implementation of the NPS-FW (24.06.16)

The TRC requested feedback on the effectiveness and efficiency of the Taranaki RPS and a meeting of environmental stakeholders was attended on 08.08.16.

Joint application to WRET prepared with Horizons to fence out the remaining areas along the Orautoha Stream and Manganuioteao River over next 5 years or so. F&G agreed to make 5k financial contribution. Was successful and have accepted the conditions of the grant and met with Horizons to plan initial work.

Inspected the upper Mangaturuturu Stream which while very clear still contains very few invertebrates and would appear still impacted by leaching from the lahar debris still on the mountain.

Take opportunities to advocate for maintenance of flows to protect fishery values.

Sattlers Dam heading lowered by Ernslaw which has significantly reduced size of the dam. However still providing valuable fishing opportunity and very nice rainbow from last year's release weighed in at Easter Hunt. Have approached Ernslaw re possibilities to reinstate heading and identified possible option.

Undertake and assist with efforts to keep didymo and other aquatic threats out of the Taranaki Fish & Game region.

Provided advice to N/M F&G and Trustpower re fish passage and stocking on the Branch River(cost –recovered)

Met with Andrew Watts CCD co-ordinator for Horizons, liaison with Kate Redpath (TRC) Arranged for TRC CCD advocate to attend Stratford kids' trout fishing event. Reviewed latest research findings and in discussion with Manager NMFGC

Gamebird Habitat Enhancement

Provision of advice regarding the enhancement of game bird habitat.

Attended 2nd site visit to 2 farms in the upper Mangorei & Te Henui catchments with TRC staff to clarify what damming and riparian work could be undertaken as a permitted activity. Re-visited Mangorei catchment farm (11.07.16) to view 4 small open water areas created.

Met with Turakina landowner and provided detailed drawings and advice on improving current wetlands and also re building a new pond

Inspected Hawken's wetland and developed maintenance plan. Liaised with TRC over joint approach and implemented initial spraying.

Developed bid to the Contestable Fund to increase resources to enable hands on habitat work

Provision of information and advice to GBHTB applicants. Act where necessary as referee for projects and monitor implementation

Negotiated a waiver of TRC consenting fees for the Collier Mataimaroke wetland project and made site visit to view the completed works. Prepared a final referee's report for the GBHTB and F&G Habitat & Hunting Scheme.

Undertook site visit to assess the Scobie Huinga wetland as a GBHTB project. Project deferred until 2017.

Made site visit to view completed works at the Woollaston wetland project and prepared a GBHTB referee's report. Also made site visit to view completed works at Monkton's wetland project at Turakina. Made site visits and prepared referee's reports for 2016 GBHTB applications for the Mangatotara and Ahuroa Road wetland projects at Toko and Walker wetland at Raetihi. The GBHTB approved a grant of \$2,000 for the Mangatotara wetland and \$2,875 for Ahuroa Road, but declined the Walker wetland application. Made a site visit to view potential wetland projects on a Mangamingi sheep & beef farm (14.07.16).

Hunting & Habitat Scheme

Actively promote the Hunting & Habitat Scheme.

H&H Scheme promoted in a 2-page supplement to the 2016 game special issue of F&G Magazine and a Daily News World Wetlands Day advertising feature.

Provide support for applications.

Received draft H&HS agreement from solicitor. Finalised following comments from staff and current applicants and in light of changes suggested revised H&H criteria which were accepted by Council at June meeting

Visited Wai-iti, H&H wetland with TRC LMO to sign-off final Tree Trust funded plantings. Applied to TRC for a funding top-up for the Ansell Mangatotara wetland project, which was declined. Made a site visit to view the completed H&H scheme works and prepared a referee's report.

Liaised with contractor regarding the Waite Rawhenua H&H wetland project and made a site visit.

Made site visits to view completed works at the Topless and Otterson H&H scheme wetland projects and prepared referee's reports. Made a site visit and prepared referee's report for the Mills Primrose Wetland (05.07.16).

Initial visits and discussions re possible applications west of Taihape and at Raetihi

Inspected potential shallow water habitat

Identify and actively pursue suitable opportunities for development of Council owned Wetlands.

creation opportunity south of Ohakune – need to make proposal to governing board.

ANGLER & HUNTER PARTICIPATION

2015/2016 Annual Plan

Angler Access

Provision of access information and brochures to licence holders

Actions to date

Maintained brochures in dispenser on Ruatiti Domain sign, this appears to have worked well as a means of disseminating the brochures

An exemption for having a fishing licence was granted to Stratford Primary School, to allow students to fish the Patea River 22 – 25 February 2016.

Discussed access to Lahar Lake with landowner who explained his reasons for not allowing general access. Agreed to remove reference from access information pdf on the website

Access/regulation sign on the Stony River Lake Mangamahoe information sign.

Granted fishing competition permit for Easter Hunt at Ohakune in association with Councillor Bright

Deferred pending inspection and possible new tracks/ structures. Undertook site visit to Lake Mangamahoe on 29.07.16 and prepared a Lake Mangamahoe structures plan. Inspected Virginia Lake fishing platform and explored potential to not have a railing to aid casting

Investigated replacement of Turakina boundary sign with verbal report to August 2016 Council meeting. Made application to NZTA

Liaison with Walking Access Commission

Discussed sale of Retaruke property with WA representative, also an upper Waitotara forest.

Hunter Access / Opportunities

Upland game access permits.

Paradise special season permit information edited and permits produced. Hunter access facilitated to 2 farms bordering the Waitara River.

Investigated boundaries of Nukumarū Recreation Reserve and updated Nukumarū Access Permit and map including

	<i>consultation with all the grazing lease holder. Met one lessee on site over concerns re organic status.</i>
Seek and develop opportunities for game bird hunter access.	<i>Liaison undertaken with several landowners affected by moulting paradise shelduck. Provided recommendations to DOC for hunters requesting permits for the Looney's Lake Conservation Area and Lake Ngangana in the Waipapa Conservation Area. Liaised with STOS about hunter access to the Omata tank farm ponds, but after 18 years access has been declined, for safety reasons. Liaised with Whanganui City Council to manage hunter access around Lake Wiritoa</i>
Public ballot for Hawken's wetland.	<i>Developed plan with Gary Hawken to better introduce new or young shooters to the sport using a mentor arrangement on the wetland. Organised for wetland to be sprayed and possible mentor hunter to shoot opening weekend to assess opportunities and needs</i>
Review options to enhance access to lakes Wiritoa, Kohata and Kaitoke.	<i>Met with DOC and Horizons over future management and control of Lake Kohata.</i>
Review criteria/policy to rear and release upland game.	<i>Awaiting progress with procedure to issue permits to rear and release</i>
<u>Licence Holder satisfaction Survey</u> Develop a survey of angler success, satisfaction and aspirations for key fisheries as identified in 2014/15 National Angling Survey (NAS).	<i>NAS results now received, showing a 46% reduction in angling effort in the region in 2014/15 compared with 2007/08, but a similar level of effort to 2001/02.</i>
<u>Magazine / Newsletter / Web site / Ezine</u> Publication of Taranaki supplements in both special issues of the Fish & Game Magazine.	<i>2-page supplement to the 2016 game special issue and 2016 fishing special issue completed</i>
Publication of a hunting and a fishing newsletter.	<i>An 8-page angling newsletter and an 8-page hunting newsletter were completed and posted to licence holders.</i>
Keep information on web site up-to-date.	<i>Councillor and contact information updated. Secretary receiving training from Auckland / Waikato to include agendas on web-site</i>
The production of at least 8 Reel life articles and 2 Both Barrels.	<i>Nine Reel Life articles and 5 Both Barrels articles produced.</i>

Access Pamphlets

Production of a Regional Stillwater Sports Fishery pamphlet.

Club Visits

Representation at recreational hunting and fishing club meetings across the region.

Attended Ohakune Easter Hunt weigh-in with Councillor Bright. The game season opening weekend "weigh-in" (08.05.16) and AGM & ordinary meeting (16.08.16) of the Inglewood Rod, Gun & Recreation Club was attended.

PUBLIC INTERFACE

Liaison

Liaise with Department of Conservation

Liaised with Taranaki/Whanganui Conservation Board support staff regarding effects of trout on whitebait and changes to DOC RMA staff.

Liaised with DOC staff on the TRC Freshwater plan reports on native fish and small stream modification, on resource consents for TrustPower's Patea Dam, Inglewood metal, Waverley wind farm, Oaonui Water Supply, whio and the ENP 1080 drop.

Liaised with DOC Whanganui re future opportunities for habitat improvement at Nukumarū Recreation Reserve

Proactively engage and work co-operatively with Regional and District Councils.

Several inspections with Joe Martin (Horizons) to look at habitat issues and opportunities in the Waimarino area. Met with DOC and Horizons over Lake Kohata

Iwi Liaison

Proactively engage and work with Iwi within the region.

Liaised with Ngaruahine Iwi regarding a Waihi Stream road culvert replacement, Fonterra Whareroa re-consenting, Renewable (Normanby) Power, Stratford abattoir water take, STOS Kapuni flood protection works, SDC water supply weirs, and SDC oxy pond discharge.

Liaised with Ngaati Ruanui regarding Renewable (Normanby) Power, Fonterra Whareroa re-consenting and SDC oxy pond discharge.

Liaised with Pukerangiora Hapu of Te Atiawa regarding quarrying application (Inglewood metal).

Liaised with Nga Rauru Kiihahi regarding the STDC Waverley oxy pond discharge,

Advocacy

Promote the protection of freshwater, wetland and upland game habitats.

TrustPower Waverley wind farm and SDC wastewater discharge.

Liaised with Taranaki Iwi regarding the re-consenting of the Oaonui water supply scheme.

Supported Ngati Rangī in their Environment Court case vs NZE

Eight meetings of Taranaki Biodiversity Trust (TBT) attended, including the official launch of the Trust attended by the Minister of Conservation, Maggie Barry. Three new Trustees appointed. There were no nominations received from Biodiversity Accord signatories for a vacant Trustee position, so the Trust now has 8 Trustees. Attended a TRC Environmental Awards function.

Attended a 1-day TBT/WWF predator control workshop in New Plymouth and a volunteer health and safety workshop in Stratford.

Attended the New Plymouth presentation of the government's "Next steps for Freshwater" by the Ministry for the Environment.

Displayed F&G advocacy material at a 2016 World Wetlands Day fieldtrip at Lake Rotokare.

Represent the interests of anglers and hunters, and promote the validity of fishing and gamebird hunting.

Produced paper on hunting ethics and new technology for Council June meeting.

Liaised with TRC marine biologist (project hotspot) about aggregations of plastic shotgun wads found on Taranaki beaches, their likely sources and what can be done to reduce their occurrence.

Information to licence holders and hunting & angling promotions

Support trout fishing events, using liberations of 2 year old rainbow trout.

Two kids fishing days held at Lake's Rotomanu and Opunake, attended by 261 children. Funding application for Stratford event approved by the TET. Kids' trout fishing event held in the Patea River at Stratford, attended by 100 children.

Review of kids fishing days.

Review of Kids fishing days prepared for August Council meeting

Review of information need around game bird hunting and how best to meet these.

Provide timely and useful information to licence holders when requested. Utilise newspapers, website and public events to make information available.

Information provided to 150 licence holders. Article produced for special edition of Waimarino Bulletin highlighting fishing opportunities in the area. Newspaper ads highlighting Paradise special season Response sent on behalf of Council to letter received at April meeting

Attended presentation by NZME on providing a co-ordinated approach to media opportunities

Opportunities for publicity on angling and hunting are taken and copies of coverage reported to Council.

Advice to member of public keen to keep and rear sports fish for personal consumption

Lake Rotomanu angling article provided to the North Taranaki Midweek. Articles (2) and an advert promoting the Stratford Kids' trout fishing day provided to the Stratford Press, with information also provided to More FM radio and the South Taranaki Star.

Paradise special season articles provided to 5 Taranaki newspapers and an advert placed in the Taranaki Daily News. Game season articles provided to 6 newspapers and an advertising feature organised in the Taranaki Daily News.

Article on Opening Weekend success profiled in Whanganui Chronicle.

COMPLIANCE

Ranger Management and Training

The recruitment, training and skill maintenance of Council's Honorary ranger team is consistent with the outcomes of the review of the compliance strategy.

Met with existing ranger who has transferred from Northland.

Provision of safety and compliance training and maintenance of compliance skills is provided on at least two occasions.

Three refresher courses have been held – 19 September 2015 and 17 April 2016 in New Plymouth and 24 September 2015 in Raetihi. Attended CLE co-ordinators training so coordinators can better train rangers

Compliance

Compliance checks and any prosecutions are completed consistent with the Compliance Policy

Council comments of the national Reparation Policy forwarded to Robert Sowman. Data on number of checks and offences detected summarised for Robert Sowman

A compliance strategy is completed.

Rangers conducted compliance checks following the Stratford kids' trout fishing day, during the 2-weekend hunting season for paradise shelduck and on opening weekend of the 2016 game season. Also ranged Waimarino area over Easter Hunt weekend.

8 shotguns seized over Opening Weekend. Gun safe purchased to store these. Offenders offered reparation totalling \$2,600. Followed up on outstanding reparation offers Ranging carried out in Harakeke Forest to check licences and access permits. National CLE database updated with recent offence details. Attended national CLE co-ordinators meeting Met with Whanganui Arms Officer re working together in the future.

Draft strategy prepared for October 16 Council meeting

LICENCING AND AGENTS

Licences

Hunters and anglers are aware of and can quickly and easily buy their licences on line.

Ad highlighting this run in Waimarino Bulletin

Anglers are aware of and can understand the licence categories.

Article produced for the angling newsletter

Progress reporting throughout the year to Council on licence sales.

Included in the Agenda

Licence Agents

Assist Licence agents in transition to on-line licence sales.

Visited Waimarino agents to check how it was all progressing.

2016 Game Regulation guides were delivered to licence agents on 15th and 17th March 2016.

2016/2017 Fishing Licence regulations were delivered to licence agents on 16 & 17 August 2016.

Information summary on new angling regulations distributed to licence agents Tasman Marine in Hawera has started selling on-line licences.

An effective solution that allows hunters to easily buy licences where on-line facilities are not available.

Agents are fully aware of and familiar with the new

Agents within our region have been provided

licence categories and are able to appropriately advise the buyer.

with a supply of emergency fishing and Game licence books.

COUNCIL

Not less than six meetings of the Council that comply with all legal requirements to be held before 31 August 2016.

Six meetings completed

Council Elections are conducted in an effective, appropriate and timely manner.

Council Election held. There were twelve nominations for twelve vacancies. Members took office on 28th October and held first meeting on 31st October

PLANNING AND REPORTING

Management Planning

Regional policies are developed and adopted when required.

The 5 year strategic plan is reviewed and agreed by Council.

Updated plan agreed at February Council meeting

Staff Management

Effective management of staff and administration of Council.

2 Staff annual reviews conducted

Annual Planning

Adoption of a proposed Annual Budget and Operational Work Plan for 2016/2017 by the Council by 31 August 2016.

Adopted Xero software for financial processing and reporting

Draft 2016-17 Annual Plan and indicative budget prepared for April Council meeting. Two contestable bids also prepared which were successful. Annual Plan approved by Council at August meeting.

Annual Reporting

The adoption and presentation by the Council at a public annual general meeting of its audited annual report for 2014/2015 not later than 31 December 2015, and dispatched to the Minister directly thereafter.

Audit completed and presented to 5 December 2015 Council meeting. Sent to Minister of Conservation 10 December 2015. End of 2015/16 financial year tracked and managed.

Regional and National Liaison

Implementation of joint mallard monitoring programme with Wellington Fish & Game.

Liaison with ERF&G re banding protocol

Discussions with Wellington and Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game regarding consistency with gamebird

Discussed respective proposed regulations with A/W

regulations.

Effective communication with other Regional Managers.

Discussion with other managers over importance of all licence holders receiving regular information from F&G. Provided advice on development of regular HSE agenda item to Councils and also F&G HSE responsibilities on Council administered lands. Also comments on review of Wildlife Act regarding powers of rangers. Input into legalities of claiming hunting stands with the temporary tag. Met with Eastern Region and Robert Sowman over a range of issues including reviewing the draft HSAW manual, CLE training and co-ordination and angling code of conduct. Provided copy of Marketing Plan and 5 year Strategic Plan to Southland F&G. A meeting to develop Fish Monitoring SOP's for use by all F&G Regions was attended.

Representation to NZ Fish & Game Council by 31 August 2016, of the Council's recommendations for licence fees, fund redistribution, research requirements and national policy development.

*Recommendations made on Reparation policy paper, Licence fees, Hunter ethics paper an, Council decisions impinging on others
Letter prepared and sent on National RMA Strategy.
Agenda item prepared on sub gauge lead issue at request of NC*

Representation at the Fish & Game NZ regional managers meetings.

Attended 2 day managers meetings in February, April and August

Effective communication with NZC staff and comment provided on Fish & Game issues when requested.

Advice on HSE issues, powers of rangers, advocacy needs including displays and information re patterning guns. Advice on Animal Welfare Act implications and opportunities, angling code of conduct and use of MCI scores for the NPS

Manager invited onto national H&S committee and in this capacity commented on proposed HSAW manual and methodology

STAFF CO-ORDINATION AND TRAINING

Staff Communication

Regular staff meetings and sharing of information.

Staff Training

Staff training identified in performance review process is planned and undertaken.

Secretary undertook 2 days training in the use of Xero financial package

Secretary gained access and is now able to complete IRD returns on-line.

Accommodation

Options for New Plymouth office are reviewed and decision made by Council as to best solution for the medium term.

Paper to December Council meeting re location of staff within the Region

Obtained quote and Council approval for purchase of new vehicle

Health and Safety

All processes and activities are consistent with Health & Safety Policy and hazard control plans, reviews and audits occur as scheduled, all necessary equipment and training is provided and new hazards are identified and addressed.

Reported in own agenda item at each meeting

All accidents are reported and recorded in the accident register, investigations completed and any identified actions implemented and reported to Council at the next meeting

Accident investigation completed into incident while releasing fish and recommendations discussed with Council.

Hazard Control Plans are identified and developed / amended for any new activity.

An annual review of Health and Safety Management is completed in March 2016 and reported to Council.

Report to June Council meeting

Compliance with HSAW requirements and policy and any issues identified are reported to each meeting.

Report to October Council meeting including draft HSAW Policy and Plan

Staff are actively involved in implementing HSE policy and ensuring a safe workplace.

Meetings held bi monthly

Recommendation

That the Project Progress Report to 31st August 2016 be received

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Taranaki Fish and Game Council

Correspondence Schedules

Please find attached Inwards and Outwards correspondence schedules to 3rd October 2016.

RECOMMENDATION

That Inwards and Outwards correspondence schedules to, 3rd October 2016 as shown on pages 128 and 129 , be received.

Jilli Steedman
SECRETARY
3rd October 2016

INWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

Corr No	Date	Meeting	FROM	FILE NO	Staff/Councillor	SUBJECT
1	28.7.16	Oct-16	Darlene Ladbroke TRC	2.3.5	Allen	Acknowledgement receipt of submission - Oaonui Water Supply
2	3.8.16	Oct-16	Darlene Ladbroke TRC	2.3.5	Allen	Summary of submissions - Strafford Wastewater treatment plan
3	9.8.16	Oct-16	Christine Bromell STDC	2.3.7	Allen	Resource consent - Proposed Waverley Wind Farm
4	10.8.16	Oct-16	Recall	4.6.13	Glenn Jill	Compliant Archiving
6	10.8.16	Oct-16	Mitsubishi Motors	4.6.8	Allen	Vehicle recall - possible headlight fault
7	10.8.16	Oct-16	Taranaki Regional Council	1.1.7	Allen Glenn	Compliance monitoring inspection - Hatchery
8	16.8.16	Oct-16	Chris Fern - Trustpower	Patea HEPS	Allen Glenn	Trap & transfer report
9	25.8.16	Oct-16	Harrison Grierson	2.3.5	Allen Glenn Crs	Stratford Wastewater Treatment Plant
10	2.9.16	Oct-16	Nicolette West TRC	2.3.5	Allen	Feedback sought on Draft Coastal Plan for Taranaki
11	5.9.16	Oct-16	Denise Young TRC	2.3.5	Allen	Feedback sought on draft notes from workshop with NGO / Community groups
12	5.9.16	Oct-16	Taranaki Regional Council	2.3.5	Allen Glenn	Compliance monitoring invoicing for 2016/2017 programmes
13	5.9.16	Oct-16	Leigh Honnor TRC	2.3.5	Allen Glenn	Regional projects to protect biodiversity in Taranaki
14	5.9.16	Oct-16	Alexandra Walters DOC	4.5.3	Glenn Allen	TWBC meeting agenda
15	5.9.16	Oct-16	Victoria Araba TRC	2.3.5	Allen	Draft Officer Report - Inglewood Metal Quarry
16	7.9.16	Oct-16	Joe Mack TRC	2.3.5	Allen	Update on progress for the interim review of the Regional Policy Statement
17	7.9.16	Oct-16	Carmel Veitch EFGC	4.1.3	Jilli	Admin training day 20/9/16
18	16.9.16	Oct-16	Cert	4.1.9	Glenn Allen Crs	Ranger safety re-fresher training session 10/9/16
19	19.9.16	Oct-16	Rebecca Hislop mpi	4.5.9	Staff Crs	Minutes of monthly freshwater teleconference 16.9.16
20	20.9.16	Oct-16	Chris Fern - Trustpower	Patea HEPS	Glenn Allen Crs	Response to comments on the Summary of Upstream transfers: Sept 2015-April 2016
21	21.9.16	Oct-16	NZ Fed freshwater Anglers	4.5.7	Allen Glenn	Subscription will remain the same
22	21.9.16	Oct-16	NZ Transport Agency	3.4.1	Glenn Allen Crs	Approval for Fish & Game to erect boundary sign
23	22.9.16	Oct-16	Chris Fern - Trustpower	Patea HEPS	Allen	Patea HEPS: Interim dissolved oxygen & Temperature report
24	3.10.16	Oct-16	Bruce Gordon - horizons	2.3.6.1	Paul	Implementation on One Plan

OUTWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

Corr No	Date	Meeting	TO	FILE NO	Staff/Councillor	SUBJECT
1	11.1.16	Oct-16	Jeff Bourke	1.2.11	Glenn Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
2	22.7.16	Oct-16	Greg Xavier	1.2.11	Glenn Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
3	28.7.16	Oct-16	Taranaki Regional Council	2.3.5	Allen	Submission to SDC Wastewater discharge
4	29.7.16	Oct-16	Les Adamson	1.2.11	Glenn Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
5	29.7.16	Oct-16	Lisa Larkin	1.2.11	Glenn Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
6	5.8.16	Oct-16	Lauren Wallace Gqlaw	2.3.7	Allen	Fonterra/STDC - Whareros/WWTP consent renewal
7	11.8.16	Oct-16	Robert Sowman	4.2.1 4.5.1	Staff Crs	Taranaki Council comments on RM Strategy
8	17.8.16	Oct-16	SK & Dr. B Sharma	1.2.11	Allen Glenn	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
9	24.8.16	Oct-16	Grant Dyson	3.1.1	Staff Crs	Reelife August 2016
11	24.8.16	Oct-16	NZ Transport Agency	3.4.1	Staff Crs	Approval for Fish & Game Boundary Sign
12	30.8.16	Oct-16	Paull Masson	1.2.11	Glenn allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
13	6.9.16	Oct-16	Jeremy Brophy btw	2.3.5	Allen	Everett Road Quarry - Draft TRC Officers Report
14	6.9.16	Oct-16	Willis Macbeth - opus	2.3.5	Allen	SH3 Te Henui fish Passage
15	20.9.16	Oct-16	Grant Dyson	3.1.1	Staff Crs	Reelife September 2016
16	29.9.16	Oct-16	Fitzroy Golf Club	1.2.11	Allen Glenn	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
17	30.9.16	Oct-16	N Cooper STDC	2.3.7	Allen Glenn	King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Taranaki Fish and Game Council

Financial Report to 31st August 2016

Please find attached the following reports pertaining to the financial period 1st July to 31st August 2016.

1. Transaction List for period 1st July to 31st August 2016.
2. Bank Reconciliation to 31st August 2016.
3. BNZ Statement of Accounts 31st August 2016.

RECOMMENDATION

That GST inclusive payments of \$62,792.34 and GST inclusive income of \$98,750.33 for July and August 2016 as shown on pages 132 to 133 of the Agenda, be approved.

Jilli Steedman
SECRETARY
23rd September 2016

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

General Ledger Transactions - July August 2016

Opening Balance - Current Account - 30 June 2016

36,921.73

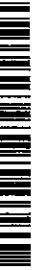
Account	Date	Description	Expense	Income
1112 - Gamebird Population Monitoring	19.8.16	Bright Chainsaws & Engineering	1,722.00	
1121 - National Hunter Survey	18.7.16	C Beck - hunter Survey	360.00	
1121 - National Hunter Survey	19.8.16	C Beck - hunter Survey	360.00	
1121 - National Hunter Survey	18.7.16	C Beck - hunter survey tolls	35.44	
1121 - National Hunter Survey	19.8.16	C Beck - hunter survey tolls	20.87	
1121 - National Hunter Survey	18.7.16	J Steedman - Hunter Survey	360.00	
1121 - National Hunter Survey	19.8.16	J Steedman - Hunter Survey	360.00	
1141 - Hatchery	19.8.16	G Philpott	18.50	
1141 - Hatchery	22.8.16	BOC Limited	79.39	
1141 - Hatchery	20.7.16	BOC Limited	17.00	
1141 - Hatchery	11.7.16	BNZ Visa - Bunnings - Algae Cleaner	14.40	
1143 - Hatchery Power	2.8.16	Genesis Energy	52.54	
1143 - Hatchery Power	5.7.16	Genesis Energy	43.93	
1233 - Taranaki Hunting & Habitat Project	6.7.16	Akama Farm	2,558.75	
1233 - Taranaki Hunting & Habitat Project	6.7.16	Chetwood Farm	2,000.00	
1233 - Taranaki Hunting & Habitat Project	1.7.16	Sale Confiscated Ammo		60.00
1233 - Taranaki Hunting & Habitat Project	18.8.16	Sale Confiscated Ammo		70.00
1531 - Compliance	19.8.16	Eastern F&G - Notebooks	144.92	
1621 - Licence Agents	19.8.16	J Steedman - Travel exp	832.14	
1631 - Commission on Sales	28.7.16	Eyede invoice 26403	- 9.00	
1631 - Commission on Sales	28.8.16	Eyede Invoice 26539	- 0.90	
1631 - Commission on Sales	5.7.16	Eyede - Agent Settlement June		- 2,751.85
1631 - Commission on Sales	3.8.16	Eyede Agent Settlement July		- 42.55
1632 - Eyede Charges - Inc GST	11.7.16	Eyede - Internet Settlement June		- 9.31
1632 - Eyede Charges - Inc GST	10.8.16	Eyede - Internet Settlement July		- 5.56
1634 - Eyede Charges No GST	11.7.16	Eyede - Internet Settlement June		- 15.47
1634 - Eyede Charges No GST	10.8.16	Eyede - Internet Settlement July		- 8.25
1723 - Council Catering	19.8.16	Soul Kitchen - council meeting 6.8.16	375.00	
1723 - Council Catering	11.6.16	BNZ Visa - Rough Habits council meeting 11.6.16	475.20	
1724 - Council Travel	19.8.16	C Donald - Council meeting 6.8.16	80.04	
1724 - Council Travel	19.8.16	P Blewman - Council meeting 6.8.16	276.00	
1724 - Council Travel	19.8.16	J Steedman - Council meeting 6.8.16	197.34	
1831 - Other Reporting / OSH	25.8.16	Technically Trout		24.41
1831 - Other Reporting / OSH	20.6.16	BNZ Visa - Pivotel	22.95	
1831 - Other Reporting / OSH	11.6.16	BNZ Visa - NZ Safety - Hatchery First Aid Kit	54.19	
1831 - Other Reporting / OSH	13.7.16	BNZ Visa - First Aid Course	210.00	
1831 - Other Reporting / OSH	14.7.16	BNZ Visa - Harvey Norman - surge protector	79.95	
1831 - Other Reporting / OSH	18.7.16	BNZ Visa - Pivotel	22.95	
1911 - Salaries & Management Contract	18.7.16	C Beck - hunter Survey	42,448.76	
1921 - ACC Levy	19.8.16	ACC	527.17	
1942 - Office Premises Rent	1.7.16	NP Office Rent	542.42	
1942 - Office Premises Rent	1.7.16	WGI Office Rent	1,054.16	
1942 - Office Premises Rent	1.8.8.16	NP Office Rent	542.42	
1942 - Office Premises Rent	1.8.16	WGI Office Rent	1,054.16	
1945 - Power Administration Building	19.8.16	Meridian - NP Office Power	58.61	
1945 - Power Administration Building	4.7.16	Meridian - NP Office Power	47.14	
1945 - Power Administration Building	25.8.16	DML Construction - WGI Office Power	514.69	
1946 - Cleaning Administration Building	25.8.16	DML Construction	632.50	
1947 - Security	25.8.16	DML Construction	86.24	
1951 - Purchases (Under 2,000)	18.7.16	Mouse trap for NP Office	9.94	
1953 - Equipment Maintenance	18.7.16	Symons - Photocopier service	252.78	
1953 - Equipment Maintenance	19.8.16	Symons - Photocopier service	139.46	
1956 - Office Equipment Rental/Lease	18.7.16	Cohens - Hire of EFTPOS	132.25	
1956 - Office Equipment Rental/Lease	19.8.16	Cohens - Hire of EFTPOS	132.25	
1961 - Telephone/fax	24.7.16	Vodafone mobiles	156.32	
1961 - Telephone/fax	24.8.16	Vodafone mobiles	155.34	
1961 - Telephone/fax	18.7.16	Vodafone Office	285.34	
1961 - Telephone/fax	19.8.16	Vodafone Office	273.80	

Account	Date	Description	Expense	Income
1961 - Telephone/fax	19.8.16	A Stancliff Home phone tolls & Rental	53.88	
1961 - Telephone/fax	18.7.16	A Stancliff Home phone tolls & Rental	53.40	
1962 - Postage	18.7.16	Meteor OPD postage stamps	400.00	
1962 - Postage	4.7.16	BNZ Visa - Hookers - Display to Eastern Region	41.77	
1964 - Stationery	18.7.16	Meteor OPD	164.63	
1964 - Stationery	19.8.16	Meteor OPD	23.99	
1964 - Stationery	23.6.16	BNZ Visa - Cartridge world	68.00	
1965 - Photocopying	18.7.16	Copy Centre	18.00	
1967 - Communications/Internet	24.8.16	PingIT - upgrade email	117.30	
1972 - Subscriptions	18.7.16	XERO sub - April, May & June	94.97	
1972 - Subscriptions	19.8.16	XERO sub - July	53.76	
1975 - Office General (was Petty cash)	18.7.16	Milk NP Office	7.93	
1975 - Office General (was Petty cash)	19.8.16	NP Office Consumables	10.54	
1975 - Office General (was Petty cash)	27.7.16	BNZ Visa - NP Office Consumables	9.57	
1981 - Field Equip -Purchases (Under \$2,000)	18.7.16	Detergent - Didymo	3.18	
1993 - Vehicle Maintenance	18.7.16	WR Phillips	381.82	
1996 - Vehicle Fuel & RUC	11.7.16	N3 Fuel Card	529.62	
1996 - Vehicle Fuel & RUC	9.8.16	N3 Fuel Card	404.00	
1996 - Vehicle Fuel & RUC	29.8.16	RUC HAQ259	318.63	
1999 - Trailer	12.7.16	BNZ Visa - WOF	30.00	
3003 - Fish Licence Sales 2015-2016	5.7.16	Eyede - Agent Settlement June		1,781.00
3003 - Fish Licence Sales 2015-2016	11.7.16	Eyede - Internet Settlement June		343.00
3003 - Fish Licence Sales 2015-2016	3.8.16	Eyede - Agent Settlement July		511.00
3003 - Fish Licence Sales 2015-2016	10.8.16	Eyede - Internet Settlement July		208.00
3012 - Game Licence Sales 2015	28.7.16	Eyede invoice 26403	20.00	
3013 - Game Licence Sales 2016	28.7.16	Eyede invoice 26403	160.00	
3013 - Game Licence Sales 2016	28.8.16	Eyede Invoice 26539	18.00	
3013 - Game Licence Sales 2016	5.7.16	Eyede - Agent Settlement June		53,256.00
3013 - Game Licence Sales 2016	11.7.16	Eyede - Internet Settlement June		192.00
3013 - Game Licence Sales 2016	26.8.16	Farnlands Whanganui		529.00
3013 - Game Licence Sales 2016	3.8.16	Eyede - Agent Settlement July		340.00
3013 - Game Licence Sales 2016	18.8.16	Whanganui Office Sales		18.00
4314 - Summer Season permit sales	20.7.16	Collins Sports, Opunake		40.00
4910 - Contracts	29.8.16	Wellington Fish & Game		274.55
4910 - Contracts	29.8.16	Wellington Fish & Game		1,184.90
4971 - Interest Income	31.8.16	BNZ Current Account		43.05
4974 - Grants Received	22.8.16	NZ Fish & Game Council		42,708.41
			62,792.34	98,750.33
Closing Balance - Current Account - 31 August 2016				72,879.72
Opening Balance - Term Deposit Account - 30 June 2016				480,332.78
No Transactions for July and August 2016				
Closing Balance - Term Deposit Account - 31 August 2016				480,332.78

MDA710 4

THE SECRETARY
TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL
PO BOX 4152
WANGANUI 4541

Bank of New Zealand
Wanganui Store
124 Victoria Avenue
Wanganui
Telephone 0800 800 468
Facsimile 06 345 5439
WWW www.bnz.co.nz



Statement of Accounts as at 31 August 2016

Your Accounts at a Glance



Account	Account Number	Maturity Date	Balance
Non Profit Org A/C	02-0792-0332133-000		72,879.72

Your Other Accounts at a Glance



Account	Account Number	Maturity Date	Balance
Term Deposit	36332133-03031	17 Sep 2016	480,332.78

Our investment statements and current disclosure statement may be obtained free of charge from any Bank of New Zealand store, or viewed at www.bnz.co.nz.

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BNZ stores and offices will be closed on Wednesday 31 August 2016.

We'll be rolling up our sleeves to help our communities.

While we're closed, here are your banking options:

- Call our customer service centre 0800 275 269
- Telephone banking 0800 240 000
- Internet banking bnz.co.nz
- Withdraw cash at any BNZ ATM & deposit notes and cheques at BNZ ATMs with this facility
- Mobile banking

Find out more at closedforgood.org



