PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE

WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Hon Eugenie Sage Minister of Conservation Parliament Buildings WELLINGTON

Dear Minister

I have the honour to submit, pursuant to Section 26X of the Conservation Act 1987 and Section 44A of the Public Finance Act 1989, the Performance Report and Financial Statements of the Wellington Fish and Game Council for the year ended 31 August 2017.

Yours faithfully

Strato Cotsilinis CHAIRMAN

WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

5 December 2017

CONTENTS	PAGE
PURPOSE OF WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL	1
OPERATION OF WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL	1
DIRECTORY OF COUNCILLORS AND STAFF	2
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT	3
STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY	13
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE	14
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	15
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS	16
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES	17
NOTES TO THE PERFORMANCE REPORT	20
STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE	27
APPENDIX ONE – LICENCE SALES	45
APPENDIX TWO - COUNCIL MEETINGS	46

AUDIT REPORT47

PURPOSE OF WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

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

OPERATION OF WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

At balance date the Council had twelve Councillors plus one co-opted Councillor, who are elected three yearly by the people who purchase fishing or hunting licences within the Council's region. The Council meets at least six times per year, spread around three main towns, cities, within the Wellington region, to direct the Council's management and to make its policy decisions.

The Council's office is based in Palmerston North. The Council employs four full-time and six part time staff: a Regional Manager, one Senior Field Officer, one Environmental Officer, three Assistant Environmental Officers, on a part time basis, an Administration Officer, and Administration Assistant, on a part time basis, in Palmerston North, and a Field Officer/Communications Officer, based in Wairarapa. The Taranaki Fish and Game Council in Wanganui, provides its Secretary's services on a part time basis for Wellington Fish and Game Council's financial administration.

DIRECTORY COUNCILLORS

Name	Locality
Jim Cook	Rongotea
Marc Flaws	Porirua
Brad Johnson	Upper Hutt
Strato Cotsilinis (Chairman from 17/4/2015)	Wellington
Malcolm Francis	Te Horo
Andrew Morris (NZ Fish & Game Council Appointee)	Masterton
Don Scott	Palmerston North
Andy Tannock	Palmerston North
Chris O'Meara	Lower Hutt
Paul Shortis	Masterton
Simon Muckley	Porirua
Dan Waechter	Upper Hutt
Eric Neumann (Co-opted)	Palmerston North

STAFF

Phil Teal	Regional Manager		
Steve Pilkington	Senior Fish and Game Officer (resigned 21 December 2016)		
Dr Matt Kavermann	Senior Fish and Game Officer (from 1 May 2017)		
Peter Wilson	Senior Environmental Planner (from September 2016)		
Hamish Carnachan	Fish and Game Communications Officer		
Jilli Steedman	Financial Administrator (Part Time)		
Susan Wray	Office Manager (Part Time)		
Dr Adam Canning	RMA Officer (Part Time)		
Corinne Deans	Office Assistant (Part Time)		
Renae Pratt	RMA Officer (Part Time, resigned 16 January 2017)		

Palmerston North Office

292 Featherston Street P O Box 1325 Palmerston North Phone (06) 359-0409

Fax (06) 356-2780 e-mail wellington@fishandgame.org.nz

Chairman's Report for the 2016/17 Financial Year

I am pleased to present this 2016/17 Annual report on the operations of Wellington Fish and Game Council.

The Wellington Fish and Game Council continues to manage the fish and game resource in a sustainable way to achieve strategic and long-term outcomes that have a benefit in terms of the resource itself and access to it by licence holders.

Resource Management Advocacy Function – remains a key regional priority

The challenges in managing New Zealand's water resources for water quality and water quantity are reflected in technical assessments by the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment¹ in 2013 and the Chief Science Advisor for the Prime Minister² in 2017. These reports both acknowledge declines in lowland trout fisheries associated with land use intensification and water loss. The increased public awareness and concern by the general public regarding water management elevated it to a key issue in the 2017 General Election.

Fish and Game as an organisation needs to remain vigilant in their advocacy role to protect the fish and game resource. This will involve ensuring that practices promoted by industry are sustainable and manage excessive nutrient losses that will otherwise lead to damage of fresh water ecosystems. It is also important that the second generation of regional plans implement rules and methods that are effective in nutrient allocation from non-point source discharges.

Fish and Game's involvement in the regional resource management planning processes continues to be essential to achieve habitat maintenance and enhancement, along with promoting public awareness of the issues in order to retain public support.

There are a number of regional planning processes that are continuing to have high priority in the Wellington Fish and Game region:

<u>Implementation</u> of the Horizons Regional Council Regional Plan – One Plan

The Environmental Defence Society and Fish and Game sought and won their declaration (released 3 April 2017) clarifying how Horizons Regional Council was implementing the One Plan — which concluded that resource consents were being issued unlawfully.

There is a clear expectation that provisions in regional plans will be implemented as intended to maintain the integrity of the operative plan once they have been finalised through the various formal and legal processes. The judgment clearly articulated that the Regional Plan should be implemented as the Plan states and that Horizons Regional Council cannot chose to implement or not to implement certain aspects.

Horizons Regional Council is now required to come up with planning processes to ensure the plan is implemented correctly and as intended. Fish and Game is willing to assist Horizons Regional Council with their deliberations on how to implement the plan. We consider the focus should be on the technical and planning approaches to implement the plan by using expert advice. Fish and Game have taken this measured approach to avoid the risk of getting involved into the 'politics' of implementation.

3

¹ Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment. 2013. Water Quality in New Zealand: Land Use and Nutrient Pollution

² Office of the Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor (OPMCSA). 2017. New Zealand's fresh waters: Values, state, trends and human impacts (12 April 2017).

<u>Proposed Regional Plan – Greater Wellington Region:</u>

The Proposed Regional Plan for Greater Wellington region, which provides the primary set of rules and regulations for the region, has had a protracted hearings process. With formal submissions received originally in November 2015, hearings were anticipated to commence in August 2016 but these were delayed until May 2017. Hearing stream 1 (objectives and policy mix), hearing stream 2 (stream fencing), hearing stream 3 (water quantity) have already occurred by end of September 2017, and recently hearing stream 4 (water quality) and hearing stream 5 (wetland protection) have been delayed until February 2018. Hearing stream 3 and 4 (water quantity and quality) are the most significant for Fish and Game. The notified version of the plan was not sufficient to protect the interests of anglers and hunters.

Proposed Wairarapa Irrigation Project:

The Greater Wellington Regional Council continues to investigate the technical and economic feasibility of creating a large-scale dam for water storage in the Wairarapa valley. In 2017, Fish and Game has continued its advocacy and explanation of the flaws in the dam proposal through the media, at a community level, and directly with the proponents of the dam proposal.

Wellington Fish and Game have been consistent with its position since the project's inception: principal spawning streams should not be considered for damming, the potential effects of the "footprint" of the other preferred sites under deliberation need to be adequately considered, and consideration of effects of nutrient losses to water quality and waterways that might result from land use intensification.

The land-use change will have an inevitable effect on water quality and Fish and Game needs to be in a position to measure the extent of change and the effect on life-supporting capacity in the river, including trout fisheries. Greater Wellington Regional Council is still formally considering the issue of continued funding for Wairarapa Water by the Crown Irrigation Funder from Ministry of Primary Industries. The risk remains that that the project will get so far advanced that it becomes a fait accompli and that environmental effects from land use change, or changes in 'run of river' flows, may not be adequately assessed during any feasibility study or consenting processes.

Ruamahanga Catchment – Whaitua Committee Consideration:

The Ruamahanga Zone (Whaitua) Committee process, which is being conducted concurrently to the Greater Wellington Regional Council Proposed Regional Plan process, uses a 'community based' committee appointed by the Regional Council to provide recommendations on how to manage and allocate land and water resources — including setting nutrient limits for water quality. Fish and Game has had major concerns with this process, as the process may be susceptible to becoming captured and directed into a line of thought that does not provide a robust set of rules and regulations to protect water quantity and quality in the Wellington region. It was intended by the Regional Council to incorporate any findings from the Whaitua Committee process into a Plan Change for the catchment. Fish and Game has presented to the Whaitua committee, after two years of being denied the ability to do so. It is anticipated that the Whaitua Committee will present its recommendations for the Ruamahanga catchment to Greater Wellington by the end of November 2017 — and in the meantime critical information being used to define limits for water quality and nutrient allocations for the catchment remains publicly unavailable.

Regional Consent Processing:

The regional resource management function has continued to be a demanding exercise for staff, but dependable advocacy effort has been maintained to represent the interests of hunters and anglers. Staff continue to provide relevant and credible technical advice that can be incorporated into design and construction of projects that are beneficial for the trout resource.

Fish and Game has submitted on consent proposals for several wastewater treatment plants in both the Horizons and Wellington regions. Greater Wellington Regional Council is applying to itself for consents to enable flood protection and river management to continue on the western rivers in the region (Hutt, Otaki, Waikanae). The consent process to date has not been adequately designed to ensure that the interests of anglers and hunters are taken into account, and staffs, in conjunction with angling clubs, are placing a high priority on resolving it.

In addition to the formal representation at resource consenting processes, there is a complementary approach to have a public awareness capacity by Fish and Game to ensure the public have an understanding of the issues from Fish and Game's perspectives. Hamish Carnachan has provided considerable expertise in communication to provide effective public awareness on issues that has not been possible in the past.

Regional Technical and Planning Advice:

Wellington Fish and Game Council continues to seek and promote efficiencies in delivering resource management advocacy across the collective of twelve regional Fish and Game Councils to make best use of our limited resources. To this end, Wellington Fish and Game Council have continued to provide environmental planning resources (utilising the experience of Senior Environmental Planner, Peter Wilson) to provide advocacy for other Fish and Game regions that either did not have that capability or required experienced advice to take advantage of the economies of learning. It has been proven in the past that having a consistent approach to managing the technical, legal, and planning components of a case has been effective.

Licence Sales & Licencing

Licence Sales:

Game licence sales were slightly up on the previous year's sales and slightly exceeding budget (LEQs 101%). Fish licence sales were below budget LEQs (93%) - a similar pattern to that of several other North Island and South Island regions – reflecting inclement weather conditions over the first four months of the fishing season and also changes in the part season licence categories now available.

Licence Management

Wellington Fish and Game Council supported the extension of the current contract with Eyede Ltd by two further years to provide services for licence sales management. They have performed well as to maintain our confidence that our principal income sources are managed professionally and robustly. They have provided continual improvement of software platforms to ensure robustness of the system with the core licence sales channels now almost exclusively electronically processed by agents or by public online.

Effectiveness of New Categories of Fish Licences

The merits of the effectiveness of the new licence categories in terms of the sustainability of the revenue base needs to be formally reviewed at the end of their three-year trial (ending 2017/18 Fish Season). Wellington Fish and Game Council considers that the Fish and Game organisation needs to be well informed to be in a position to review licence category sales in a systematic, objective, and timely manner to enable a rationalisation of licence categories (and/or pricing options) if required so it can be implemented in the 2018/19 fishing season. This would include looking at the effectiveness of retaining licenceholders (reducing 'churn'), assessing price sensitivities, and looking at licenceholder switching behaviours. The original objective was to increase licenceholder's perceptions of value and potentially reduce 'churn' in licence sales but there remains a perception that the discounting of new licence categories has negatively affected overall licence income even though participant numbers have been retained.

I acknowledge the continued work that Phil Teal, our Manager, has undertaken on the NZ Fish and Game Council liaison committee (Licence Working Party) to help oversee the implementation of the updated licencing management system, introduction of additional licence categories, and advocating for an improved marketing function for licence sales. This latter advocacy has seen resources allocated to the obtained external marketing expertise which will hopefully result in effective and efficient efforts being made regarding marketing opportunities to influence recruitment, retention, and re-engagement.

Draft Guides Licence:

The Minister of Conservation has sought further refinement to the long-awaited draft Guides Licence that was intended to deal with ethics, safety, and operational consistencies in sports fishing guiding despite being endorsed by the NZ Fish and Game Council and guides' representatives.

Communication with Licence holders

Staff continue to put considerable effort into executing the communication plan that has a goal of enhancing the perceived 'value' of the licence to anglers and hunters. The intent is to provide existing licence holders with timely and relevant information to increase their fishing and hunting success using several communication channels by making regular contact with consistent messaging: Pre-season Fish and Game NZ Magazine Special Issues, fishing and hunting Newsletters, regular ezines such as Reel Life and Both Barrels; and weekly fishing and hunting reports. Hamish Carnachan has provided a professional approach to all communications over the year - not only in providing relevant and regular weekly fishing reports (that are well received by anglers) but in considering strategic approaches to resource management issues.

Strategic Overview - Strategic Planning and Policy

Wellington Fish and Game Council regularly reassesses strategic direction to ensure our priorities match expected outcomes that are in line with staff and financial resources. We remain committed to our responsibilities to maintain an effective core monitoring programme to maintain relevance in advocacy forums but also want to focus on opportunities that promote junior recruitment and education, and contribute to a wider programme in predator control.

Wellington Fish and Game Council has initiated a review of its Sports Fish and Game Bird Management Plan based on plans that have recently been approved by the Minister. The wider consultation process has been delayed until late 2017, and after consideration of submissions will be submitted for approval to the Minister in 2018.

Species Management

Staff undertook a review of the monitoring programme to ensure that data is up-to-date, relevant, and robust as inferences from this data comes under increasing scrutiny – including reviewing the core drift dive programme, specific intensive drift dives sites, spawning surveys, and electro-fishing surveys. Dr Kavermann and Dr Canning have developed some excellent research initiatives that not only increase our understanding of population change but are undertaken in a smarter, safer, and more efficient way. For example, using the sophisticated technique of otolith microchemistry analysis enables determination of the contribution of spawning to trout populations from tributaries within a catchment – which is actively being applied to Ruamahanga, Rangitikei, and Hutt catchments. Another significant research project confirmed and funded involves the use of environmental DNA which should allow the confirmation of spawning trout in a river using DNA primers and assessing DNA^{mitochondrial}:DNA neuclear ratios.

Trout Population Change Monitoring

I acknowledge the commitment of the team of divers lead by Hamish Carnachan in completing the core summer drift diving monitoring programme. With the trout population being relatively stable there were no significant changes recommended to the Minister for the Anglers Notice.

Mallard Monitoring

The trend analysis of aerial transects of mallard population monitoring for recent years indicated that a continued conservative approach be taken — with Council recommending an eight-week, eight bag limit season harvest conditions for mallard. This monitoring technique has been undertaken for over twenty years and we now possess an excellent long-term data set on which to base decisions.

Wellington Fish and Game also undertook an email survey to get hunter opinion on potential restrictive approaches and how these might affect hunting opportunity, the level of acceptability to hunters of different restrictions and the consequential compliance issues that might result. The survey was well received by hunters but provided mixed views of preferences from licence holders.

Mallard Research:

There remains a keenness to maintain the momentum of the mallard research programme, with the main findings from the mallard productivity PhD study completed in Southland and Auckland/Waikato regions being finalised. Wellington Fish and Game staff contributed to other mallard research projects looking at potential heavy metal accumulation (including lead) in the blood that may affect fecundity, and another US based research project on DNA analysis investigating the origin of mallard and grey ducks.

Wellington region has continued to contribute to the mallard banding programme that may confirm survival statistics and allow comparison with other sites within a proposed environmental management unit. There will be at least a further two years of banding with similar effort required – and assistance of Colin Shore and volunteers is very much appreciated.

Support for Predator Control Initiatives

Wellington Fish and Game Council acknowledge the preliminary findings from the mallard research programme that confirms the potential effects of mustelids and rats on waterfowl mortality in terms of hen and chick mortality in an open farmland pasture/pond environment.

Wellington Fish and Game Council supported the aspirational goals of the Government for reducing predator numbers and a willingness to be involved in efforts that are focused on waterfowl/game bird populations and habitat. Council considered that Fish and Game could provide practical advice and lead by example to inspire hunters to take positive conservation initiatives.

Release of Captive Reared Mallard

Council consented to a request two small scale releases (100-200) of reared mallard ducks in Wellington region with the provision that there was a strict adherence to the legal requirement of not selling of waterfowl game birds. The practice of captive reared mallard releases is being more widely considered by NZ Fish and Game Council for development of national policy with draft technical, legal, and ethical reports having been prepared.

Opportunities for Junior and Novice Anglers

Council confirmed its support for the junior and novice recruitment programme as a top priority that involves educational projects in schools and fishing 'success' opportunities from 'fish-out' days for junior anglers. The Fish in Schools project continues to be successful in providing a platform for

introducing junior school students to trout habitat requirements as part of a refined web-based environmental curriculum. We have been actively looking at opportunities to refine and potentially sustainably grow the Fish in Schools programme.

The junior fishing 'fish out day' programmes remains an important component in introducing juniors to angling. Wellington Fish and Game Council acknowledge the efforts of fish and game club volunteers that have enabled junior and novice anglers and hunters to become involved in these pursuits. These include:

- o Manawatu Freshwater Angling Club support for the children's fishing day at Hokowhitu Lagoon in Palmerston North;
- o Wellington Flyfishers Club providing opportunities for hundreds of young anglers from Wellington City catchment at the Capital Trout Centre, Wellington;
- o Foxton Waterfowlers Club continue their Lake Omanu training programme and this receives regular plaudits and accolades from participants and peers.

Other sites of interest at Otauroa Reserve near Waikanae and Otaki reservoir hold considerable potential for future fisheries for novice anglers. It is recognised that Fish and Game need to leverage off these efforts to ensure recruitment initiatives are effective and enduring.

Compliance

I once again thank the efforts of our warranted officers who have again done a great job in ensuring licence holders and public adhere to the relevant regulations. Our honorary rangers undertake their role in a voluntary capacity and are truly contributing something back into the pursuits. They provide Fish and Game with a professional image and continue to be an important part of our organisation.

Wellington Fish and Game Council has undertaken to better recognise the outstanding service of volunteers and contributors to wider Fish and Game. Regional contribution medals were present to honorary fish and game rangers with more than five years contribution to acknowledge this important voluntary work which is highly appreciated by Council.

Angler and Hunter Access

Conflicting Public Access Priorities

Wellington Fish and Game Council needs to be vigilant in ensuring we are actively consulted in the decision making and policy direction for recreation management of our region's rivers. There is a real potential for change in focus of public use of recreational resources which could affect an angler's experience – in large part influenced by surveys such as one undertaken for the Hutt River with study design and interpretation of findings that do not consider angling as a key recreational use.

Active Access Management

Wellington Fish and Game staff have actively managed hunter access to several sites by permit system to: Pencarrow Lakes, Baring Heads, Marton Reservoir, Otaki River, and Waiterere Forest. There have been increased involvement and resources required of our staff to undertake education seminars to ensure consistent messaging about protecting key values and access requirements is clearly provided to the hunters. There is also increased sensitivity of the public to hunting occurring at traditional sites such as Otaki River mouth.

Rangitikei River Fisheries Management

Staff have continued to work positively and collaboratively with NZ Defence Force to negotiate improved access including helicopter landing sites to remove the actual or perceived restrictions in the Upper Rangitikei River.

Walking Access Commission

A range of specific access issues continue to be directed onto the Commission staff to consider including sites that require clarification of public access rights. One such example where an issue was eventually resolved was dealing with a LINZ grazing lease agreement on Bluff Road near Woodville.

Biosecurity Threats

Wellington Fish and Game is increasingly concerned the performance by the Ministry of Primary Industries with their efforts in biosecurity to stop the spread of didymo to the North Island. There are increasingly frequent accounts from anglers indicating perceived lack of vigilance for Didymo checks of the most likely vector for transfer - passengers on the interisland ferries. Recent research by NIWA and University of Canterbury³ confirmed the potential impacts on brown trout with by a reduction of up to 70% of fish biomass caused directly by habitat changes and indirectly by changes in food assemblages. Wellington Fish and Game believe there must be continued emphasis and vigilance in all areas of biosecurity protection to stop the spread of Didymo to the North Island – be it interisland ferry checks or the water user's adherence to the "check, clean, dry" procedures.

Biodiversity Management

Wellington Fish and Game Council has been apprehensive with the proposals developed by the Department of Conservation, Greater Wellington Regional Council, and a Wildlife Trust for permissions for exotic fish removals. We considered the proposals lacked scientific rigour, the likelihood of success of any resulting management options were not convincing, and they also did not have transparent short or long-term objectives identified.

Wellington Fish and Game Council considers there is need for a wider discussion within the Fish and Game organisation on how to process requests for sports fish research, removal, or control - with a view to NZ Fish and Game Council developing national policy on this issue.

Lake Wairarapa Management

The treaty settlement negotiations have been progressed between the Crown and iwi negotiators (Kahungunu Wairarapa and Rangitaane Wairarapa) which will most likely see the establishment of a statutory reserve board to manage Lake Wairarapa and wetlands — this will mirror the existing Wairarapa Moana Governance Group. The Agreement in Principles established noted that those with existing rights would continue (in foreseeable future) with those rights but the issues around privileges of some hunting structures will provide a challenge in the final settlement. I emphasise that structures on the lake bed and wetlands will come under increased scrutiny and that a proactive approach will need to be taken in dealing with issues associated with such.

³ Jellyman, P.G., and J.S. Harding. 2016. Disentangling the stream community impacts of *Didymosphenia geminata*: How are higher trophic levels affected? *Biological Invasions 18* (12) pp 3419-3435

There still has not been a confirmed alternative to the existing weir in the Otakura Stream to enable water management regime to the JK Donald Wetland to continue, but there is increasing urgency to replace the structure with an alternative.

Other Habitat - Gamebird Habitat Stamp Applications

There is still high demand for assistance for grants from the Gamebird Habitat Trust Board with a further three successful grants being from within the Wellington region. Staff have provided advice on several other wetland projects and have also been requested to re-assess the projects from previous years that received assistance from the Trust.

Staff had also developed a proposal to develop wetlands in a rural landscape that was seeking funding (as part of the Manawatu River Accord collective) from the Ministry for the Environment Freshwater Improvement Fund. The proposal defined actions to involve education of the benefits of wetlands in landscapes, provision of technically sound practical advice on how to undertake actions to restore wetlands, use of reference wetlands within properties and drainage schemes, and providing subsidy for work undertaken on private and public land for restoring wetlands. Although not progressed in this instance it provides a ready potential template for future applications.

Liaison with NZ Fish and Game Council

Review of Lead Shot Sub-12gauge Exemption

Wellington Fish and Game Council were disappointed at the way the issue of considering reviewing continued use of lead shot in sub-12gauge ammunition for waterfowl hunting had been concluded given that there was an agreed and expected process for review to be undertaken in 2017. It appeared that the issue had become politicised and it was our Council's view that there was an objective process to be followed prior to any action being taken.

Consideration of Hunting and Fishing Ethics

Wellington Fish and Game Council discussed several hunting ethical considerations which were concurrently discussed in other regions and by New Zealand Fish and Game Council. We have noted that NZ Council are developing positions on hunting ethics including:

- o viable alternatives to plastic wads;
- o options for consistently limiting shotgun capacity; and
- o continued practice of pre-feeding ponds for waterfowl.

Wellington Fish and Game Council agreed that a national policy on hunting ethics may be appropriate with issues considered on a national basis but there was still a requirement for a significant consultation process to occur with regions prior to confirmation of any policy.

Wellington Fish and Game Council had considered the following fishing issues:

- A total number per day that could be caught and released we considered it was not a practical policy for compliance purposes;
- Preferred approaches to catch and release of trout (a worldwide issue) we considered a
 better approach was to develop improved education material on how to release fish, and
 sensitive handling of fish which was subsequently followed up by NZ Fish and Game
 Council:
- Consistent Fishing Competition Rules those defined by SFFNZ were appropriate but there
 was no compulsion to adhere to these;
- o Baited Hooks scientific research confirmed a potential higher mortality for trout using baited hooks which reinforced Council policy for requirement catch and release trout over a certain size limit (upper slot limit) being fly and spin only lures.

Commitment to Health and Safety Culture

I reinforce the need for Council to continue to commit to supporting and resourcing health and safety adequately and ensuring that operational actions are actively practiced. Wellington Fish and Game have been actively developed a Health and Safety Manual which reflected our region's operations. The role of governors is to ensure a robust Health and Safety Plan is developed, ensure a positive culture to health and safety issues exists, and planned actions are carried out accordingly. There has been increased staff awareness and active participation by staff in reporting intention sheets, and the use of technology such as specific App software to assist in recording field work risks and mitigations.

General - Staffing

On behalf of Council I extend a genuine thanks to our staff, who have continued to contribute to providing the means and actions to achieve gains for the fish and game resource, and wider environment. We are fortunate to have staff that not only have outstanding practical and academic skills but show strong commitment, dedication, and enthusiasm in undertaking their duties. Each has made a significant contribution:

- Phil Teal leads the team and provides prudent financial management and timely support to Council, and communication to licenceholders, and has been also been instrumental in maintaining capacity to make resource management advocacy across the organisation more efficient and effective. Phil has also lead developing a strategic approach to research opportunities within the wider organisation, as well as contributing to defining the focus of a marketing function;
- Hamish Carnachan has contributed substantially with public awareness of resource management and water quality issues in the Wellington region with effective communications to media and clients. Hamish also efficiently contributed to the completion of the sports fish and game bird monitoring work programme;
- Dr Matt Kavermann integrated exceptional well into our organisational culture on commencement of his role to principally oversee the technical monitoring of projects and manage the compliance function. Matt's academic background and approach will ensure an extremely positive contribution will be made to update our monitoring programmes but will also develop relationships with regional agencies and iwi entities;
- Peter Wilson has continued to lead projects related to regional planning processes in the
 Wellington region such as the Greater Wellington Regional Council's plan and significant
 global resource consent applications for river works in the western rivers of that region.
 Peter, as Senior Environmental Planner, has also been assisting many other regions (on a
 request basis) to ensure the efficiencies in learnings are most efficiently co-ordinated to
 represent the interests of the wider organisation in significant resource management issues;
- Dr Adam Canning has provided highly valued input into developing a research programme using highly skilled mathematical modelling and GIS analyses, and innovative approaches into resource monitoring. He has also provided efficient and expert technical input in undertaking (on a part time basis the resource management function) throughout the year;
- Sue Wray, Corinne Deans, and Jilli Steedman provided consistently professional and accurate administrative and financial management input. Their experience and accuracy is widely appreciated and commended.
- I acknowledge the contributions that Steve Pilkington (who left at the end of 2016) had made over recent years to diligently conducting the monitoring programmes for sportsfish and waterfowl, and co-ordinating the compliance function.

Licence Holder Engagement at Council Meetings

The Fish and Game system in New Zealand is unique in that it provides a direct input from the recreational user as to how the fish and game resource can be managed in their recreational interests. We need to protect and foster the principles that the legislation was developed. Fish and Game need to continue to develop initiatives to engage licenceholders – not only in elections but in decision making that rely on understanding hunter and angler opinion and motivations.

Council has continued to have a rotation of meeting venues alternating between the three main urban centres of Wellington, Palmerston North, and Masterton with attendance and identification of local issues enough to continue with this arrangement.

Finally, but not least I acknowledge the contributions of the other twelve councillors. There continues to be some excellent debates that contributed to development of innovative and robust ideas, relevant focus on strategic direction, and an added enthusiasm to contribute. I would like to thank councillors that continue to contribute their time and energy on a voluntary basis ensuring all of our licenceholders' rights and interests are promoted.

Thank you for your efforts.

Strato Cotsilinis

Chairman

Wellington Fish and Game Council

5 November 2017

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The Council and management of Wellington Fish and Game Council accepts responsibility for the preparation of the Annual Financial Statements and the judgements used in them.

The Council and management of Wellington Fish and Game Council accepts responsibility for establishing and maintaining a system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the integrity and reliability of financial reporting.

In the Opinion of the Council and management of the Wellington Fish and Game Council, the Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2017, fairly reflect the financial position and operations of Wellington Fish and Game Council

Councillor

(on behalf of Chairperson)

Jim Cook

5 December 2017

Manager Phil Teal

5 December 2017

Statement of Financial Performance For the Year Ended 31 August 2017

	Note	Actual 2017 \$	Unaudited Budget 2017 \$	Actual 2016 \$
REVENUE				
Fish and Game licence sales	1	609,757	639,113	650,078
Grants and Donations	1	135,899	131,456	133,297
Interest	1	11,793	14,844	14,672
Funding from central or local government	1	4,000	4,000	4,000
Other Revenue	1	379,644	11,400	81,333
Total Revenue		1,141,093	800,813	883,380
EXPENSES Outputs				
Species Management	2	72,606	42,300	77,689
Habitat Protection & Management	2	365,011	13,450	57,662
Angler & Hunter Participation	2	41,833	37,305	42,907
Public Interface	2	2,293	2,500	1,076
Compliance	2	4,103	7,000	5,005
Licencing	2	26,011	31,956	27,893
Council	2	5,194	6,000	4,408
Planning & Reporting	2	11,172	9,000	9,253
Overheads				
Employee Related Costs	2	447,361	517,279	477,457
Depreciation	4	30,514	51,194	29,877
Loss on Sale of Fixed Assets		-	-	10,478
Other Expenses	2	114,003	119,179	132,028
Total Expenses		1,120,101	837,163	875,733
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		20,992	(36,350)	7,647

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



Statement of Financial Position As at 31 August 2017

	Notes	Actual 2017 \$	Unaudited Budget 2017 \$	Actual 2016 \$
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Bank accounts and cash	3	217,687	125,594	172,363
Debtors and prepayments	3	88,252	70,000	95,795
Total Current Assets		305,939	195,594	268,158
Non Current Assets				
Property plant and equipment	4	247,455	112,557	266,403
Investments	3	360,459	336,000	348,935
Total Non-Current Assets		607,914	448,557	615,338
TOTAL ASSETS		913,853	644,151	883,495
LIABILITIES				
Current Liabilities				
Creditors and accrued expenses	3	159,555	90,000	122,646
Employee costs payable	3	84,101	50,000	111,644
Total Current Liabilities		243,656	140,000	234,290
TOTAL LIABILITIES		243,656	140,000	234,290
NET ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		670,197	504,151	649,205
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		670,197	504,151	649,205

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



Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 31 August 2017

Note	Actual 2017 \$	Actual 2016 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash was received from:		
Licence Sales	623,076	650,697
Grants, donations and fundraising	135,899	135,075
Interest	11,739	14,705
Funding from central or local government	4,000	8,000
Other Revenue	348,277	-
GST (net)	16,792	-
Cash was applied to:		
Payments to Suppliers	625,289	330,331
Payments to Employees	457,603	467,327
GST (net)	-	13,377
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	56,890	(2,558)
CASHFLOWS FROM INVESTING & FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Cash from received from:		
Sale of property, plant and equipment	-	4,313
Sale of investments/deposits	_	-
Cash was applied to:		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	11,566	49,409
Purchase of investments/deposits	-	_
Net Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities	(11,566)	(45,096)
Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash	(45,324)	(47,654)
Opening Cash	172,363	220,017
Closing Cash	217,687	172,363
This is Represented by:		
Bank accounts and cash	217,687	172,363

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



Statement of Accounting Policies For the Year Ended 31 August 2017

ACCOUNTING POLICIES APPLIED

Reporting Entity

Wellington Fish and Game Council is a Public Entity under the Public Finance Act 1989 (Schedule 4). The Council was established on 4 May 1991 with the passing of the Conservation Law Reform Act 1990. This performance report has been prepared in accordance with Section 153-6 of the Crown Entities Act 2004.

Basis of Preparation

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

Goods & Services Tax (GST)

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

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Revenue Recognition

Wellington Fish and Game Council derives revenue through the sale of fish and game licences, interest, sale of fish product, contracts, rentals, grants and miscellaneous sales. All are recorded as revenue in the period they are earned. However, for any grants, where there are unfulfilled conditions attaching to the grants, the unfulfilled amount is recognised as a liability and released to income as the conditions are fulfilled.

Licence Revenue

Licence revenue is recognised in relation to the period covered by the Game bird or Fish Licence. Any licence money received for a licence in advance will be treated as a liability.

Grants Received

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

Grant from NZFGC

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

Interest

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

Outputs

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



Wellington Fish and Game Council Performance Report for The Year Ended 31 August 2017

Employee related costs

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

Performance payments are recorded when the employee is notified.

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

Levies to NZFGC

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

Bank accounts and cash

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

Debtors and Prepayments

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

Investments

Investments comprise investments in term deposits with banks.

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

Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment is recorded at cost, less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Donated assets are recognised upon receipt of the asset if the asset has a useful life of 12 months or more, and the current value of the asset is readily obtainable and significant. Significant donated assets for which current values are not readily obtainable are not recognised. For an asset to be sold, the asset is impaired if the market price for the equivalent asset falls below its carrying amount. For an asset to be used by the Council, the asset is impaired if the value to the Council in using the assets falls below the carrying amount of the assets.

Depreciation is provided on a diminishing value basis at rates that will write off the cost of the assets over their useful lives. The useful lives and associated depreciation rates of the

Buildings

40 years (2.5%)

Plant & Equipment

2 - 20 years (11.4% to 50%)

Motor Vehicles

10 Years (20 - 24%)

Office Equipment

3 – 10 years (11.4% to 80.4%)

Creditors and accrued expenses

Creditors and accrued expenses are measured at the amount owed.

Game Bird Habitat Stamp levy

Levies of \$10,530 have been collected and are paid to New Zealand Fish and Game Council per the New Zealand Game Bird Habitat Stamp Regulations 1993.

Employee costs payable

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



Restricted and Discretionary reserves

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

Non-Resident Licence Income

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

Rangitikei Fish Monitoring Reserve

This reserve is used for the monitoring of the upper reaches of the Rangitikei River.

JK Donald Block Track

This reserve is to fund the maintenance and upkeep of the JK Donald Block track at Lake Wairarapa. Income for this fund is derived from the sale of vehicle access stickers.

Kilmore Lodge

This fund is for the maintenance and upkeep of Kilmore Lodge at Lake Wairarapa. Income for this reserve is derived from hunters paying for accommodation costs.

Reparation

This reserve is for works and projects that contribute to the Fish and Game resource such as habitat maintenance and compliance management.

Asset Replacement Funding

For the maintenance and upkeep of the Fixed Assets

Income Tax

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

Budget Figures

The Budget figures are derived from the Council budget that was approved at the Council meeting in August 2016.

Tier 2 PBE Accounting Standards applied

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

Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no specific changes in accounting policies and they have been applied on a consistent basis with those of the previous period.



Notes to the Performance Report For the Year Ended 31 August 2017

NOTE 1: ANALYSIS OF REVENUE	Actual 2017 \$	Unaudited Budget 2017 \$	Actual 2016 \$
Licence sales			
Fish Licence	331,144	363,478	378,762
Game licence	278,613	275,635	271,316
Total	609,757	639,113	650,078
Grants and donations			
Grant from Genesis	20,433	16,000	20,083
National Fish and Game Grant	115,456	115,456	113,214
Donations / Koha from the Public	10	_	_
Total	135,899	131,456	133,297
Interest			
Other interest	11,793	14,844	14,672
Total	11,793	14,844	14,672
Funding from central or local Government General funding from central or local government	4,000	4,000	4,000
Total	4,000	4,000	4,000
011	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Other revenue	0.404		9,438
Reparation Fines / Prosecutions	2,401 379	5,000	9,430 596
Trout liberations	5,293	2,000	8,637
	5,293 1,512	1,000	1,391
Lake Wairarapa Hunter Access Hunter Access	2,837	3,000	3,040
	2,037 1,091	3,000	1,052
Kilmore Lodge Public Awareness	1,091	_	1,032
Hunter Training	348	400	348
Other RMA Income	353,310	400	48,015
Gamebird Population Assessment	333,310 579	-	275
Duddings Lake Junior Anglers	7,251	-	8,528
Duugings Lake Junioi Aligieis		-	0,020
Staff Scholarship Gain on sale / disposal of assets	4,638	-	-



NOTE 2: ANALYSIS OF EXPENSE	Actual 2017 \$	Unaudited Budget 2017 \$	Actual 2016 \$
Species management			
Population monitoring	56,765	15,000	54,710
Harvest assessment	5,047	14,800	3,333
Liberations	10,600	11,500	19,637
Control	195	1,000	9
Total	72,607	42,300	77,689
Habitat protection & management			
Resource management	357,686	1,200	50,001
Works & management	5,805	8,000	6,011
Assisted habitat	1,520	4,250	1,650
Total	365,011	13,450	57,662
Angler & Hunter participation			
Access	6,688	10,800	7,940
Newsletters	13,816	13,000	14,157
Information to Clients	5,909	4,000	5,872
Training	15,408	9,505	14,631
Huts	-	-	266
Club relations	11		41
Total	41,833	37,305	42,907
Public interface			
Advocacy	272	500	932
Public promotions	2,021	2,000	144
Total	2,292	2,500	1,076
Compliance			
Ranging	1,865	1,000	1,028
Ranger training	2,100	1,000	3,500
Compliance	137	5,000	477
Total	4,102	7,000	5,005
Licencing			
Licence production & distribution	336	-	403
Agent Service	5,432	0.4.050	4,633
Commission	20,243	31,956	22,857
Total	26,011	31,956	27,893
Council	5.404	0.000	4 400
Council meetings	5,194	6,000	4,408
Total	5,194	6,000	4,408
Planning & reporting	10.010	0.000	0.050
Reporting National liaison	10,916	9,000	9,253
	245	-	-
National projects Total	11	0.000	0.252
Iotal	11,172	9,000	9,253
Employee related costs			
Employee related costs Salaries and wages	430,060	502,589	466,807
Staff related costs	430,060 15,826	11,090	466,807 9,691
ACC Levies	1,475	3,600	9,691
Total	447,361	517,279	477,457
Other expenses		311,213	711,401
Office premises	38,897	43,050	34,520
Office equipment	5,788	3,000	9,961
Communications	21,008	17,479	25,360
General	9,058	10,650	8,122
Field equipment	2,394	2,500	3,933
Vehicles	2,39 4 36,858	42,500	50,132
Total	114,003	119,179	132,028
IVIAI	114,003	113,173	132,020



NOTE 3: ANALYSIS ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	Actual 2017 \$	Actual 2016 \$
Bank accounts and cash		
ANZ Select	217,641	172,315
ANZ Cheque Account	46	48
Total	217,687	172,363
Debtors and other receivables		
Accounts receivable	85,744	85,787
Prepayments	2,508	10,007
Total	88,252	95,794
Investments Term Deposits	360,459	348,935
Total	360,459	348,935
Creditors and accrued expenses		
Trade and other payables	76,144	45,392
GST Payable	45,995	33,296
Income in advance	26,870	34,025
Audit fees accrual	6,578	6,483
Accounting fees accrual	3,968	3,450
Total	159,555	122,646
Employee costs payable		
Accrued salaries and wages	15,777	9,322
Annual leave	57,113	77,231
PAYE owing	11,211	25,091
Total	84,101	111,644



NOTE 4: PROPERTY PLANT & EQUIPMENT

2017

	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales / Disposals	Current year Depreciation and Impairment	Closing Carrying Amount
Asset Class				•	
Land	126,552	_	_		126,552
Buildings	3,840	_	_	182	3,658
Plant & Equipment	9,864	2,545	_	1,705	10,705
Vehicles	118,052		_	22,344	95,708
Office Equipment	8,095	9,021	_	6,283	10,833
Total	266,403	11,566	Ħ	30,514	247,455

2016

	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales / Disposals	Current year Depreciation and Impairment	Closing Carrying Amount
Asset Class				•	
Land	126,552	_	_	_	126,552
Buildings	4,022	_	_	182	3,840
Plant & Equipment	11,378	-	_	1,514	9,864
Vehicles	114,617	42,376	14,517	24,424	118,052
Office Equipment	5,093	7,033	274	3,757	8,095
Total	261,662	49,409	14,791	29,877	266,403

The combined value of the Council's land at Simmonds Lagoon and at Lake Omanu is disclosed in the Schedule of Fixed Assets at a total value of \$126,552. The Council considers that the fair values of these lands are respectively \$330,000, as determined at 1 September 2017 for South Wairarapa District Council, and \$520,000, as determined at 1 August 2016 for Horowhenua District Council, by Quotable Value New Zealand Ltd. The Council does not consider the cost of formal revaluation that would be required to substantiate any write up of the land values to be warranted at this time.

NOTE 5: ACCUMULATED FUNDS	Actual 2017 \$	Actual 2016 \$
Accumulated Surplus / (Deficit)		
Balance as at 1 September	483,075	494,633
Surplus / (Deficit)	20,992	7,647
Transfer to Restricted Reserves	(142,648)	(35,341)
Transfer from Restricted Reserves	43,632	16,135
Balance at 31 August	405,050	483,075
Restricted and Discretionary		
Reserves		
Balance as at 1 September	166,131	146,925
Transfer to Accumulated Funds	142,648	35,341
Transfer from Accumulated Funds	(43,632)	(16,135)
Balance at 31 August	265,147	166,131
Total Accumulated Funds as at 31 August	670,197	649,205



Breakdown of Restricted and Discretionary Reserves		Actual 2017 \$	Actual 2016 \$
Name	Nature and Purpose		
Rangitikei Fish Monitoring Reserve	To monitor upper reaches of the Rangitikei River	110,153	123,387
Reparation Income	For works and projects that contribute to the fish and game resource.	35,030	32,629
Kilmore Lodge	For the maintenance and upkeep of Kilmore Lodge	2,308	2,760
JK Donald Track	For the maintenance and upkeep of the JK Donald track	2,410	1,106
Asset Replacement Funding		103,912	-
Non-Resident Licence Income	Back Country Fisheries	11,334	6,249
Total Restricted & Discretionary Res	serves	265,147	166,131

NOTE 6: COMMITMENTS & CONTINGENCIES

Commitment to:	Explanation and Timing
Office Lease	Lease expiring 28 February 2025
Wellington Fish and Game	payments for the Wellington Fish and Game Council premises. Council has a lease in place for the Council premises, expiring in 500 per annum. There are two rights of renewal in 2019 and 2022.

Commitments

There are no capital expenditure commitments as at 31 August 2017. (Last year – nil)

NOTE 7: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Related Party	Description of the Transaction	2016/17 Value	2015/16 Value	2016/17 Amount Outstand ing	2015/16 Amount Outstanding
NZ Fish and Game Council	Grants received	115,456	113,214	-	-
	Reimbursement from NZ Fish and Game Council Legal fund of costs incurred	297,734	23,636	35,551	16,339
	Reimbursement from NZ Fish and Game Council Staff Development Fund for staff scholarship	4,638	-	-	-
Strato Cotsilinis	Trout partly paid for by Wellington Fish and Game Council in respect of children's fishing days	10,599	19,397	-	-
Lee Cook	Councillors son assisted with field work	1,089	-	-	-



Wellington Fish and Game Council Performance Report for The Year Ended 31 August 2017

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council is by statute a related party, with a financial redistribution for regional Fish and Game Councils. In the reporting year, Wellington Fish and Game Council received a grant totaling \$115,456 to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council (2016/17 received grant; \$113,214). There are nil outstanding balances at year end (2016; nil).

Strato Cotsilinis is a Councillor, and a member of the Executive Committee of Wellington Flyfishers Club. The Wellington Flyfishers Club organizes children's fishing days with trout partly paid for by Wellington Fish and Game Council. The total external cost of trout was \$10,599 excl GST (2016; \$19,397). A contribution of \$5,293 (2016; \$8,637) was invoiced to Wellington Flyfishers Club. The outstanding balance at year end is \$3,500 (2016; \$3,270). The net cost to Wellington Fish and Game Council was \$5,306.

Jim Cook is a Councillor, and Lee Cook is his son. Lee Cook worked for Wellington Fish and Game Council for fifty nine hours assisting with field work and was paid \$1,089.

There were no other related party transactions. There are nil provisions for doubtful debts or expenses for bad debts, and no guarantees given or received for all related parties.

NOTE 8: EVENTS AFTER BALANCE DATE

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



NOTE 9: ALLOCATION OF OVERHEADS TO OUTPUT AREAS FOR 2017

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

ACTUAL 2017

Output Area	Actual Direct \$	Actual Hours	Allocation of Overheads	Total Costs per Output
Species management	72,606	1,418	114,667	187,273
Habitat protection & management	365,011	3,170	256,413	621,423
Angler & hunter participation	41,833	1,126	91,046	132,878
Public interface	2,293	504	40,770	43,063
Compliance	4,103	213	17,190	21,293
Licencing	26,011	1	81	26,092
Council	5,194	377	30,497	35,691
Planning & reporting	11,172	510	41,215	52,389
Totals	528,223	7,317	591,878	1,120,102

Actual Overheads

Employee related costs	447,361
Depreciation	30,514
Other expenses	114,003
Total Overheads to allocate	591.878

BUDGET 2017

Output Area	Actual Direct \$	Actual Hours	Allocation of Overheads	Total Costs per Output
Species management	42,300	1,926	141,831	184,131
Habitat protection & management	13,450	4,360	321,071	334,521
Angler & hunter participation	37,305	1,474	108,546	145,851
Public interface	2,500	252	18,557	21,057
Compliance	7,000	266	19,588	26,588
Licencing	31,956	124	9,131	41,087
Council	6,000	356	26,216	32,216
Planning & reporting	9,000	580	42,711	51,711
Totals	149,511	9,338	687,652	837,163

Actual Overheads

517,279
51,194
119,179
687,652



STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCEFor the Year Ended 31 August 2017

Introduction

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

PROJECT 1111 SPORTS FISH POPULATION MONITORING

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Trout populations in all fisheries in the Wellington Fish and Game Region, that are valued by licence holders, will remain stable over time.	Information gained by drift diving and spawning surveys, as planned in Council's adopted Sports Fish Monitoring Strategy, will result in identifying implications for sports fish management. A report by professional staff on the results of the year's fieldwork will be presented to the Council to 31 August 2017.	Drift dive surveys were undertaken in 43 transects of 12 rivers, and a report on the results of this, by professional staff, was presented to the Council on 10 October 2017. Trout spawning surveys were conducted on 53 rivers and streams.
(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.1)	Budget Cost \$69,040	Actual Cost \$69,766



PROJECT 1112 RANGITIKEI TROUT FISHERY MANAGEMENT

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Objective	Flamicu Nesult	Actual Nesult
Sports fisheries that exhibit characteristics that are valued by anglers will be identified and safeguarded.	The implementation of a programme of research, monitoring and compliance work, with financial support from, and a report to, Genesis Power Limited, by 31 August 2017. Operate a backcountry licence for the Upper Rangitikei fisheries.	Obtained information on trout abundance, spawning and recruitment. Seven drift dives totalling 19km were completed in 2017 in the main branch of the Rangitikei, these included (Ecology, Gold Flat, Mangamarie, Otarere, Oturua, Trick and the Waingakia reaches). Due to weather conditions the Moawhanga, Kawhatau and the Whakarekau no drift dives were completed.
		Research objective proposed for the Rangitikei catchment has been to establish whether or not trout move between the upper reaches (headwaters) and the middle to lower reaches of the Rangitikei trout fishery. Research is centred on identifying factors that may impact on the sustainability of the upper Rangitikei trophy trout fishery. These would include detecting barriers to dispersal from lower to upper reaches and looking at possible behavioural traits within the trout population that may limit dispersal. Research outcomes will then be able to provide guidance as to what actions may be needed to maintain and improve the fishery. To this effect and within the Rangitikei catchments, preliminary water samples have been collected from 17 sites and analysed.
		A backcountry licence has continued to be issued.
		A report to Genesis Power Ltd was completed in May 2017 and presented to Council 6 June 2017.
	Budgeted income of \$16,000	Receipt of \$20,433 was received from Genesis Power Ltd. Some of these funds have been carried forward to 2017/2018.
(Mgt Plan ref A9.3.5)	Budget Cost \$20,484	Actual Cost \$33,533



PROJECT 1113 RIVER CONTROL FISHERY ASSESSMENT

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The quality and quantity of trout habitat in the Wellington Fish and Game region will remain stable over time.	Information gained by drift diving will result in assessment of the impacts of river control works on trout habitats and populations in the Hutt and Waikanae Rivers. A progress report by professional staff on the results of the fieldwork will be presented to Greater Wellington Regional Council by 31 August 2017.	Drift diving in the Hutt, Otaki and Waikanae rivers' was undertaken as part of an ongoing programme. A report by professional staff, summarising the results of the field work was presented to Greater Wellington Regional Council June 2017, and the report was presented to Wellington Fish and Game Council on 6 June 2017.
	Income of \$4,000 was budgeted from Greater Wellington Regional Council.	Receipt of \$4,000 from Greater Wellington Regional Council.
(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.3).	Budget Net Cost \$5,597	Actual Cost \$1,772

PROJECT 1114 GAMEBIRD POPULATION ASSESSMENTS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The Wellington regional populations of gamebirds are managed to remain relatively stable over time.	Information gained by autumn counts of the regional populations of mallard/grey ducks and pukeko; summer trend counts of paradise shelduck and black swan; and late winter counts of shoveler ducks, will result in identifying implications for game bird management. A report by professional staff	A report by professional staff, detailing autumn population assessments and trends for mallard/grey duck hybrids, paradise shelduck, shoveler, black swan and pukeko, with management implications, was received by the Council on 10 October 2017.
	on the results of the fieldwork will be presented to the Council to 31 August 2017.	
(Mgt Plan ref C9.1.1, D9.1.1, E9.1.1, F9.1.1,		
G9.1.1, H9.1.1).	Budget Cost \$46,995	Actual Cost \$57,467



PROJECT 1122 NATIONAL HUNTER SURVEY

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Hunter harvest of gamebirds will be controlled so it is not the cause of any population's demise.	Information gained from game licence holders during the 2017 game season, collected by participation in this externally analysed and nationally coordinated annual survey, will result in identifying implications for game bird management.	The 2017 national hunter survey was undertaken during the 2017 game season, and a report by professional staff detailing game bird harvest levels for the 2017 game seasons, comparing these with 25 previous years' harvest assessments and detailing management implications, was received by the Council on 10 October 2017.
(Mgt Plan ref C9.1.2, D9.1.2, E9.1.2, F9.3.1, G9.1.2, H9.1.2,	A report by professional staff on the results of the 2017 survey will be presented to the Council to 31 August 2017.	
I9.1.1).	Budget Cost \$5,982	Actual Cost \$4,530

PROJECT 1123 REGIONAL ANGLER SURVEY

PROJECT 1124 REGIONAL HUNTER SURVEY

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
90% of dabbling duck hunters have a satisfactory hunting experience, and will be satisfied with the availability, quality and extent of information available.	Information gained by surveying game licence holders during the 2016/17 financial year will result in identifying implications for game management. A report by professional staff on the results of the survey will be presented to the Council to 31 August 2017.	As part of the National Gamebird Harvest Survey a series of questions relating to Wellington region hunters' satisfaction and participation were undertaken. Analysis of the results completed and report was presented to Wellington Fish and Game Council on 10 October 2017.
(Mgt Plan ref C9.3.1 C9.3.6).	Budget Cost \$4,624	Actual Cost \$3,105



PROJECT 1161 TROUT LIBERATIONS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The maintenance and improvement of trout fisheries by stocking with hatchery-reared fish where this is necessary, achievable	The provision of 2,000 healthy two-year-old rainbow trout at Capital Trout Centre, Wellington, by 31 August 2017.	450 Trout from Tongariro Hatchery, Turangi were delivered to Capital Trout Centre 13 February 2017. Ngongotaha provided transport.
and cost effective.	The provision of at least 500 healthy two-year old rainbow trout at Duddings Lake with view to supporting a junior novice fishing day promotion. Income of \$2,000 was budgeted.	750 rainbow trout liberated into Hokowhitu Lagoon, Palmerston North (conditions at Duddings Lake were not suitable for a release of trout) for a junior/novice fishing day promotion on 13 November 2016. Planning and confirmation of event for November 2017.
		1000 rainbow trout from Ngongotaha Hatchery were delivered to Capital Trout Centre 18 August 2017.
		Total costs for the Capital Trout Centre were \$10,599 offset by the receipt of \$5,293 from Wellington Flyfishers Club.
		Total costs for the Hokowhitu Lagoon, Palmerston North were \$7,009, offset by the receipt of \$7,251 from sponsors. (see project 1354)
(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.5).	Budget Cost \$12,973	Actual Cost \$10,600

PROJECT 1171 SEASON REGULATIONS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The maintenance and improvement of the region's sportsfish and gamebird resources, by the formulation and recommendation to the NZ Fish and Game Council of season conditions for fishing and game hunting seasons, that can be demonstrated to be sustainable.	The dispatch of the Council's draft recommendations for 2017 game hunting season conditions to New Zealand Fish and Game Council by 31 December 2016. The dispatch of the Council's draft recommendations for the 2017/2018 fishing season conditions to New Zealand Fish and Game Council by 30 June 2017.	Council's draft recommendations for the 2017 game hunting season conditions were sent to New Zealand Fish and Game Council on 20 December 2016 and 14 February 2017. Council's draft recommendations for 2017/2018 fishing season conditions were sent to New Zealand Fish and Game Council on 14 June 2017.
(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.2)	Budget Cost \$5,597	Actual Cost \$564



PROJECT 1172 KEEP AND RELEASE APPROVALS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The protection of Wellington Fish and Game region's indigenous biodiversity and trout habitat.	All keepings of gamebirds, and all releases of sportsfish, other fish, and gamebirds will be subject to appropriate statutory approvals.	Game preserves have been approved by the Council at: Rathmoy, Hunterville on 29 November 2006 (renewed with amendments October 2012); Te Para Hut, Taihape on 14 April 2010; Waituna West, Feilding on 9 December 2014.
(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.3,		
A9.2.2, 19.2.2)	Budget Cost \$589	Actual Cost \$1,531

PROJECT 1181 GAMEBIRD DISPERSAL

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The dispersal or control of	The dispersal or control of gamebirds where they cause	Fish and Game issue permits to disturb game birds in specified areas and in
congregations of gamebird, where they	unacceptable damage to farmers' crops is undertaken	specific circumstances.
cause unacceptable damage to farmers' crops, is undertaken in	in a timely and cost effective manner.	79 permits were issued, compared to 72 the previous year, with details reported to Council on 10 October 2017.
a timely and cost effective manner.	A report by professional staff on the performance of game	
	bird dispersal throughout Wellington Fish and Game	
	region for the reporting year will be presented to the Council to 31 August 2017.	
(Mgt Plan ref C9.2.1, E9.2.1, F9.2.1, F9.2.2,		
G9.2.1, H9.2.1)	Budget Cost \$6,891	Actual Cost \$3,699



PROJECT 1211 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The quality and quantity of trout habitat in the Wellington Fish and Game region will remain stable over time.	Submissions on resource consent applications and plan proposals will be made as appropriate, seeking to achieve trout habitat protection and wetland conservation.	Council staff responded to resource management issues throughout the year as follows: 8 Pre applications liaisons and site visits 11 Section 95 approvals (non-notified) 5 Section 96 submissions in opposition 1 Section 96 support in part 3 Technical Assistance 1 Consent on Hold 8 Pre-hearing meetings 3 Formal hearings on consent proposals 3 Formal hearings on policy or plan proposals 3 Liaison meetings with Regional Council staff/stakeholder meetings on planning issues The Senior Environmental Planner undertakes work with other Fish and Game regions undertaking nationally significant resource management and regional planning projects.
(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.3)	Budget Cost \$266,304	Actual Cost \$569,012

PROJECT 1212 HABITAT ADVOCACY

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The quality and quantity of trout habitat in the Wellington Fish and Game region will remain stable over time.	The promotion of habitat protection and enhancement, outside the Resource Management Act procedures, as opportunities allow.	Fish and Game staff met local government and other officials, and undertook investigations to advocate for habitat protection and enhancement on 4 occasions.
(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.3)	Budget Cost \$16,201	Actual Cost \$21,993



PROJECT 1222 LAKE WAIRARAPA HABITAT

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
To maintain and enhance the gamebird habitat at the north east margin of Lake	The payment of rates on the Council's "Simmonds Lagoon" property.	Water diversion channels at the J.K. Donald Wetland were cleared and reporting on the operation of the diversion was completed, as required by the consent.
Wairarapa.	The management of water levels within the wetlands of the "J K Donald Reserve" at Lake Wairarapa as authorised by Greater Wellington Regional Council.	Met with Greater Wellington Regional Council and Department of Conservation staff to discuss management issues on Wairarapa Moana project.
	The management of open water at Boggy Pond and Matthews Lagoon as authorised by the Department of Conservation.	Assisted in joint project with Department of Conservation and Greater Wellington Regional Council to spray willows on JK Donald Wetland.
	Involvement of Fish and Game in the Wairarapa Moana management organisation.	
(no Mgt Plan ref, Statutory ref sec 26Q(1)(b)(v).)	Budget Cost \$30,301	Actual Cost \$10,284

PROJECT 1223 JK DONALD DRAIN CLEAN

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
To maintain and enhance the gamebird habitat at the north east margin of Lake Wairarapa.	To clean drain in the JK Donald Reserve wetland to comply with arrangements with adjoining landowners.	Drain status compliant with agreement.
(no Mgt Plan ref, Statutory ref sec 26Q(1)(b)(v).)	Budget Cost \$2,000	Actual Cost \$4,864

PROJECT 1231 WETLAND ENHANCEMENT

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The Wellington regional populations of gamebirds are managed to remain relatively stable over time.	The provision of advice on request, and the promotion of sources of funding, for the construction and enhancement of waterfowl habitat by landholders within the Council's region by 31 August 2017.	Advice on wetland improvement was provided to land holders on request on six occasions, with assistance with three funding applications for land holders (and other projects) with suitable wetland enhancement projects being provided by Gamebird Habitat Stamp Trust with three project receiving funding.
(Mgt Plan ref C9.1.1.)	Budget Cost \$15,375	Actual Cost \$9,728



PROJECT 1232 HABITAT MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The Wellington regional populations of gamebirds are managed to remain relatively stable over time.	To provide part funding for habitat enhancement projects.	Advice provided to two habitat enhancement projects with two projects receiving part funding.
(Mgt Plan ref C9.1.1)	Budget Cost \$2,000	Actual Cost \$1,500

PROJECT 1233 TROUT RESERVOIR FEASIBILITY & MANAGEMENT

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Not less than 5,000 licenced anglers will undertake not less than 40,000 angling	To investigate the feasibility of potential reservoir fisheries in the Wellington Region.	Preliminary investigations into the feasibility of establishing, and/or maintaining a reservoir fishery at four potential sites.
visits per year in the Wellington Fish and Game region.	A report by professional staff on current state of fisheries in reservoirs will be presented to the Council by	Professional staff reported to the Council on 10 October 2017 identifying potential reservoir sites and management implications, in the concurrent report on
(Mgt Plan ref A 9.3.1) The maintenance and	31 August 2017.	Project 1354 Junior Angler Training.
improvement of trout fisheries by stocking with hatchery-reared fish where this is necessary, achievable and cost effective.		
(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.5)	Budget Cost \$1,750	Actual Cost \$1,208

PROJECT 1311 ANGLER ACCESS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Not less than 1,000 kilometres of angling water will be accessible to anglers in the Wellington Fish and Game Region.	The identification and negotiation of angler access as part of an access programme, with access signage and angler access brochures made available to licence holders by 31 August 2017. Liaison with the Walking Access Commission to identify potential improvements in public (and specifically angler) access.	Angler access programme was maintained and angler access signage erected. Liaisons were held with relevant authorities including Walking Access Commission on particular angler access issues. Collaborative project for developing electronic formats for angler access points, in conjunction with Walking Access Commission.
(Mgt Plan ref A9.3.3.)	Budget Cost \$16,309	Actual Cost \$17,461



PROJECT 1312 LAKE WAIRARAPA HUNTER ACCESS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The management of hunter access and the allocation of maimai sites shall be undertaken by Council, where a mutually acceptable written agreement to this effect between the council and the landholder or land administering authority can be negotiated.	Maintenance of Eric Kilmore Lodge, with costs recovered from users. The implementation of Council policy for the management of gamebird hunter access at Lake Wairarapa, in accord with agreements with the Department of Conservation and farmers to this end, with some costs recovered from users.	Eric Kilmore Lodge was used for 3 club weekends, and on 74 other hunter nights. Liaison meetings held with land owners and land administering authorities with an interest in the management of hunter access to Conservation wetlands at Lake Wairarapa. Kilmore Lodge fees of \$1,091 ext GST were received.
	Income of \$1,000 was budgeted.	JK Donald Reserve track stickers produced income of \$1,304 exl.GST.
(Mgt Plan ref C9.3.3.)	Budget Net Cost \$15,992	Actual Cost \$9,096

PROJECT 1313 HUNTER ACCESS PERMITS AND BALLOTTS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The management of hunter access and the allocation of maimai sites shall be undertaken by Council, where a mutually acceptable written agreement to this effect between the Council and the landholder or land administering authority can be negotiated.	The availability of duly negotiated and agreed access permits, with a small administration charge, to licenced hunters, by 31 March 2017 for the 2017 game season, for all areas publicly available to hunters in the Wellington region. The management of the allocation by ballot of available hunting sites at Pukepuke, Koitiata and Lake Wairarapa Wetlands, in time for 2017 game season. Income of \$3,000 was budgeted.	Access for game bird hunters was negotiated and agreed on all "public" areas available last year, and permit booklets for game bird hunter access onto nominated areas were available from 15 March 2017. A report to Council on the 10 October 2017 showed 735 permits were issued on request to Wellington Fish and Game region licence holders. (726 permits last year). Permit income of \$2,837 ext. gst was received.
(Mgt Plan ref C9.3.3, I9.3.2)	Budget Net Cost \$13,847	Actual Cost \$3,239



PROJECT 1331 MAGAZINE & NEWSLETTERS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Not less than 85% of licenced anglers and hunters will be satisfied with the availability, quality, and extent of information available.	The provision of a two page regional supplement in each of the two Special Editions of Fish & Game magazine to be published during the reporting year. The preparation and publication of two regional newsletters to licence holders during the reporting year.	Wellington regional supplements of two pages were provided in Special Editions 43 and 44 of Fish & Game NZ Magazine. Two regional newsletters for the Wellington region were made available both through licence agents and posted in summer 2016 pre Fish #16) and autumn (pre-Game #17) 2017.
(Mgt Plan ref A9.3.6.)	Budget Cost \$23,899	Actual Cost \$34,278

PROJECT 1341 INFORMATION TO LICENCE HOLDERS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Not less than 85% of licenced anglers and hunters will be satisfied with the availability, quality and extent of information	Responses to requests for information will be provided as required. Weekly email reports from October to end of March that	Report on communications prepared for Wellington Fish and Game Council on 10 October 2017. Council staff provided responses to requests for information as required.
available.	provide anglers with information on river levels and angling potential. Weekly email reports from	A monthly e-newsletter (12) Reellife was regularly distributed electronically to anglers.
	May to June that provide hunters with information on weather and hunting potential.	Both Barrels e-newsletter was distributed to hunters electronically on (3) occasions throughout the game season.
	Council's portion of the New Zealand Fish and Games	Weekly Fishing Reports (28) sent out from September 2016 – March 2017.
	website will be maintained as an important communication means with licence holders by 31 August 2017.	Weekly Game Season Reports (7) sent out from April - June 2017.
	,	The website has downloads of access pamphlets and also river level information. Other information on Council meetings, organised hunts, and e-newsletters are also available on the website.
(Mgt Plan ref A9.3.6, C9.3.6.)	Budget Cost \$21,674	Actual Cost \$11,991



PROJECT 1342 LAPSED PARTICIPANT SURVEY AND PARAMETER ANALYSIS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The participation of hunters and anglers are to be at levels that will sustain effective management of the sport.	Assist NZ Fish and Game Council undertake testing of marketing opportunities to lapsed participants and existing participants.	NZ Council are currently reviewing newly introduced licence categories to assist in retaining and recruiting licence holders after three years of availability; including an analysis of licenceholder switching behaviour.
(Mgt Plan ref A9.3.1, B9.3.1, C9.3.4)	Budget Cost \$736	Actual Cost \$0

PROJECT 1351 HUNTER TRAINING - LAKE OMANU

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Game licence sales are at a level that will sustain effective	The Foxton Waterfowl and Wetlands Club will be assisted to run a hunter training	The Junior Hunter Trainee Programme was run with existing trainees.
management of the sport.	programme at Lake Omanu.	The training programme, and this year's opening weekend shooting were reported to Council on 10 October 2017.
	Income of \$400 was budgeted from a grazing lease.	Grazing lease income of \$348 was received.
(Mgt Plan ref C9.3.4.)	Budget Net Cost \$1,094	Actual Cost \$6,331

PROJECT 1354 JUNIOR ANGLER PROGRAMME

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Not less than 5,000 licenced anglers will undertake not less	Establish an inventory of equipment that can be used in junior angler promotions.	Inventory of equipment for junior angler promotions maintained.
than 40,000 angling visits per year in the Wellington Fish and	Develop a "Fish in Schools" education and recreation	Eight schools received support for the Fish in Schools module.
Game region.	module for introduction into schools.	Activities related to junior angler training undertaken as part of Hokowhitu Lagoon public promotion, and Capital Trout Centre youth fishing open days.
(Mgt Plan ref C9.3.1)	Budget Cost \$42,659	Actual Cost \$43,677



PROJECT 1361 CLUB LIAISON

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The maintenance of a positive working relationship with clubs.	Attend meetings on regular basis or as required.	Maintain open communication with 10 active Fish and Game Clubs. 8 club meetings were attended.
	Budget Cost \$5,891	Actual Cost \$3,475

PROJECT 1411 ADVOCACY AND LIAISON

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Not less than 80% of the Wellington regional general public knows and accepts the activities and interests of anglers	Liaison with Conservation Boards and Regional Councils at a governor level as opportunities permit by 31 August 2017.	Signatory of the Manawatu River Accord which involved intent and commitment from iwi, environmental groups, industry and Territorial Local Authorities to clean up the Manawatu River.
and hunters.		No Conservation Board meeting was attended, and two Conservation Board members attended 5 meetings of the Council during this year.
		Attended 3 Wairarapa Moana meetings dealing with management of Lake Wairarapa and surrounding wetlands.
		No Department of Conservation staff attended Council meetings during this reporting year.
		The regular receipt by the Council of agendas of the Conservation Boards in the region, and by the regular provision of Council meeting agendas to one Conservation Board, maintained mutual liaison.
(Mgt Plan ref A9.2.4, C9.3.5.)	Budget Cost \$3,829	Actual Cost \$14,330

PROJECT 1412 IWI LIAISON

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
A positive relationship with the Wellington Fish and Game region's lwi will be sought in respect of the management of trout.	The establishment of a positive working relationship with lwi Authorities with a view to defining appropriate contacts by 31 August 2017.	Maintained contacts with lwi representatives from: Ngati Raukawa ki te Tonga Ngati Kahungunu Rangitaane o Wairarapa Te Mauri o Rangitaane o Manawatu Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust
(Mgt Plan ref A9.2.5.)	Budget Cost \$3,446	Actual Cost \$1,329



PROJECT 1441 PUBLIC AWARENESS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Not less than 80% of the Wellington regional general public	Publicity on angling, hunting, and the work of Fish and Game New Zealand is	Press releases to newspapers and magazines.
knows and accepts	provided, with the coverage reported to Council to 31	64 Advertising – Regional newspapers.
the activities and interests of anglers and hunters.	August 2017.	Regular updates to website / Facebook.
(Mgt Plan ref A9.2.4,		
C9.3.5.)	Budget Cost \$12,782	Actual Cost \$23,241

PROJECT 1443 PROMOTIONS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The provision of news releases, displays and other forms of public communication as appropriate	To be involved in public promotions which advocate for Fish and Game interests and values.	Updated promotional gear for public displays. Recognised volunteer contributions.
(Mgt Plan ref A10.2.10, A9.2.4, A9.3.6.)	Budget Cost \$1,000	Actual Cost \$3,995

PROJECT 1511 RANGER MANAGEMENT

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Sufficient ranging resources to enforce fishing and hunting season conditions.	The recruitment, of Council's ranger team meets adopted policy, and is reported to Council to 31 August 2017.	At 31 August 2017, Council had 25 warranted honorary rangers, and 3 staff rangers.
		Council received a report on the year's performance against its adopted Rangers Policy on 10 October 2017.
(Stat. ref Sec 26Q (1)(b)(iv.)		
Conservation Act.)	Budget Cost \$10,279	Actual Cost \$8,108



PROJECT 1521 RANGER TRAINING

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
-		
The maintenance of an adequate number of properly trained Rangers, an annual ranging programme to check the compliance of ten percent of the region's anglers.	Provide safety and compliance training and skill maintenance and is reported to Council to 31 August 2017.	At 31 August 2017, Council had 25 warranted honorary rangers received formal training, and all 3 field staff rangers had received training. A pre–gamebird season ranger training day was held in Palmerston North. A pre–fishing season ranger training day
		was held in Palmerston North.
		1 Ranger Newsletters were sent to all Rangers.
		Council received a report on the year's performance against its adopted Policy on 10 October 2017.
(Mgt Plan ref A10.2.7)	Budget Cost \$2,473	Actual Cost \$3,671

PROJECT 1531 COMPLIANCE

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The protection and enhancement of the region's sportsfish and game resources by the operation of an enforcement program to deliver not less than 95% compliance of anglers and gamebird hunters with licence and legal requirements and season regulations.	Ranging to check compliance of not less than 750 anglers and hunters throughout the region, throughout the year, in line with adopted policy. The processing of participants found unlicenced or in substantial noncompliance with legal requirements or season regulations without just cause, in line with adopted policy. Fines income of \$5,000 was budgeted.	The Council's 25 active Rangers and 3 Fish and Game staff checked 207 anglers and 106 hunters for compliance. A report to Council on 10 October 2017 noted 12 offences were detected. 8 alleged offenders opted for the reparation policy, 8 paid in full, 2 were to produce, 0 pending, 1 tourist warned, 1 unable to locate. Fines/reparation income of \$2401 and \$379 was received.
(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.4.)	Budget Cost \$13,837	Actual Cost \$9,442



Wellington Fish and Game Council Annual Report for the year ended 31 August 2017 **PROJECT 1611 LICENCING**

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
To issue hunting and fishing licences.	2017 Game licences will be available to licence agents and participants throughout the region by 31 March 2017.	2017 emergency game licences were delivered to all licence agents by 3 April 2017.
	2017/2018 fishing licences will be available to licence agents and participants throughout the region by 31 August 2017.	2016/17 emergency fishing licences were delivered to all licence agents by 12 August 2016. Due to the implementation of the online licence system, agents were allocated emergency licence books, a small minority of agents not using the online system were allocated licence books to
	An up to date data base of licence holders will be maintained.	cover initial sales. Licence sales are tabulated in Appendix 1.
	Progress reporting on licence sales will be provided to the Council throughout the year.	An up to date licence holder database was regularly maintained throughout the year.
(Stat. ref Sec	Council throughout the year.	Sportsfish and Gamebird licence sales reports were included in all Council agenda's throughout the year.
26Q(1)(f), Conservation Act.)	Budget Cost \$3,829	Actual Cost \$417

PROJECT 1621 LICENCE AGENTS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
An effective and efficient network of licence resellers.	Council's Licence Agent Network is managed in line with adopted Council policy.	At balance date, Council has a network of 33 licence agents. Council's licence agent network was managed in line with adopted Council policy, as reported to Council on 10 October 2017.
		A licence management agreement with Eyede Ltd to manage licence sales production, distribution, and invoicing was signed by Council as part of the New Zealand Fish and Game collective.
(No Stat. or Mgt Plan ref.)	Budget Cost \$37,258	Actual Cost \$25,676

PROJECT 1721 COUNCIL

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The effective direction of the management of the Council's business.	Not less than six meetings of the Council, that comply with all legal and policy requirements to be held before 31 August 2017.	Wellington Fish and Game Council held 6 meetings during the year; with at least a quorum present at all times. Meeting attendance is tabulated in Appendix 2.
(Stat. ref. Sec 26ZD, Conservation Act.)	Budget Cost \$32,216	Actual Cost \$35,565



PROJECT 1811 MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Policies reflect national policies and good governance.	Policies will be developed and adopted covering a Public Awareness Strategy, a	Policy reviews were undertaken as required.
3 3	Regional Marketing Strategy, and a Regulation-setting model for the region's sports	The Health and Safety Plan was reviewed and adopted.
	fisheries and game bird populations, by 31 August 2017.	A formal review of the Sports Fish & Game Bird Management Plan was initiated with draft being prepared. Formal consultation will occur when Draft Plan is finalised.
	Council will undertake a review of its approved Management Plan by 31 August 2017.	Will 633di Wildin Brait Flatt in Milandou.
(Mgt Plan refs A9.2.4, C9.3.5, C9.3.4,	raguet zerr	
A9.3.1, A9.3.5)	Budget Cost \$18,410	Actual Cost \$967

PROJECT 1821 ANNUAL PLAN

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
To formulate and adopt an annual operational work plan.	Adoption of a Proposed Annual Plan for 2017/18 that meets National Council requirements by the Council by 31 August 2017.	Council's Annual Plan for 2017/18 was adopted on 22 August 2017.
(Stat. ref. Sec 26Q(3), Conservation Act)	Budget Cost \$3,683	Actual Cost \$5,760

PROJECT 1831 ANNUAL REPORTING

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result				
To furnish the Minister of Conservation with an Annual Report on the operations of the Council for the year.	The adoption and presentation by the Council at a public Annual General Meeting of its audited Annual Report for 2015/16 not later than 30 November 2016, and its dispatch to the Minister directly thereafter.	Council's audited Annual Performance Report for 2016 was adopted and presented at a public Annual General Meeting on 6 December 2016, and was delivered to the Minister and Parliament on 7 December 2016.				
(Stat. ref. Secs 26X, and 26ZD (7),						
Conservation Act.)	Budget Cost \$15,628	Actual Cost \$23,242				



PROJECT 1841 NATIONAL LIAISON

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Effective liaison with New Zealand Fish and Game Council to meet all statutory requirements.	Representation to New Zealand Fish and Game Council by 31 August 2017 with respect to coordination, of the Council's recommendations for licence fees, fund redistribution, research requirements, and national policy development.	The Council Manager attended 3 national Fish and Game Managers' meetings. The Council's recommendations for licence fees were decided on 6 June 2017, and conveyed to New Zealand Fish and Game Council.
(Stat. Ref. Sec 26C (1), Conservation Act.)	Budget Cost \$8,837	Actual Cost \$18,210

PROJECT 1842 NATIONAL PROJECTS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Wellington Fish and Game region remains free of Didymo.	Staff assistance with Didymo surveys will be provided at cost to Biosecurity NZ as required.	Staff liaised on measures to prevent the incursion of Didymo into the North Island. Specific assistance was sought from Horizons Regional Council for Didymo monitoring and this was provided at no cost. Staff co-ordinated work on reaffirming the Standard Operating Procedures for species monitoring. Staff co-ordinated defining research requirements for mallard in NZ. Manager attended two meetings of the Licence Working Party as part of the regular annual pre-season licence management approvals. The Licence Working Party was involved in managing a review of additional licence categories including introduction of non-resident licence.
	Budget Cost \$5,155	Actual Cost \$4,039



Appendix 1

WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL LICENCE SALES

FISHING LICENCES

	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Family	493	523	588	585	580	523	593	605	602	539	478
Whole Season (Adult)	2,291	2,504	2,310	2,252	2,190	2,095	2,214	2,219	2,288	1,798	1,658
Whole Season (Junior)	258	266	206	196	220	211	217	229	202	188	163
Winter Season (Adult)	291	216	251	253	195	233	225	217	201	135	124
Winter Season (Junior)	30	33	22	21	21	34	23	14	22	0	0
24 Hour (Aduit)	767	825	763	662	662	677	679	809	718	914	736
24 Hour (Junior)	76	71	101	84	44	60	59	49	64	71	55
Non Resident Adult									94	127	162
Non Resident Junior										3	2
Short Break										115	100
Long Break			<u> </u>							13	22
Loyal Senior										162	153
Local Area										238	203
LEQ Total	3,313	3,538	3,428	3,330	3,242	3,094	3,293	3,338	3,472	3,272	3,062
Actual Total	4,206	4,438	4,241	4,053	3,912	3,833	4,010	4,142	4,191	4,303	3,856

GAME LICENCES

	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Adult Whole Season	3,422	3,448	3,578	3,572	3,582	3,595	3,503	3,555	3,474	3,470	3,480
Adult Day	143	158	164	186	184	174	144	186	172	170	154
Junior Whole Season	370	386	374	344	298	291	320	297	290	296	275
Junior Day	10	16	7	15	12	16	8	3	10	5	6
Child	140	159	127	137	126	100	117	141	148	133	115
LEQ Total	3,542	3,580	3,702	3,693	3,693	3,699	3,610	3,664	3,568	3,575	3,580
Actual Total	4,085	4,167	4,250	4,254	4,202	4,176	4,092	4,182	4,094	4,074	4,030



Appendix 2

WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Meeting Date Locality		Meeting	Councillors Present
6 December 2016	Masterton	Ordinary, AGM	11
14 February 2017	Masterton	Ordinary	8
4 April 2017	Palmerston North	Ordinary	9
6 June 2017	Upper Hutt	Ordinary	7
22 August 2017	Palmerston North	Ordinary	8
10 October 2017	Masterton	Ordinary	11

Councillor attendances at these meetings were as follows:

Councillor	Meetings Attended	Apologies
Jim Cook	4	2
Marc Flaws	4	2
Brad Johnson	2	3
Strato Cotsilinis (Chairman from 17/4/2015)	6	0
Malcolm Francis	4	1
Andrew Morris (NZ Fish & Game Council Appointee)	5	1
Don Scott	6	0
Andy Tannock	4	1
Chris O'Meara	5	1
Paul Shortis	4	2
Simon Muckley	4	2
Dan Waechter	6	0
Eric Neumann (Co-opted 16/02/2016)	0	6







INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE READERS OF WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

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

Opinion on the financial statements and the statement of performance

We have audited:

- the financial statements of the Fish and Game Council on pages 14 to 26, that comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 August 2017, the statement of financial performance, and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date and the statement of accounting policies and notes to the performance report; and
- the statement of performance of the Fish and Game Council on pages 27 to 46.

In our opinion:

- the financial statements of the Fish and Game Council: on pages 14 to 26:
 - present fairly, in all material respects:
 - its financial position as at 31 August 2017; and
 - its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
 - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with the Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting Accrual (Public Sector) framework.
- the statement of performance of the Fish and Game Council on pages 27 to 46:
 - presents fairly, in all material respects, the Fish and Game Council's performance for the year ended 31 August 2017, including for each class of reportable outputs:
 - its standards of performance achieved as compared with the forecasts included in the Annual Plan for the financial year; and
 - its actual revenue and expenses as compared with the forecasts included in the Annual Plan for the financial year; and
 - complies with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.

Our audit was completed on 5 December 2017. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

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

Basis for opinion

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

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





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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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







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

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

Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

Other Information

The Council is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included on pages 1 to 13, but does not include the financial statements and the statement of performance, and our auditor's report thereon.

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

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

Independence

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

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

Vivien Cotton Cotton Kellv

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

