

Agenda Item 9:

Operational Report – for the period ended January 2022

Prepared by: Dean Kelly – Manager

Introduction

The Council's adopted governance policies require the manager to provide an Operational Report, specific proposals for capital expenditure and acquisitions as well as major issues and opportunities for the Council. There are further requirements for the Manager to provide assurance that the Management Limitations are being observed. The format of this report is therefore to certify compliance with Governance Policies, Management Limitations and provide other material, responses, or assurance that Council objectives, strategies, plans, performance, risks, operation, resources and structure are being met.

Notifications of intention to purchase unbudgeted capital items in excess of \$10,000

It is the intention to order and replace LDY407 over the next few months through the AoG contract. This vehicle is 4.5yrs old and has 135,000k. It was scheduled for replacement last year but due to COVID cost-saving measures it was postponed. A favourable price from the AoG contract plus high resale results in a low replacement cost for Fish and Game.

Matters for the information of council

Staff:

Staff holidays due: Manager, 1wks
 Hokitika Officer, 2wks
 Admin, 0 wks

Vehicles:

Managers Vehicle: (start) 132,187km (fin) 137,962km. Total private for period: 2,425km
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle MML: (start) 70,093 km (fin.) 75,545 km. Total private for period: 759 km
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle LTQ: 92,091 km.

Bi-monthly report on outputs

1111 Drift Diving

Dives have been completed at Mawheraiti River (SH6 and Mirfins bridges, Grey River (upper Grey and Waipuna), Inangahua River @ Blacks point, Upper Larry's Creek site and Lower Waitahu site. completed. The results from the upstream site on the Mawheraiti were similar to the long-term average every other site has been above average large due high numbers of small fish.

1113 Spawning Surveys

Inquires made into potential salmon spawning activity in the Buller River, no information obtained.

1114 Trend Counts

Paradise Shelduck Counts underway.

1115 Sportsfishery Research

Communication with WCRC regarding research sites monitoring and Fish & Game aiding with Lake monitoring work. Mawheraiti sites fished in late January, numbers good despite reduced presence of macro invertebrates and change to river stream beds contributed to the December flooding. New River sites currently scheduled to be fished on 28/01/22.

1121 National Hunter Survey

Nothing to report

1161 Fisheries Enhancement

3000 wild-run fish being reared for release at lanthe are going well and currently 40g.

1171 Regulations/Gazette Notices

2022 Game bird regulations have been updated to included council accepted regulations.

1181 Game Bird Control

Three paradise shelduck complaints received. Advice given for one, a permit issued for one and an organised hunt for the last one using members of the young hunter's club.

1211 RMA Plans/Policy/Consents

Applicant	Area	Type	Nature of work	Comments
Phoenix Minerals Ltd	Stafford	Mining Permit	Alluvial Gold mining	No fishery
Phoenix Minerals Ltd	Callaghans	Mining Permit	Alluvial Gold mining	
Trustpower Ltd	Arnold River	Land use consent	Dam Strengthening	Consulted and temporary diversions required.

Review of proposed Tai Poutini Plan underway. Fish and Game have been involved in it's development through workshops.

1212 Dairy Industry/Farmer Advocacy

Nothing to report

1213 DoC

Consultation regarding Resource Consents and fish passage.

1311 Access

Huntable properties list updated, with new sites added. New signage for all West Coast Lakes is in the process of being designed and temporary river mouth fishing signs being replaced.

1331 Website/Ezines/Social Media

Regular Facebook engagements have been done, focusing on promoting summer angling and family perch fishing video was created and released. Combining the activity of the national Facebook page, the West Coast Facebook page and YouTube there has been already had over 6,800 views. An increase in anglers targeting perch has been observed already. Reel life completed each month, with a similar focus. All current council meeting minutes have been signed and uploaded to the website.

1332 Fish & Game Magazine

Game bird magazine supplement complete.

1341 Sportsfisheries Guides

Agents regularly stocked with guides.

1361 Clubs, Outdoor Recreation Groups

Aiding with Lake Brunner fishing competition and doing a family skills and information session to upskill anglers. Ran weigh in at Lake Brunner fishing competition, only 58 entries with very poor weather but event has improved on previous years at the request of Fish & Game. Every child got a prize and certificate, with the event having a family focus and celebrating participation in the sport. Another positive being very few fish were killed, with many anglers utilising the photograph entry method and only killing a trout if was destined for the table. A family skills and information session was ran also, attended by 10 anglers despite wet weather.

1371 Okuru Hut

Hut visited and serviced whilst ranging in South Westland.

1421 Media/Communication

Article released regarding early salmon and summer fishing/family fishing.

1511 Compliance

Compliance carried across the region, but with particular focus on popular locations for casual holiday anglers such as Lake Brunner.

1611 Licence Production & Distribution

All returned licenses and magazines for this period have been contacted, details updated and resent to the license holders.

1621 Agent Liaison

Visited all Hokitika, Greymouth, Reefton, and Brunner agents prior to Christmas.

1821 OWP & Budget

Work commenced on the 22/23 budget.

1831 Annual Public Meeting & Report

The annual Report was presented and distributed to Parliament.

1841 National Liaison

Managers are meeting more frequently via internet meetings with the rapidly changing financial and regulatory environment. Work has progressed on the report for the amalgamation working Group with a draft report expected late February.

1927 Occupational Safety and Health.

See Health and Safety Report.

1980 Offices

Will be looking at getting the heating sorted before winter. Painting and borer will be addressed in the coming months.

1980 Equipment

Basic maintenance on field equipment. Audit completed on boat, resulting in repaired fish finder, removing a damaged winch rope and replacing the fire extinguisher.

Staff Recommendation:

That this report be received.