



**EASTERN  
FISH AND GAME COUNCIL**

***MEETING  
AGENDA***

**1 November 2018**

# AGENDA

## The 172nd Meeting of the Eastern Fish and Game Council

**Venue:** Eastern Fish & Game Region Offices  
Paradise Valley Road  
**ROTORUA**

**Date:** Thursday, 1 November 2018

**Commences:** 12.00 PM

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18 General Business (2.15 PM, 15 min)	
19 Public Excluded Session (2.30 PM, 30 min)	(R) 71
20 Meeting Closes (3.00 PM)	

**(R)** = resolution required, **(D)** = for discussion/advice, **(I)** = for information only

## 4. ELECTION OF MEMBERS

Ref: 7.02.01

12 October 2018

### 1. Purpose

To meet the statutory requirements relating to the appointment of an Eastern Fish and Game Council member to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council, and to elect officers for this Council for the coming year.

### 2. Background

As of 31 October 2018, Eastern Region has a new Council comprising 10 members. An election was not required this round as the number of candidates did not exceed the 12 vacancies available. The Fish and Game Council Elections Regulations 1990 state that the new Council must meet within three weeks of taking office to appoint a member to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council as follows:

#### *26 Appointment of members of New Zealand Fish and Game Council*

- (1) The first meeting of each newly elected Fish and Game Council shall be held not later than 3 weeks after the date the members came into office.*
- (2) At the first meeting of the Council members shall appoint one of their number to be a member of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council.*
- (3) The appointment shall be by majority vote of the Council.*
- (4) Members of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council shall remain in office as long as they remain members of the appointing Fish and Game Council, except that where a majority of the members of the appointing Fish and Game Council pass a resolution that a vote be taken on a new appointment prior to expiry of the term, then a vote shall be taken and the successor shall serve out the remaining period of the term.*

Today's meeting is the first meeting of the new Eastern Fish and Game Council meaning it is necessary to elect a NZ Council appointee. This is to ensure that there is a NZ Council in place between the final meeting of the current NZ Council on 23-25 November, and the inaugural meeting of the new Council in February 2018. The current NZ Council appointee who is also the Chair of that Council is Lindsay Lyons.

This Council also needs to appoint officers for the coming year, a process which is undertaken annually, and confirm the ongoing appointment of a staff member as a trustee representing Council's interests. These roles and those who have held the positions over the term of the past Council are as follows:

- Chair – Murray Ferris.
- Deputy Chair – Lindsay Lyons.
- Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement (WCEET) trustee – Matthew McDougall.

There is also, a Managers Performance and Remuneration Committee. This has specific Terms of Reference (TOR) dealing with the compilation of information for the annual Manager's performance review, but also serves as an initial point of contact for the Manager

in the event of issues arising that need to be addressed urgently or in between scheduled meetings of Council. The term of appointment for this Committee is three years commencing at the beginning of each Council term, in this case November 2018 to November 2021. The incumbent Councillors are Murray Ferris, Lindsay Lyons and Barry Roderick.

The objectives of the Waikato (WCEET) trust are detailed in an attachment to this item. Matthew's role on the WCEET remains largely technical and involved with the evaluation of funding applications and acting as project manager and advisor for a number of projects. The members of the WCEET are mostly staff from agencies including Fish & Game, DOC, territorial authorities, and Mercury Energy.

**3. Recommendation**

- 3.1 *That Council elects a New Zealand Council appointee and members of Council to fill the roles described above, and confirms the ongoing appointment of Matthew McDougall as its representative on the Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust.***



## Trust Purpose

The Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust was established for the following charitable purposes:

- To foster and enhance the sustainable management of the ecological resources in the Lake Taupo and Waikato River catchments;
- To mitigate adverse effects of the operation of the Hydro Scheme on the ecological environments in the Lake Taupo and Waikato River catchments;
- To maintain and enhance indigenous biodiversity, the sports fishery and game bird populations in the Lake Taupo and Waikato River catchments through appropriate and sustainable species and habitat management by:
  1. identifying important habitats and/or species;
  2. identifying risks and threats to those identified habitats and/or species;
  3. identifying most practicable means to ameliorate or resolve risks and threats to habitats and species in the catchment;
  4. identifying practical means to enhance important habitats and/or species;
  5. establishing an enduring and beneficial working partnership between Mighty River Power and the Trust.

## Trust Objectives

Objectives of the trust are:

1. Enhancement of wetland values in the Lake Taupo and Waikato River catchments.
2. Enhancement of indigenous biodiversity in the Lake Taupo and Waikato River catchments.
3. Enhancement of the sports fishery and game bird population in the Lake Taupo and Waikato River catchments.
4. Mitigation of any adverse effects of the operation of the Waikato Hydro System on the ecological environments in the Lake Taupo and Waikato River catchments.

**5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE 171<sup>st</sup> MEETING OF THE EASTERN FISH  
AND GAME COUNCIL, HELD AT THE ROTORUA OFFICES OF FISH & GAME  
NEW ZEALAND ON THURSDAY 16<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2018 AT 12.00PM**

**Present**

Murray Ferris, Lindsay Lyons, Barry Roderick, Neal Hawes, Peter Storey, Alan Baird, Ken Coombes, Steve Scragg, Laurance Tamati, Sandy Bull, and Annaka Davis.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Andy Garrick, Kate Thompson, Anthony van Dorp, Eben Herbert, Matt McDougall, John Meikle, Lloyd Gledhill, Matt Osborne, Carmel Veitch, Nigel Simpson, Lynne Sands and Mark Sherburn (Eastern Fish & Game)

**1.0 WELCOME**

1.1 Cr Murray Ferris opened the meeting at 12.00pm and welcomed back Cr Sandy Bull following the passing of his wife Colleen, and welcomed Pete Shepherd and Michel Dedual (DOC Fisheries Taupo).

**2.0 APOLOGIES**

2.1 Apologies were received from Cr David Woolner, Helen Neale (Department of Conservation), Ken Raureti (Bay of Plenty Conservation Board), and Ray Bushell.

2.2 *Agreed (Peter Storey/Ken Coombes) that the apologies for the 171<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [18/08/2.2]*

**3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (14 JUNE 2018)**

3.1 *Agreed (Neal Hawes/Laurance Tamati) that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2018 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [18/08/3.1]*

**4.0 IDENTIFICATION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN COUNCIL POLICY**

4.1 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Neal Hawes) that Agenda Item 10.15 relating to the changes made to the Anglers Notice Policy 2003 and Item 12.3 relating to the releasing of captive reared mallards to hasten recovery of wild populations that are at low levels be incorporated into Council Policy. [18/08/4.1]*

**5.0 MATTERS ARISING**

5.1 Cr Barry Roderick queried whether it should be recorded that if the new regulations relating to the removal of fly fishing only restrictions in some areas did not work due to angler conflicts, then those decisions could be revisited. Andy Garrick advised he did not consider this necessary as Resolution [18/06/10.3] signals this was Council's intent and an underlying provision associated with the removal of fly fishing only restrictions.

5.2 Kate Thompson provided some background information on the rationale and consequence of the move to licences becoming inter-available throughout New Zealand as requested by Cr Peter Storey at Council's June meeting.

5.3 Cr Steve Scragg noted he had not been present at the previous meeting when the discussion took place on the proposed licence fees for 2018-19, but felt that the Adult Winter licence was under-priced and that the margin between the short break and winter licence categories was very small. Andy Garrick informed Council that licence

price ratios had been a topic raised by the New Zealand Council and that there was general agreement that a review of the ratios should be carried out by the licence working group with the support of the R3 reference group.

**6.0 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR GENERAL BUSINESS**

- Cr Murray Ferris – Papers for Information
- Andy Garrick – Te Arawa Lakes Trust meeting

**7.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER**

7.1 No conflicts of interest were identified.

**8.0 2018-2019 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN**

8.1 Andy Garrick informed Council that the final draft of the OWP had been updated with minor corrections to grammar and layout and that no further submissions had been received on it.

8.2 *Agreed (Peter Storey/Lindsay Lyons) that Council approves the Operational Work Plan and budget for the 2018-2019 year. [18/08/8.2]*

8.3 *Agreed (Peter Storey/Lindsay Lyons) that Council delegate authority to the Regional Manager to approve expenditure during the year as set out in the Council approved Operational Work Plan and budget. [18/08/8.3]*

**9.0 2018 FISH AND GAME COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

9.1 Council received the election schedule and associated papers. Andy Garrick highlighted August 30 as being the closing date for Councillor nominations and the submission of Candidacy Papers and supporting information to the Returning Officer at Electionz. Cr Lindsay Lyons informed Council of a small change to the Candidacy form which required candidates to complete a Candidate Interest Statement and gave a brief background to this. Cr Steve Scragg suggested that existing Councillors may wish to encourage others to stand and added that it would be nice to see some younger people put their names forward.

**10.0 AUCKLAND WAIKATO FISH & GAME STERILE TROUT TRIAL**

10.1 Council considered feedback from staff and the additional information it had sought following Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game Council's request to rear sterile trout at the Ngongotaha Hatchery for release into Lake Arapuni. It was noted that a similar trial had been proposed for the Eastern Region some years ago but this had not proceeded, due primarily, to the very low return rate likely from relatively low numbers of sterile trout that could be produced at the hatchery into waterbodies the size of the Rotorua lakes. Andy Garrick said that it was important to note that it is sterile fish we are discussing, not genetically modified fish as was the perception and/or concern of some people when the topic had been raised in the past.

10.2 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Lindsay Lyons) that Council has no concerns over the use of the Ngongotaha Hatchery for the purpose of rearing sterile trout for another agency if there is capacity to do so without compromising other programmes. [18/08/10.2]*



## **11.0 USE OF DRAINS BY MALLARDS INVESTIGATION**

11.1 Andy Garrick informed Council that this investigation was the culmination of a project that was commenced and overseen by Matthew McDougall three years ago following an approach from the Royal Society of New Zealand's Science Teaching Leadership Programme to host a local teacher, Brigitta Nieuwboer. Andy advised that Matt McDougall would be presenting the findings of the study to a workshop on drains at the New Zealand Wetland Symposium which is to be held in the Hawke's Bay Region in September this year. Andy said that the results of the study provided a good starting point for Fish & Game to advocate for more sensitive drain management practices which could be undertaken without compromising the efficacy of the drains.

## **12.0 NOVEMBER MEETING OF NEW ZEALAND COUNCIL**

12.1 Murray Ferris referred to information within Agenda Item 12 about the New Zealand Council's proposal to meet in the Eastern Region in November of this year. Andy Garrick provided a brief overview of the two and a half day meeting and advised that the meeting would be held in this office, and this would provide a great opportunity for councillors from outside the region to view this Council's hatchery operations in addition to being able to meet with staff and Eastern Region councillors interested in doing so. Andy advised that field trip destinations on the Saturday had yet to be determined and suggested that there were a number of game bird habitat and/or fisheries related options that could be pursued. Council considered the possibility of visiting coastal Bay of Plenty wetland habitat developments and an upland game property in the morning, and an excursion onto one of the Rotorua lakes in the afternoon, and were invited to submit any other suggestions they might come up with to Andy.

## **13.0 LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS**

### **13.1 *Tongariro-Taupo Conservation Board***

Nothing of relevance to report.

### **13.2 *Game Bird Habitat Trust***

Cr Steve Scragg advised that the NZ Game Bird Habitat Trust (GBHT) meeting which was held in July was by way of teleconference. He said that some good proposals had been received, but was disappointed with the number of proposals which had been poorly put together or were incomplete, and that there had been some discussion as to whether the incomplete proposals should be rejected. Steve advised that applications had been received from the Auckland/Waikato, Taranaki, Hawke's Bay, Wellington, and Southland Fish & Game regions. Steve noted that the Trust was limited in what it could put into habitat projects from the funding currently available to it. Andy Garrick commented that he had heard that the GBHT was investigating other ways in which revenue could be generated, and Steve confirmed that this was something that was to be discussed at the next meeting.

### **13.3 *Department of Conservation***

Pete Shepherd from the Department of Conservation informed Council that work over the past few months had largely been business as usual, and advised that lake fishing had been good as was the quality of fish, but spawning runs had been later this year. They have been working more closely with the Regional Council on mitigation options for flooding in the lower Tongariro to ensure the best outcomes. Michel Dedual spoke of high smelt numbers at the southern end of the lake but lower numbers at the northern end, and noted that further investigation was required to

determine whether the latter might have influenced the later spawning runs. Andy Garrick queried what the reasons might be for the abundance of smelt at the southern end of the lake and Michael advised that monitoring over the past ten years indicated it was not uncommon to see high levels in the south. It was not common however to see the very low levels which have been recorded at the northern end. Cr Barry Roderick questioned whether brown trout keep the catfish in the lake under control? Michel advised that brown trout do eat the catfish but not in the numbers required to control the population.

#### **13.4 *New Zealand Fish and Game Council***

Cr Lindsay Lyons advised of changes to regional representation on the NZ Council. Chris Owen had replaced Paul Stenning for the Southland Region and Ron Stewart had replaced John Cumberpatch for the North Canterbury Region. Lindsay highlighted the lack of an audit policy across Fish & Game, and advised of the NZ Council's intention to undertake brief ad hoc audits of regions focussing on a specific element of Councils' functions or operations e.g. Health and Safety, Advocacy etc. Lindsay also spoke of the Cawthron Report on NZ Salmonid Stocking Practices which was included in the Papers for Information, and highlighted the very favourable report on Eastern Region's stocking and monitoring programmes. A recent focus of the NZ Council was the break feed lots which were located next to river systems where cows were seen up to their bellies in mud. He advised this was being investigated by the Vets Association and asked that Andy distribute the video footage of this to Councillors. Andy queried whether this would also be picked up and dealt with by Regional Councils? Eben Herbert advised that break feeding was becoming more commonplace in recent years, and Regional Councils were currently grappling with this and implementing rules around the practice. Lindsay commented that the NZ Council was also following up on "spray & pray" practices, that a National Salmon Committee had been formed to address the salmon fisheries decline, and that the Council had been discussing fishing licence fee ratios. Lindsay noted that Nathan Burkepile had resigned from Hawke's Bay Fish & Game and had taken up a position as the Hawke's Bay Regional Co-ordinator for Landcare Trust. He added that Nathan had undertaken some brilliant wetland work for Fish & Game and it was a shame to see him go. Mark Sherburn queried Lindsay on the decision to bring regular issues of the Fish & Game magazine to an end. Lindsay advised that the minimal number of subscribers to the magazine was costing the organisation, but noted that the bi-annual special Fishing and Hunting editions would continue to be published and more emphasis would be placed on these.

#### **14.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS**

14.1 Andy Garrick provided Council with a brief overview of highlights from this agenda's Management Report including:

- Lake Tarawera Spawning – record Te Wairoa trap run, largest since digital records have been kept, currently 2,078. Record spawning run also observed during the drift dive surveys below the Tarawera outlet.
- Lake Tarawera Research project – have been liaising with Michel Dedual from the Department of Conservation who has kindly offered to assist with the instigation of a smelt monitoring programme in mid-late November comparable to that DOC undertakes on Lake Taupo. NIWA has offered the use of their transducer at a nominal rate. We are very appreciative of the assistance from both NIWA and the Department of Conservation. Have met with Professor Troy Baisden from the

University of Waikato who sees great merit in the general theme of the research proposal we have developed, but believes modifying it so it's a better fit with the broader lakes water quality programme would make it a better prospect for receiving funding from MBIE. Dr Simon Stewart, who has been closely involved with the development of our current proposal, will be taking up a fulltime position at Cawthron in the New Year but has indicated a desire to retain an involvement with the project. The details of this have still to be worked out and will be influenced by recommended changes Troy and Simon deliver to the proposal as it currently stands.

- Aerial Mallard Transect Counts – Matthew McDougall has analysed the aerial transect counts that have been undertaken in April over the past five years. His analysis indicates that the mallard population appears to have been on the increase, which aligns with preliminary results from the 2018 game season opening Game Hunter Survey.
- Ruahihi Canal – Staff met with Crs Lindsay Lyons and Barry Roderick at McLaren Falls/Ruahihi canal to look at the potential for enhancing this fishery via additional stocking, the objective being to develop a more productive fishery handy to Tauranga and encourage greater interest in trout fishing and new licence holders.
- Tagged Trout Promotion – Staff have gone to considerable lengths to find a sponsor and/or underwriter for a scaled-up event. We have been unable to locate anyone prepared to underwrite events of this nature in NZ, Australia or the UK following issues such as those which arose with the “Odds On” Events being run several years ago. Potential sponsors we have approached see little potential return on investment for putting up a substantive prize. Cr Annaka Davis queried an event to be run on Lake Taupo with a \$1,000,000 major prize. Pete Shepherd (DOC) confirmed that they had been in discussions with an external contractor and this too appeared to be subject to obtaining an underwriter. He said that the event aimed to promote the local fishery, harvest of fish, and trout for the table. Destination Taupo had been approached by the contractor and were in support of the event as it promised to bring people to the region.
- Anglers Notice – Regional Anglers Notices were approved at the end of July and fishing licences will go on sale on Tuesday 21 August.
- A workshop involving BOPRC, Fish & Game, and DOC staff and two landscape consultants was recently held at these offices to agree on a conceptual habitat development plan for up to 80 ha of land adjoining the southern and western boundaries of the Lower Kaituna Wildlife Management Reserve to be funded by BOPRC.
- Pukehina Wetland Proposal – Regional Manager approached by a property developer who has purchased a 165ha low lying dairy farm with the aim of developing a 39ha ‘eco’ subdivision. In support of his application he has proposed putting the remaining 130ha of the farm into wetland. He came to Fish & Game to ask if we would be interested in assuming ownership and responsibility for the wetland once constructed. After considerable discussion around terms and conditions, risks and liabilities, management structures and funding, a Heads of Agreement has been signed between the developer, Fish & Game, Regional Council, and a collective of hapu supporting the project in principle subject to a number of conditions. A substantial part of the wetland will be available for hunting over, and Fish & Game will have a major input into the

design of the wetland which will be constructed at the developer's expense if the subdivision application is successful. A charitable trust will be set up comprising two Fish & Game trustees, a Regional Council trustee, one iwi trustee and one local community trustee. At our suggestion the developer has agreed to a levy being placed on the sale of each property to provide a substantial proportion, if not all of the capital required to generate the annual income needed to fund maintenance programmes and inflation proof that capital. This project has the potential to provide win-win outcomes for all parties concerned, and if successful could be a model for other marginally economic lowland properties, or coastal properties threatened by sea level rise.

- Meetings - Nicki Douglas and members of the Te Arawa Lakes Trust Board, Ken Raureti Chair of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board, Allan Munn Central North Island Director for the Department of Conservation, and Kirsty Luke Chief Executive of Te Uru Taumatua and her environmental team.
- Meeting with R3 Reference Group which comprises four regional managers, and Martin Taylor, Robert Sowman, and Steve Doughty (marketing consultant) from the NZ Council Office. The focus of this group is to be on the retention, reactivation, and recruitment of licence holders in that order as a means of increasing participation. The group is taking a lead from what has been done in the United States which has resulted in a massive turnaround in the numbers of people participating in fish and game related activities. Steve Doughty will attend one of our meetings in the New Year to discuss the R3 programmes likely to be developed here.

14.2 Cr Lindsay Lyons commented on 16-year-old Sean Johnston's report on the Te Kohika wetlands which had been included within the Papers for Information and thought he should be congratulated on his work.

**14.3 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Sandy Bull) that Council receives the Management Report and Licence Sales reports. [18/08/14.3]***

**14.4 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Sandy Bull) that Council receives the Health and Safety report. [18/08/14.4]***

**14.5 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Laurance Tamati) that Council receives the Finance report and approves payments for May and June 2018 totalling \$331,335.18. [18/08/14.5]***

14.6 Cr Lindsay Lyons queried the number of licences issued to those hunting in preserves and how much licence revenue those hunters contribute. Andy Garrick advised that Upland Game Properties are required to submit returns on which licence details were recorded but it would be difficult to determine the number of licences directly a result of preserves as many hunt other water fowl as well.

## **15.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

15.1 Cr Murray Ferris wished to query the regularity of hard copies of Papers for Information being sent out to Councillors. Andy Garrick advised that some time ago most Councillors had advised they'd be happy to receive the Papers for Information electronically, and generally that was what had been happening since then with the exception of two Councillors who had requested they continue to receive a hard copy. Councillors commented that the bulkiness of the Papers for Information needing to be referred to when some agenda items were being addressed was often beyond what it could be considered reasonable or practical to print off at home, and that a hard copy was useful for jotting notes on. Crs Laurance Tamati and Peter Storey advised they

needed electronic copies only but the remainder of Councillors requested that a hard copy of the PFI be included with the hard copy of the agenda in future.

- 15.2 Cr Murray Ferris informed Council of a meeting earlier in the day with the Te Arawa Lakes Trust attended by Crs Barry Roderick, Lindsay Lyons and Murray Ferris, and Andy Garrick, and with Cr Laurance Tamati in attendance in his capacity as chair of Komiti Whakahaere. He said that they had had a good discussion around the relationship of the Trust and Fish & Game, and working together in the future. As owners of the lake beds they acknowledged that Fish & Game are the experts in our field. Andy Garrick agreed that there were lots of opportunities for doing more together. Laurance noted that it would be good if Council could support this relationship.
- 15.3 Cr Sandy Bull congratulated staff on their compliance work and provided an update on the action to be taken by the Gisborne District Council in relation to unlawful activities being undertaken by a landowner on the Motu River.

**16.0 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION**

**16.1 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Alan Baird) that pursuant to Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the public be excluded at 1.46pm from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely a discussion on the Council's self-appraisal of its performance and other confidential matters. [18/08/16.1]***

**16.2 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Lindsay Lyons) that the public be re-admitted to the meeting at 2.41pm. [18/08/16.2]***

**17.0 MEETING CLOSED**

17.1 The meeting was closed at 2.42pm.

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**Murray Ferris**  
**Chairman**

## SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

- 2.0 APOLOGIES**  
**2.2** *Agreed (Peter Storey/Ken Coombes) that the apologies for the 171<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [18/08/2.2]*
- 3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (14 JUNE 2018)**  
**3.1** *Agreed (Neal Hawes/Laurance Tamati) that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2018 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [18/08/3.1]*
- 4.0 IDENTIFICATION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN COUNCIL POLICY**  
**4.1** *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Neal Hawes) that Agenda Item 10.15 relating to the changes made to the Anglers Notice Policy 2003 and Item 12.3 relating to the releasing of captive reared mallards to hasten recovery of wild populations that are at low levels be incorporated into Council Policy. [18/08/4.1]*
- 8.0 2018-2019 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN**  
**8.2** *Agreed (Peter Storey/Lindsay Lyons) that Council approves the Operational Work Plan and budget for the 2018-2019 year. [18/08/8.2]*  
**8.3** *Agreed (Peter Storey/Lindsay Lyons) that Council delegate authority to the Regional Manager to approve expenditure during the year as set out in the Council approved Operational Work Plan and budget. [18/08/8.3]*
- 10.0 AUCKLAND WAIKATO FISH & GAME STERILE TROUT TRIAL**  
**10.2** *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Lindsay Lyons) that Council has no concerns over the use of the Ngongotaha Hatchery for the purpose of rearing sterile trout for another agency if there is capacity to do so without compromising other programmes. [18/08/10.2]*
- 14.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS**  
**14.3** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Sandy Bull) that Council receives the Management Report and Licence Sales reports. [18/08/14.3]*  
**14.4** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Sandy Bull) that Council receives the Health and Safety report. [18/08/14.4]*  
**14.5** *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Laurance Tamati) that Council receives the Finance report and approves payments for May and June 2018 totalling \$331,335.18. [18/08/14.5]*
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**16.2** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Lindsay Lyons) that the public be re-admitted to the meeting at 2.41pm. [18/08/16.2]*

## 9. CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

Ref: 7.02.01

12 October 2018

### 1. Purpose

A standing agenda item to disclose any Councillor (“Member”) Conflict of Interest or potential Conflict of Interest, and record this in the Councillor Conflict of Interest Register.

### 2. Background

The Eastern Fish and Game Council at its October 2016 meeting revised its policy and rules for dealing with Conflicts of Interest and must provide a standing agenda item to allow Councillors to disclose any Conflict or highlight any potential conflict. The “Interest Register” ring binder will be circulated in the first part of each meeting for Councillors to record any interests. The Council should then discuss how it wants to deal with any interest or perceived interest identified.

**Conflict of Interest** (refer s2.7 Governance Policies) means when the member can be shown to have actual bias or apparent bias in respect of a matter<sup>1</sup> i.e:

- (i) A member can be shown to have actual bias when a member’s decision or act in relation to a matter could give rise to an expectation of financial gain or loss (that is more than trivial) to the member (and/or to the member’s parent(s), child(ren), spouse, civil union partner, de facto partner, business partner(s)/associate(s), debtor(s) or creditor(s)).
- (ii) A member can be shown to have apparent bias when a member’s official duties or responsibilities to the Council in relation to a matter could reasonably be said to be affected by some other interest or duty that the member has.
- (iii) A member’s “interest or duty” includes the interests of that member’s parent(s), child(ren), spouse, civil union partner or de facto partner that may be affected by the matter at issue. It also includes the interests of a person with whom the member has a close, personal relationship where there is a real danger of personal favouritism.
- (iv) There is no Conflict of Interest where the member’s other interest or duty is so remote or insignificant that it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to influence him or her in carrying out his or her responsibility.

**A potential conflict of interest** (refer s2.8 Governance Policies) arises when:

- (i) There is a realistic connection between the member’s private interest(s) and the interest(s) of the Council;

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<sup>1</sup> “Matter” means:

- (i) The Council’s performance of its functions or exercise of its powers as set out in Part 5A of the Conservation Act 1987, subject to the Council’s statutory purpose set out in section 26P(1) of the Conservation Act; or
- (ii) An arrangement, agreement, or contract made or entered into, or proposed to be entered into, by the Council.

- (ii) The member's other interest could specifically affect, or be affected by, the actions of the Council in relation to a matter;
- (iii) A fair-minded lay observer might reasonably consider that the member's private interest or duty may influence or motivate the actions of the member in relation to a matter; and
- (iv) There is a risk that the situation could undermine public trust and confidence in the member or the Council.

**Conflicts of Interest should be dealt with as follows** (refer s1.13 Standing Orders):

- 1.13.1 Every member present at a meeting must declare any direct or indirect conflict of interest that they hold in any matter being discussed at the meeting, other than an interest that they hold in common with the public.
- 1.13.2 When a conflict of interest arises in respect of a matter, the affected member will:
  - (i) not vote on issues related to the matter;
  - (ii) not discuss the matter with other members;
  - (iii) conform to the majority view of other members present as to whether to be excluded from discussions regarding the matter and/or leave the room when the matter is discussed;
  - (iv) not, subject to the discretion of the Chairperson, receive further papers or other information related to the matter.
- 1.13.3 Where a member can be shown to have a potential conflict of interest, the Council (excluding the affected member) will determine an appropriate course of action, which may include the following:
  - (i) applying some or all of the actions applied to a member with a conflict of interest (set out in 1.13.2 i) – iv) above);
  - (ii) providing a written explanation outlining why there is no legal conflict of interest that can be made available to all Fish and Game Councils, licence holders and other interested parties.
- 1.13.4 The conflicted member will be given the opportunity to be heard by the Council on the points raised and the member's submissions will be taken into consideration by the Council.
- 1.13.5 The minutes must record the declaration and member's subsequent abstention from discussion and voting.

Councillors should take this opportunity to disclose any Conflict of Interest they are aware of now and record it in the circulated Conflict of Interest Register. If during the course of the meeting a conflict or perceived conflict is recognised, then this should be disclosed at that point in time.

### **3. Recommendation**

***3.1 That Councillors disclose any Conflict or potential Conflict of Interest, record it in the Interest Register, and Council agrees on how to deal with any Conflict of Interest raised.***



## 10. 2019 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS

Ref: 1.07.03

12 October 2018

### 1. Purpose

To review the 2018 Eastern Game Season Conditions (see Appendix 1), and highlight the 2019 game season issues for further consideration at Council's December meeting.

### 2. Introduction

Issues relating to game season regulations for the upcoming season need to be identified at this meeting of Council. From time to time Council reviews its policies and criteria for setting regulations (see resolutions Appendix 2). Council has previously determined that where it could it would set regulations based on predicted population sizes of game bird populations ("threshold management"), with three sets of regulatory constraints, these being restricted, intermediate, and relaxed conditions. If for example, the Eastern mallard population was predicted to be equal to, or below 350,000 birds then a restricted set of conditions would apply. If it was projected it will be above 350,000 and below 450,000 birds an intermediate set would apply, and if it was predicted likely to be greater than 450,000 birds this would trigger a relaxed set of conditions (see Figure 3).

Paradise shelduck and black swan regulations are also a function of their respective population estimates. Criteria for setting regulations for these species are given in Appendix 2.

National monitoring of shoveler populations indicates the population is stable so there is no reason to depart from historic regulations (one month season and two bird daily limit).

Game season conditions are generally finalised for recommendation to the Minister of Conservation once population information is available from summer monitoring programmes.

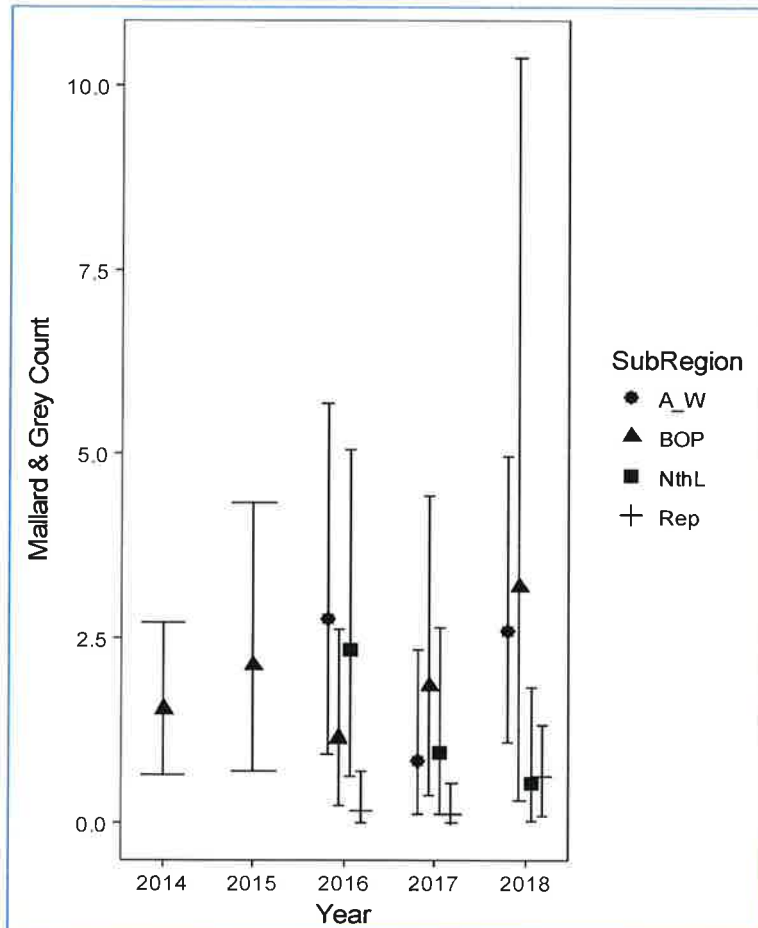
### 3.0 Issues

In addition to any other issues Council might wish to discuss, there are five topics that require Council's consideration and input to as follows:

1. At its November 2015 meeting Council discussed the apparent paucity of mallard and grey duck in the Reporoa/Broadlands area. Council agreed *(Steve Scragg/Alan Baird) that the proposal to constrain the mallard and grey duck bag limit in the Reporoa/Broadlands/upper Waikato River areas be reviewed in November 2016 following further investigations by staff and the establishment of baselines for monitoring populations in these areas. [15/11/12.9]*. Aerial counts undertaken in both April 2016 and 2017 provided no support for departing from the restricted set of conditions implemented in the 2016 game season.

Aerial transect counts just prior to the 2018 game season indicate that the Reporoa mallard population may have increased slightly on the basis that these counts were higher than those recorded in the April 2016 and 2017 surveys (Figure 1). Despite this apparent increase the population is still very low compared with the other areas counted.

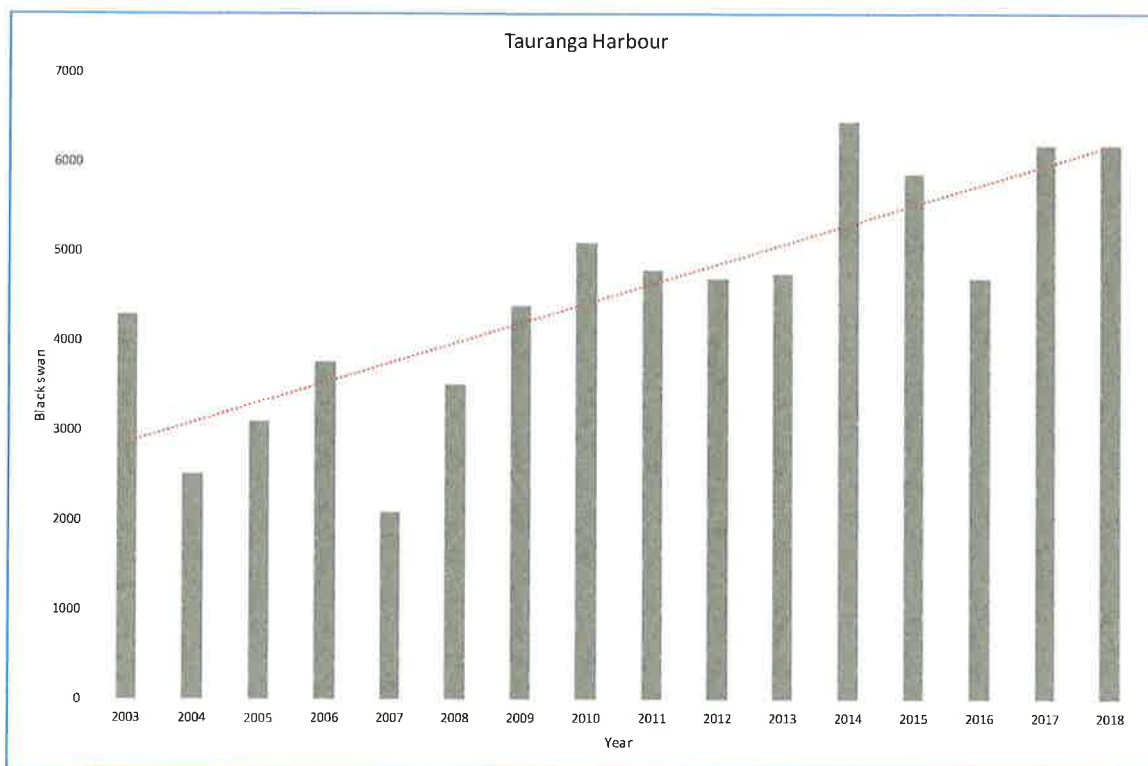
Council needs to determine if it wishes to continue with the restricted (4 week season, 4 bird daily limit) for greylard (mallard and grey duck) in this area. It might also wish to review the decision made at its November 2017 meeting in relation to a discussion on what the “Reporoa Area” should encompass. It was agreed then that the practicalities of being able to clearly describe the area (using main roads as boundaries) outweighed the disadvantage of not including all of the Reporoa basin.



**Figure 1. Transect counts of mallard per kilometre (median± 95% credible limit) for the Waikato (A\_W), Bay of Plenty (BOP), Reporoa (Rep), and Northland (NthL) 2014-2018. The majority of counts were from 10km transects with the exception of some that had to be shortened due to other aircraft being in the vicinity or difficult terrain.**

## 2. Special black swan season

A special black swan season has been gazetted for during the period 23-24 February 2019 in Area A1 where there has for many years been an unlimited daily bag. The season was proposed following rapidly increasing numbers on Tauranga Harbour (Figure 2Figure). April and August 2018 counts indicate the number of birds present was high compared with counts undertaken at the same time in other years (Table 1). Council needs to consider whether it wishes to hold another special season in February 2020.



**Figure 2. January aerial counts of black swan on Tauranga Harbour (2003-2018).**

**Table 1. Black swan counts on Tauranga Harbour outside of the January counts.**

Date	Count
1/05/2014	4,125
18/08/2014	416
17/04/2015	3,250
17/08/2015	823
14/04/2016	3,055
17/08/2016	485
24/04/2017	2,503
18/08/2017	930
28/04/2018	6,840
27/08/2018	901

3. Black swan bag limits are based on summer monitoring (see criterion in Appendix 2). The daily limits are set as a function of the summer count in the relevant management unit. There are three sets of daily limits (0, 2, unlimited). Some Councillors have suggested that the black swan daily bag limit of 2 is too low. They have commented that once the mallard season finishes there is little, or no incentive to hunt swan with such a small daily bag limit. Annual black swan harvest is likely to be less than 2,000 across the whole of the region. Council may wish to discuss whether a daily limit of 5 when the population is assessed as 1,000–3,000 may be acceptable to hunters while not risking over harvest of these smaller populations.
  
4. Special pukeko season  
 As is the case for black swan in Area A1, a special season for pukeko has been gazetted for the period 23-24 February 2019 with no daily bag limit across the entire region. This season was initially proposed to alleviate crop damage, reduce mallard and grey duckling

predation, and was based on the limited harvest recorded during the game bird season (2018 season: 1,324; 95% CI 768–2,280). Over the last year (Aug 2017–Sep 2018) there has been a marked decrease in the number of permits issued to disturb pukeko compared to the preceding year (16 versus 38 in Aug 2016–Sep 2017). Council needs to discuss if it wishes to provide another special pukeko season during 2019-20.

5. The Wildlife Act prohibits the use of vehicles for hunting game<sup>2</sup> and this is incorporated into the First Schedule of the Game Season Conditions. Staff have observed hunters travelling under power with shotguns at the ready over past seasons within the Eastern Region, and we are increasingly receiving reports of hunters shooting game from boats under power from other hunters. Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game has a regulation aimed at reducing this temptation - *“No person may possess a firearm in or on any unmoored vessel, except a rowboat, unless the firearm is dismantled or secured in a case, gunslip or other secure compartment, except when in use to retrieve wounded game.”* Auckland/Waikato also has a regulation which states *“No person may herd or drive waterfowl for the purpose of hunting or killing them.”* Discussion is needed to determine whether the issue which appeared to be particularly prevalent this year needs additional rules in Eastern’s Second Schedule to make it explicitly clear this is a prohibited activity.
6. New Zealand Falconers Association  
The Falconers Association has in the past been allowed to hunt pukeko with Australasian harriers provided they have a game bird licence and an Authority to Handle the birds from the Department of Conservation. Only 5-6 individuals pursue this sport in the Eastern Region taking somewhere between 12-20 pukeko last year. They would like the ability to take other game bird species.
7. Stuart Deadman has taken over Simon Dickies’ Upland Game Property operation “Totara Lodge”. DOC has transferred Simon’s Authority into Stuart Deadman’s name. This is an advisory, and no action is required by Council unless there are factors that we or DOC are unaware of that might require this to be reviewed.

After today’s meeting, clubs will be invited to comment on any issues they wish to raise for consideration at Council’s next meeting (6 December 2018).

### **3. Additional Information**

#### **3.1 Threshold Approach and Mallard and Grey Duck Population Estimates**

Threshold management (Figure 3) relies on estimates of population size and an ability to predict the population going into the next game season (in this instance 2019). Population estimates are based on Lincoln-Petersen estimates. This method relies on band returns, estimates of reporting rates, and harvest data. Predicting what the population is going to do is fraught with difficulties and uncertainties. At the moment we have two hypotheses or ways in which we look at this:

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<sup>2</sup> 18(f)(iv) any aircraft, motor vehicle, or other vehicle propelled by mechanical power: provided that nothing in this subparagraph shall be deemed to prevent any person from using any aircraft or vehicle for the purpose of travelling generally or to any place where he intends to hunt or kill game or of returning from any such place;

- (i) that the population is increasing or decreasing over time i.e. a linear trend;
- (ii) that the population is cyclic i.e. it is in some sort of long term cycle (see Figure 1).

Analytical comparison of these two models using data we have collected since 1997 indicates that the cyclic model is 2.5 times better supported than the linear model. If we are prepared to accept that the population is in some sort of cycle then we can use this information to predict the 2019 mallard and grey duck population.

We are however looking at environmental factors/covariates that may be better at predicting population change and we hope to have something available along these lines for Council's December meeting.

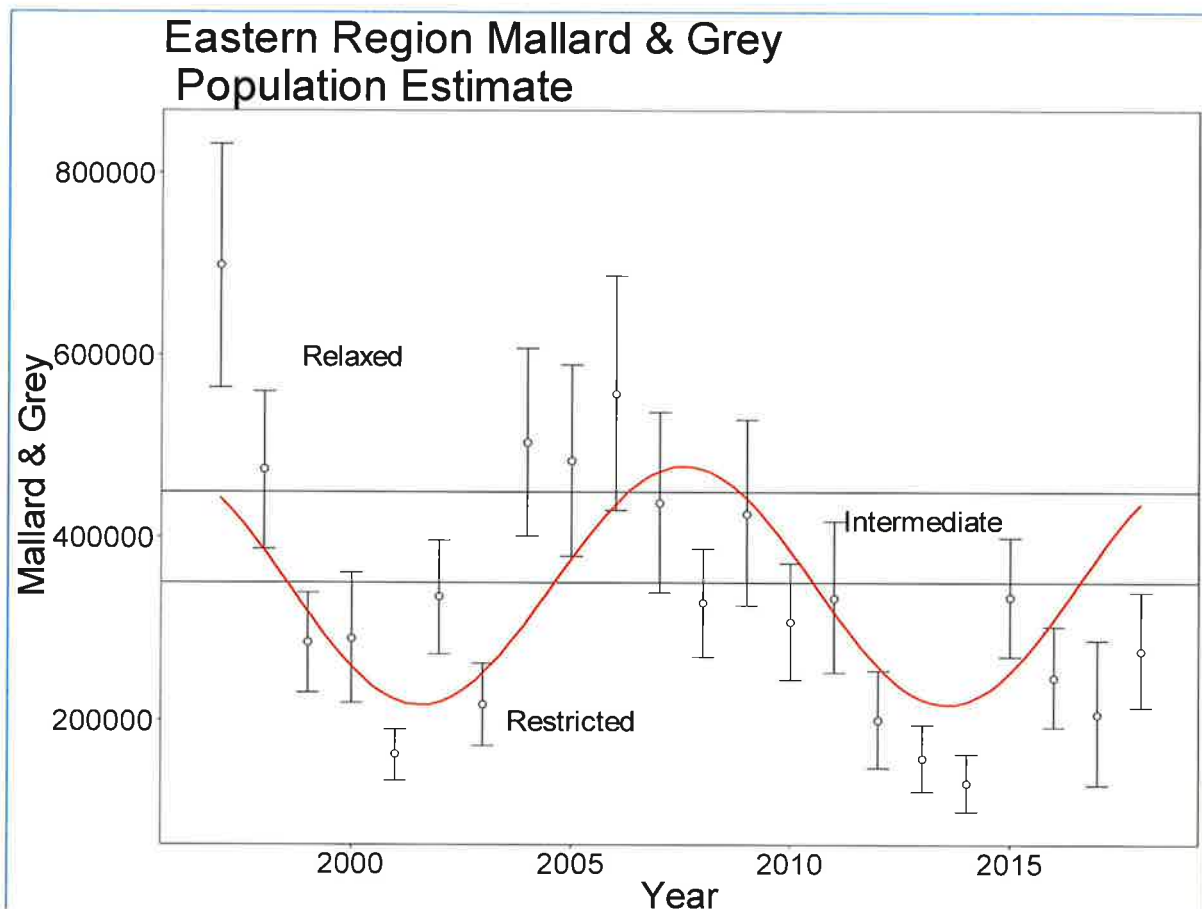


Figure 1 Population estimates (mean  $\pm$ 95% credible interval<sup>3</sup>) of mallard and grey duck in the Eastern Region 1997-2018 with the three levels of regulation constraint: relaxed, intermediate, and restricted. The population levels (or thresholds) that separate these regulation constraints are shown by the two black solid lines (350,000 and 450,000).

#### **4. Recommendation:**

- 4.1 *That Council considers the proposed threshold levels and criteria for regulation setting and identifies any variants for ratification at its November meeting.*
- 4.2 *That Council identifies any other game season condition matters it would like further information on, or consultation with hunters about, before its December 2018 meeting.*

<sup>3</sup> Credible interval is a Bayesian statistic that is similar but not the same as a confidence limit. There is a 95% chance that the mean (in this instance) is within the interval.

## Appendix 1

### FIRST SCHEDULE

#### Hunting conditions generally common to all fish and game regions

##### **1 Bag limits**

- (1) No person shall possess on any one day, more than the number of game birds specified as the daily bag limit for the Fish and Game Region in which the game is taken, except on Sunday 6 May 2018, when that person may have in his or her possession twice the number of game birds specified as the daily bag limit for Saturday 5 May 2018.
- (2) A person may possess more game than specified in sub-clause (1) of this Schedule, if all such game is labelled with the following details:
  - (a) The name and address of the person by whom the game was taken;
  - (b) The number of the licence to hunt or kill game held by the person by whom the game was taken;
  - (c) The name of the Fish and Game Region by which that licence was issued;
  - (d) The name of the Fish and Game Region in which the game was taken; and
  - (e) The date on which the game was taken.

##### **2 Waiver of Restrictions on Baiting for Waterfowl**

A person<sup>4</sup> may hunt or kill game of the family Anatidae (waterfowl) during the open season for game in all Fish and Game Regions, except Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region, where food has been cast, thrown, placed or planted any time during the year. In the Second Schedule, Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region, Special Condition 4(9), applies to restrictions on baiting.

##### **3 Magazine Shotguns**

A person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, in any Fish and Game Regions with any magazine shotgun of a calibre 10 gauge or less, which includes magazine extensions<sup>5</sup>, other than in the:

- (a) Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region;
- (b) Eastern Fish and Game Region;
- (c) Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Region;
- (d) Wellington Fish and Game Region;
- (e) Nelson/Marlborough Fish and Game Region;
- (f) West Coast Fish and Game Region.

For these six Regions special conditions in the Second Schedule apply.

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<sup>4</sup>Section 17 of the Wildlife Act 1953

<sup>5</sup>Amended notification to section 18(1)(c) (iii) and (v) of the Wildlife Act 1953 as authorised by the Minister of Conservation under section 18(1) of that Act

#### 4 Shot Size

No person shall use, in any shotgun used for the purposes of hunting and killing game, any cartridge containing any shot size having a larger retained, per-pellet energy at 90 metres than lead BB.

#### 5 Use of Lead Shot Prohibited

(1) No person may possess lead shot, or use lead shot, while hunting or killing waterfowl within 200 metres of open water, with any gun using a 10 or 12 gauge cartridge. Non-toxic alternative shot may be used, including steel.

(2) For the purposes of this requirement, “waterfowl” means any of the following game species:

Black swan (*Cygnus atratus*);

Grey duck (*Anas superciliosa*) and any cross of that species with any other species, variety, or kind of duck;

Mallard duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and any cross of that species with any other species, variety, or kind of duck;

Paradise shelduck (*Tadorna variegata*) also known as Paradise duck;

Spoonbill duck (New Zealand shoveler) (*Anas rhynchos*);

Pukeko (*Porphyrio porphyrio melanotus*).

(3) For the purposes of this requirement, “open water” means either:

(a) any area of land or seabed covered permanently or seasonally by water wider than 3 metres; or

(b) any area which is temporarily covered by water wider than 3 metres at the time of such possession or use, and that is contiguous to an area referred to in paragraph (3)(a).

#### 6 Shotguns of a Bore Smaller Than 12 Gauge and Muzzle Loaders Exempt in Relation to Use of Lead Shot

Hunters may use lead shot in shotguns of a bore smaller than 12 gauge (including 16, 20, 28, 410) or muzzle loaders for the 2017 season.

#### 7 Camouflaged Rowboats

A person<sup>6</sup> may hunt or kill game within the following Fish and Game Regions, from unmoored camouflaged rowboats, subject to the excluded periods for the regions specified below:

Northland – no excluded period

Auckland/Waikato – excluding 5 and 6 May 2018

Eastern – excluding 5 and 6 May 2018

Hawke’s Bay – excluding 5 and 6 May 2018

Taranaki – no excluded period

Wellington – excluding 5 and 6 May 2018

Nelson/Marlborough – no excluded period

West Coast – no excluded period

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<sup>6</sup>Section 18(1)(f)(vi) of the Wildlife Act 1953

North Canterbury – excluding 5 and 6 May 2018  
Central South Island – excluding 5 and 6 May 2018  
Otago – excluding Clutha River 5 to 13 May 2018 inclusive  
Southland – excluding the Matarua, Aparima, Oreti, Waiau and Waimatuku rivers and their tributaries 5 to 31 May 2018 inclusive.

## **8 Restriction on Taking of Game**

No person shall use any vehicle propelled by mechanical power (including motorised watercraft)<sup>7</sup> to chase or kill game, except in such circumstances and at such times as authorised by the Conservation Act 1987 and Wildlife Act 1953.

## **9 Pegging Day**

- (1) Stand claimants who claimed and occupied a stand during the 2017 Game Season may claim that stand at any time prior to pegging day (up to 10.00 a.m. on 8 April 2018) following the purchase of the 2018 game licence. If you are in the Auckland/Waikato Region, then the above mentioned applies **only to Adult Whole Season Licence Holders** and does not apply to Junior Licence Holders as it does in all other Fish and Game Regions.
- (2) Otherwise, unclaimed stands can only be claimed any time after 10.00am on 8 April 2018 in all Fish and Game Regions.
- (3) A stand may be claimed by planting on it a stake having either a board or identifying label attached, plainly identifying the name of the claimant and the number of his/her licence. The hunting stand claim tag provided with the licence must be completed with the name of the claimant and affixed to the board or identifying label.
- (4) The licence holder claiming a stand must be present in person at the stand when marking it up.
- (5) No one can claim more than one stand.
- (6) A stand cannot be claimed closer than 90 metres to a stand already claimed by another person without that person's consent.
- (7) Any stand not occupied by the claimant within one hour after the opening hour of hunting, on any day, can be occupied by another licence holder for the remainder of the day.

## **10 Conditions**

These conditions will expire at the end of the open season for game specified under the Second Schedule for each Fish and Game Region.

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<sup>7</sup>Section 18(1)(f)(v) of the Wildlife Act 1953



## SECOND SCHEDULE

### EASTERN FISH AND GAME REGION<sup>8</sup>

#### 1 Game That May be Hunted or Killed—Duration of 2018/2019 Season

Species	Season Duration (dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit	Hunting Area
Grey/mallard duck	5 May to 17 Jun 2017	8	All areas except the Reporoa Area
	5 May to 3 Jun 2018	4	The Reporoa Area
NZ shoveler duck	5 May to 3 Jun 2018	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	5 May to 1 Jul 2018	6	Area A1, A2
	5 May to 1 Jul 2018	10	Area B2 and that part of B1 which lies south of the true right bank of the Uawa River Mouth, Tolaga Bay
	5 May to 15 Jul 2018	20	That part of B1, which lies north of the true right bank of the Uawa River Mouth, Tolaga Bay
Pukeko	5 May to 26 Aug 2018	10	All areas
	23 and 24 Feb 2019	No limit	All areas
Black swan	5 May to 26 Aug 2018	No limit	Area A1
	23 and 24 Feb 2019	No limit	Area A1
	5 May to 1 July 2018	2	Area A2
	Closed season	0	Area B1 & B2
Bobwhite (Virginian) quail	5 May to 26 Aug 2018	No limit	All areas
Brown quail	5 May to 26 Aug 2018	5	All areas
California quail	5 May to 26 Aug 2018	No limit	Area A1 & A2
	5 May to 26 Aug 2018	5	Area B1 & B2
Cock pheasant	5 May to 26 Aug 2018	5	All areas excluding upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 6 for this Region
Pheasant, both sexes	5 May to 26 Aug 2018	No limit	Upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 6 for this Region
Cock pheasant	27 Aug to 16 Sep 2018	No limit	Upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 6 for this Region (junior hunters only)
Red legged partridge	5 May to 26 Aug 2018	No limit	Upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 6 for this Region

<sup>8</sup>Reference to Description: *Gazette*, No. 83, of 22 May 1990, at page 1861

## **2 Definition of Areas**

The following descriptions refer to Local Authority Boundaries described on the Infomap 242B-2 Land Information New Zealand for the Eastern Fish and Game region.

- (1) **Area A1:** Tauranga District, Western Bay of Plenty District, that part of the South Waikato District within the Eastern Fish and Game region and east of State Highway 1, Rotorua District, Kawerau District, Whakatane District and Opotiki District.
- (2) **Area A2:** Those parts of the South Waikato District west of State Highway 1 within the Eastern Fish and Game region, Taupo District and Ruapehu District, which lie within the Eastern Fish and Game region.
- (3) **Area B1:** Gisborne District.
- (4) **Area B2:** That part of Wairoa District within the Eastern Fish and Game region.
- (5) **Reporoa Area:** That area bounded by Waikite Valley Road (Waiotapu) to SH 5 to Settlers Road which becomes Broadlands Roads to SH 1 (Taupo Bypass) to SH 30 to Whirinaki Valley Road (Ngakuru) to Waikite Valley Road.

## **3 Shooting Hours**

6.15am to 6.15pm in all areas for all species during their respective seasons.

## **4 Decoy Limit**

No limit.

## **5 Special Conditions**

- (1) No person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, within the Eastern region with any magazine shotgun unless the shotgun:
  - (a) has a magazine of any type adjusted with a one piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun; or
  - (b) the magazine is pinned in accordance with Regulations made under this Act; so that the magazine shotgun is incapable of holding more than 2 shells in the magazine, with no more than 3 shells in the magazine and chamber combined, at any one time.
- (2) No maimai shall impede the use of navigable channels in the Tauranga Harbour, Ohiwa Harbour, Little Waihi Estuary, Lake Aniwhenua and Lake Taupo.
- (3) Maimais erected in the Little Waihi Estuary, Lake Aniwhenua, Ohiwa Harbour, Stump and Waihi bays of Lake Taupo must be dismantled and removed within 2 weeks of the close of the season (ie by 9 September 2018).
- (4) Any licensed game bird hunter who has a Department of Conservation permit to take or kill wildlife for the purpose of hawking may hunt with an Australasian Harrier (*Circus approximans*) to take game birds. This is subject to the season length and bag limit for game birds specified in clause 1 of this notice for this Region and subject to any condition imposed by the Director-General of Conservation under such a permit.

## **6 Upland Game Properties with Special Conditions**

- (1) Pirini Family Trust:** The property is located 8 kilometres up the Bush Road from Pongokawa. It is bounded by Pongakawa River, Rotoehu Forest and Bush Road, Sections 4, 5 and 7 SO 7437 Block IX Waihi South Survey District. The property is leased by N. Raven.
- (2) Equine and Cropp Farms:** The property is located approximately 6 kilometres in a north-west direction from Lake Rotoehu with Rotoehu Road and Fletcher Challenge's Rotoehu Forest on the main boundaries. It is made up of 283 hectares being entirely enclosed within deer fence, DPS 17091. The property is owned by Equine Estate Limited. Also the "Cropp Farm" (C A Cropp), 1410 Rotoehu Road; being 316ha Sec 17 SO 17091 Secs 22 23 SO 49960 Blk 1 Rotoma SD described as seven kilometres in a north-west direction from Lake Rotoehu and is bounded by Rotoehu road to the east and Christophers Forest to the North, with the western boundary formed by the Pongakawa stream.
- (3) Prime Pine:** The property is located on the Matata Highway and consists of some 120 hectares of pine forest. DPS 58240. It is bounded by Hingston, Fraser, Prinz and Knight properties. The property is owned by Prime Pine Partnership.
- (4) Totara Lodge Taupo:** 1093 State Highway 1, RD 1, Wairakei, being 1,478 hectares in total and consisting of Tatua East No 17 Blocks II and 1V Tuhingamata West Survey District, Lots 1, 2, 4 and 5 DPS 61926 Tatua East No 18 Block V Tatua Survey District Blocks II and IV Tuhingamata West Survey District, Lot 3 DP 338327. The property is owned by E. F. Deadman Limited.
- (5) Coates Road Waikite Valley.** The property is located at 123 Coates Road, Waikite Valley, covering an area of 389 hectares, adjacent to and, at the end of, Coates Road described as Lots 1 & 3 DPS 8775 Section 2-5 SO 60470 Lot 2 DPS 476535. The property is owned by M & S Stokman.

## Appendix 2

### GAME SEASON CONDITION POLICIES

#### 2.1 Mallard and Grey Duck (greylard)

- (i) *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that Council re-affirms the threshold approach to setting mallard and grey duck harvest regulations (where grey duck are treated as mallard due to the difficulty in distinguishing between the species). [15/11/12.2]*
- (ii) *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that the threshold levels are set at 350,000 and 450,000 such that at or below 350,000 a set of restricted conditions apply; above 350,000 and, at or below 450,000 a set of intermediate harvest regulations apply; and above 450,000 a relaxed set of conditions apply. [15/11/12.3]*
- (iii) *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that restricted conditions shall comprise a 4-week season (including Queens Birthday when appropriate) with a bag limit of 6 mallard and grey duck; intermediate conditions shall comprise a 6-week season with a bag limit of 8 mallard and grey duck; and relaxed conditions shall comprise an 8-week season with a bag limit of 10 mallard and grey duck. [15/11/12.4]*
- (iv) *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that paradise shelduck and black swan thresholds and regulations remain the status quo and subject to January monitoring results. [15/11/12.5]*
- (v) *Agreed (Ian Pirani/Lindsay Lyons) that Council authorises staff to make a decision on Game Season Regulations outside of policy when an issue has been flagged. [12/10/8.2]*

Rationale for (v) as per October 2012 Council minutes:

“Cr Barry Roderick commented on the greylard population estimates being the lowest in 8 years and the mystery, last summer, with a very high ratio of juveniles in the traps. Matt McDougall said that in the last decade something had occurred in some years that's throwing us off track. Last year he was concerned over the reduced adults in the traps and those concerns were later vindicated by harvest results. Council discussed the policy for setting the season regulations and the short time frame available before these are presented to the Minister for approval. Rob Pitkethley said that in 4 out of 5 years the modelling policy would be used, but in the occasional year staff would like the ability to alter the policy direction if unusual results suggested something else was occurring. Staff were seeking guidance on how this unusual process could work and Cr Steve Scragg said that he would be comfortable with Matt McDougall and Rob Pitkethley making the appropriate call and providing confirmation by email to Council.”

## 2.2 Threshold Criteria for Paradise shelduck

**Table 1: Eastern Paradise Shelduck threshold levels**

LONG TERM POPULATION TREND	SEASON
Negative i.e. population declining	Restricted
Zero i.e. population stable	Intermediate
Positive i.e. population growing.	Relaxed

**Table 2: Eastern Paradise Shelduck season conditions (Season per Table 1)**

SEASON	Area	Specific Conditions	
		Length (weeks)	Bag Limit
Restricted	A1 & A2	4	4
	B2 & B1 South of true right bank Uawa River Mouth	4	4
Intermediate	A1, A2	8	6
	B2 & B1 South of the true right bank Uawa River Mouth	8	10
Relaxed	A1, A2, B2 & B1 South of the true right bank Uawa River Mouth	10	10
Fixed Season condition	B1 North of the true right bank Uawa River Mouth	10	20

## 2.3 Threshold Criteria for Black Swan

**Table 3: Eastern Black Swan threshold levels**

POPULATION SIZE	TREND	SEASON
Low (below 1,000)	Negative	Restricted
Low (below 1,000)	Zero	Restricted
Low (below 1,000)	Positive	Restricted
Moderate (between 1,000 and 3,000)	Negative	Intermediate
Moderate (between 1,000 and 3,000)	Zero	Intermediate
Moderate (between 1,000 and 3,000)	Positive	Relaxed
Greater than 3,000	Negative	Relaxed
Greater than 3,000	Zero	Relaxed
Greater than 3,000	Positive	Relaxed

**Table 4: Eastern Black Swan season conditions (Season per Table 3)**

SEASON	SPECIFIC CONDITIONS (LENGTH AND DAILY BAG).
Restricted	No season.
Intermediate	8-week season with a 2-bird limit for Management Units A1, A2 and B1. 6-week season with a 4 bird limit for Management Unit B2.
Relaxed	16-week season with a no-bird limit.

## 11. WAIKAREMOANA SPORTS FISH HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND

Ref: 2.01.07.01

12 October 2018

### 1. Purpose

To provide an end of year summary of expenditure of funds from the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund during the 2017-2018 year, and apply for a carry over of 2017-18 funding to 2018-19 to complete the repair and redeployment of the buoy.

### 2. Background

In 1999 ECNZ made a commitment to create a trust known as the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Trust ("Trust") as part of its consent for the Waikaremoana Power Scheme before its transfer to Genesis. The Trust was set up in response to concerns about the environmental, recreational, social, cultural and economic effects of the Waikaremoana Power Scheme ("WPS"). Due to Inland Revenue issues and the Trust being subject to taxes on interest, the Trust was disbanded soon after its formation, and the settlement was paid to Fish & Game to form the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund ("Waikaremoana Fund").

The objective of the Trust and now the Waikaremoana Fund is:

*"To sustain and enhance habitat for sports fish within the Wairoa River catchment and enhance access of the public to recreational sports fish therein".*

In addition to this key objective, there are a number of additional purposes that include:

- *To undertake research that furthers the objectives of the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund;*
- *Identify and evaluate areas in the catchment worth protection, restoration, enhancement, etc.;*
- *Carry out creel surveys;*
- *Carry out trials and monitoring on improving sports fish habitat;*
- *To create, improve, maintain signage and access to sports fisheries.*

The Fund contained an initial investment of \$250,000. When the Fund was established in 2000 the Council agreed that the principal should be protected with an inflation-based adjustment and spending from the Fund should be maintained within the interest generated.

The table below shows expenditure on projects and work areas since 2001. The items highlighted in yellow are projects undertaken/expenses incurred in 2016-2017.

Work Area	Amount funded (\$)
Information & access pamphlets	6,177
Signage & Information panels	7,046
2002 Angler Creel Survey	4,130
Contributions to Access through jetties, gangplanks, carparks etc	13,333
Habitat studies (Lake & River (2) Inventories, Wildlands reports)	9,521
2007 Angler Creel Survey	5,376
Fish research (River fish age/source otolith analysis)	928

Buoy construction share and installation	21,577
Buoy maintenance/servicing expenses	6,752
2012 Angler Creel Survey	5,944
Lagarosiphon Project	1,000
Water Quality Monitoring Report	4,990
Waikaremoana Buoy Maintenance	250
2014-15 Wairoa Catchment Access Investigations	5,204
2015-16 Survey Project	13,521
Waikaremoana Buoy	2,560
2015-16 Wairoa Access work and brochure	2,920
2016-17 Survey, Monitoring and Access	12,010
Waikaremoana Buoy	2,459
Lowrance Transducer/Transceiver - Parera	7,129
2017-18 Survey Project	5,061
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>137,899</b>

### **3. Discussion**

#### **3.1 Overview of 2017-2018 Expenditure**

At its meeting in April 2017, Council approved funding of up to \$12k for the 2017-2018 OWP year from the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund for ongoing survey and monitoring of key spawning tributaries at Waikaremoana and the continuation of access related work within the Wairoa catchment. In October 2017, Council also approved [17/10/13.1] the carry over of unspent funds (c. \$10k) from the 2016-17 OWP year to repair and upgrade the Water Quality Monitoring Buoy that had previously become stuck fast to a structure protruding from the lake bed.

Weather conditions and other unforeseen events prevented a number of scheduled field visits being undertaken, and programmed expenditure amounted to considerably less than that projected (actual \$5,061). Reports on the outcomes of these field activities are available in the Operational Reports provided in Council's 2017-18 agendas. Work on the buoy was initiated but not completed for reasons beyond our control (see 4. below).

#### **3.2 Outstanding Commitments to the Fund**

Neither the \$12,000 approved in April 2016 for the Waikaremoana Boating & Fishing Association to replace four navigation markers at Waikaremoana [16/4/11.4], nor the "up to \$40,000" approved in principle by Council in 2012 [12/10/10.3] as a contribution to the Lagarosiphon Incursion Programme has been drawn down. DOC no longer plays any part in operational activities in Te Urewera, and Tuhoe have not communicated any interest in utilising part or all of the \$40,000 for a specific project associated with the Lagarosiphon programme or any other biosecurity related project at Waikaremoana. As the commitment was originally made to DOC in its capacity as the agency leading the Lagarosiphon programme, Council may wish to withdraw the offer or view it as lapsed. This would not preclude Council from considering a funding application from Tuhoe for a related project at a future point in time.

The Waikaremoana Boating & Fishing Association has not proceeded with its proposal as Tuhoe apparently had an issue with it at the time it was put forward.

**4. Application to Carry Forward Funds from 2017-18**

As indicated above, Council approved an application to carry over unspent funds (c. \$10k) from the 2016-17 OWP year [17/10/13.1] to the 2017-18 OWP year to fund Fish & Game's share of the repair, upgrading, and re-installation of the infrastructure associated with the Water Quality Monitoring Buoy. We have been frustrated in our efforts to make this happen, but understand that the University of Waikato has recently completed the rebuild and we should shortly be able to get the buoy up and running again. We can expect an invoice from the University of Waikato once we're confident that the buoy is performing as it should be, and wish to resubmit our request that the funding set aside for this purpose two years ago be carried over to the current year.

**5. Recommendation**

- 5.1 *That Council receives this update and approves the application to retain and carry over the funding previously approved for buoy repairs into the current (2018-19) year.*
- 5.2 *That Council determines its position in relation to the offer made to contribute up to \$40,000 to the Department of Conservation to support its Lagarosiphon containment/eradication programme.*



## **12. DRAFT 2017-2018 PERFORMANCE REPORT**

**Ref: 8.03.04**

**14 October 2018**

### **1. Purpose**

To review the draft Statement of Service Performance report and draft Financial Statements for the 2017-2018 Performance (Annual) Report.

### **2. Background**

The Performance Report for the 2017-2018 year will be presented to the public annual general meeting to be held on 6 December 2018 as per the requirement of Sections 26W and 26ZD(7) of the Conservation Act 1987.

The annual Performance Report contains a Statement of Service Performance (SOSP) so that readers can assess the performance of the Council against the targets set in the 2017-2018 Operational Work Plan (OWP). The Performance Report aligns with the OWP to clearly show actual outcomes against targets identified in the annual work planning process.

The purpose of this paper is to enable early consideration of the material being developed for inclusion in the Performance Report. A draft of the SOSP has been prepared, along with draft unaudited Financial Statements, and these have been circulated to Councillors prior to this meeting.

The reports will be revised after Council consideration and feedback from the independent external Auditor then compiled into the final Performance Report. This then needs to be approved at the 6 December 2018 meeting held immediately prior to the public annual general meeting where the Performance Report is presented to the public.

### **3.0 Recommendation:**

***3.1 That Council receives the draft reports comprising the Statement of Service Performance and Financial Statements for the 2017-2018 year, and provides any feedback it might have on the drafts before the Performance Report for the 2017-2018 year is completed.***

## **13. 2018 UPLAND GAME PROPERTIES REPORT**

**Ref: 3.01.06**

**14 November 2018**

### **1.0 Purpose**

To review harvest and hunter effort on Registered Upland Game Properties with special conditions in the Eastern Region during the 2018 season.

### **2.0 Background**

Each year the Council reviews the operations of registered Upland Game Properties in the Eastern Region. These properties are operated in accordance with Council Policy and have a list of criteria they need to meet which includes maintaining and submitting an annual register of hunter activity and harvest. This report summarises results for the past 18 years on Upland Game Properties in the Eastern Region. During the 2018 game season there were five registered Upland Game Properties with Special Conditions within the region. No hunting was undertaken on one of these, Coates Road, Waikite, this season as it was still in establishment phase. Four hundred pheasants were however released onto this property in January 2018.

### **3.0 Results**

The 2018 returns for the four properties hunted this year have been received and summary results are presented in the tables below. Hunter activity and harvest overall is shown in Table 1. A comparison of total harvest and total birds released is shown in Table 2.

#### **3.1 Total Harvest**

Hunting in the four Upland Game Properties operating during the 2018 season was very similar to that undertaken in 2017. The total number of pheasants released on these four properties was about 3,400 fewer than the record numbers released in 2013 and 2014, but well above the numbers released in all other years since 2001. A total of 12,340 pheasants were recorded as being harvested from the 27,700 birds released, this being the same as that harvested in 2015. This equates to a 44.5% return on released pheasants. No partridges were recorded as having been released or harvested.

#### **3.2 Harvest of Hen Birds**

The percentage of hen birds in the total harvest this year was 46.6% which is precisely the same as the 17 year average birds. It is clear that the ability to harvest hen birds continues to be an important aspect of Upland Game Property operations.

#### **3.3 Daily Harvest**

The 2018 daily harvest per hunter against the four registered Upland Game Properties hunted averaged 20.1 birds per hunter/day. The wide separation between commercial and syndicate properties remains evident with the commercial type properties accounting for 86% of the total effort (hunter-days) and hunters harvesting an average of 22.6 birds per hunter/day, while the syndicate type properties account for only 14% of the overall effort with hunters averaging 3.8 birds per hunter/day.

**Table 1: Summary of hunter effort and harvest**

Season	# Days Hunted	Number of Hunter/Days	Pheasants Shot				Birds Per Hunter/Day
			Cocks	Hens	Total	% Hens	
2001	31	209	828	631	1,459	43.25	7.0
2002	34	220	1,633	1,440	3,073	46.88	14.0
2003	30	251	2,815	2,440	5,255	46.43	20.9
2004	44	320	3,004	3,526	6,530	54.00	20.4
2005	36	334	4,304	3,265	7,569	43.14	22.7
2006	41	263	2,728	1,853	4,581	40.45	17.4
2007	54	399	3,682	3,575	7,257	49.26	18.2
2008	70	556	5,203	4,837	10,040	48.18	18.1
2009	60	496	4,665	4,351	9,016	48.26	18.2
2010	58	475	3,613	3,307	6,920	47.80	14.6
2011	67	532	5,165	4,894	10,701	45.73	20.1
2012	73	548	5,350	5,588	10,484	53.30	19.1
2013	92	655	6,642	6,279	12,916	41.55	19.7
2014	104	733	7,242	6,615	13,877	47.67	18.9
2015	91	613	6,699	5,641	12,340	45.71	20.1
2016	77	561	4,936	3,633	8,569	42.40	15.9
2017	90	607	6,872	6,416	13,294	48.26	21.9
2018	98	615	6,582	5,750	12,340	46.60	20.1

**Table 2: Summary of harvest**

Season	Pheasants Released	Birds Shot & Recovered	% Harvested
2001	5,938	1,459	24.6
2002	7,400	3,073	41.5
2003	12,400	5,255	42.4
2004	15,200	6,473	42.6
2005	19,400	7,569	39.0
2006	15,200	5,319	35.0
2007	19,700	7,257	36.8
2008	24,436	10,040	41.1
2009	22,004	9,016	41.0
2010	18,200	6,920	38.0
2011	26,389	10,701	40.6
2012	26,820	10,484	39.1
2013	31,084	12,564	40.4
2014	31,084	13,877	44.6
2015	24,631	12,340	50.1
2016	26,800	8,569	32.0
2017	29,240	13,294	45.5
2018	27,700	12,340	44.5

#### **4.0 Discussion**

Hunting on Upland Game Properties remains comparable to that of the last few years and 2-3 times that seen in the first six years. The number of pheasants released remains substantial as was overall harvest and pheasants/hunter this year.

#### **5.0 Recommendation**

***5.1 That Council receives the summary of hunter effort and harvest on Upland Game Properties in 2018.***

## **14. SPECIES MONITORING REPORTS**

**Ref: 1.01.06, 1.01.08, 1.02.03**

**14 October 2018**

### **1. Purpose**

To receive the report summaries for the 2017-18 Summer Creel Survey, 2018 Aerial Transect Counts of Mallard and Grey Duck, the 2018 Eastern Region Game Hunter Survey, and the 2018 National Shoveler Count.

### **2. Background**

The Council annually resources a number of key species management programmes to assess and monitor sports fish and game populations and the success rate and degree of satisfaction of users of the sports fish and game resource. The information collected from these programmes enables the Council to make informed decisions on species management to ensure sustainable populations are maintained for recreational harvest, for staff to use to advocate for habitat protection, and for other agencies such as Regional Councils to assess the effects of environmental changes on biological systems. Copies of the full reports are available in this meeting's Papers for Information.

### **3. Report Summaries**

#### **3.1 Executive Summary for the 2017-2018 Rotorua Lakes Summer Creel Survey**

The Council runs a number of long term species monitoring programmes that are used to assess the state of the fisheries in key lakes and develop strategies or responses to various issues and external factors that may be affecting the fisheries. The creel surveys are great examples of angler and fishery surveys that provide a wide range of information on high-use fisheries, and allow us to effectively monitor the effect of management actions and provide sound data for informed decision making on angler issues. Fishery monitoring provides a valuable top-down assessment of productivity changes in lakes and accordingly has relevance to other agencies' water quality actions in the Rotorua lakes. The summer creel survey is a key species monitoring tool for Council, and provides us with an opportunity to monitor angler participation and satisfaction and undertake compliance work in addition to monitoring the fishery itself.

#### **Lake Rotoiti**

Anglers fishing Lake Rotoiti over the 2017-18 summer experienced lower catch rates than during the 2016-17 summer. Catch rates were just above the past ten-year average (0.27 fish/hr). Deeper fishing methods were most successful with downrigger trolling (9% use) producing highest catch rates followed by wire line trolling (1% use) and jigging (61% use). Overall, the 2017-18 average sized fish was just larger but lighter than the average 2016-17 summer fish. Both autumn and spring released rising 2-year-olds were larger, whereas the rising 3-yr-old fish were smaller compared to their same aged counterparts. Perception of satisfaction was significantly lowered compared to the 2016-17 summer with 92% of anglers stating they were satisfied with their summer's fishing on Lake Rotoiti ( $P < 0.001$ ).

### **Lake Tarawera**

Lake Tarawera anglers surveyed over the 2017-18 summer experienced catch rates that were higher than during the 2016-17 summer. The average fish measured was both significantly smaller ( $P=0.006$ ) and lighter ( $P<0.001$ ) than the 2016-17 summer fish. Fly fishing, though the least surveyed method (1% use) produced highest catch rates followed by downrigger trolling (11% use), jigging (45% use), and wireline trolling (2% use). All hatchery released age groups measured exhibited poorer growth than seen during the 2016-17 creel. Legal sized returns made up 26.6% of the Tarawera catch during the 2017-18 summer. This is higher than that during 2016-17 and further demonstrates the poorer condition of fish caught. Angler satisfaction was less than that during the 2016-17 summer with 91% (cf 95% 2016-17) of anglers stating they were satisfied with their 2017-18 summer's fishing on Lake Tarawera.

### **Lake Rotorua**

Anglers fishing Lake Rotorua over the 2017-18 summer had better catch rates than anglers that fished during the 2016-17 summer. The summer stream mouth angling was improved with fly fishing proving the most successful summer method. The average sized trout caught during the 2017-18 summer was longer but significantly lighter ( $P<0.001$ ) than the average 2016-17 summer fish. Angler satisfaction was up on that in the 2016-17 summer with 100% of anglers interviewed stating they were satisfied with their 2017-18 summer's fishing on Lake Rotorua.

### **Lake Okataina**

Lake Okataina anglers surveyed over the 2017-18 summer experienced better catch rates compared to the 2016-17 summer. Fly fishing proved to be the most successful method surveyed (1% use) followed by shallow trolling (1% use) and wire line trolling (5% use). The average fish caught was smaller and significantly lighter ( $P=0.041$ ) than during the 2016-17 summer. Angler satisfaction was unchanged with 100% of anglers surveyed stating they were satisfied with their angling during the 2017-18 summer on Lake Okataina.

## **3.2 Summary for the 2018 Aerial Transect Counts of Mallards and Grey Duck**

Fish & Game conducted randomised aerial transect counts of mallard and grey duck in the two weeks prior to the 2018 game bird hunting season. Transects covered three Fish & Game Regions (Northland, Auckland-Waikato and Eastern). The data was analysed as four sub-regions (Reporoa, Northland, Waikato, and Bay of Plenty) and two duck management units (DMU1 and DMU2). New Zealand has been divided into a number of Duck Management Units for the purposes of monitoring. The DMUs are areas of similar climatic conditions. The large variances around the estimates make it difficult to discern relative change over time but two areas (Bay of Plenty and DMU1) showed a small but significant increase over the five years these areas have been surveyed.

The authors provide comments on survey design and raise questions on how the results are to be used to assist Councils with their decision making.

### **3.3 Summary for the 2018 Eastern Region Game Hunter Survey**

Fish & Game has conducted a randomised phone survey of hunters during each game bird season since 1993. Hunters are asked dates and hours hunted including game birds harvested. For the 2018 game bird season, total mallard and grey duck harvest was up on the previous six years while paradise shelduck, shoveler duck, and black swan were on par with previous years. Pheasant and California quail harvest were the lowest recorded since the survey began. The low upland game harvest may have been an anomaly of the survey as it does not pick up a large sample of upland game hunters.

### **3.4 Summary for the 2018 National Shoveler Count**

Fish & Game New Zealand conducted a national count of shoveler duck (*Spatula rhynchotis*) on 6 August 2018. This is the 19<sup>th</sup> annual count (2000-2018) to monitor change in the New Zealand population. Population change was examined using two methods (1) a variant of the Route Regression method (Geissler and Sauer, 1990), and (2) totals from 83 sites that have been counted each year for the past 19 years.

A total of 11,201 were counted at 250 sites. Over the 19 years the population at these sites appears to be stable, (percentage change = -1.2; 95% Credible Interval -2.6 – 0.21;  $n=244$ ). Short term (2017-2018) there was no detectable change as the credible interval estimate spans zero (mean = -4.5%; -20.1 – 15.1, 95% Credible Interval;  $n=242$ ). The 2018 total count for sites that have been counted every year ( $n=83$ ) however, was 80% of the average for the period 2000 – 2017 and was down 46% on last year's count. Nevertheless the long term trend at these 83 sites indicates a small linear increase over the past 19 years ( $\beta_{yr}=129$ ,  $t=2.248$ ,  $P=0.038$ ).

Sex ratios were examined using a chi-squared test. Males were significantly more numerous ( $P<0.001$ ) with a ratio of 1.56 males to female. This sex imbalance is consistent with counts in previous years.

Count sites were not randomly selected so inference about national shoveler populations is left to the reader. In future staff are encouraged to record shoveler habitat (name and grid reference; i.e. where shoveler are observed). This data could form the basis for a shoveler habitat database to improve survey design.

## **4. Recommendation**

- 4.1 That Council receives the summaries for the 2017-18 Summer Creel Survey, 2018 Aerial Transect Counts of Mallard and Grey Duck, the 2018 Eastern Region Game Hunter Survey, and the 2018 National Shoveler Count.**

## **15. NOVEMBER MEETING OF NEW ZEALAND COUNCIL**

**Ref: 8.04.04**

**14 October 2018**

### **1. Purpose**

To advise arrangements for the meeting of the NZ Council scheduled to be undertaken in the Eastern Region on 23-25 November this year.

### **2. Arrangements**

NZ Council meets five times a year, with three of these meetings held in Wellington and two rotated around different venues within the twelve Fish and Game regions. The NZ Council last met in the Eastern Fish and Game Region in March 2012.

The schedule for this year's meeting in the Eastern Region is as follows:

#### **Friday 23 November**

Meeting to be held at Eastern Region's offices in Paradise Valley Road commencing at 9am.

#### **Saturday 24 November**

The provisional programme involves a field trip during the morning to coastal Bay of Plenty to view recent and proposed habitat development projects in the Lower Kaituna Wildlife Management Reserve, and to visit the site of a major wetland development proposal situated near Pukehina.

A boat trip onto one of Rotorua's iconic lakes has been proposed for the afternoon.

#### **Sunday 25 November**

Friday's meeting to be picked up where it left off and concluded late morning/early afternoon.

In addition to the programme above there will be a conducted tour of Eastern's hatchery operation.

There is no requirement for the Eastern Fish and Game Council to participate in these events, but the opportunity is available for Councillors and staff to do so, and to meet, exchange views and discuss matters of mutual concern with members of the NZ Council. More information will be provided closer to the time.



## **16. LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS**

### **16.1 Conservation Boards**

- *Tongariro-Taupo Conservation Board*
- *East Coast/Hawke's Bay Conservation Board*
- *Bay of Plenty Conservation Board*

### **16.2 Reports from Other Agencies**

- Department of Conservation

### **16.3 Report from New Zealand Council**

## 17. OPERATIONAL REPORTS

### 17.1 MANAGEMENT REPORT

18 October 2018

#### SPECIES MANAGEMENT

#### 1111 River Fisheries Investigations

##### Waikaretaheke River Drift Dive Monitoring

Fish & Game staff undertook a drift dive of the Waikaretaheke River (outflow of Lake Waikaremoana) below the Piripaua Power Station under contract to Genesis Energy. A condition of Genesis' resource consent is to undertake five-yearly monitoring of the effects of the Hydro Power operation on the river's trout fishery. A lower count of fish was obtained than that on previous occasions but, visibility wasn't as good and may have been a factor in the count. Fish were proportionally represented where they had been present in past dives. In areas in which flow rates had reduced water levels to minimum levels the river bed was crawling with invertebrate life.

#### 1112 Datawatch

A total of 648 tags were returned during the 2017-18 datawatch tag season (for the license draw). This is 85 returns up on returns received during the 2016-17 season. The license draw for the 20 free licenses was made on 15 August 2018. The draw contained all tags returned since the last license draw. These were tags entered between 22/08/2017 and 15/08/2018.

The 20 winners of 2018-19 Whole Season Adult licenses were:

Surname	First name	Town
Taylor	Joseph	ROTORUA
Wilson	John (Bugs)	ROTORUA
Radford	Phil	TAURANGA
Lee	Steven	ROTORUA
Franz	Peter	ROTORUA
Holst	John	ROTORUA
Grant	Trish	HELENSVILLE
Thomas	Alexia	OHOPE
Utech	Christian	AUCKLAND
Thomson	Karl	TAURANGA
Beazley	Craig	ROTORUA
Blackler	Bill	ROTOMA
Barton	Adam	MATAMATA
Membery	Colin	ROTORUA
Pratt	Floyd	WHAKATANE
Lang	Brad	KAWERAU
Harris	Barry	ROTORUA
Hofstee	Han	ROTORUA
Kenealy	Schylar	TAURANGA

Barclay	Dave	TE PUKE
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During the 2017-18 trout fishing season itself (commencing 1/10/17), a total of 657 datawatch tags have been returned and entered into the database. The distribution is as follows:

Lake Okareka	17
Lake Okataina	134
Lake Rerewhakaaitu	26
Lake Rotoehu	9
Lake Rotoiti	113
Lake Rotoma	27
Lake Rotorua	14
Lake Tarawera	301
Lake Waikaremoana	4
Lake Tutira	12
Maraetotara	0

*data entered to 14 September 2018*

The datawatch programme was advertised in the latest Fish & Game magazine (fish supplement and newsletter) and on the Fish & Game website to ensure anglers kept sending in tag returns.

Tag returns for the season 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018 were ahead of the 2016-17 returns by 116 tags. Lake Tarawera was up by 100 returns on the 2016-17 season, and Lake Rotoma was up by 50% (14 returns) while Rotoehu was down by 50% (9 returns). Other lakes were close to the totals returned during the previous season.

### **1113 Lake Waikaremoana**

#### **Lake Waikaremoana Monitoring Buoy Update**

It was intended that the monitoring buoy would be redeployed during August 2018 but delays in the arrival of sensors on order put back the completion date. The likely scenario now is that the buoy will be redeployed in November. The top housing containing the weather station and solar panels for battery charging was retrieved by staff in early September for testing to establish whether all equipment is functioning as it should be. This has not been undertaken since the buoy was installed in 2009. Staff also inspected the chains linking the buoy to the anchor lines and found that the chains are corroding and in a poor state. These will need to be replaced at the time the sensors are re-instated.

### **1114 Lake Tarawera**

#### **Tarawera Outlet Drift Dives**

Staff completed the final spawning trout count of the Tarawera Outlet on 28 August 2018.

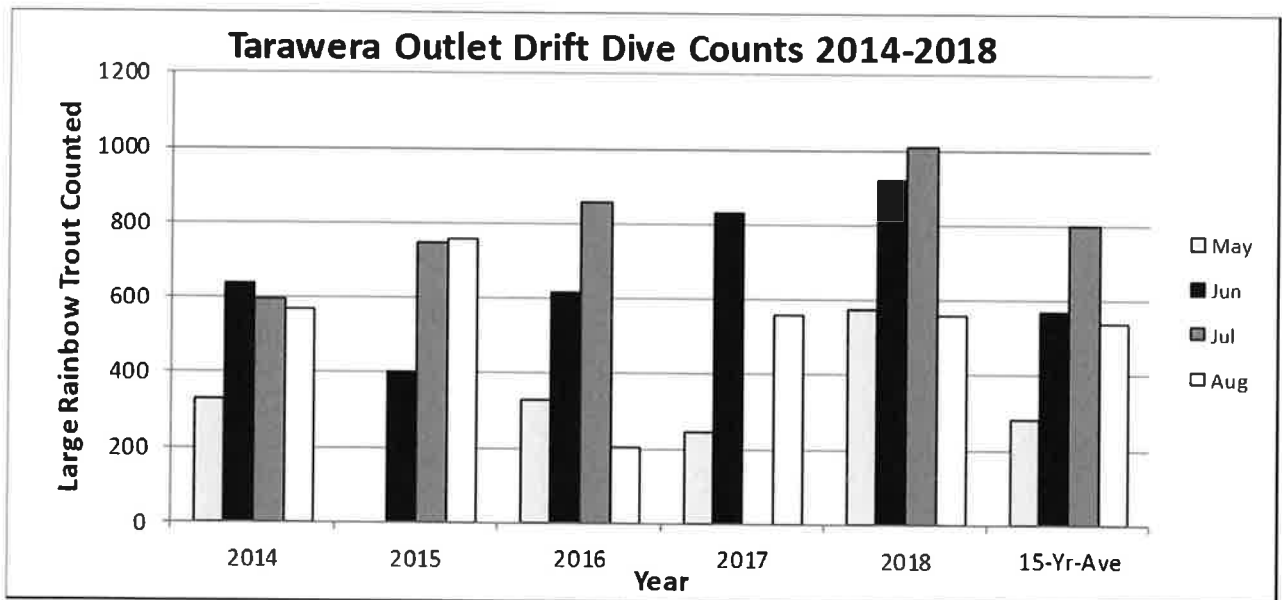
	Size range			2018 Total	2017 <i>Total</i>	2016 <i>Total</i>
	Small	Medium	Large			
May	33	25	575	633	695	-
June	0	11	919	930	636	681
July	0	0	1,011	1,011	860	787

August	0	0	561	561	203*	781
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\*The August 2016 dive was undertaken on 2 September 2016

The number of large spawning fish counted at the Tarawera Outlet during the 2018 winter surpassed the past 15-year average for the months of May, June and July, and was on a par for August. Counts of large fish peaked in June and July, and the magnitude of the run mirrors the escapement counts recorded through the Te Wairoa trap this season.

The Outlet provides the highest quality and most stable spawning habitat for Lake Tarawera. Many other spawning sites around Tarawera will have been affected by high water flows and sediment entering waterways over the 2018 autumn/winter period. The Wairua Stream has had a particularly high rate of flooding and accompanying mobilization of sediment.



\*The August 2016 dive was undertaken on 2nd Sept 2016

### Lake Tarawera Fishery Research Update

A programme is being put together for start time late November 2018. This will include acoustic transects across Lake Tarawera to measure smelt/juvenile bully biomass and gain some insight into their distribution.

Concurrently collection of benthic and pelagic samples as part of food web study in conjunction with University of Waikato researchers will be got underway.

### 1115 Other Lake Fisheries Investigations

#### Ngongotaha Trap-run

The trap was unable to be operated during August 2018. During September 2018 the trap was operated for seven nights. All but one fish recorded heading upstream were rainbow trout. No trout were recorded exceeding the ten-pound mark.

#### Ngongotaha Stream trap run (September 2018)

	Av. Length	Av. Weight	Trap Run	Fish/night	10 pound+	% Brown
Rainbow	482	1.43	74	11	0	
Brown	620	2.45	1			1%

### **Lake Rotoiti Catfish Update**

Bay of Plenty Regional Council's fyke netting programme to map movements of catfish and remove some biomass recommenced on 28 August 2018. Timing of this is driven by warming water temperatures which results in catfish becoming more active, and commencement of their spawning period. A change has been made to the fyke nets with 'throating restrictors' being added to reduce bycatch of dabchick and trout. Most of the few trout caught have been able to be released alive. Netting efforts have initially been concentrated on the Ohau Channel, Te Weta Bay and Okere Arm area. Catfish have not yet been caught in Lake Rotorua but they have been caught in the Ohau Channel 150m from the lake.

A PIT tagging study (part of Shane Grayling's MSc thesis) may commence over the 2018-19 summer (if a number of larger catfish are trapped that can be tagged) to allow better targeting of catfish aggregations.

On Opening Day (1 October) of the fishing season Te Arawa Lakes Trust (TALT) and iwi advocates led by Nicki Douglas and William Anaru joined Fish & Game staff and BOPRC staff to spread the message about catfish presence and protocols to reduce the spread to other lakes and waterbodies.

TALT will be promoting and leading a community led fyke netting programme with a large number of nets involved aimed at keeping catfish biomass at as low level a level as is practicable in Rotoiti.

### **1116 Waterfowl Monitoring**

A number of research opportunities have been generated from Jenn Sheppard's PhD work. Matt McDougall has been assisting with some survival analyses which hopefully will provide a better insight into population drivers and dynamics.

Both Eastern and Hawke's Bay mallard population estimates have been compiled (Eastern estimates are provided elsewhere in this Agenda). In addition to the Eastern Game Hunter Survey, Matt has been involved in making improvements to the National Hunter Survey website and has assisted a number of Fish & Game regions with issues/problems and data analysis.

A major issue with band data analysis is estimating hunter reporting rate. Hunting & Fishing has kindly got in behind a promotion to try and improve reporting rate, and has presented five lucky hunters with a prize of a hunting jacket and a dozen flocked decoys each.

### **Shoveler Survey**

Fish and Game New Zealand conducted a national count of shoveler duck (*Spatula rhynchotis*) on 6 August 2018. This is the 19<sup>th</sup> annual count (2000-2018) to monitor change in the New Zealand population. A summary of results is provided in Agenda Item 14 and a copy of the full report is available in the Papers for Information accompanying this agenda.

### **1118 Game Bird Research**

Matt McDougall has been working on a game bird research strategy with a group of other regional Fish & Game staff and attended a presentation and discussion on a national research strategy at the August Managers Meeting

### **1121 Lake Fisheries Creel Surveys**

#### **Ohau Creel Survey**

Analysis of the 2017-18 Ohau Creel has been completed. The new Expert Fisheries Panel consisting of Michel Dedual (DOC Taupo), Ian Kusabs (Fisheries Consultant) and Dave Rowe (ex NIWA Fisheries Scientist) is likely to meet in November though a date has yet to be set for this.

Aquatek will again be undertaking creel surveys funded by the Regional Council) during the 2018-19 season. Opening Day at the Ohau Channel attracted a smaller turnout of anglers this year with the largest rainbow weighed in during the OAK (Ohau Anglers competition) being 2.9kg. Several brown trout exceeding 10-pound were caught after dark on Opening Day (1 October) with David Bach landing a 68cm, 4.8kg female.

#### **Winter Creel Surveys**

The 2017-18 winter creel data has been entered into a database and analysis commenced.

#### **Opening Day Rotorua Lakes Surveys**

On the Opening Day (1 October), staff along with honorary rangers and volunteers, interviewed 628 anglers and measured 693 fish across the three lakes surveyed. Preliminary results are as follows:

- Tarawera – size of two-year-old (spring released) fish were larger than average at 486mm and 1.29kg. Fish were approximately 6mm and 100g larger than recorded on Opening Day last year. Harvest rate (number of fish kept) was higher than that of the past two openings and indicative of fish being in better condition. Anecdotally the catch rate was said to be slower than most openings. Largest fish weighed in was 2.7kg.
- Rotoiti – produced the best conditioned spring released two-year-olds from the three lakes coming in at 497mm and 1.53kg. Harvest rate greater than that from the past two openings. Comments from anglers were that fish were in better condition and anglers appeared happy with the day. Largest fish presented was 3.0kg.
- Okataina – the spring released two-year old fish weighed in were smaller than at recent openings and at 487mm and 1.31kg on average were just larger than the Tarawera fish. Okataina harvest rate appeared to be up though this is likely to have been influenced by the competition held on the lake over the first two days of the season. Largest fish on the day was 2.8kg.

The data recorded from the opening will be entered into a database prior to analysis.

Interviewers	Site	Anglers	Fish	Harvest est.
Eben, Angus, 2*UoW	Stoney Pt.	52	79	
Matt, Matt, Colin, Grant, Laura, Ryan	Boat shed bay	155	162	
Matt, Murray, Kate	Boat	100	82	
Nigel	Landing	40	40	
	<b>Tarawera Total</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>1.14</b>
Lloyd	Okataina Beach			
	Boat			
	<b>Okataina Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>1.56</b>
Andy, David	Gisborne Point	44	77	
Anthony, Mike	Boat	97	63	
Barry, John	Otaramarae	72	84	
	Delta/Camp			
	<b>Rotoiti Total</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>1.39</b>
	<b>Total Contacts</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>693</b>	

### Special Opening Promotion

Tagged fish were released into lakes Tarawera, Rotoiti and Okataina on 27 September 2018. Ten fish were released into each lake as in previous years. One of these 'Orange' tags was caught by an eligible angler on Okataina in the second week of the event which ran through to close of day on 14 October. The angler, Sven Tetenburg, a Rotorua resident, attended the draw, and though he missed out on one of the big prizes, received a voucher from the Outdoorsman to the value of \$250. One of the 'Green' promotional tags from the 2016 Opening promotion was also caught on Okataina. Special thanks are due to the sponsors Crs Lindsay Lyons, Barry Roderick, and Makaira Orchards Te Puke (\$10,000 prize), Telfer Marine (2HP Yamaha outboard), and Hamills Rotorua, the Outdoorsman, and Kilwell (voucher or tackle to value of \$250).

### Summer Creel Surveys

The 2018-19 summer creel survey schedule has not yet been created. The strategy for the 2018-19 summer is to retain coverage of the four large high use lakes, as well as incorporating some level of monitoring across the lesser utilised lakes. This was attempted last season but not accomplished due to a number of reasons. Aside from surveys, an online angler diary scheme has been created in the expectation of gaining greater reports and coverage from lesser covered waters within the Eastern Region.

### 1123 Game Bird Hunter Survey

Fish & Game conducts an annual survey of hunters. The survey in the Eastern Region commenced in 1993 and has been conducted in all years since except 1995 (due to a change in staff at this time). For the 2018 Eastern Fish & Game Region season the key results are:

1. Total hours hunting waterfowl (effort) in the Eastern Region has decreased over time (1993 – 2018;  $\beta_{Yr} = -2616.3$ ,  $t=-7.64$ ,  $P<0.0001$ ). Estimated total and average effort for the 2018 season was trending up on last year,.

2. Total and average mallard and grey duck harvest for the 2018 season was up on last year, while ducks per hour were up a little. Total harvest was the highest recorded since 2011 and average harvest since 2010.
3. Paradise shelduck harvest has fluctuated over time but the overall trend shows no increase or decrease ( $r = -0.17$ ,  $t_{(21)} = -0.7974$ ,  $P = 0.43$ ).

A copy of the full report is provided in the accompanying Papers for Information.

#### 1141 Hatchery Operations

Ova from the late season crosses were transferred from incubators to troughs and early crosses moved to rearing tanks.

15 new crosses were taken in late July and August producing 75,000 green ova and bringing the total crosses for the year to 80. Around 350,000 green ova have been collected in total which is adequate to complete requirements for 2019.

Fish were despatched or collected for display to local tourist attractions or scientific institutions. Eyed ova was sent to Taranaki Fish & Game Region and 2 year old rainbows for children's fishing were delivered to Wellington Fish & Game.

Spring liberations for the Eastern Region commenced in August with most of these being completed during September (see table below). Lakes Okataina, Rotoiti and Tarawera will receive their final staggered releases later in October.

#### *Fish locations at 9 October 2018*

Location	Type	Qty (approx)	Comment
Tank B	0+ Tiger	20	Display
Tank C	1+ Bt	1430	Liberations spring 2018
Tank D	1+Bt	1290	Liberations spring 2018
Pond 2	1+Rt	6,750	Spring liberations and orders 2018
Pond 3	1+Rt	7,500	Spring liberations and orders 2018
Pond 4	1+Rt	500	Spring liberations and orders 2018

#### 1143 Te Wairoa Trap

The Te Wairoa Fish Trap (Lake Tarawera) was removed on 31 August. The total run this year was 2,122 fish. This total was higher than the number of trout trapped during the 2017 winter and exceeded the previous highest recorded spawning run back in 2005 (2,018 fish). Once again, large rainfall events were recorded leading to flooding around the trap even though extra gates had been erected to minimize fish circumventing trap. The largest fish through the trap was a 600mm, 3.65kg LpAd female (4-year-old previous spawner). The average size of the fish trapped this winter was smaller (6mm), but significantly heavier (40g per fish,  $P = 0.005$ ) and in significantly better condition (44.22 versus 41.83,  $P < 0.001$ ) than the average size of fish trapped during the 2017 winter. Hatchery fish trapped over the 2018 winter measured 547mm and 1.99kg compared to 550mm and 1.91kg during the 2017 winter.



Hatchery fish trapped over the 2018 winter were 3mm shorter but significantly heavier ( $P<0.001$ ) and in significantly better condition ( $P<0.001$ ). The average size of the wild fish trapped over the 2018 winter measured 496mm and 1.55kg compared to 499mm and 1.52kg during 2017. As with the hatchery fish, wild fish were 3mm smaller on average, but heavier and in significantly better condition ( $P=0.014$ )

Year	Total run	Wild run	Wild %	Ave length	Ave weight
2014	902	302	33.5	547	2.05
2015	1,040	339	32.6	541	1.95
2016	1,112	323	29.0	541	2.01
2017	801	189	23.6	538	1.82
2018	2,122	626	29.5	532	1.86

### 1161 Sports Fish Liberations

*Liberations, Eastern Region 24 July – 9 October 2018*

Water	Date Liberated	Mark	Tag	Species	Age	Number
Okareka	20/08/2018	Rp	G18	RT	1+	500
Okareka	20/08/2018	Rp	-	RT	1+	2,000
Okataina	13/09/2018	Rp	E18	RT	1+	500
Okataina	13/09/2018	Rp	-	RT	1+	1,000
Rerewhakaaitu	21/08/2018	Rp	I18	RT	1+	500
Rerewhakaaitu	21/08/2018	Rp	-	RT	1+	3,500
Rotoehu	22/08/2018	Rp	-	RT	1+	1,360
Rotoehu	19/09/2018	Rp	C18	RT	1+	500
Rotoehu	19/09/2018	Rp	-	RT	1+	640
Rotoiti	14/09/2018	Rp	-	RT	1+	3,770
Rotoiti	14/09/2018	Rp	B18	RT	1+	500
Rotoiti	17/09/2018	Rp	-	RT	1+	2,730
Rotoma	19/09/2018	Rp	-	RT	1+	2,000
Rotoma	19/09/2018	Rp	D18	RT	1+	500
Rotorua	18/09/2018	Rp	A18	RT	1+	1,000
Tarawera	11/09/2018	Rp		RT	1+	4,000
Tarawera	11/09/2018	Rp	H18	RT	1+	500

### 1181 Game Bird Control

Eleven permits to disturb have been issued to 6 land owners so far this year. One paradise, eight pukeko and two pheasant permits.

## HABITAT PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE

### 1211 RMA Planning

#### **Gisborne District Council – Freshwater Advisory Group and Freshwater Plan**

An appeal on parts of the Proposed Freshwater Plan was lodged in September 2017. The appeal points related to some fish passage provisions, the activity status for new maimai, crop survival water allocation provisions, and activities in riparian margins. Mediation was

attended in May 2018, with positive outcomes on most of our appeal points. A second round of mediation to further discuss outstanding issues is scheduled in October.

### **Bay of Plenty Regional Council**

Proposed Plan Change 9 (Water Quantity) submissions were lodged in December 2017. The Hearing was attended in March, and recommendations from the Panel were released in October 2018. Appeals are due in November.

### **Waikato Regional Council**

In March 2018, the Auckland/Waikato and Eastern Fish and Game Councils lodged a joint submission on Waikato Regional Council's Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora: Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1.

### **Bay of Plenty Water Advisory Panel**

Fish & Game remains involved in the Bay of Plenty Regional Water Advisory Panel, community catchment groups, and Okareka Working Party.

### **Bay of Plenty Draft Regional Pest Management Plan**

Comments were lodged on the Bay of Plenty Draft Regional Pest Management Plan in 2017 opposing the inclusion of sports fish (perch and tench) in the document. The existing Pest Management Plan has recently expired and a new Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan released. Submissions on the proposed plan are due in November.

## **1212 Consent Applications**

Date In	Authority	Applicant	Type	Resource Involved	Action
2-Aug-18	BOPRC	Fonterra	DP- dairy liquid and wastewater truck spread to farms	Region wide farms except sensitive areas	S96 OPPOSED
4-Oct-18	BOPRC	Nova Energy	LUC- debris island removal & tailrace repairs	Aniwhenua Power Station, Rangitaiki River	S95E3A APPROVED
5-Oct-18	BOPRC	BOPRC	DP- herbicide Endothall for pest plant control	Rotorua lakes & catchments	S96 OPPOSED
8-Oct-18	BOPRC	Philipsen & Greymouth Holdings	LUC – jetty construction	Curtis Road, Lake Rotoiti	S95E3A APPROVED

### **Resource consents of note**

#### ***Rotorua Lakes***

We have opposed BOPRC's resource consent application for discharging the aquatic herbicide Endothall to the Rotorua lakes and catchments for pest plant control. We are not opposed in principle to the use of this herbicide but have reservations about the maximum allowable percentages of weed beds that could be sprayed within a given timeframe, and the potential impact of that on food webs and prey items for trout. Relief has been sought to appease our concerns. Fish & Game will need to persist with this as BOPRC is concurrently applying for the aquatic herbicide Diquat use to also be extended – which we have also

opposed as the relief we sought has not been considered and the consent is going to hearing late November 2018.

### ***Fonterra***

Representatives from Fonterra and Fish & Game have met, and progress is being made with potential amendments to the consolidated resource consent application for dairy liquids and wastewater being truck spread to farms to appease our concerns. Reduced nitrogen and phosphorus application rates are proposed, but the planned area for spreading is the whole of the Bay of Plenty region, bar areas (i.e. Lake Rotorua and Rotoiti catchments) that have been designated as sensitive. We want to see additional areas to be included in this schedule. Due to deadlines we opposed the consent but believe issues can be resolved without the need to take this to a hearing.

### ***Awaiti Canal***

The Awaiti Canal water abstraction resource consents have been approved with good monitoring conditions, minimum canal levels and review clauses over the next ten years so all parties have certainty into the future. Fish & Game and DOC have contributed a token amount to monitoring equipment as a gesture of good faith. Stakeholder relationships have evolved so issues should be satisfactorily resolved if they arise over dryer months.

### ***Gisborne District Council***

GDC has proposed a draft global consent enabling road maintenance within the district. Fish & Game is not opposed to global consents, but we have opposed this draft application as the Council wishes to be able to undertake works in streams and rivers during spawning periods. DOC is also opposing this application in principle. All parties hope to work through a solution prior to formal submission of the application.

## **1221 Reserves Management**

Spring/summer mowing and track pest plant spraying has commenced within the reserves, and large-scale track repairs and pond maintenance have been planned using funds derived from the ballot holders habitat contribution fees that are being introduced in early November.

### ***Lower Kaituna WMR***

Sand abstraction has been completed in the southern area in which it was planned, and the large hole created has since been contoured and some amenity plantings put in. Access tracks are to be contoured in late summer and water control structures inserted. More detailed planning for the large-scale paddock to wetland conversion previously discussed in Council agendas is still awaiting hydrological design, and the landscape architect has yet to provide interpretation design graphics about what was agreed upon. Council will be informed of progress of designs, graphics and options once we receive them. The Manager attended a Regional Council workshop concerned with developing a before and after monitoring plan for this area.

### ***Ngapouri and Tutaeinanga***

The Ngapouri and Tutaeinanga restoration project is progressing within budget and time frame. 17,500 native plantings have been put into the enlarged riparian margin around both lakes, and two weekly monitoring is taking place to ensure release spraying is conducted at the optimum time. Fish & Game is currently maintaining day to day oversight of the project.

### ***Thornton***

We have been informed by BOPRC staff that a substantial number of significant aquatic pest plants have been found within the raupo weed cordon, which had not previously been present within the lagoon. Currently BOPRC is organising chemical control of the pest plants and we will meet to discuss the ongoing management of the newly installed river/lagoon inlet culverts which enabled the pest plants to enter.

### ***Joint Management Agreements***

The final signing of joint management agreements between DOC and Fish & Game for the gazetted WMR wetlands we manage has not yet occurred due to change of management, but is expected to be completed by the end of November.

### **1231 Maintain and Enhance Game Bird Habitat**

Three new wetland developments or enhancement requests have been received since the last Council meeting, all within the Reporoa area. The first is a local dairy farmer, who observed Fish & Game assisting his neighbour with the construction of a wetland and now wants two as well by damming two streams. A site visit determined one stream was not appropriate and the second will enable a constructed wetland of approximately 0.75 hectares. Funding will be sought from WCEET to assist.

The second is another dairy farming neighbour who recently purchased another farm which has a six hectare soil Conservation Area which may be able to be converted to an ephemeral wetland site. We have yet to fully assess the site for suitability as we await summer flows. We are also working with the Waikato Regional Council to make the most out of the site, with WCEET again a potential funder for these works.

The third site is a Landcorp initiative arising from its goal of being a leading environmental farming group in NZ. An invitation was extended to Fish & Game to assess and provide advice on the enhancement of an existing grazed wetland. The total area comprises approximately three hectares, and works are planned to be undertaken in early 2019

### **1232 Habitat Creation**

#### **Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust**

The annual meeting and the 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Trust was held recently in Hamilton. Apart from conducting its normal business Trustees discussed opportunities for attracting outside funding or, brokering habitat enhancement opportunities. In particular, there may be opportunities given recent additions to Waikato Regional Council RMA plans that require developers to achieve no net loss of ecological values. Fish & Game will watch this space as there may be opportunities to create sports fish and game bird habitat.

#### **Pukehina Wetland Proposal**

The consent application for this eco-subdivision and conversion of 130ha of farmland to wetland was notified in mid October.

## **ANGLER AND HUNTER PARTICIPATION**

### **1311 Maintain & Enhance Access**

Access for anglers through Kaingaroa Forest closed at the end of September. Forest managers were approached regarding any possible extension of access into October but we were advised due to current and predicted fire risk this was not an option.

Access work has been carried out within Kaingaroa Forest – Timberlands have cleared areas of vegetation and tree fall on roads which access the Rangitaiki River following a request from Fish & Game.

Annual angler access track maintenance work around the region is commencing in October.

The Putere Lakes access matter is still in the course of resolution. DOC is dealing with this and we are confident of progress in this matter.

### **1331 Electronic Newsletters**

Reel Life was produced for September and October covering angling report, trapping results, season conditions, Lakes Tarawera and Waikaremoana, opening season prospects, Fish for Gold promotion, soft baits, angler diaries, and liberations.

### **1332 Fish & Game Magazine**

The special fish edition of the Fish & Game Magazine including the Region's 2018-19 Fishing Newsletter was distributed to 2017-18 Whole Season fish licence holders and copies of the Newsletter distributed to agents for their counter tops.

### **1333 Fish & Game Website**

Updates or changes to the Eastern Web site included Council agendas and minutes, and children's fishing event pages.

### **1334 Social Media**

Our Twitter account has 464 followers and received approximately 9,500 impressions for the reported period. Regular posts are being made to our Facebook page which has 59 followers.

### **1351 Children's Fishing**

The children's fishing programme is well underway for the 2018 season. Three events have been run to date with around 667 participants.

### **1354 Fishing Competitions**

Eight fishing competition permits were processed for the period.

### **1361 Fish & Game Club Communications**

Three club visits were undertaken during the period.

### **1371 Fish & Game Huts**

Maintenance was carried out as required at both Wairua and Waikaremoana.

The Wairua Hut concession process is still unresolved. There have been issues with the detail of the term of the concession offered to Fish & Game. A formal review of the matter has been requested and this is still in progress.

## **PUBLIC INTERFACE**

### **1421 Public Communications**

#### **Media report for Eastern Region – 1 August to 30 September 2018**

Publicity over this period focused strongly on two topics – the launch of another Fish for Gold promotion – this time dubbed a “fishy lucky dip,” and the release of information to promote angling interest in the October 1 opening of lakes Rotoiti, Tarawera and Okataina. Grant Dyson distributed nine releases in total, mostly on these two topics, over this two month period.

Fish for Gold consumed many hours of work that included writing preview media releases, organising fresh graphics, creating website pages and assisting with distributing publicity material to outdoor stores. Grant also worked closely with Matt McDougall on the Banding Together promotion run in association with Hunting & Fishing. This involved a considerable effort on Matt’s part, gathering band return information from various sources. Five winners of the prize-winning packages were randomly selected and Grant and Matt liaised extensively with Hunting & Fishing staff to produce a joint media release, and organise a publicity photo.

Grant also worked with Mark Sherburn to update kids fish out pages and distribute a media release to promote the days. Rotorua information was also added to a new Angling Events page that contains nationwide information on childrens’ fish outs and other activities.

Part three of the video series ‘how to breed 100,000 trout’ was also produced and posted on Fish & Game’s Facebook where it has attracted some solid viewing figures.

Grant Dyson spent some hours over the two months on New Zealand Council tasks, including revising the fishing licence pages (Q & A, pricing and other information), and was also responsible along with Don Rood, for editing and creating new website pages for Fish & Game’s ‘trout and angling under threat’ campaign.

## **COMPLIANCE**

### **1511 Ranging**

August through into October has seen spawning fish present in streams in varying numbers. Spawning has practically finished in most areas but there are still some late spawning fish particularly in the Lake Rotorua catchment. Monitoring of these areas continues.

Angler checks have continued but most areas have been very quiet with generally low numbers of anglers encountered during the August to end of September period.

Figures for the 2017–18 year show 50 offenders have been dealt with for a total of 73 offences. This is a comparable number to last year's.

2,536 persons (i.e. anglers/hunters) were checked for compliance region-wide during the year for. This is a little lower than last year where over 2,800 contacts were made. Compliance rate continues to be in excess of 98 %.

Co-operation and liaison with Police around the region continues in relation to a number of matters.

Year to date i.e. since 1 September 2018 we have experienced an increase in offending, with a number of persons found fishing without licence, some in closed waters, and there have been a number of incidents where groups of youths have been found poaching or attempting to poach trout from a local spawning stream.

Ranging has been undertaken across the region including at Waikaremoana.

The game bird season concluded at the end of August with few issues.

#### **Contacts: Year 2017-2018 to 30/08/2018.**

<b>Month</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>Last 5 yr average</b>
September	66	50	59	29	21	45
October	984	960	1223	903	836	981
November	175	112	20	62	69	88
December	387	392	293	310	390	354
January	355	381	335	217	195	297
February	151	395	418	293	137	279
March	279	275	253	191	199	239
April	299	264	53	214	178	202
May	446	498	272	292	226	347
June	325	203	277	171	172	230
July	79	120	107	94	80	96
August	77	76	42	27	33	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,623</b>	<b>3,726</b>	<b>3,352</b>	<b>2,803</b>	<b>2,536</b>	<b>3,208</b>

#### **Contacts Year to Date 2018-2019**

Figures to date are currently unavailable.

#### **North Island/National CLE role**

This role continues with input into CLE/training/prosecutions and legal matters.

#### **Rangers**

Honorary Rangers continue to contribute around the region, with some assisting in the Rotorua area on opening day of the fishing season, and others ranging in their local areas.

Ranger warrants renewals have or are being carried out for the three year period September 2018 to September 2021.

We currently have nine honorary rangers, with another two persons lined up for training as rangers.

### 1521 Training

The rangers' annual training day was held in mid August and was well attended, and went well.

### 1531 Prosecutions

Currently nine offenders have offences pending resolution, details as per the table below.

Of these five have warrants to arrest either in lieu of summons or for failing to appear in court; some of these have been outstanding now for lengthy periods. Other matters are either pending prosecution outcomes, including diversion in some cases.

#### Offences Year to Date 2017-2018 Year:

For the year 2017- 2018 year to date we have dealt with 50 persons for 73 offences as tabled below.

*Offence table 2017-2018 year*

<b>Offence name</b>	<b>Number of offences</b>
Disturbing spawning gravels	4
Exceed bag limit - Fish	1
Fish during closed hours	4
Fish with illegal Tackle	6
Fishing closed waters	10
Fishing with more than one rod	1
Fishing without a licence	24
Gives false details	3
Obstruction	1
Possession of net/spear/implement	1
Take spawning fish with net/spear/implement	1
Unlawfully on property	4
Unpinned shotgun	7
Lead shot	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>73</b>

Resolution of offences, by offender over the 2017– 18 year is as per the table below.

While there have been a greater number of adult warnings issued, this is due to a number of matters where the offences were of a minor nature and where on assessment they failed the test of public interest in prosecution.



*Resolution of offences 2017-2018 year*

<b>Resolution Type</b>	<b>Number of offenders</b>
Prosecution – no diversion	9
Prosecution – diversion	9
Reparation	2
Youth warning	7
Adult warning	21
Nil action – left NZ	1
No prosecution – false information	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>

**Offences Pending Resolution**

To date (27/09/2018) 19 separate offences are pending resolution, by nine offenders.

*The table below shows offences currently pending resolution:*

<b>Offence name</b>	<b>Numbers</b>
Fish without licence	10
Illegal tackle	3
Possess spear-gaff	1
Fish closed waters	2
False details	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>

**LICENSING**

**1612 Analysis of Licence Information**

Kate Thompson continues to provide regular updates of licence sales for all regions. Additional reports are also supplied to the Licence Working Party and R3 Working Group.

**1621 Licence Agent Support**

Regulation guides and information distributed by staff to licence agents early in August. Administration staff continue to liaise with licence agents as required.

**PLANNING AND REPORTING**

**1841 National Liaison**

In addition to staff's ongoing contribution to a wide range of national projects and work areas, the Regional Manager provided ongoing input to enquiries and discussions associated with NZC Council initiatives and Hawke's Bay governance and management related issues.

**ADMINISTRATION**

**Training**

An RMA planning workshop was attended in Napier in August, and two staff from Eastern Region attended the two day National Wetland Symposium held in Napier in late September. Fish & Game had ten attendees from approximately 200 in all, and had a high profile with the

NZ Office CEO Martin Taylor being a key note speaker, and two staff either delivering or chairing habitat related presentations. Noticeably, there is a rising ground swell of support for more protection and habitat work for matuku (bittern) which would benefit dabbling ducks also, and advocating for a more enlightened approach to drain construction and maintenance.

**Fish & Game Boats**

Our three boats have had a mid term survey by the Maritime Surveyor and been issued new Certificates of Survey to take us through to April 2021.

## 17.2 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Ref: 9.01.07

12 October 2018

### 1. Background

As part of its commitment to Health and Safety and providing a safe workplace, the Eastern Fish and Game Council is provided with a report at each meeting describing:

1. Implementation and adherence to the Health and Safety plan – including Health and Safety as an agenda item for staff & ranger meetings;
2. Monitoring and Reporting – in accordance with the Health and Safety plan;
3. Risk Management (identification and treatment) – any new issues or hazards that have arisen and how these have been addressed;
4. Training programme – information sharing and training of staff and volunteers;
5. Health and Safety incidents – near misses or injuries sustained, plus updates on past events;
6. Recommendations.

### 2. August/September/part October 2018 Update

#### 1. Implementation and Adherence to the Health and Safety Plan

Regular (weekly) staff meetings.

Two volunteers on site were inducted in our H & S practices

Tail gate forms were prepared for:

- 08/10/18 Ngongotaha Stream Fish Trap
- 02/08/18 Hatchery Grounds Tree Trimming
- 01/10/18 Fish Opening Weekend x8
- 06/08/18 Shoveler Survey x4
- Waikaretaheke Drift Dive

## 2. Monitoring and Reporting

### Work Place Accident Register

	12/10/18	18/7/18
Number of workplace injuries in 2018-2019 year	0	n/a
Number of workplace injuries in 2017-2018 year	1	1
Number of workplace injuries in 2016-2017 year	2	2
Number of workplace injuries in 2015-2016 year	1	1
Number of workplace injuries in 2014-2015 year	1	1
Number of workplace injuries in 2013-2014 year	3	3
Total number of workplace injuries since 1 Sept 1995	35	35
Total number of days lost work injuries since 1 Sept 1995	9	9
Total number of days since last lost work injury (31/8/2017) <i>Note the lost work days were in Dec/Jan 17/18 after remedial surgery, not immediately after the injury.</i>	470	384
Total number of days prior to last lost work injury since 1 Sept 1995	8,035	8,035

## 3. Risk Management (identification and treatment)

Notes taken for the H&S minutes at the weekly staff meeting:

08/10/18	Induction for work experience helpers
02/10/18	Be aware of slippery boat ramps – take care
17/09/18	Bench seats by fish out pond are rotten – rotten material needs to be removed Remember to use whiteboard to update your whereabouts
20/08/18	Three are possum traps set on site – take care
13/08/18	Cabbage tree by hatchery is dead – needs arborist
08/08/18	Poaching issues – be alert
31/07/18	Dead tree at hatchery entrance Be aware around streams – lots of activities

## 4. Training Programme

Training for volunteers around the site

## 5. H&S Incidents

None to report

## 6. Recommendation

That Council acknowledges it has received this report.

## **17.3 Finance Report**

**Ref: 8.03.01**

**17 October 2018**

### **1. Purpose**

To inform the Council of the current financial position and approve payments for the months of July and August 2018.

### **2. YTD Profit and Loss**

The Profit & Loss statement for the period ending 31 August 2018 is attached. This report documents the income and expenditure for the final period of the 2017-2018 operational year.

#### ***Income***

Licence revenue is reporting to be below budget at the end of financial year by \$51,238 (Fish \$44,458, Game \$6,779). This figure excludes the levy component of non-resident licence sales which is not budgeted, and can be seen reported separately on the Profit and Loss statement (\$14,980). Licence sales by category and LEQ are reported in detail within the licence sales report included within this agenda.

Revenue from other sources over the period was made up of the following: hatchery (\$11,884), fishing competitions (\$653), rentals (\$5,444), grazing (\$5,200), and donations for children's fishing (\$342). Fines from prosecutions collected through the courts totalled \$705 and funds were also received from diversion processes for expense recovery and junior education programmes (\$522 and \$1,304 respectively). Legal expenses were reimbursed by the NZ Fish and Game Council relating to the Gisborne Fresh Water Plan appeal (\$2,470), and funds were received from Hawke's Bay and the NZ Fish and Game Councils for staff contract work (\$12,930), and Rainbow Springs for the children's fishing programme (\$2,000). Interest income totalled \$8,813 for the period.

Income from the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Environment Enhancement Fund term investments totalled \$3,156 for the period, and funds were transferred from the Fund for the survey work completed this year (\$5,060). Total interest received on the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Environment Fund for the year exceeded the budgeted target by \$6,138.

The Douglas Fir block on the property is required to be valued every two years. An 'informal' valuation that we have traditionally obtained has resulted in a non-cash transfer of \$21,000 to income as a result of its increasing value. Prior arrangements to have this signed off by a registered valuer are no longer available and as a result a formal valuation is required by a specialist valuer in this area. It is not possible to obtain this within the Fish & Game reporting time constraints which may mean that the forestry will remain at its prior value until a new valuation is sourced. We await confirmation from the auditor as to whether this transfer will proceed or whether the forestry value needs to be reverted to that obtained in 2016.

Overall "Other Income" ended the year ahead of budget (\$53,970) and this is distributed across a number of areas with the most significant being the forestry revaluation \$21,000, interest on term deposits \$8,530, funding of legal expenditure by the New Zealand Council \$11,018, and rentals \$15,506.

### **Species Management**

Population monitoring expenditure for the period related to landing fees for the Tauranga Harbour swan counts, and travel expenses associated with the annual shoveler counts.

The spending within the harvest assessment budget related to game hunter surveys and water proof paper.

Hatchery expenses for the period included the cost of fish food, salt for treatment of white spot, fencing materials for the Te Wairoa trap, and minor purchases relating to vehicles. The usual expenses are also reported relating to rates, rubbish removal, electricity, fuel, and oxygen. The hatchery area as a whole ended the year over budget (\$10,812) with fish food purchases accounting for \$8,752 of the total overspend which is partly a result of timing but also due to increases in prices and freight on fish food. The fish food budget has been increased for the new financial year and it is anticipated that these may rise again with New Zealand King Salmon no longer supplying small quantities to Fish & Game and the need to source food direct from overseas suppliers.

The Species Management output as a whole ended the year over budget by just \$1,679 as underspends relating to the Tarawera project (yet to commence), Waikaremoana buoy maintenance (being out of service), crop protection, and releases offsetting the hatchery excess.

### **Habitat**

Resource management expenditure related to professional advice associated with the Gisborne Regional Freshwater Plan (\$3,370). These expenses have been reimbursed by the New Zealand Council's legal fund.

Reserves management expenses included excavator works and the water easement at the Awaiti Reserve, a culvert for the Kaituna Reserve, metal for the Ohaaki reserve driveway, weed spray and predator traps.

The Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund sits within the habitat output and expenses associated with the budgeted survey work were finalised and transferred at year end to income accounts.

The Habitat output ended the year \$61,968 under budget. This variance is primarily due to funds not being drawn down from the Waikaremoana Sport Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund for various purposes which had been approved by Council (\$61,000). Advice and legal costs associated with the Gisborne Regional Fresh Water Plan were unbudgeted and were funded by the New Zealand Council. A reduction in assisted habitat spending was redirected into maintenance of existing reserves.

### **Participation**

Access expenditure for the period related to wages for work on various local sites, a contractor working on Ngapouri access, signs and stickers, and weed spray. Materials were purchased for the children's fishing programme and the cost for hut electricity is also reported. The participation area is under budget at year end (\$2,388). Funds allocated for replacing the shade sail on the 'Octagon' building and for a duck hunters day were not utilised, and a reduced number of Gamebird newsletters were produced as this was emailed to licence holders as a trial this year.

The cost to replace the shade sail was higher than anticipated and as a result this has been deferred.

***Public Interface***

Minimal expenditure is reported within the period for grounds maintenance and “Getting Started” DVDs. The Public Interface output ended the year under budget (\$1,195) and this is made up of spending allocated for insurance on the Fish for Gold promotion not being required (\$3,500) and an increase in grounds maintenance costs with the removal of trees posing safety concerns around the children’s fishing area (\$2,255).

***Compliance***

The Compliance expenses for the period related to the 0800 Poaching service and cell phone, and the purchase of ranger vests, polo shirts and caps. Travel expenses were reimbursed to honorary rangers attending a training day, and food and refreshments were purchased for this. Expenses are also reported in relation to document serving. Under budget at year end (\$1,468) and this is primarily due to a reduction in prosecutions going through the courts requiring assistance of external legal services.

***Licensing***

The Commission budget includes agent commissions and the fees associated with the Public Online and 0800 sales. The total for commission and fees paid for the year is under budget (\$13,509) and this is a result of the increased use of the Public Online licence purchasing facility and reduced costs associated with these sales.

***Council***

Council expenditure for the period related to catering, and travel expenses for the August meeting of Council. Under budget at year end (\$3,822) as a result of reduced travel expenses due to unforeseen absences by Gisborne based Councillors.

***Planning***

Levies were paid as budgeted in July and minor expenses were incurred within the Liaison budget relating to airport parking and meal expenses. An accrual is also reported for the annual audit. Under budget at year end (\$325).

***Administration***

Notes on individual areas:

Salaries	Under budget for the year (\$8,924). Funds allocated for contract work were reduced due to funded work being undertaken for the New Zealand Council and a reduction in the number of surveys being able to be undertaken at Lake Waikaremoana meant that additional contract staff were not utilised as revenue from the fund for this was purpose was also reduced.
Staff Expenses	ACC levies were paid in May. Other expenses related to meeting expenses and staff clothing. Training costs included Wetland Symposium registrations, a chainsaw course, a planning workshop, and flights for a fisheries meeting which was held in Dunedin. Minor costs are also reported relating to Health and Safety. Under budget for the year (\$1,738) due primarily to reduced staff training and FBT costs.

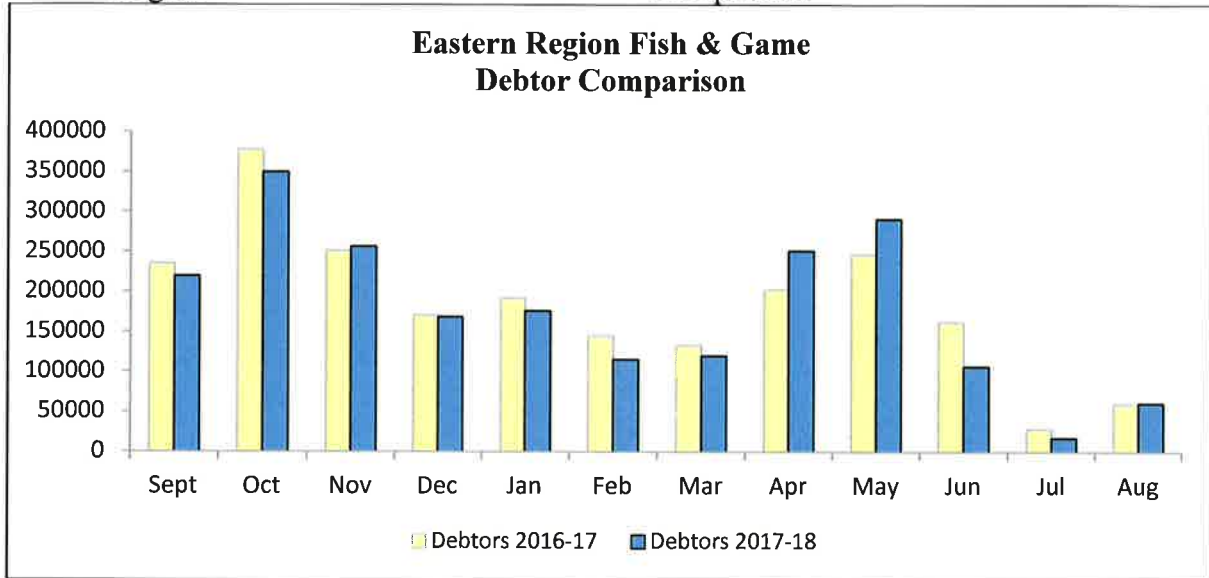
Staff Houses	Rates were paid and minor expenses are reported relating to electrical repairs at the staff quarters. Approximately \$3,000 has been accrued to the new financial year for maintenance (painting) which was intended to be undertaken to the timber house. This was not completed in the 2017-18 financial year as anticipated and will be undertaken this coming summer when the house will be vacant. The staff houses area has ended the year over budget \$1,176 and this is provided for by increased rental incomes.
Office Premises	The usual expenses are reported associated with electricity, cleaning, and security. Rates were paid in July and minor maintenance expenses were also incurred. The office premises budget is overspent \$2,447 primarily due to increased maintenance and electricity costs. A faulty meter for on charging power has been identified and is to be replaced when other electrical work is to be undertaken in the next two weeks.
Office Equipment	Expenses are reported relating to the phone and eftpos lease. Repairs to the hatchery phone line and replacement of a trunk card in the PABX during the year contribute to the overspend in the office equipment area at year of \$464.
Communications/ Consumables	Standard communications expenses are reported for the period including phones, broadband, stationery, and photocopying. There is also a small expense related to a subscription to Survey Monkey which is now being utilised for children's fishing bookings and angler diaries. Under budget at year end (\$2,331) which is due primarily to a reduction in IT support
General	Minor expenses are reported for morning teas and bank fees. The cost of the property valuation for insurance purposes was reported in August. The general expenses area is over budget at year end (\$669) due to increased insurance costs and this is offset by a reduction to insurance premiums reported within the vehicles budgets.
General Equipment	Maintenance expenses for the period included servicing of the chainsaw and walker mower, repairs to Parera boat cover, and minor equipment purchases. Maritime levies were paid and survey reports completed on the three boats. A Garmin Maps programme was purchased for use with GPS and equipment fuel expenses are also reported. Underbudget at year end (\$868)
Vehicles	Vehicle maintenance expenses for the period included servicing of six vehicles, one set of tyres, and a second hand wing mirror. The standard fuel expenses are reported which include RUCs on one vehicle. Under budget at year end (\$5,459) due to reduced servicing costs, insurance and registration costs and more significantly fuel costs through our All of Government contract.

**Cash Position:** \$1,011,667 (includes \$117,011 for asset replacement reserve and \$454,919 for Waikaremoana Fund) as at 31 August 2018.

**Debtors:** Outstanding Debtors \$60,623 as at 31 August 2018 (\$60,153 as at 31 August 2017).



Eastern Region Fish and Game - Debtors Balance Comparison 2016/17 – 2017/18



The bulk of the August debtors relate to licence sales, invoicing of other Fish & Game regions for trout and staff contracts, grazing, and sponsorship for the children’s fishing programme. All debtor accounts are up to date.

**Fixed Assets**

The following assets were purchased/sold within the period:

Asset purchased	Asset sales
Acer desk top computers x 2	Transport trailer – 171Z
Hewlett Packard laptop and dock	Single axle trailer – S6647

**3. Variance Report**

The variance report is shown on the following two pages. The complete year actual including staff hours are entered for each project area to provide Council with an overview of the staff time component of the Operational Work Plan.

**2017/2018 REPORT OF VARIANCES BETWEEN TOTAL BUDGET AND YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME**

**As at 31 August 2018**

Schedule B	Code	Project	EXTERNAL COSTS		HOURS		INTERNAL COST		NETABLE INCOME		NET COST		NET COST	Variance	%
			Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual			
	1110	Species Monitoring	\$ 34,000	\$ 25,521	2,369	2,311	\$ 136,761	\$ 128,652	\$ 12,000	\$ 5,060	\$ 158,761	\$ 149,113	\$ 9,649	\$ 93.9	
	1120	Harvest Assessment	\$ 2,150	\$ 2,196	850	891	\$ 49,070	\$ 49,601	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 51,220	\$ 51,797	\$ (577)	\$ 101.1	
	1140	Hatchery Operations	\$ 69,650	\$ 80,462	2,925	3,412	\$ 166,859	\$ 189,944	\$ 78,500	\$ 79,488	\$ 160,009	\$ 190,918	\$ (30,909)	\$ 119.3	
	1150	Game Farm	\$ -	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.0	
	1160	Releases	\$ 500	\$ -	220	220	\$ 12,700	\$ 12,247	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,200	\$ 12,247	\$ 953	\$ 92.8	
	1170	Regulations	\$ -	\$ -	156	205	\$ 9,006	\$ 11,412	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,006	\$ 11,412	\$ (2,406)	\$ 126.7	
	1180	Control	\$ 200	\$ -	52	27	\$ 3,002	\$ 1,503	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,202	\$ 1,503	\$ 1,699	\$ 46.9	
		<b>TOTAL - SPECIES MANAGEMENT</b>	\$ 106,500	\$ 108,179	6,572	7,066	\$ 379,398	\$ 393,359	\$ 90,500	\$ 84,548	\$ 395,398	\$ 416,990	\$ (21,592)	\$ 105.5	
	1210	Resource Management Act	\$ 200	\$ 11,462	1,154	1,781	\$ 66,620	\$ 99,147	\$ -	\$ 11,018	\$ 66,620	\$ 99,591	\$ (32,771)	\$ 149.0	
	1220	Works & Management	\$ 31,580	\$ 31,486	1,048	1,054	\$ 60,501	\$ 58,675	\$ 23,080	\$ 24,127	\$ 69,001	\$ 66,034	\$ 2,966	\$ 95.7	
	1230	Assisted Habitat	\$ 9,400	\$ 4,203	1,004	587	\$ 57,960	\$ 32,678	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 67,360	\$ 36,881	\$ 30,480	\$ 54.8	
	1240	Assess & Monitor	\$ -	\$ -	120	5	\$ 6,928	\$ 278	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,928	\$ 278	\$ 6,649	\$ 4.0	
		<b>TOTAL - HABITAT PROTECTION &amp; MAN</b>	\$ 41,180	\$ 47,151	3,326	3,427	\$ 192,008	\$ 190,779	\$ 23,080	\$ 35,145	\$ 210,108	\$ 202,785	\$ 7,324	\$ 96.5	
	1310	Access	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,600	648	589	\$ 37,409	\$ 32,789	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 44,909	\$ 40,389	\$ 4,520	\$ 89.9	
	1330	Newsletters/Information	\$ 13,000	\$ 11,347	411	281	\$ 23,727	\$ 14,530	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,727	\$ 25,877	\$ 10,850	\$ 70.5	
	1340	Other Publications	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,310	116	41	\$ 6,697	\$ 2,282	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,697	\$ 4,592	\$ 4,104	\$ 52.8	
	1350	Training	\$ 1,850	\$ 312	978	765	\$ 56,459	\$ 42,587	\$ 13,500	\$ 11,873	\$ 44,809	\$ 31,026	\$ 13,783	\$ 69.2	
	1360	Club Relations	\$ -	\$ -	95	57	\$ 5,484	\$ 3,173	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,484	\$ 3,173	\$ 2,311	\$ 57.9	
	1370	Huts	\$ 1,450	\$ 1,844	36	77	\$ 2,078	\$ 4,287	\$ 400	\$ 440	\$ 3,128	\$ 5,691	\$ (2,562)	\$ 181.9	
		<b>TOTAL - ANGLER &amp; HUNTER PARTICIP</b>	\$ 25,800	\$ 23,413	2,284	1,790	\$ 131,854	\$ 99,648	\$ 13,900	\$ 12,313	\$ 143,754	\$ 110,748	\$ 33,006	\$ 77.0	
	1410	Liaison	\$ -	\$ -	216	209	\$ 12,470	\$ 11,635	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,470	\$ 11,635	\$ 835	\$ 93.3	
	1420	Communication	\$ 500	\$ -	249	155	\$ 14,375	\$ 8,629	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,875	\$ 8,629	\$ 6,246	\$ 58.0	
	1440	Public Promotions	\$ 3,500	\$ 550	176	122	\$ 10,160	\$ 6,792	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,660	\$ 7,342	\$ 6,319	\$ 53.7	
	1450	Visitor Facilities/Education	\$ 1,000	\$ 3,255	568	592	\$ 32,790	\$ 32,956	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33,790	\$ 36,211	\$ (2,421)	\$ 107.2	
		<b>TOTAL - PUBLIC INTERFACE</b>	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,805	1,209	1,078	\$ 68,795	\$ 60,011	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 74,795	\$ 63,816	\$ 10,979	\$ 85.3	
	1510	Ranging	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,239	956	1,037	\$ 55,189	\$ 57,729	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,289	\$ 59,968	\$ (2,679)	\$ 104.7	
	1520	Ranger Training	\$ 1,000	\$ 898	108	163	\$ 6,235	\$ 9,074	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,235	\$ 9,972	\$ (2,737)	\$ 137.8	
	1530	Compliance Prosecutions	\$ 4,500	\$ 2,995	344	339	\$ 19,859	\$ 18,872	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,959	\$ 18,359	\$ 16,908	\$ 1,451	\$ 92.1	
		<b>TOTAL - COMPLIANCE</b>	\$ 7,600	\$ 6,132	1,408	1,539	\$ 81,283	\$ 85,675	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,959	\$ 82,883	\$ 86,848	\$ (3,965)	\$ 104.8	
	1610	Licensing	\$ 800	\$ 621	322	280	\$ 18,589	\$ 15,587	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,389	\$ 16,208	\$ 3,181	\$ 83.6	
	1620	Agent Servicing	\$ -	\$ -	200	146	\$ 11,546	\$ 8,128	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,546	\$ 8,128	\$ 3,418	\$ 70.4	
		<b>TOTAL - LICENSING</b>	\$ 800	\$ 621	522	426	\$ 30,135	\$ 23,715	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,935	\$ 24,336	\$ 6,599	\$ 78.7	
	1710	Council Elections	\$ -	\$ -	4	7	\$ 231	\$ 390	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 231	\$ 390	\$ (159)	\$ 168.8	
	1720	Council Meetings	\$ 10,000	\$ 6,178	880	807	\$ 50,802	\$ 44,925	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60,802	\$ 51,103	\$ 9,699	\$ 84.0	
		<b>TOTAL - COUNCILS</b>	\$ 10,000	\$ 6,178	884	814	\$ 51,033	\$ 45,315	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 61,033	\$ 51,493	\$ 9,540	\$ 84.4	
	1810	Management Planning	\$ -	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.0	
	1820	Annual Planning	\$ -	\$ -	125	104	\$ 7,216	\$ 5,790	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,216	\$ 5,790	\$ 1,427	\$ 80.2	
	1830	Reporting/Audit	\$ 9,200	\$ 8,847	528	382	\$ 30,481	\$ 21,266	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,681	\$ 30,113	\$ 9,569	\$ 75.9	
	1840	National Liaison	\$ 100	\$ 128	422	713	\$ 24,362	\$ 39,692	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24,462	\$ 39,820	\$ (15,358)	\$ 162.8	
		<b>TOTAL - PLANNING/REPORTING</b>	\$ 9,300	\$ 8,975	1,075	1,199	\$ 62,059	\$ 66,747	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 71,359	\$ 75,722	\$ (4,363)	\$ 106.1	
		<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ 206,180	\$ 204,454	17,280	17,339	\$ 997,566	\$ 965,249	\$ 133,480	\$ 136,965	\$ 1,070,266	\$ 1,032,739	\$ 37,527	\$ 96.5	



## Profit and Loss - Eastern Fish and Game Council

For the 2 months ended 31 August 2018

Income	Jul 2018	Aug 2018	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Total Budget	Variance	Var %
Licence Income	15,705	7,418	1,361,116	1,412,354	1,412,354	(51,238)	(4)
Non-Resident Licence Levy Revenue	157	31	14,980	0	0	14,980	0
Other Income	9,655	72,397	275,216	221,246	221,246	53,970	24
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>25,518</b>	<b>79,815</b>	<b>1,651,312</b>	<b>1,633,600</b>	<b>1,633,600</b>	<b>17,712</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>							
Depreciation	5,886	5,961	72,534	71,662	71,662	872	1
Loss on Disposal	798	438	1,530	670	670	860	128
Trout Inventory Revaluation	0	16,999	16,999	0	0	16,999	0
<b>1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT</b>							
1110 Population Monitoring	0	927	25,521	34,000	34,000	(8,479)	(25)
1120 Harvest Assessment	866	561	2,196	2,150	2,150	46	2
1140 Hatchery Operations	4,928	3,851	80,462	69,650	69,650	10,812	16
1160 Releases	0	0	0	500	500	(500)	(100)
1180 Game Bird Control	0	0	0	200	200	(200)	(100)
<b>Total 1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>5,793</b>	<b>5,339</b>	<b>108,179</b>	<b>106,500</b>	<b>106,500</b>	<b>1,679</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MNGMT</b>							
1210 Resource Management Act	2,390	80	11,462	200	200	11,262	5,631
1220 Works & Management	9	7,278	34,918	31,580	31,580	3,338	(11)
1230 Assisted Habitat	0	5,062	5,832	82,400	82,400	(76,568)	(93)
<b>Total 1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MGMT</b>	<b>2,399</b>	<b>12,420</b>	<b>52,212</b>	<b>114,180</b>	<b>114,180</b>	<b>(61,968)</b>	<b>(54)</b>
<b>1300 PARTICIPATION</b>							
1310 Access	143	2,231	7,600	7,500	7,500	100	1
1330 Newsletters	0	0	11,347	13,000	13,000	(1,653)	(13)
1340 Other Publications	0	0	2,310	2,000	2,000	310	16
1350 Training	27	155	312	1,850	1,850	(1,538)	(83)
1370 Huts	98	147	1,844	1,450	1,450	394	27
<b>Total 1300 PARTICIPATION</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>2,533</b>	<b>23,412</b>	<b>25,800</b>	<b>25,800</b>	<b>(2,388)</b>	<b>(9)</b>
<b>1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE</b>							
1420 Communication	0	0	0	500	500	(500)	(100)
1440 Public Promotions	0	60	550	3,500	3,500	(2,950)	(84)
1450 Visitor Facilities/Education	81	108	3,255	1,000	1,000	2,255	225
<b>Total 1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>3,805</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>(1,195)</b>	<b>(24)</b>
<b>1500 COMPLIANCE</b>							
1510 Ranging	57	729	2,239	2,100	2,100	139	7
1520 Ranger Training	6	329	898	1,000	1,000	(102)	(10)
1530 Compliance	632	0	2,995	4,500	4,500	(1,505)	(33)
<b>Total 1500 COMPLIANCE</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>1,058</b>	<b>6,132</b>	<b>7,600</b>	<b>7,600</b>	<b>(1,468)</b>	<b>(19)</b>
<b>1600 LICENSING</b>							
1610 Licence Prod/Distrib	0	621	621	800	800	(179)	(22)
1630 Commission	617	551	57,288	70,618	70,618	(13,330)	(19)
<b>Total 1600 LICENSING</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>1,172</b>	<b>57,909</b>	<b>71,418</b>	<b>71,418</b>	<b>(13,509)</b>	<b>(19)</b>
<b>1700 COUNCIL</b>							
1720 Council Meetings	0	1,331	6,178	10,000	10,000	(3,822)	(38)
<b>Total 1700 COUNCIL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,331</b>	<b>6,178</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>(3,822)</b>	<b>(38)</b>
<b>1800 PLANNING/REPORTING</b>							
1830 Reporting/Audit	0	2,145	8,847	9,200	9,200	(353)	(4)
1840 National Liaison	60,802	43	243,286	243,258	243,258	28	0
<b>Total 1800 PLANNING/REPORTING</b>	<b>60,802</b>	<b>2,188</b>	<b>252,133</b>	<b>252,458</b>	<b>252,458</b>	<b>(325)</b>	<b>(0)</b>
<b>1900 ADMINISTRATION</b>							
1910 Salaries	69,426	182,219	903,637	912,561	912,561	(8,924)	(1)
1920 Staff Expenses	2,710	2,328	22,162	23,900	23,900	(1,738)	(7)
1930 Staff Houses	601	3,700	13,776	12,600	12,600	1,176	9
1940 Office Premises	1,855	1,595	19,947	17,500	17,500	2,447	14
1950 Office Equipment	150	150	4,364	3,900	3,900	464	12
1960 Communications/Consumables	1,029	529	15,579	17,910	17,910	(2,331)	(13)
1970 General	89	747	9,119	8,450	8,450	669	8
1980 General Equipment	760	2,448	15,632	16,500	16,500	(868)	(5)
1990 Vehicles	3,359	2,876	43,241	48,700	48,700	(5,459)	(11)
<b>Total 1900 ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>79,979</b>	<b>196,591</b>	<b>1,047,455</b>	<b>1,062,021</b>	<b>1,062,021</b>	<b>(14,566)</b>	<b>(1)</b>

## 17.4 LICENCE SALES REPORT

Ref: 6.01.05

19 October 2018

### 1. Introduction

This report provides an overview of licence sales for the 2017-2018 financial year to 31 August 2018.

### 2. 2018 Game Licence Sales

- 2.1 Game licence sales for the 2018 season are summarised in Table One.
- 2.2 Total game licence sales ended the year 1.4% ahead of the 2017 season results.
- 2.3 A total of 97.9% of the annual sales target was been achieved despite having exceeded the total sales reported for 2017. The 2018 target for game sales increased to 3,316 LEQs from 3,101 LEQs in 2017.
- 2.4 Nationally for complete season results, game licence sales were 0.4% below sales reported for the 2016-17 season and 0.2% ahead of the national sales target.

**Table One**

**Comparison of Game Licence LEQs to 31 August 2018**

SALES CHANNEL	Adult Season	Junior Season	Child Season	Adult Day	Junior Day	Whole Season Equiv.	% Increase/ Decrease on 2017
Agent Online Sales	2829	300	140	106	1	2909	3.1%
Agent Book Sales						0	-100.0%
Direct Sales*	315	30	14	77	1	336	-11.8%
<b>Total Game 2018</b>	<b>3144</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3246</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
<i>Agent Online Sales</i>	<i>2734</i>	<i>291</i>	<i>121</i>	<i>146</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>2822</i>	
<i>Agent Book Sales</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>1</i>				<i>5</i>	
<i>Direct Sales*</i>	<i>358</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>381</i>	
<b>Total Game 2017</b>	<b>3097</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3208</b>	
TARGETS	Adult Season	Junior Season	Child Season	Adult Day	Junior Day	Whole Season Equiv.	Actual to date % of Target
<b>2018 Total Budget</b>	<b>3202</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3316</b>	<b>97.9%</b>
<b>2017 Total Sales</b>	<b>3097</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3208</b>	<b>101.2%</b>
<b>2018 Estimated year end</b>						<b>3246</b>	<b>97.9%</b>

\* Direct Sales - Internet, 0800

### **3. 2017-2018 Fish Licence Sales**

- 3.1 Fish Licence sales for the 2017-2018 season are summarised in Table Two.
- 3.2 Total fish licence sales ended the year 3.4% behind the 2017 season results.
- 3.3 A total of 95.9% of the annual sales target is showing to have been achieved for the season to 31 August 2018. There are however September sales of the previous 2016-2017 Season that also contribute to the final results/revenue reported within the annual report, and after including those results that percentage increases to 96.2%.
- 3.4 Nationally for complete season results, fish licence sales were 0.4% below sales reported for the 2016-17 season and 0.9% below the national sales target.
- 3.5 A more detailed report of licence sales performance for the 2017-2018 complete season will be available for the February 2019 meeting of Council.
- 3.6 Early season Fish Licence sales for the 2018-2019 Season are summarised in Table Three. *Note: Format of this report has changed due to higher number of categories requiring separate reporting with the changes in pricing for non-resident licence types. Appropriate reporting style is yet to be determined, it's a little early for worm charts but these may be the Council's preference.*
- 3.7 Total Fish sales YTD for the new 2018-19 Season are currently reporting at 0.3% below the 2017-18 result for the same period.
- 3.8 Nationally the YTD Fish licence sales for the new 2018-19 Season are also sitting just behind 2017-18 results for the same period 0.3%.
- 3.9 It is too early to comment on these initial season sales results, a verbal update will be provided at the November 1 Meeting of Council.



**Table Two**

**Comparison of Fish Licence LEQs to 31 August 2018**

SALES CHANNEL	Family Season	Adult Season	Adult NonRes	Adult Loyal Senior	Adult Local Area	Junior Season	Adult Winter	Adult Long Break	Adult Short Break	Adult Day	Junior Day	Whole Season Equiv.	% Increase/Decrease on 2016-17
Agent Online Sales	1587	1223	287	240	1129	277	307	64	573	3461	319	5731	-6.0%
Agent Book Sales												0	-100.0%
Direct Sales*	1289	953	189	173	488	167	221	44	599	3022	189	4252	1.4%
<b>Total Fish 2017-2018</b>	<b>2876</b>	<b>2176</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>1617</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>1172</b>	<b>6483</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>9983</b>	<b>-3.4%</b>
Agent Online Sales	1707	1204	351	204	1212	316	346	70	771	3510	304	6095	
Agent Book Sales		16				6				197	24	50	
Direct Sales*	1275	976	202	150	469	159	222	41	597	2709	220	4194	
<b>Total Fish 2016-2017</b>	<b>2982</b>	<b>2196</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>1681</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>1368</b>	<b>6416</b>	<b>548</b>	<b>10339</b>	

TARGETS	Family Season	Adult Season	Adult NonRes	Adult Loyal Senior	Adult Local Area	Junior Season	Adult Winter	Adult Long Break	Adult Short Break	Adult Day	Junior Day	Whole Season Equiv.	Actual to date % of Target
2017-2018 Total Budget	2980	2248	500	400	1700	500	550	150	1500	6300	500	10413	95.9%
2016-2017 Total Sales	2982	2196	553	354	1681	481	568	111	1368	6416	548	10339	96.6%
2017-2018 Estimated year end												9983	95.9%

\* Direct Sales - Internet, 0800 Licence

**Table Three**

**Fish Licence Sales 2018/19 vs 2017/18 Seasons YTD to 18 October 2018**

Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWZA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWND	FDJ	FDNJ	FWC	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Fish LEQ	Fish Var	Fish \$	Inc/Dec
Agency Online	903	601	28	190	604	0	63	214	63	68	1	31	0	0	0	0	0	2,766				
Public Online	668	462	43	122	179	0	37	175	51	33	1	12	2	0	0	0	0	1,787				
Eyede Call Centre	6	4	0	9	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25				
<b>Total YTD 2017-2018</b>	<b>1577</b>	<b>1067</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,578</b>	<b>4,232</b>		<b>\$467,404</b>	
Agency Online	902	622	28	179	590	0	42	235	36	74	2	20	2	0	0	0	0	2,734				
Public Online	642	468	47	124	197	0	53	168	31	40	2	20	0	0	0	0	0	1,792				
Eyede Call Centre	8	2	0	7	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22				
<b>Total YTD 2018-2019</b>	<b>1552</b>	<b>1092</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,548</b>	<b>4,219</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	<b>\$476,946</b>	<b>\$9,542</b>

**2018-19 Summary YTD Actual vs Total Budget**

2018-19 Annual Budgeted LEQs	10,296	100.0%	\$1,163,896
2018-19 YTD Actual	4,219	41.0%	\$476,946
Remaining to meet budget	-6,077	-59.0%	\$686,950

**Estimate of Complete Season 2018-19 vs Total Budget 2018-19**

2018-19 Budgeted LEQs	10,296	100.0%	\$1,163,896
2017-18 Complete Season* LEQs	10,020		\$1,106,557
2018-19 Est. year end based on YTD variance	9,989	97.0%	\$1,129,146
Est. Shortfall/Surplus 2018-19 Season vs Budget	-307	-3.0%	-\$34,750

**Resident Licence Categories**

**FWF** – Family Season, **FWA** – Adult Season, **FLSA** – Loyal Senior Season, **FLAA** – Local Area Season, **FWIA** – Adult Winter Season, **FLBA** – Adult Long Break, **FSBA** – Adult Short Break, **FDA** – Adult Day, **FWJ** – Junior Season, **FDJ** – Junior Day, **FWC** – Child Season

**Non-Resident Licence Categories**

**FWNA** – Adult Season, **FDNA** – Adult Day, **FWNJ** – Junior Season, **FDNJ** – Junior Day, **FWNC** – Child Season, **FDNC** – Child Day