



**EASTERN
FISH AND GAME COUNCIL**

***MEETING
AGENDA***

9 December 2021

AGENDA

For the 192nd Meeting of the Eastern Fish and Game Council

Venue: Eastern Fish & Game Office
Paradise Valley Road
ROTORUA

Date: Thursday 9 December 2021

Commences: 12.00 PM

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

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE 191st MEETING OF THE EASTERN FISH
AND GAME COUNCIL, HELD AT THE ROTORUA OFFICES OF FISH & GAME
NEW ZEALAND ON THURSDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2021 AT 12.00PM**

Present

Ngahi Bidois, Murray Ferris, Lindsay Lyons, Barry Roderick, Ken Coombes, Debbie Oakley, Alan Baird, Mike Jarvie, Kevin Coutts, Scott Nicol, Mark Sceats, Alan Simmons, Adam Rayner (arrived 12.28pm), and Jay Tapsell via zoom (which unfortunately failed soon after commencement of the meeting).

IN ATTENDANCE

Andy Garrick, Kate Thompson, Matt McDougall, John Meikle, Anthony van Dorp, Mark Sherburn, Nerida Evans, and Matt Osborne via zoom (Eastern Fish & Game), and Carmel Veitch (New Zealand Fish & Game).

1.0 WELCOME AND KARAKIA

- 1.1 Acting Chair Cr Ngahi Bidois opened the meeting at 12.15pm with a karakia and welcomed councillors, staff, and newly elected councillors, and thanked them for their attendance under the current circumstances.
- 1.2 Andy Garrick also welcomed all present and thanked everyone for respecting the tight protocols that had been put in place to meet current Covid restrictions, and asked that Councillors restrict their movement to the meeting room and the Octagon area. He advised that this meeting was the inaugural meeting of the incoming Council, but it was also a combined meeting with the outgoing Council as there was still business needing to be attended to by that Council.

2.0 INTRODUCTIONS

- 2.1 Councillors provided a brief introduction to themselves and were asked to inform the meeting of one thing they were hoping to achieve during their term on Council. Staff present at the meeting also provided a brief overview of their backgrounds and respective roles within Eastern Fish & Game.

3.0 APOLOGIES

- 3.1 Apologies were received from Crs David Woolner, Geoff Thomas, and Laurance Tamati. Cr Adam Rayner had advised earlier that he might be delayed.
- 3.2 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Lindsay Lyons) that the apologies for the 191st meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [21/11/3.2]*

4.0 ELECTION OF MEMBERS

- 4.1 Andy Garrick advised that the first item of business for the new Council was the election of officers and briefly outlined the process.
- 4.2 Andy Garrick called for nominations for the position of Chair.
- 4.3 *Moved (Ken Coombes/Lindsay Lyons) that Cr Ngahi Bidois be nominated for Council Chairman. [21/11/4.3]*
- 4.4 There were no further nominations and Cr Ngahi Bidois was duly appointed to the position of Chairman.

- 4.5 Ngahi took the Chair and thanked Councillors for their support, appreciating their confidence in him and informed Council of his experience as a professional director and speaker.
- 4.6 Ngahi then called for nominations for the position of Deputy Chair.
- 4.7 ***Moved (Debbie Oakley/Ken Coombes) that Cr Murray Ferris be nominated for Council Deputy Chair. [21/11/4.7]***
- 4.8 There were no further nominations and Cr Murray Ferris was duly appointed to the position of Deputy Chair. Ngahi congratulated Murray on his appointment.
- 4.9 Cr Ngahi Bidois called for nominations for the position of the Eastern Region's appointee to the New Zealand Council.
- 4.10 ***Moved (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that Cr Debbie Oakley be nominated for appointment to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council. [21/11/4.10]***
- 4.11 There were no further nominations and Cr Debbie Oakley was duly appointed to the position of Eastern Region's New Zealand Council appointee. Ngahi congratulated Debbie on her appointment.
- 4.12 Debbie expressed her thanks and reminded Council that the role as NZ Councillor required her to represent the interests of all anglers and hunters across NZ as there was often an expectation that the NZ Council appointee should focus on portraying the views of their own Council.
- 4.13 Cr Ngahi Bidois recommended that the incumbent staff member, Matthew McDougall, should remain Council's representative on the Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust given his expertise and history in the role.
- 4.14 ***Moved (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that Council confirms Matthew McDougall as its representative on the Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust. [21/11/4.14]***
- 4.15 Matthew McDougall thanked Council for the appointment once again and said that while the role required a considerable amount of extra work, he found it to be very rewarding. Last year the trust had given away \$500k for habitat and fisheries, so it was worthwhile for Fish and Game to continue to be involved.
- 4.16 Cr Ngahi Bidois provided a brief background to the role of the Executive/Managers Performance and Remuneration Committee which typically consisted of the Chair, Deputy Chair, NZ Council Representative, and more recently with an additional member of Council.
- 4.17 ***Moved (Debbie Oakley/Mike Jarvie) that Ken Coombes be nominated for a position on the Executive/Manager's Performance and Remuneration Committee. [21/11/4.17]***
- 4.18 There were no further nominations and Cr Ken Coombes was duly appointed to the Executive/Manager's Performance and Remuneration Committee along with the elected Chairman Cr Ngahi Bidois, Deputy Chairman Cr Murray Ferris, and NZ Council Appointee Cr Debbie Oakley.
- 4.19 Cr Ngahi Bidois advised that there was a need to form a subcommittee for the purpose of the proposed restructure of Fish and Game and suggested this could consist of two representatives from management and two from Council. Andy Garrick advised that this could be done by delegation rather than having to set up a formal subcommittee, and there was an immediate need to address one element of the review which was the proposed amalgamations of regions, and this was to occur early next week via a zoom meeting with the review panel. He said that the panel proposed to produce a substantial document which would be available for consideration by the full Council at its February 2022 meeting. Cr Ngahi Bidois thanked Councillors who had recently

provided their initial feedback on amalgamations, advising that this had been forwarded to the review panel.

4.20 Cr Alan Simmons asked for confirmation that this was a proposed discussion on the amalgamation of regions only. Cr Ngahi Bidois responded “Yes”.

4.21 Cr Ngahi Bidois called for nominations for the interim subcommittee to address the panel on the proposed amalgamation of regions.

4.22 Crs Alan Simmons and Lindsay Lyons volunteered for the committee; Cr Ken Coombes advised that he was unavailable but also felt that he was unqualified to comment at such short notice. Councillors were encouraged to send any additional feedback they might have to Lindsay or Alan.

5.0 COUNCILLORS’ AND COUNCIL’S STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES

5.1 Cr Ngahi Bidois had prepared an exercise prior to the meeting to understand the range of strengths, knowledge, and expertise of the individuals that make up the new Council. He asked that the incoming Council during the break indicate on charts where they ranked their experience and knowledge relating to a range of areas of expertise, these being Governance, Marketing, Environment, Media, Management, IT, Strategy, Law, Iwi, Health & Safety, Ethics, Finance, Hunting, Fishing, Risks, and Conflict of Interest.

6.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (5TH AUGUST 2021)

6.1 *Agreed (Adam Rayner/Alan Baird) that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 August 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [21/11/6.1]*

7.0 IDENTIFICATION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN COUNCIL POLICY

7.1 There were no items identified for inclusion in Council Policy.

8.0 MATTERS ARISING

8.1 Cr Barry Roderick noted the felling of the forest on the land above the Hatchery Grounds two years ago and the flood damage that had occurred some months later, and queried the risk from further weather events occurring over the next few years. Andy Garrick responded that staff had met with the Regional Council to review the forest harvesting operation above the hatchery while it was underway and had been advised that it did not contravene any standards or conditions of consent, and that the felling was not considered to have been a key factor in the flooding of the Fish & Game site in the early hours of Boxing Day in 2019. Andy advised that this was not the first occasion in which hatchery infrastructure had been damaged by a major rainfall event, and as was undertaken on previous occasions, risk assessments and contingency planning were undertaken following the clean up and repair of facilities. Since this most recent event options for both temporary and permanent mitigation measures had been assessed, and one such option was being implemented right now, this being a permanently set up alternative emergency water supply that could be activated at the turn of a valve.

9.0 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR GENERAL BUSINESS

- Cr Kevin Coutts – change of opening of fishing season to the first Saturday in October. Cr Ngahi Bidois requested, and Council agreed, that this item be put on the agenda and addressed at the next meeting of Council as he understood that staff had planned to undertake a licence holder survey shortly in relation to this and would be able to provide a report to the next meeting.
- Cr Mark Sceats – barcoding of licences.

- Andy Garrick – brief overview of upcoming agendas.

10.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

- 10.1 Cr Ngahi Bidois provided an overview of the “Conflict of Interest” process. He asked that meeting papers are read prior to the meeting and informed Council that there was opportunity to complete the conflict of interest register prior to, or during the meeting if anyone realises they or someone else may be potentially conflicted on a matter under discussion.
- 10.2 No conflicts of interest were identified.

11.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

- 11.1 *Agreed (Scott Nicol/Mike Jarvie) that Council receives the Health and Safety, Management, and Licence Sales reports. [21/11/11.1]***
- 11.2 Cr Debbie Oakley requested that the finance report be altered to clarify that the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Fund (a dedicated reserve) balance was in addition to the General funds reported. Kate Thompson confirmed she would make this adjustment.
- 11.3 Cr Debbie Oakley also queried an expense which was recorded as being reimbursed by staff. Kate Thompson advised that several staff maintain staff accounts in credit which provide for purchases made through suppliers for personal use, which was the case in this instance.
- 11.4 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Mike Jarvie) that Council receives the Finance report and approves payments for July and August 2021 totalling \$282,501.62. [21/11/11.4]***
- 11.5 Kate Thompson provided a brief comment on licence sales and in particular the impact that the Auckland/Waikato lockdowns were having on licence sales in this region. Andy Garrick reported that the Eastern Region sales results for the last financial year ending 31 August were better than had been expected, and as a result the budgeted requirement to draw on reserves to offset the loss of international licence revenue was not required. The final result was positive, and was due not only to better-than-expected licence sales revenue, but also by the nationally agreed to reduction of 5% to regional budgets, and the generation of additional income during the year.
- 11.6 Crs Alan Simmons and Kevin Coutts raised questions regarding the potential impact on regions if lockdowns continue, and how low licence sales revenue could drop to before this region would be unable to operate. Carmel Veitch explained that licence revenue scenarios were considered in great detail going into the first lockdown in March last year, and subsequent budgets had factored in extreme though unlikely reductions in revenue by continuing to minimise external costs and draw on regional reserves if necessary. The effects of the lockdowns do date have not been as severe as provided for, and this region and others are well positioned to cope with ongoing events. Trends in licence sales would continue to be closely monitored and budgets adjusted should this be necessary, there being considerable resilience within the system nationally.
- 11.7 Andy Garrick undertook to address the query Alan and Kevin had raised more fully at Council’s next meeting in December.

12.0 2022 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS

- 12.1 Andy Garrick advised the purpose of this agenda item was to provide an opportunity for Councillors to seek clarification on any of the information provided, and to invite Council to signal any other issues or items it might want considered at Council’s December meeting on this topic.

- 12.2 Crs Mark Sceats and Murray Ferris asked that staff pursue the suggestion to extend the game bird season to incorporate Queen's Birthday weekend when a short season is implemented.
- 12.3 Cr Ken Coombes asked whether the special black swan season proposed for February 2023 seasons could be extended in Tauranga Harbour, and this was supported by Cr Adam Rayner who proposed that the season be extended for pukeko also, and an organised shoot arranged for the latter.
- 12.5 Scott Nicol queried why the swan numbers in Tauranga Harbour this summer were down on previous summers', and whether it could be due to counting methods utilised during Covid disruptions or something more random? Matt McDougall advised that there was a cyclical movement with swan populations and that we don't yet have a good handle on it. He said that swan tend to move to where the food is, and they may have moved off to West Coast harbours. Cr Mark Sceats asked whether it could be due to the delayed counts this year? Matt clarified that the January count had not been delayed, but the August one which showed increased numbers had been.

13.0 WAIKAREMOANA SPORTS FISH HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND

- 13.1 Cr Ngahi Bidois advised the report be taken as read.

14.0 DRAFT 2020-2021 PERFORMANCE REPORT

- 14.1 Council had received a copy of the draft performance report prior to the meeting. Andy Garrick advised that the report was currently being audited and the final audited report and summary of variances would be available for consideration and approval by members of the outgoing Council (via a zoom meeting) prior to presentation at the AGM in December, and Council's next meeting.
- 14.2 *Agreed (Adam Rayner/Alan Baird) that Council supports the establishment of the proposed "Hatchery Water Reticulation Reserve" and approves the transfer of the insurance proceeds received from the 2019-2020 flooding event of \$23,640 to open the reserve. [21/11/14.2]***
- 14.3 *Agreed (Adam Rayner/Alan Baird) that Council receives the draft report comprising the draft Statement of Service Performance and the draft Financial Statements for the 2020-2021 year. [21/11/14.3]***
- 14.4 Cr Lindsay Lyons queried the proposed timeline for implementation of an alternate water supply. Andy Garrick advised that planning for a key option had been completed and all going well work would commence on this in the coming week.
- 14.5 Cr Ken Coombes asked if there was a proposed limit on the reserve for the hatchery water supply? Andy Garrick advised the intention was to add a small sum to the reserve each year as we do for our Asset Replacement Reserve, to provide contingency funding should our insurance policy decline cover for specific events in future years as it has already done so in the case of some claims we have previously received compensation for. How much we need to top up this reserve by will be calculated ahead of our next OWP budget round which commences in February 2022.

15.0 DATES FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2022

15.1 Council considered the proposed schedule, and other than noting “2021” should have read “2022”, had no comment or concerns relating to the proposed time, dates or locations for meetings in 2022, nor feedback it wanted communicated to the NZC.

	Date	Venue	Key Topics
1	10 February 2022	Rotorua	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council Priorities
2	7 April 2022	Rotorua	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• OWP - first draft plus bids proposed for contestable funds
3	9 June 2022	Rotorua	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Licence Fees• OWP - second draft
4	11 August 2022	Rotorua	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finalise OWP
5	6 October 2022	Rotorua	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Game Conditions - initial consideration• Annual Performance Report - draft
6	8 December 2022	Rotorua	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Game Conditions - finalise recommendations
AGM	8 December 2022	Rotorua	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Present Annual Performance Report

15.2 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Murray Ferris) to the proposed time, dates or location for meetings in 2022. [21/11/15.2]*

16.0 REGIONAL STRUCTURE REVIEW

16.1 Councillors had no additional comment to make at this stage.

17.0 SPECIES MONITORING REPORTS

17.1 Council received the summaries for the 2020-21 Summer Creel Survey and the 2021 National Shoveler Count.

18.0 LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS

18.1 *Department of Conservation*

No report.

18.2 *Te Arawa Lakes Trust*

No report.

18.3 *New Zealand Fish and Game Council*

Cr Debbie Oakley informed Council that the Remuneration Committee comprising Cr Colin Weatherall from the Otago Fish and Game Council, Phil Teal, Manager Wellington Fish & Game, Andy Garrick and Di Taylor Acting CE of NZC, had been re-established and that Di Taylor had been delegated to look at KPIs for managers. There was some confusion around whether this committee was looking at managers' remuneration or at staff roles. Andy Garrick clarified that there were two key elements to the tasks the committee was undertaking, one being to develop job descriptions for staff roles (a generic description for managers/CEs which can be readily adapted to address the considerable regional variation in the roles and responsibilities of these positions has already been drafted), the other being to seek and collate information from all Fish & Game regions on benefits and allowances included in remuneration

agreements for staff, and the costs and liabilities associated with these for each region. Cr Lindsay Lyons provided background to the work of a preceding committee and expressed his concern that the current exercise to determine salaries was being undertaken internally. Andy advised this was incorrect, and the committee was simply drafting job descriptions which it was in a far better position to do, if not the only party capable of doing so competently and fairly, than an external provider. The committee would not be determining or recommending salaries or pay scales, this and job sizing would be going out to an independent consultant such as Strategic Pay for review and advice back to Fish & Game.

Debbie also spoke about the Implementation Strategy Group which was led by Ray Grubb and noted that one of the recent topics of discussion following feedback from regions related to the proposal for elected Councillors versus appointed. This will be brought back to Fish & Game for further consideration in due course.

Cr Murray Ferris queried potential conflicts of interest and concern associated with the Minister of Conservation and a recent hunting trip she was invited to on Ngamatea Station where she was accompanied and guided by Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Councillors. Cr Alan Simmons commented this was grossly negligent and advised also, that he had received a personal letter from the Minister in reply to one from him stating there would be no legislative changes coming out of the Review.

19.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

- 19.1 Mark Sceats raised a question about whether a bar code could be added to the plastic licence which would enable licence holders to add them to their digital wallets rather than carrying the card with them. Kate Thompson advised that the licence working group had previously discussed the option of a QR code being added to the licence with Eyede, the company who supports the licence system, which would enable Fish & Game ranging staff to scan and check licences in the field with a cell phone. The idea was put to rest, for the meantime anyway, when Eyede informed Fish & Game of the cost involved in allocating a QR code to each individual licence. There was also an issue associated with fitting it into the limited space that was available on the rear printed side of the licence. Kate advised however, that the concept of a digital licence was still on the table in the form of an electronic licence for those who did not wish to have a plastic card at all. Andy Garrick advised that Fish & Game was also interested in having geo referenced regulations available via an app, but with recent events and changes in staff capacity in Fish & Game a number of these proposals had been put on hold for now.
- 19.2 Council broke for a short break at 1.50pm, reconvening at 2.00pm.
- 19.3 On returning Cr Ngahi Bidois talked to Council about their role as governors and that Council employed the Manager (Andy Garrick), and as Manager, Andy was responsible for all staff and management activities.
- 19.4 During the break Ngahi had reviewed the responses to his earlier exercise and was pleased to see a good range of knowledge and experience within the new Council, noting in particular, Councillors' expertise around conflict of interest and governance amongst a number of other areas. There were also, several areas where improvements and upskilling could be made. In relation to media Ngahi asked that all media enquiries be put through the Chair. Cr Kevin Coutts queried whether Council had a policy on social media? Ngahi advised there is a level of confidentiality expected of all

- Councillors, and Andy commented that Council's Governance policies included one relating to media and confidentiality though he couldn't recall if this specifically referred to social media. Mark Sceats added that from time to time there will be disagreements at the table, but if a decision is made by the Council as a whole, it is totally inappropriate for a Councillor to comment adversely on that decision. Ngahi noted the range of responses to the iwi category and Andy Garrick provided Council with an overview of the relationships Eastern Fish & Game has with key iwi, hapu, and other parties, and the approach staff take to working with these groups.
- 19.5 Andy Garrick informed Council of what to expect in its upcoming meetings which would include amongst other matters, presentation of the 2020-21 Performance Report year, items relating to Governance and the issue of Governance manuals to new councillors, insights into operational programmes, and the AGM.
- 19.6 Final comments from around the table included;
- it was good to see the range of experience among new members
 - a definitive answer around comments on social media by Councillors was required
 - it was good to see new blood and younger members
 - we need to continue to increase our social media presence
 - we need to improve our public profile.
- 19.7 Cr Alan Simmons thanked the outgoing Councillors, commented that he could see that Fish & Game is still in good shape since he was a member of Council, and wished all well noting that we need to try to move forward responsibly.
- 19.8 Matt McDougall also thanked the outgoing Councillors, particularly Barry Roderick, who although not being a hunter himself, had assisted staff for many years with projects ranging from duck banding to brood counts, habitat work, and to opening weekend angler surveys. All of those departing have been great to work with and will be missed.
- 20.0 FAREWELL TO DEPARTING COUNCILLORS AND AN HONORARY RANGER**
- 20.1 Cr Murray Ferris extended thanks to each of the departing Councillors on behalf of the Eastern Fish and Game Council commencing first with those who were able to be present in person. Murray then presented each of them a Certificate of Service and a small gift.
- 20.2 Barry Roderick had served for 21 years on Council and prior to Fish & Game coming into existence had been involved with the Tauranga Acclimatisation Society. Barry was Chair of Eastern Fish & Game from 2005 to 2014 and had helped staff out on numerous projects and contributed enormously. Lindsay Lyons also paid tribute to all Barry had done for Fish & Game. Barry replied that he had very much enjoyed his time on Council, and had met some wonderful people and staff along the way in addition to gaining all sorts of skills and knowledge in his involvement with various projects.
- 20.3 Murray thanked Alan Baird for the contribution and two terms he had served, and for bringing a farming and dedicated hunter's perspective to Council. Alan thanked all present, and said he had also enjoyed his time on Council though unfortunately had had to step down for health reasons.
- 20.4 Murray noted that Adam Rayner in his term on Council had brought a much needed younger perspective to the table which was invaluable as there was a great deal people from a younger generation had to offer. Adam thanked everyone present and commented that he had learnt a great deal during his time on Council. Adam also thanked Barry Roderick who many years ago was responsible for getting Adam and many of his friends into game bird hunting.

- 20.5 Murray voiced his appreciation for the contribution David Woolner (absent today) had made during the two terms he served and as Chair over the past three years. Murray commented on the quiet, unassuming and thoughtful approach David brought to the role of Chair and how quickly he had fitted in. He wished him all the best for the future.
- 20.6 Murray had got to know Laurance Tamati (also absent today) well during his time on Council and thanked him for his contribution to Council over the past six years, and also wished him all the best for the future. Murray thanked Ngahi too, for the opportunity to speak on behalf of Council to those departing.
- 20.7 Anthony van Dorp spoke to departing Honorary Ranger and incoming Councillor Mike Jarvie saying that it was an absolute pleasure to have had Mike on our ranging team for some 17 years. Anthony and the Eastern Council very much appreciated the contribution Mike had made and was sad to lose him as a ranger but great to see him return as a member of Council. Mike responded saying he couldn't have asked for a better crew to work with, it had been a great 17 years, he had thoroughly enjoyed his time as a ranger, and was now looking forward to the next few years in his new and very different role of Councillor.

21.0 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

21.1 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Murray Ferris) that pursuant to Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the public be excluded at 2.45pm from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely to confirm the minutes of the Public Excluded Session on 5 August 2021. [21/11/21.1]*

21.2 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Ken Coombes) that the public be re-admitted to the meeting at 2.56pm. [21/11/21.2]*

22.0 MEETING CLOSED

22.1 The meeting was closed at 2.57pm with a closing karakia from Cr Ngahi Bidois.

.....
Ngahi Bidois
Chairman

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

3.0 APOLOGIES

- 3.2 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Lindsay Lyons) that the apologies for the 191st meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [21/11/3.2]*

4.0 ELECTION OF MEMBERS

- 4.3 *Moved (Ken Coombes/Lindsay Lyons) that Cr Ngahi Bidois be nominated for Council Chairman. [21/11/4.3]*
- 4.7 *Moved (Debbie Oakley/Ken Coombes) that Cr Murray Ferris be nominated for Council Deputy Chair. [21/11/4.7]*
- 4.10 *Moved (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that Cr Debbie Oakley be nominated for appointment to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council. [21/11/4.10]*
- 4.14 *Moved (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that Council confirms Matthew McDougall as its representative on the Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust. [21/11/4.14]*
- 4.17 *Moved (Debbie Oakley/Mike Jarvie) that Ken Coombes be nominated for a position on the Executive/Manager's Performance and Remuneration Committee. [21/11/4.17]*

6.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (5TH AUGUST 2021)

- 6.1 *Agreed (Adam Rayner/Alan Baird) that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 August 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [21/11/6.1]*

11.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

- 11.1 *Agreed (Scott Nicol/Mike Jarvie) that Council receives the Health and Safety, Management, and Licence Sales reports. [21/11/11.1]*
- 11.4 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Mike Jarvie) that Council receives the Finance report and approves payments for July and August 2021 totalling \$282,501.62. [21/11/11.4]*

14.0 DRAFT 2020-2021 PERFORMANCE REPORT

- 14.2 *Agreed (Adam Rayner/Alan Baird) that Council supports the establishment of the proposed "Hatchery Water Reticulation Reserve" and approves the transfer of the insurance proceeds received from the 2019-2020 flooding event of \$23,640 to open the reserve. [21/11/14.2]*
- 14.3 *Agreed (Adam Rayner/Alan Baird) that Council receives the draft report comprising the draft Statement of Service Performance and the draft Financial Statements for the 2020-2021 year. [21/11/14.3]*

15.0 DATES FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2022

- 15.2 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Murray Ferris) to the proposed time, dates or location for meetings in 2022. [21/11/15.2]*

21.0 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

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- 21.2 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Ken Coombes) that the public be re-admitted to the meeting at 2.56pm. [21/11/21.2]*

7. CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

Ref: 7.02.01

24 November 2021

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 adopted a 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 matter¹ 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;
- (ii) The member’s other interest could specifically affect, or be affected by, the actions of the Council in relation to a matter;

¹ “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.

- (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.

8. OPERATIONAL REPORTS

8.1 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Ref: 9.01.07

22 November 2021

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 and 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.

October - November 2021

1. Implementation and Adherence to the Health and Safety Plan

Regular (weekly) staff meetings.

Minutes from the Health and Safety portion of the meeting are emailed to all staff.

Visitors to the office and contractors are required to sign our desk register, and our hazard register is updated as required.

Tail Gate forms completed for:

October 2021	Ranging/surveys opening weekend
October 2021	Brood surveys
November 2021	Pheasant call counts
November 2021	Brood surveys
November 2021	Fin marking & loading with Auckland/Waikato staff
November 2021	Access work – Whirinaki river
November 2021	Laying emergency water line

2021-2022 Budget for Health & Safety \$2,000

2. Monitoring and Reporting		
Work Place Accident Register		
	31/10/2021	31/08/2020
Number of Workplace injuries in 2021-2022 year	0	
Number of Workplace injuries in 2020-2021 year		1
Number of Workplace injuries in 2019-2020 year		1
Number of Workplace injuries in 2018-2019 year		1
Number of Workplace injuries in 2017-2018 year		1
Number of Workplace injuries in 2016-2017 year		2
Total Number of Workplace injuries since 1 Sept 1995	42	41
Total Number of lost work injuries since 1 Sept 1995	5	4
Total number of days since last lost work injury on 21/03/2021	224	
Total number of days since prior lost work injury on 19/07/2020	248	
Total number of days since prior lost work injury on 13/08/2017	1,071	
Total number of days since prior lost work injury on 17/12/2013	1,335	
Total number of days since formal register commenced 1/09/95 to first lost work injury 17/12/2013	6,682	

3. Risk Management (identification and treatment)	
COVID 19	
The following procedures remain in place:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property closed to public, additional Covid signage put up in the office. • If unwell stay at home • Sanitiser available throughout office for visitor and staff use • Morning teas and lunch to occur in specified seating in the boardroom 	
Notes taken for the H&S minutes at the weekly staff meeting and emailed to all staff:	
4 Oct 2021	Query raised re media discussion indicating vaccination required for people dealing with public. Andy to review legislation and consult with NZC
11 Oct 2021	No new hazards identified
18 Oct 2021	No new hazards identified
25 Oct 2021	Be mindful when parking on roadsides for work
1 Nov 2021	No new hazards identified
8 Nov 2021	Care attending to compliance call outs to large groups
15 Nov 2021	Reminder to sign in or use Covid app when arriving and departing office Andy to check that procedures we are following are appropriate John Meikle coordinating new pipeline – tail gate on the day
22 Nov 2021	Trenches for water line still open – clearly identifiable but be mindful

4. Training Programme
Peak Safety Outdoors First Aid Refresher Course for all staff undertaken 29 October 2021.

5. H&S Incidents
Nil

6. Recommendation
That Council acknowledges it has received this report.

8.2 FINANCE REPORT

Ref: 8.03.01

25 November 2021

1. Purpose

To inform the Council of the end of year financial position and approve payments for the months of September and October 2021.

Tables within this report:

Table 1	Variance Report to 31 October 2021
Table 2	Balance Sheet as at 31 October 2021
Table 3	Profit and Loss to 31 October 2021
Table 4	Bank Transactions 1 to 30 September 2021
Table 5	Bank Transactions 1 to 31 October 2021
Table 6	Credit Card Transactions 1 September to 31 October 2021
Table 7	Reconciliation of OWP to Financial Statement Budget 2021-2022
Table 8	Fixed Asset Budget for 2021-2022
Table 9	Statement of Financial Performance Budget for the year ended 31 August 2022
Table 10	Statement of Financial Position Budget as at 31 August 2022
Table 11	Statement of Cashflows Budget for the year ended 31 August 2022

2. YTD Profit and Loss

The Profit & Loss statement for the period ending 31 October is attached (Table 3).

Income

Licence revenue is ahead of budget for the year to date by \$1,017 and includes \$6,629 collected for game hunter ballots. A more up to date and detailed picture of licence sales performance YTD can be found within the licence sales report.

Revenue from other sources over the period totalled \$30,172 and was made up of the following: hatchery (\$1,125), fishing competitions (\$453), grazing (\$947) and rentals (\$9,520). Fines from prosecutions collected through the courts totalled \$65 and funds were also received from diversion processes for expense recovery, and junior education programmes (\$100 and \$350 respectively). General income included the recovery of insurance premiums on the fire store, the annual lease of the Lake Tarawera boat shed, recovery of costs associated with aerial transect flights, and mowing of a DOC wetland (\$4,247). Habitat fees were collected for game hunter ballots (\$2,469) and \$12,000 was received as Covid19 wage subsidy. Nationally it was agreed to wait until the end of November to reassess licence revenue and determine whether the subsidy should be returned. Interest was negative \$1,148 for the period as a result of year end accruals, but this will return to the black when deposits mature and interest is paid.

Species Management

Population monitoring expenditure relates to the aerial transect flights which are to be refunded by the BOP Regional Council, and the cost of Datawatch free licences which are reported as an expense within the Datawatch budget (\$1,054). Within budget YTD.

The Harvest Assessment spending relates to batteries for fish scales for the opening day surveys. Within Budget YTD.

Hatchery expenses for the period included fish food (\$10,794), insurance (\$6,328), rates, fuel and RUCs, and oxygen. Equipment/consumable purchases included 2 x chest waders, and lights and air stones for the aquarium. Maintenance expenditure included pipe joiners, water alarm repairs, moss killer, and non-slip netting. Tyres were purchased for the Hatchery flat deck and a WOF completed, and an expense is also reported for tanker repairs. Within budget YTD.

Habitat

Works and Management spending for the period related to the water easement fee for the Awaiti WMR which was paid to the Department of Conservation. Within budget YTD.

Participation

Within the Participation output expenses are reported relating to signs maintenance materials and the Waikaremoana hut electricity is also reported. Within budget YTD.

Public Interface

Public Interface spending relates to the pre-season bulk email to licence holders about the change to the opening date for lakes Tarawera, Rotoiti, and Okataina (\$240). Within budget YTD.

Compliance

The Compliance expenses for the period related to the 0800 Poaching service and cell phone, summons services and legal fees for prosecutions. Within budget YTD.

Licensing

The Licensing cost includes agent commissions and the fees associated with the Public Online and 0800 sales. Within budget YTD.

Council

Expenses were incurred relating to certificate frames for departing Councillors and a portion of the catering expense for the October meeting which was cancelled at short notice. Within budget YTD.

Planning

An accrual is reported for the audit fee in September and Levies were paid in October to the New Zealand Council. Within budget YTD.

Administration

Notes on individual areas:

Salaries	Within budget YTD.
Staff Expenses	ACC levies were accrued in September and minor expenses incurred for Health & Safety products and lunch for the First Aid training day. Within budget YTD.
Staff Houses	Staff houses spending for the period relates to rates, insurance and pest plant spraying at the cottage. Within budget YTD.
Office Premises	Rates and insurance were paid within the period and the usual expenses relating to electricity, cleaning, and alarm monitoring were incurred. Over budget \$228.
Office Equipment	Minor expenses are reported for USB phone cables and a computer mouse. The usual expenses relating to the phone & eftpos leases are also reported. Over budget \$213.
Communications/	Standard communications expenses are reported for the period

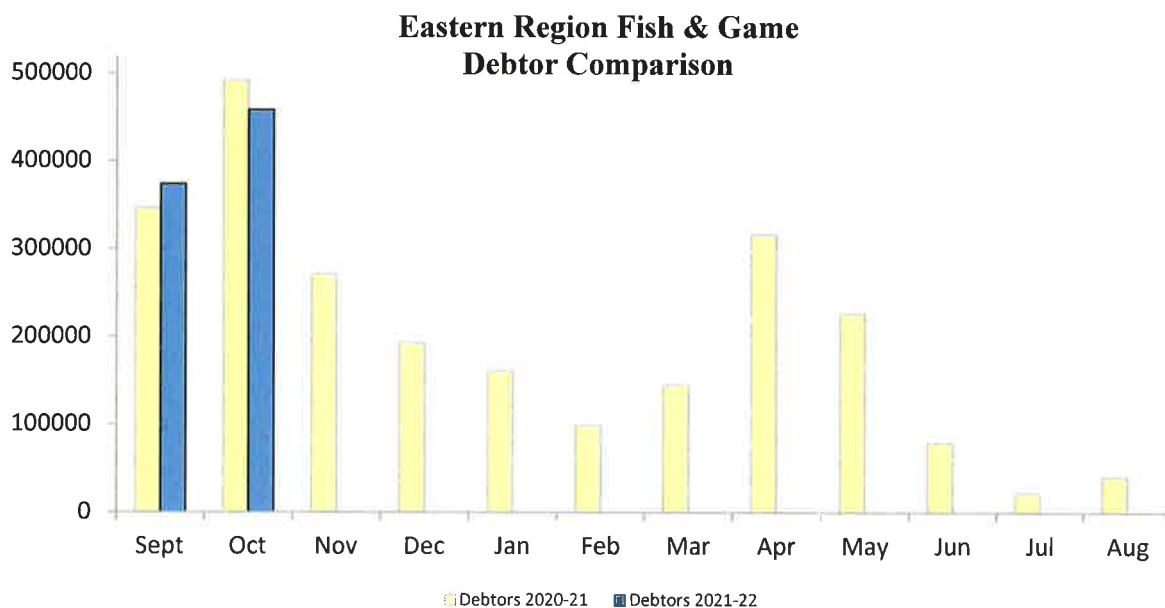
Consumables	including phones, broadband, stationery, and photocopying.
General	Public liability insurance was paid to the NZ Council in September (\$1,153) and General insurances were paid in September (\$8,042) which covers all other buildings/contents not covered elsewhere. Minor expenses are also reported for the Survey Monkey subscription, bank fees and morning teas. Over budget \$880 YTD due to increased insurance costs.
General Equipment	Insurance on boats and equipment was paid in October (\$2,983) and other equipment expenses include registration, WOFs and minor repairs to trailers, and flares for Parera. Field equipment and boat fuel expenses are also reported. Within budget YTD.
Vehicles	Vehicle expenses for the period included the annual insurance premium (\$3,952), a registration, two vehicle services, and fuel/RUCs. Within budget YTD.

Cash Position: As at 31 October 2021

\$1,022,550 (includes \$86,785 asset replacement reserve)
 \$ 463,784 (Waikaremoana SFHEF – Restricted Reserve)
\$1,486,334 Total

Debtors: Outstanding Debtors \$457,936 as at 31 October 2021 (\$491,436 as at 31 October 2020).

Eastern Region Fish and Game - Debtors Balance Comparison 2020/21-2021/22



Debtors outstanding as at 31 October relate primarily to licence sales of some \$451k. Two licence agents are overdue at the end of October to the total of \$1,100 and are being followed up by administration staff.

3. Variance Report (Table 1)

The variance report is shown on the following two pages. The year to date 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.

Table 1 2021/2022 REPORT OF VARIANCES BETWEEN TOTAL BUDGET AND YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME as at 31 October 2021

Schedule B Code	Project	EXTERNAL COSTS		HOURS		INTERNAL COST		NETABLE INCOME		NET COST		NET COST	%
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual		
1110	Species Monitoring	\$ 39,450	\$ 2,706	237	\$ 136,855	\$ 13,457	\$ 8,000	\$ -	\$ 168,305	\$ 16,163	\$ 152,142	9.6	
1120	Harvest/Assessment	\$ 2,900	\$ 21	793	\$ 50,477	\$ 12,492	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,377	\$ 12,513	\$ 40,864	23.4	
1140	Hatchery Operations	\$ 75,020	\$ 25,331	3,564	\$ 226,862	\$ 35,234	\$ 56,500	\$ 1,125	\$ 245,382	\$ 59,440	\$ 185,942	24.2	
1160	Releases	\$ -	\$ -	234	\$ 14,895	\$ 2,271	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,895	\$ 2,271	\$ 12,624	15.2	
1170	Regulations	\$ -	\$ -	133	\$ 8,466	\$ 28	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,466	\$ 28	\$ 8,438	0.3	
1180	Control	\$ 500	\$ -	36	\$ 2,292	\$ 199	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,792	\$ 199	\$ 2,593	7.1	
	TOTAL - SPECIES MANAGEMENT	\$ 117,870	\$ 28,058	6,910	\$ 439,847	\$ 63,682	\$ 64,500	\$ 1,125	\$ 493,217	\$ 90,615	\$ 402,602	18.4	
1210	Resource Management Act	\$ 200	\$ -	1,412	\$ 89,879	\$ 13,741	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 90,079	\$ 13,741	\$ 76,338	15.3	
1220	Works & Management	\$ 18,000	\$ 1,013	934	\$ 59,453	\$ 10,051	\$ 12,150	\$ 3,416	\$ 65,303	\$ 7,648	\$ 57,655	11.7	
1230	Assisted Habitat	\$ 2,700	\$ -	770	\$ 49,013	\$ 4,230	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 51,713	\$ 4,230	\$ 47,483	8.2	
1240	Assess & Monitor	\$ -	\$ -	72	\$ 4,583	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,583	\$ -	\$ 4,583	0.0	
1250	Lake Waikaremoana	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0	
	TOTAL - HABITAT PROTECTION & MAN	\$ 20,900	\$ 1,013	3,188	\$ 202,928	\$ 28,022	\$ 12,150	\$ 3,416	\$ 211,678	\$ 25,619	\$ 186,059	12.1	
1310	Access	\$ 10,700	\$ 525	702	\$ 44,685	\$ 6,416	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55,385	\$ 6,941	\$ 48,443	12.5	
1330	Newsletters/Information	\$ -	\$ -	318	\$ 20,242	\$ 909	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,242	\$ 909	\$ 19,333	4.5	
1340	Other Publications	\$ 2,000	\$ -	44	\$ 2,801	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,801	\$ -	\$ 4,801	0.0	
1350	Training	\$ 800	\$ -	826	\$ 52,578	\$ 5,508	\$ 7,000	\$ 803	\$ 46,378	\$ 4,705	\$ 41,673	10.1	
1360	Club Relations	\$ -	\$ -	32	\$ 2,037	\$ 227	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,037	\$ 227	\$ 1,810	11.2	
1370	Huts	\$ 1,450	\$ 138	46	\$ 2,928	\$ 114	\$ 400	\$ 78	\$ 3,978	\$ 174	\$ 3,805	4.4	
	TOTAL - ANGLER & HUNTER PARTICIP	\$ 14,950	\$ 663	1,968	\$ 125,270	\$ 13,174	\$ 7,400	\$ 881	\$ 132,820	\$ 12,956	\$ 119,865	9.8	
1410	Liaison	\$ -	\$ -	72	\$ 4,583	\$ 284	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,583	\$ 284	\$ 4,299	6.2	
1420	Communication	\$ 500	\$ 240	116	\$ 7,384	\$ 994	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,884	\$ 1,234	\$ 6,650	15.6	
1440	Public Promotions	\$ 4,500	\$ -	122	\$ 7,766	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,266	\$ -	\$ 12,266	0.0	
1450	Visitor Facilities/Education	\$ 500	\$ -	454	\$ 28,899	\$ 937	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,399	\$ 937	\$ 28,462	3.2	
	TOTAL - PUBLIC INTERFACE	\$ 5,500	\$ 240	764	\$ 48,631	\$ 2,215	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54,131	\$ 2,455	\$ 51,677	4.5	
1510	Ranging	\$ 1,000	\$ 129	956	\$ 60,853	\$ 10,107	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 61,853	\$ 10,236	\$ 51,617	16.5	
1520	Ranger Training	\$ 1,000	\$ -	108	\$ 6,875	\$ 625	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,875	\$ 625	\$ 7,250	7.9	
1530	Compliance Prosecutions	\$ 5,000	\$ 525	336	\$ 21,388	\$ 4,259	\$ 6,000	\$ 208	\$ 20,388	\$ 4,576	\$ 15,812	22.4	
	TOTAL - COMPLIANCE	\$ 7,000	\$ 654	1,400	\$ 89,115	\$ 14,991	\$ 6,000	\$ 208	\$ 90,115	\$ 15,437	\$ 74,679	17.1	
1610	Licensing	\$ 600	\$ -	134	\$ 8,530	\$ 1,902	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,130	\$ 1,902	\$ 7,227	20.8	
1620	Agent Servicing	\$ -	\$ -	158	\$ 10,057	\$ 1,022	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,057	\$ 1,022	\$ 9,035	10.2	
	TOTAL - LICENSING	\$ 600	\$ -	292	\$ 18,587	\$ 2,924	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,187	\$ 2,924	\$ 16,263	15.2	
1710	Council Elections	\$ -	\$ -	4	\$ 255	\$ 57	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 255	\$ 57	\$ 198	22.3	
1720	Council Meetings	\$ 6,000	\$ 390	477	\$ 30,363	\$ 2,555	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,363	\$ 2,945	\$ 33,418	8.1	
	TOTAL - COUNCILS	\$ 6,000	\$ 390	481	\$ 30,617	\$ 2,612	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,617	\$ 3,002	\$ 33,615	8.2	
1810	Management Planning	\$ 8,500	\$ -	240	\$ 15,277	\$ 57	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,777	\$ 57	\$ 23,720	0.2	
1820	Annual Planning	\$ -	\$ -	66	\$ 4,201	\$ 57	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,201	\$ 57	\$ 4,144	1.4	
1830	Reporting/Audit	\$ 9,750	\$ (9,550)	429	\$ 27,307	\$ 4,883	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,057	\$ (4,667)	\$ 41,724	-12.6	
1840	National Liaison	\$ 100	\$ -	242	\$ 15,404	\$ 4,599	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,504	\$ 4,599	\$ 10,905	29.7	
	TOTAL - PLANNING/REPORTING	\$ 18,350	\$ (9,550)	977	\$ 62,190	\$ 9,596	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,540	\$ 46	\$ 80,493	0.1	
	TOTAL	\$ 191,170	\$ 21,468	15,980	\$ 1,017,186	\$ 137,215	\$ 90,050	\$ 5,630	\$ 1,118,306	\$ 153,053	\$ 965,253	13.7	

Table 2		Balance Sheet	
		Eastern Fish and Game Council	
		As at 31 October 2021	
		31 Oct 2021	31 Aug 2021
Assets			
Bank			
Investments		\$760,401.18	\$760,162.98
Petty Cash		\$257.50	\$132.40
Waikaremoana Fund Investments		\$356,327.84	\$475,375.43
Westpac Call Account		\$150,094.67	\$23,726.55
Westpac Current Account		\$29,789.03	\$33,328.28
Total Bank		\$1,296,870.22	\$1,292,725.64
Current Assets			
Accounts Receivable		\$457,935.63	\$40,875.49
Accounts Receivable – Hawke's bay & External parties		-\$599.92	\$0.00
Inventory - Fish Stock		\$171,007.00	\$171,007.00
Prepayments and Accrued Income		\$0.00	\$5,139.57
Total Current Assets		\$628,342.71	\$217,022.06
Fixed Assets			
Accum Dep Land & Buildings		-\$706,205.12	-\$701,567.23
Accum Dep Motor Vehicles		-\$131,456.63	-\$126,823.59
Accum Dep Office Equipment		-\$49,301.61	-\$48,540.17
Accum Dep Plant & Equipment		-\$153,758.87	-\$152,353.57
Buildings		\$1,043,849.38	\$1,043,849.38
Land		\$102,000.00	\$102,000.00
Motor Vehicles		\$351,510.30	\$351,510.30
Office Equipment		\$57,595.20	\$57,105.20
Plant & Equipment		\$193,768.74	\$193,768.74
Total Fixed Assets		\$708,001.39	\$718,949.06
Total Assets		\$2,633,214.32	\$2,228,696.76
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable		\$56,116.28	\$36,944.48
Accruals and Prepaid Licences		\$80,561.00	\$106,397.06
Business Credit Card		\$360.09	\$370.74
Employee Entitlements		\$92,407.36	\$99,051.59
GST		\$69,332.23	-\$12,103.05
PAYE Clearing		\$19,680.80	\$31,742.64
Staff Social Club		\$3,944.32	\$3,729.32
Total Current Liabilities		\$322,402.08	\$266,132.78
Total Liabilities		\$322,402.08	\$266,132.78
Net Assets		\$2,310,812.24	\$1,962,563.98
Equity			
Accumulated Funds		\$1,238,851.06	\$1,193,406.53
Asset Replacement Reserve		\$92,797.00	\$92,797.00
Non Resident Levy Reserve		\$127,991.65	\$127,266.65
Breeding Programme Reserve		\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Current Year Earnings		\$348,248.26	\$46,169.53
Fish for Gold Reserve		\$10,500.00	\$10,500.00
Hatchery Water Reticulation Reserve		\$23,640.00	\$23,640.00
Waikaremoana Sportsfish Habitat Enhancement Fund Reserve		\$463,784.27	\$463,784.27
Total Equity		\$2,310,812.24	\$1,962,563.98

Table 3 Profit and Loss - Council
Eastern Fish and Game Council for the 2 months ended 31 October 2021

Income	Sep 2021	Oct 2021	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Total Budget	Var YTD	Var YTD %
Licence Income	335,285	233,060	546,346	567,000	1,248,868	1,346	0%
Non-Resident Licence Levy Revenue	261	464	725	0	0	725	0%
Other Income	18,550	11,622	30,172	26,675	168,375	3,497	13%
Total Income	354,097	245,146	599,243	593,675	1,417,243	5,568	1%
Operating Expenses							
Depreciation	5,724	5,714	11,438	11,810	70,861	(372)	-3%
1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT							
1110 Population Monitoring	1,653	1,054	1,653	3,000	39,450	(294)	-10%
1120 Harvest Assessment	21	0	21	700	2,900	(679)	-97%
1140 Hatchery Operations	3,412	21,919	25,331	21,670	75,020	3,661	17%
1180 Game Bird Control	0	0	0	0	500	0	0%
Total 1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT	5,085	22,973	28,058	25,370	117,870	2,688	11%
1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MANAGEMENT							
1210 Resource Management Act	0	0	0	0	200	0	0%
1220 Works & Management	1,013	0	1,013	1,000	18,000	13	1%
1230 Assisted Habitat	0	0	0	50	10,700	(50)	-100%
Total 1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MGT	1,013	0	1,013	1,050	28,900	(37)	-3%
1300 PARTICIPATION							
1310 Access	36	489	525	850	10,700	(325)	-38%
1340 Other Publications	0	0	0	0	2,000	0	0%
1350 Training	0	0	0	100	800	(100)	-100%
1370 Huts	45	93	138	200	1,450	(62)	-31%
Total 1300 PARTICIPATION	81	582	663	1,150	14,950	(487)	-42%
1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE							
1420 Communication	240	0	240	100	500	140	140%
1440 Public Promotions	0	0	0	0	4,500	0	0%
1450 Visitor Facilities/Education	0	0	0	50	500	(50)	-100%
Total 1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE	240	0	240	150	5,500	90	60%
1500 COMPLIANCE							
1510 Ranging	72	57	129	175	1,000	(46)	-26%
1520 Ranger Training	0	0	0	0	1,000	0	0%
1530 Compliance	155	370	525	830	5,000	(305)	-37%
Total 1500 COMPLIANCE	227	427	654	1,005	7,000	(351)	-35%
1600 LICENSING							
1610 Licence Prod/Distrib	0	0	0	0	600	0	0%
1630 Commission	12,971	8,474	21,444	23,850	56,199	(2,406)	-10%
Total 1600 LICENSING	12,971	8,474	21,444	23,850	56,799	(2,406)	-10%
1700 COUNCIL							
1720 Council Meetings	(39)	429	390	1,000	6,000	(610)	-61%
Total 1700 COUNCIL	(39)	429	390	1,000	6,000	(610)	-61%
1800 PLANNING/REPORTING							
1810 Management & Strategic Planning	0	0	0	0	8,500	0	0%
1830 Reporting/Audit	(9,550)	0	(9,550)	(9,450)	9,750	(100)	1%
1840 National Liaison	0	33,738	33,738	33,738	135,051	(0)	0%
Total 1800 PLANNING/REPORTING	(9,550)	33,738	24,188	24,288	153,301	(100)	0%
1900 ADMINISTRATION							
1910 Salaries	59,654	67,215	126,869	135,512	925,841	(8,643)	-6%
1920 Staff Expenses	914	174	1,087	2,550	26,000	(1,463)	-57%
1930 Staff Houses	0	3,324	3,324	3,345	13,060	(21)	-1%
1940 Office Premises	945	5,646	6,590	6,362	18,750	228	4%
1950 Office Equipment	319	228	547	334	4,100	213	64%
1960 Communications/Consumables	1,564	980	2,543	2,630	18,307	(87)	-3%
1970 General	1,319	8,239	9,558	8,678	11,278	880	10%
1980 General Equipment	549	3,306	3,855	5,000	17,700	(1,145)	-23%
1990 Vehicles	2,402	6,131	8,532	10,950	45,350	(2,418)	-22%
Total 1900 ADMINISTRATION	67,665	95,241	162,906	175,361	1,080,386	(12,455)	-7%
Total Operating Expenses	83,417	167,577	250,994	265,034	1,541,567	(14,040)	-5%
Net Profit	270,680	77,569	348,248	328,641	(124,324)	19,607	6%

Table 7: The following is a reconciliation of the OWP to the Financial Statement Budget:

Reconciliation of OWP to Tier 3 Reporting		
Approved Budget - per OWP		(1,161,059)
Adjustments to Financial Budget		
Plus Licence Revenue	1,248,868	
Plus Non Resident Licence Levy	-	
less Commission	(56,199)	
Less levies	(134,951)	
Less Depreciation	(70,861)	
Plus Net Gain on Sale	8,154	
Plus ARF	35,550	
Plus Waikaremoana Interest	4,174	
Less Waikaremoana Spending	(8,000)	
Plus Non Resident Reserve Spending adjustment	10,000	
Net Adjustments		1,036,735
Net Surplus (Deficit)		(124,324)

Table 8: Fixed Asset Budget

Asset	Budgeted Asset purchases (excl. GST)	Budgeted Asset sales (excl. GST)
2 Vehicles	\$73,000	\$51,000
2 Computers	\$3,520	
Computer Server	\$6,500	
Air Cond Unit	\$2,000	
Total	\$85,020	\$51,000

Table 9: Statement of Financial Performance Budget

Eastern Fish and Game Council
Statement of Financial Performance - BUDGET
For the year ended
31 August 2022

	Note	Budget 2022 \$	Actual 2021 \$
REVENUE			
Fish and Game licence sales	1	1,248,868	1,314,839
Grants and donations	1	750	11,398
Interest	1	6,971	13,678
Other revenue	1	160,654	243,803
Total Revenue		1,417,243	1,583,718
EXPENSES			
Outputs			
Species management	2	117,870	110,359
Habitat protection & management	2	28,900	36,228
Angler & Hunter participation	2	14,950	6,985
Public interface	2	5,500	1,387
Compliance	2	7,000	6,934
Licensing	2	56,799	51,261
Council	2	6,000	4,679
Planning & reporting	2	18,350	15,604
Overheads			
Employee related costs	2	951,841	860,994
Depreciation	4	70,861	71,952
Other expenses	2	128,545	198,456
Total Expenses		1,406,616	1,364,839
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		10,627	218,879
Less Other Expenses			
Levies to NZFGC		134,951	172,709
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		(124,324)	46,170

Table 10: Statement of Financial Position Budget

**Eastern Fish and Game Council
Statement of Financial Position BUDGET**

As at
31 August 2022

	Note	Budget 2022 \$	Actual 2021 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank accounts and cash	3	70,971	57,188
Debtors and prepayments	3	121,000	58,118
Investments	3	1,050,000	1,235,538
Inventory	3	171,007	171,007
Total Current Assets		1,412,978	1,521,851
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	4	690,262	718,949
Investments	3	-	-
Forestry Asset	3	-	-
Total Non-Current Assets		690,262	718,949
TOTAL ASSETS		2,103,240	2,240,800
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Creditors and accrued expenses	3	138,000	147,442
Employee costs payable	3	127,000	130,794
Total Current Liabilities		265,000	278,236
TOTAL LIABILITES		265,000	278,236
NET ASSETS		1,838,240	1,962,564
EQUITY		1,838,240	1,962,564

Table 11: Statement of Cashflows Budget

Eastern Fish and Game Council
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended
31 August 2022

	Budget 2022 \$	Actual 2021 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash was received from:		
Licence Sales	1,215,128	1,273,123
Grants, donations and fundraising	750	11,398
Interest	7,073	17,883
Other revenue	156,113	275,105
Cash was applied to:		
Payments to suppliers	561,267	510,056
Payments to employees	955,635	858,890
GST (net)	(103)	15,866
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(137,735)	192,697
CASHFLOW FROM INVESTING & FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Cash was received from:		
Sale of property, plant and equipment	51,000	57,704
Sale of investments/deposits	185,538	-
Cash was applied to:		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	85,020	93,299
Purchase of investments/deposits	-	362,923
Net Cash Flows from Investing and Financing	151,518	(398,518)
Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash	13,783	(205,821)
Opening Cash	57,188	263,009
Closing Cash	70,971	57,188
This is represented by:		
Bank accounts and cash	70,971	57,188

5. Recommendation

5.1 That the payments for September and October 2021 totalling \$252,891.93 be approved.

<i>September - Current account</i>	<i>\$115,281.44</i>
<i>October - Current account</i>	<i>\$134,475.49</i>
<i>September/October - Credit Card</i>	<i>\$3,135.00</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$252,891.93</i>

5.2 That Council approves the proposed budget figures for the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Financial Performance and Cash flow for the 2020-2021 financial year.

8.3 MANAGEMENT REPORT

22 November 2021

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

1111 River Fisheries Investigations

Upper Streams Opening – Check, Clean, Dry Promotion

The upper sections of Lake Rotorua's tributaries (Ngongotaha, Waiteti and Utuhina Streams) open to angling on 1 December. Staff will be checking angler compliance and providing biosecurity advocacy messages.

River Fishery Drift Dive Investigations 2021-22 season

A drift dive of the Rangitaiki River within the upper Kaingaroa Forest is planned for late February/early March 2022. This will add to the long-term monitoring dataset for the river. Other regional drift dives have yet to be scheduled.

1112 Datawatch

During the first four weeks following the season opening, a total of 59 datawatch tags were returned and entered into the database. The distribution is as follows:

Lake Okareka	0
Lake Okataina	22
Lake Rerewhakaaitu	0
Lake Rotoehu	1
Lake Rotoiti	8
Lake Rotoma	6
Lake Rotorua	0
Lake Tarawera	22
Lake Waikaremoana	0

**Datawatch returns (entered to 28/10/2021)*

The number of tags returned to 28 October is greater than that returned over the same approximate time period last season, but behind that during the 2019-20 season (87).

1113 Lake Waikaremoana

Lake Waikaremoana Monitoring Buoy Update

The Lake Waikaremoana monitoring buoy is still not transmitting data. Staff will retrieve the sensor lines and console during the next boat visit to the lake, but for now Te Urewera remains closed to all boating.

1114 Lake Tarawera

Acoustic Smelt Monitoring

The post-turnover acoustic transects are due to be undertaken during late November or early December subject to staff availability and a period of favourable weather. Two days of relatively calm weather is required to complete the field work.

1115 Other Lake Fisheries Investigations

Ngongotaha Fish Trap

The Ngongotaha fish trap structure has been inoperable for a period due to a large log and tree stump blocking the structure. This has recently been removed courtesy of BOPRC operational staff and the trap will be able to be redeployed in December to monitor the brown trout run.

Lake Rotoiti and Rotorua Catfish Update

The catfish spawning season is well underway. There is a spread of age groups and sizes making up the catch from newly hatched (several millimetres long) up to very large breeding adults. The community catfish fyke netting programme led by Te Arawa Lakes Trust (TALT) known as 'The Te Arawa Catfish Killas' has been actively recruiting school groups to assist with the netting programme and expand advocacy messages around a range of pest species.

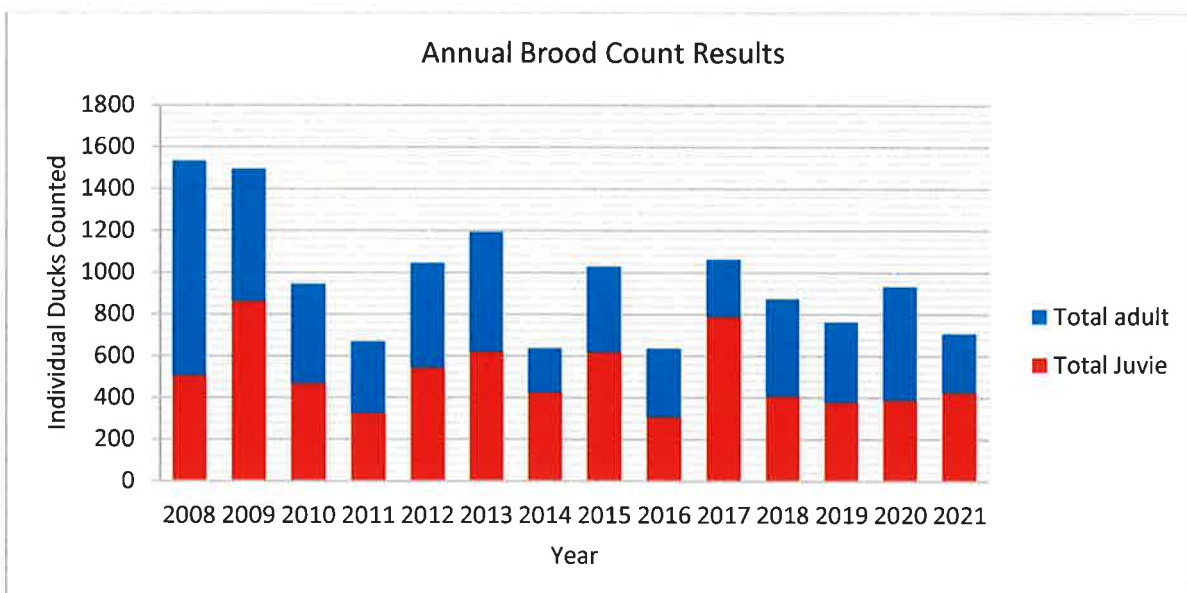
Angler Diaries

Entries continue to slowly come in from the online angler diary scheme. The diary scheme was advertised in the 2021-22 Season newsletter along with the winner of the 2020-21 angler diary draw. To date, 14 entries have been returned via Survey Monkey for this financial year (starting 1 September 2021). This is almost identical to the start of the 2020-21 season when 13 entries had been received. Ongoing advertising and promotion will be required through online media and through club visits to remind anglers about the diary scheme. The majority of returns have been from the main lake areas that are also covered by creel surveys, but also from Lake Rotorua tributaries, Lake McLaren (Tauranga) and the Whirinaki system.

1116 Waterfowl Monitoring

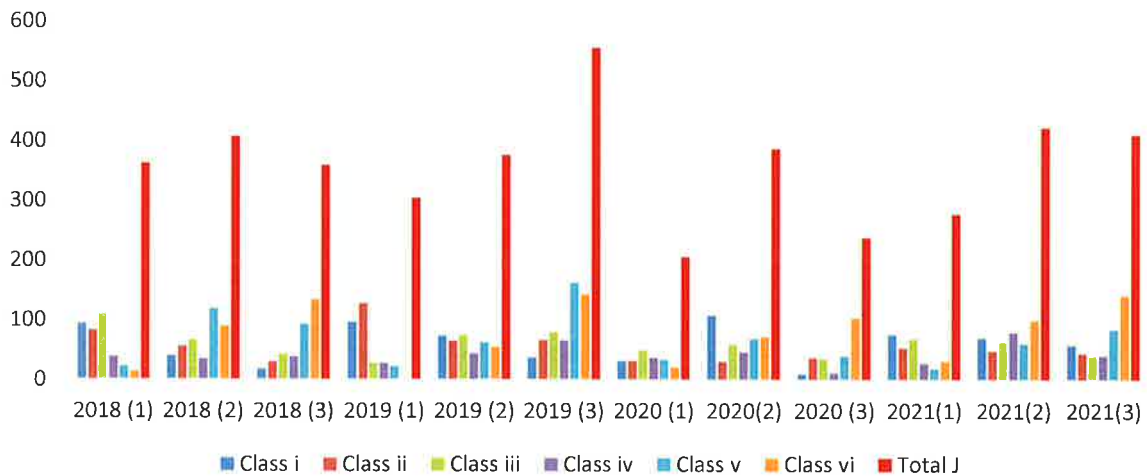
Brood Counts

Waterfowl brood counts were undertaken in October on a series of drains in the region to assess productivity across various drain types, and to monitor the effects of drain management and habitat improvement work. With 423 juvenile grey/mallards counted across all sites the overall counts obtained this year were about 9% up on last year's counts and 12% below the average from the last ten years.



In addition to our customary brood counts each year, staff have conducted brood counts over the last four years prior to, and following these to assess variability and whether we are undertaking current counts at the correct time. In 2018 three counts were undertaken in two week intervals from 17 October. In 2019 three counts were undertaken in two week intervals from 8 October. In 2020 three counts were undertaken in two week intervals from 19 October. In 2021 three counts were undertaken in two week intervals from 11 October. Our traditional count was undertaken in the last week of October, corresponding approximately with Count 2. The graph below shows the results of these counts, split into brood classes and total juveniles observed.

Duckling Class Categories Across Four Annual Counts

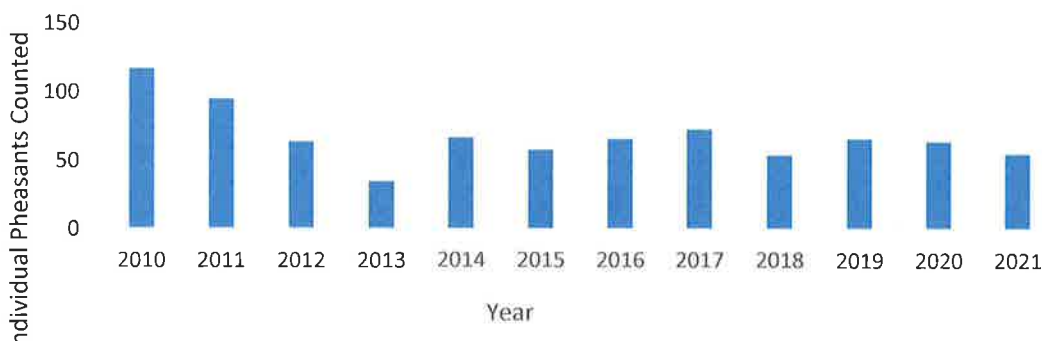


1119 Upland Game Assessments

Pheasant Call Counts

A week of pheasant call counts was undertaken by Fish & Game staff in Kaingaroa Forest in November. At this time of year male pheasants are calling frequently to mark their territories, particularly early in the morning. These counts are undertaken annually to provide an insight into pheasant populations and indicate the possibility of changes. With a maximum of 55 cock pheasants encountered on any one day across the 28 sites, this year’s surveys were about 14% down on last year’s counts, and 14% below the average from the last ten years.

Maximum Pheasants Counted Per Day Across All Sites



1121 Lake Fisheries Creel Surveys

Ohau Creel Survey

The Ohau Channel Fishery Panel meeting has been set for 26 November (via zoom). Fish & Game staff will present information from the 2020-21 Ohau Angler Creel Survey conducted by the Te Arawa Lakes Trust contractor (Sam Sutton).

Opening Day Creel Survey 2021-22

The 2020-21 Opening Day Survey information from 1 October 2020 has been entered into the opening database but has yet to be analysed.

Summer Creel Survey 2021-22

Planning for the 2021-22 summer creel surveys has been completed and surveys are now underway. As with the 2020-21 summer creel we are running a less intensive schedule focussing more on peak times to better allocate staff time as work schedules and staff availability are at a premium. Surveys will be focussed on lakes Rotorua, Rotoiti, Tarawera and Okataina, and will if practicable, enable visits to several other lakes. Surveys are timed to begin mid November 2021 and will go through to the end of April 2022.

1141 Hatchery Operations

Standard October liberations to Rotoiti, Okataina and Tarawera were completed during the month, as outlined in the table below. Boat liberations to Tarawera stream mouths occurred at the end of October. Fish were also liberated to lakes Okaro, Ngahewa and Ngapouri in November.

The fisheries enhancement programme for Lake McLaren saw the release of 1,000 rainbow and 500 brown yearlings (double the standard liberation), included 500 tagged fish, and 25 large rainbows in the 3-4kg range for promotional purposes.

Several overdue maintenance projects were undertaken for the reporting period.

Eden Mutton joined the hatchery team early in November on a one year fixed term contract. Eden has recently completed her Bachelor of Science majoring in aquaculture from Waikato University, Tauranga.

Fish locations at 18th November, 2021:

Location	Type	Qty (approx)	Comment
Hatchery	Rt, Bt	120,000	2021 season fry, 0+
Tank A	Rt	500	0+ 'best of' progeny
Tank B	Rt	1,000	Summer liberations 2022
Tank C	Tiger	800	Autumn liberations 2022
Tank D	Rt	1,000	Akl/Wai F&G liberation spring 2022
Tank E	Rt	10	Best of brood, 1+ for 2023
Tank F	Bt	300	Spring liberations (Tuai) 2021
Pond 3	Rt	1,000	Liberation, spring 2021
Pond 5	Rt	200	HB F&G liberation spring 2021
RW2	Rt	6,000	Rising 1+ for KF programmes
RW1	Rt	750	2+ for KF programme sales 2021
Kids	Rt	1,700	2+ for Eastern KF programme 2021/22

1161 Sports Fish Liberations

Liberations, Eastern Region 8 October – 18 November 2021

Water	Date	Mark	Tag	Species	Age	Number
Okataina	12/10/2021	Lp	-	RT	1+	750
Tarawera	12/10/2021	Lp	-	RT	1+	2000
Rotoiti	13/10/2021	Lp	-	RT	1+	6500
McLaren	19/10/2021	-	-	RT	3+	25
McLaren	19/10/2021	Lp	S16	RT	1+	1000
McLaren	19/10/2021	Lp	S16	BT	1+	500
Tarawera	27/10/2021	Lp	-	RT	1+	500
Okaro	15/11/2021	Lp	-	RT	1+	500
Ngahewa	16/11/2021	Lp	-	RT	1+	200
Ngapouri	16/11/2021	Lp	-	RT	1+	500

Fish were also delivered to Auckland/Waikato and Taranaki Fish & Game Regions

HABITAT PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE

1211 RMA Planning

Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Fish & Game is continuing to liaise with BOPRC on the review of the Schedule of Important Trout Habitats in the region. BOPRC is looking at getting various plan changes underway by the end of the year in order to meet new obligations under the National Policy Statement (Freshwater) 2020. Consultation via the RESOF group has begun.

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. Council hearings were held in mid-2019. Decisions were released in May. A/W Fish and Game Council, with support from Eastern, have appealed a number of matters. No new developments.

Gisborne District Council

Following the conclusion of the Gisborne Freshwater Plan, the Motu Catchment Plan process is now underway. Fish & Game has so far had some input in identifying values, and we expect to have a greater involvement in its development during the second half of 2021.

Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy

The public notification of the draft Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy was revoked earlier in the year. We were advised the purpose of the revocation was to ensure further engagement opportunities were provided. The Department intended to re-notify the draft in April. No new developments

Other Planning Related Activities

Fish & Game was previously involved in the Bay of Plenty Regional Water Advisory Panel and community catchment groups. Plan Change 9 was eventually withdrawn and the groups stalled. Council has since established a new group to provide advice in relation to policy

development for NPSFM implementation. Fish & Game is part of this Rural and Environmental Sector Organisation Forum.

Various Fish & Game regions are currently collaborating in an effort to amend some parts of the NES-Freshwater 2020 that are unworkable. Of particular interest to Eastern Region are some unreasonably strict regulations around physical works in wetlands, and on the construction of maimai. Some other areas of involvement at a national level include intensive winter grazing provisions, and the Essential Freshwater Work Programme involving Freshwater Farm Plans and Stock Exclusion Regulations.

The Government plans to repeal the RMA and replace it with three new pieces of legislation. RMA staff throughout the country are currently collaborating with a view to providing some formal input in this process.

Fish & Game recently submitted and attended a hearing on the WBOPDC Long Term Plan. The Plan allocates funding to create a new cycle/walkway along the stop bank adjoining the Kaituna Wildlife Management Reserve. Fish & Game is concerned that this proposal may have significant impacts on the wildlife values and use of the wetland and have opposed its creation. Council has since indicated that they will be happy to meet with Fish & Game to discuss our concerns. No new developments.

1212 Consent Applications

Date	Authority	Applicant	Type	Resource Involved	Action
8 Oct	BOPRC	D&M Wright	DP- Effluent irrigation	Bregmans WMR	No concerns email
10 Oct	BOPRC	Ngati Awa Farms Ltd	WP- farm irrigation consent renewal	Tumurau Lagoon	In discussions
20 Oct	BOPRC	NZTA	LUC- road maintenance works, in river works	Waioeka River system	In discussions
15 Nov	BOPRC	RDC	LUC- lake front walkway blasting	Lake Rotorua	No concerns email

Consents of Note

- BOPRC Integrated Catchments Group resource consent renewal of their erosion and flood protection works in non-Rivers and Drainage scheme within the BOP hearing will be held on 24-26 November. The pre-hearing proposals and conditions met most of our issues, but we will attend the hearing to speak to our submission to ensure are carried through.
- BOPRC has approached us for a variation of consent to increase the percentage of lake area that can be sprayed to remove aquatic pest plants in any one round within the Rotorua lakes district. Fish & Game opposed this in earlier consent hearings and remain very concerned about the impacts on trout if large areas of the littoral zone are sprayed. We are currently awaiting further terminology definitions and we remain in discussions with the applicant.

1221 Reserves Management

Lower Kaituna WMR

Fish & Game continues to work collaboratively with the Regional Council to ensure adequate water levels are achieved within the wetland. Surveys have been undertaken of all weirs and culvert invert levels, and a report is due on the impacts of Kaituna River levels on the main water intakes. Design of the replacement balancing culvert has been done and installation is programmed to occur next February.

Fish & Staff assisted DOC with an evening boom count bittern survey in late October.

Other Reserves

Predator trapping has been undertaken in the Ohaaki Wetland with variable results.

All main vehicle access tracks have had their first scheduled mow with no significant issues identified. Track maintenance will be undertaken in Awaiti and Kaituna this summer.

Significant maintenance works on the main water intake and outlet culverts and weir systems in Orini WMR will be carried out this summer to address erosion issues caused by water flows in the adjoining canal which have eroded support structures. These works will be undertaken with the assistance of the BOPRC Rivers and Drainage team.

As a consequence of the 2015 installation of inlet culverts into Thornton Lagoon, salinity levels have continued to rise, with a corresponding decline in the raupo beds within the lagoon. It is surmised that less waterfowl now use the lagoon due to the loss of habitat and we are working with BOPRC scientists to find a resolution to reduce salinity inputs and increase emergent vegetation. This may take some time as an engineering design will be required.

Minor water reticulation and pest plant spraying works within the wetland reserves will occur but will be limited to current MfE National Environmental Standards for the meantime.

1231 Respond to Landowner Requests for Assistance

No new landowner requests have been requested since the last Council meeting.

1232 Habitat Creation and Enhancement

Burt Wetland (Te Puke)

We are currently in discussions with BOPRC land management staff and consent officers to determine the best way to progress the proposed enhancement works in this wetland. A digger operator and pest plant specialists have been contacted to get an insight into costs and timelines. It's unlikely that the works will be able to be undertaken this summer.

1241 Monitor Waterfowl Habitats

Wetland Forum

A meeting of operational staff from various agencies met late October to discuss wetland projects and current constraints within the Bay of Plenty. BOPRC is heavily focussing on coastal marginal land to convert to estuarine wetlands, and three key catchment areas.

Unfortunately, progress has halted on any draft proposals to restore the Old Rangitaiki River Channel as upper channel adjoining landowners opposed any plans due to their land being below water levels currently. On a more positive note, BOPRC is instigating more flushing of sediments in the lower end, and enhancing riparian habitat in the same area.

All parties are awaiting results from submissions on the NES-FW to MfE regarding maintenance activities within wetlands.

ANGLER AND HUNTER PARTICIPATION

1311 Maintain & Enhance Access

Access maintenance work in the Rangitaiki River system within Kaingaroa Forest is underway, this focuses on key fishing areas and some of this work has been contracted out while the remainder will be carried out by staff. While recreational access to the forest is only open during winter months, it is still a highly valued fishery and provides considerable opportunities for anglers in the May to September period. Vegetation control (gorse and blackberry re-growth) are the main issues in this area.

Access and sign maintenance work has been carried out in the following areas; Ngongotaha Stream, Waiteti Stream, Kaituna River near Okere Falls, Waioeka River, Opato Stream, Koranga Stream, and Motu River.

We have been liaising with Wairakei Pastoral land managers re access to the Pueto Stream in Broadlands, and they are in the process of carrying out environmental work in the area which is including enhancement of access for anglers.

We have ongoing interaction with landowners in the Upper Waiteti Stream regarding angler access issues and finding resolutions to these. We have developed a good relationship with adjoining landowners in this area and maintaining these relationships is key to the ongoing protection of angler access.

Whirinaki River

We have marked the track line at Minginui so that contractors can re-open the old disused track on the Whirinaki River between the Recreation Camp and the Mangamate Falls campground. Clearing the track will greatly improve angler access to this area and we thank Te Runanga O Ngati Whare and DOC for supporting the project.

1331 Electronic Newsletters

Reel Life E-zine was produced in October and November

1333 Fish & Game Website

Updates or changes to the Eastern Web site included Council agendas and minutes, and lakes' weed spraying notices.

1334 Social Media

Recent posts on Facebook include good catches from the region, water quality warnings, fish liberations, access work etc. The page continues to attract good traffic, mostly positive interaction with licence holders, and has over 1,300 followers.

1351 Junior Angler/Hunter Programmes

No junior angler/hunter programmes were held during the reported period.

1352 Angler/Hunter Training

No angler hunter training for the reported period.

1354 Fishing Competitions

Six fishing competition permits were processed for the period.

1361 Fish & Game Club Communications

No club visit was conducted during the reported period.

1371 Fish & Game Huts

No issues at Wairua Hut to report. Since the last report we have been unable to carry out work in Te Urewera so have not been to the Waikaremoana Hut since the end of July, but as of then there were no maintenance issues outstanding. We are asking the local Tuai Constable who is often in the area to check the hut periodically to ensure all is well.

PUBLIC INTERFACE

1451 Education

No school visits were made for the reported period (due to Covid lockdown).

Lake Waikaremoana Genesis Consultative Meeting

The Genesis Consultative meeting was not held this year given the Level 2 Covid situation. The Tuai community felt there was unnecessary risk in bringing people from outside areas into the locality for the meeting and Genesis have changed the way in which the information will be disseminated. Fish & Game will provide Genesis a written overview of works in the Wairoa / East Coast Catchment.

COMPLIANCE

1511 Ranging

Some late spawning areas continue to hold high numbers of trout and are likely to through until December. Compliance monitoring visits have continued in these areas which are mostly closed waters either year-round or until 1 December. Angler surveys and compliance monitoring on the lakes has begun, and ranging has been ongoing in other parts of the region.

There have been several callouts to local areas where people have been fishing in closed waters, or otherwise fishing illegally (often involving illegal tackle). These callouts have usually been after hours or during weekends, and often have involved groups of individuals, although not necessarily all involved have been found to have committed offences.

Contacts Year to Date 2021-2022.

Ranging contacts for year to date (Sept – Oct.) number 769 persons. Overall compliance is in excess of 98%.

Contacts: Year 2021-2022

Month	<i>2017-2018</i>	<i>2018-2019</i>	<i>2019-2020</i>	<i>2020-2021</i>	<i>2021-2022</i>	Last 5 yr average
September	21	21	46	16	51	31
October	836	893	726	724	718	779
November	69	20	126	16		58
December	390	309	237	287		306
January	195	442	246	404		322
February	137	307	265	155		216
March	199	180	23	164		142
April	178	124	7	153		116
May	226	252	143	297		230
June	172	168	162	124		157
July	80	63	75	45		66
August	33	54	20	22		32
Total	2,536	2,833	2,076	2,407	769	2,124

National CLE Liaison Role

This is an ongoing service Eastern Region provides. A reprint of the Rangers Guide and Health & Safety Manual has been undertaken and new updated manuals have been distributed to regions. CERT training co-ordination is continuing.

1521 Ranger Training

Rangers

Honorary Rangers continue to contribute around the region, and this team is thanked for their collective efforts.

1531 Prosecutions

Prosecutions have been proceeding well with most matters dealt with being resolved via diversion processes.

Offences 2021-2022 Year:

13 persons dealt with for 17 offences as tabled below.

Offence table 2021-2022 year

Offence name	Number of offences
Fishing without licence	5
Fishing in closed waters	4
Fishing with more than 1 rod	1

Possession of spear	7
Total number of offences	17

Offences Pending Resolution

Currently 12 offenders have offences pending resolution, details as per the table below. Some have warrants for arrest, and the others are pending resolution which includes court prosecutions.

To date (16/11/2021) 27 separate offences are pending resolution, by 12 offenders.

The table below shows offences currently pending resolution:

Offence name	Numbers
Fish without licence	13
Illegal tackle	1
Possess net-spear-gaff	1
Fish closed waters	7
False details	2
Obstruction	3
Total number of offences	27

LICENSING

1621 Licence Agent Support

Agent requests for licence corrections, brochures, and information was attended to as and when required. Staff have visited seven agent stores since the initial visits for pre-season communications.

PLANNING AND REPORTING

1841 NZ Fish & Game Liaison

Kate Thompson continued to provide regular updates of licence sales and other information requests to the New Zealand Council and regions.

ADMINISTRATION

1923 Staff Training

All staff completed their first aid refresher training in October 2021.

8.4 LICENCE SALES REPORT

26 November 2021

1. 2021-2022 Fish Licence Sales

- 1.1 Fish licence sales for the 2021-2022 season comparison against the 2020-21 season YTD are summarised in Table One and are reporting to be 7.3% below 2020-21 season results. Nationally the current variance YTD is 0.8%.
- 1.2 We should note the Fish licence sales budget for the 2021-22 Season is **8,554** LEQs which is some 600 odd LEQs lower than the complete Season results for 2020-21 of **9,199** LEQs. This reduced budget means that we do not need to achieve the same results as last season to fund our work plan. It will be interesting to see what happens once the Aucklanders are allowed out as to whether we might see a boost in sales over the summer period.

Table One Fish Licence Sales 2021-22 vs 2020-21 YTD results to 25 November 2021

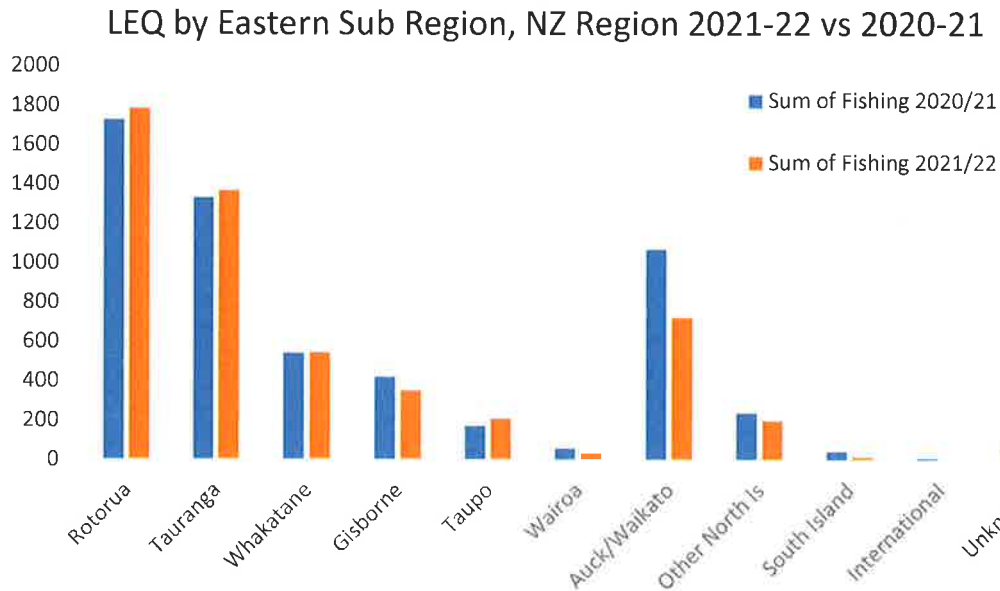
Licence Category	Agency Online	Public Online & Call Centre	Total YTD 2020-21	Agency Online	Public Online & Call Centre	Total YTD 2021-22	Inc/Dec on prior Season
Fish Adult							
Family Season	972	946	1,918	886	930	1,816	-102
Season Non-Resident	790	798	1,588	745	761	1,506	-82
Loyal Senior	10	15	25	2	11	13	-12
Local Area Adult	253	227	480	239	228	467	-13
Winter Adult	745	380	1,125	691	340	1,031	-94
Long Break Adult	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short Break Adult	2	3	5	2	2	4	-1
Day	115	196	311	39	96	135	-176
Day Non-Resident	311	481	792	151	416	567	-225
	3	23	26	1	15	16	-10
Total Adult	3,201	3,069	6,270	2,756	2,799	5,555	-715
Fish Junior							
Season	110	90	200	100	96	196	-4
Season Non-Resident	1	1	2	0	2	2	0
Day	25	36	61	11	26	37	-24
Day Non-Resident	2	2	4	2	1	3	-1
Total Junior	138	129	267	113	125	238	-29
Fish Child							
Season Non-Resident	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day Non-Resident	0	0	0	0	2	2	2
Total Child	0	0	0	0	2	2	2
Total Fish	3,339	3,198	6,537	2,869	2,926	5,795	-742
Whole Season Equivalent (LEQ)			5,701			5,287	-414
Variance between Seasons							-7.3%
\$ (excl GST)			\$659,352			\$629,866	-\$29,486

Summary 2021-2022 Season YTD Actual vs Total Budget

2021-22 Annual Budgeted FISH LEQs	8,554	100.0%	\$1,019,001
2021-22 Actual	5,287	61.8%	\$629,866
Variance to budget	-3,267	-38.2%	-\$389,135

1.3 A summary of LEQs by Eastern Sub Region and nationally by Region for the 2021-22 Season compared with the 2020-21 Season is shown below. Licence sales to Auckland/Waikato based anglers have continued to decline since the October report and now account for 84% (349 LEQs) of the total decline in sales YTD for the Eastern region. Sales to Gisborne anglers are also down on last season by 70 LEQs and are likely to be due to the current access restrictions at Lake Waikaremoana. On a positive note sales to Tauranga and Rotorua anglers have increased by 89 LEQs in total.

Graph 2 LEQs by Eastern Sub Region, NZ Region 2021-2022 vs 2020-21



1.4 Daily cumulative LEQs are shown below and these demonstrate the widening gap since our previous licence sales report was produced in October.

Graph 3 Daily Cumulative LEQ 2021-22 vs 2020-21



9. 2022 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS

Ref: 1.07.03

22 November 2021

1. Purpose

To determine game season conditions for the 2022 hunting season.

2. Background

Council has established policies and criteria for determining game season regulations based on monitoring programmes undertaken in the January preceding the game season. These are set out in Appendix 1 to this Agenda Item.

Mallard and grey duck (greylard) harvest regulations are determined from the estimated population size [18/11/10.16]. There are three sets of regulations depending on how large or small we believe the population is likely to be at the commencement of the game season (Figure 1). When our predictions are that the population will fall into the low category a set of restrictive regulations comes into effect, while a relaxed set is applied if we assess the population as being likely to be high. When the population is somewhere between an intermediate set of regulations is applied. What is important to understand is that we are unable to accurately assess population size until after the regulations have been set, and indeed, until after the hunting season has finished. This means we need to develop, refine, and utilise a predictive approach to determining population size that we have confidence in and is as robust as we can make it.

Population change from year to year is dependent on births, deaths, immigration, and emigration. Band recovery data suggest the bulk of the mallard population is relatively sedentary, and it is assumed that what emigration occurs will be offset by immigration. We have 25 years of population estimates and the same for survival rates. With this data we can estimate the productivity or recruitment (the number of juveniles that make it to the hunting season) from year to year. It is likely that productivity will be influenced by several different variables such as the previous year's population size, predator numbers, the preceding harvest, and climatic factors (e.g., rainfall and temperature). To predict population size, Matt McDougall has statistically examined how well these variables have explained changes in population numbers determined post game season from one year to another. The "best fit" combination of factors for greylard (mallard and grey duck) populations to date has been the previous year's population size coupled with winter temperature and the following summer's rainfall. This data has been used for the past two hunting seasons to predict the greylard population and has subsequently been proven to have done a reasonably good job of it. Over the long term this method would have produced the "right" result in at least 20 of the last 23 years.

Given that summer rainfall data is not available prior to the game season regulation recommendations having to be made at the end of January each year, we have looked for other factors that influence population change. It turns out that the previous year's population, greylard harvest, winter rain, and a year effect explain population change well. In the last 24 years this model intercepted the population estimate 70% of the time (17 years) and fell in the correct regulation zone 87% of the time (21 years). An additional model, namely that greylard population size is a function of the previous year population size and average winter

temperature also got some support. This latter model didn't do as well at predicting the population size as the model described above (only 12 out of the last 24 years) but did reasonably well in terms of predicting the correct regulation zone (20 out of 24 years). When the 2022 weighted population estimates of both models are combined the estimated population (124,000; see red upside-down triangle in bottom right corner of Figure 1) for the 2022 game season predicts another restricted year.

The Papers for Information accompanying this agenda provide a more in-depth explanation of this process.

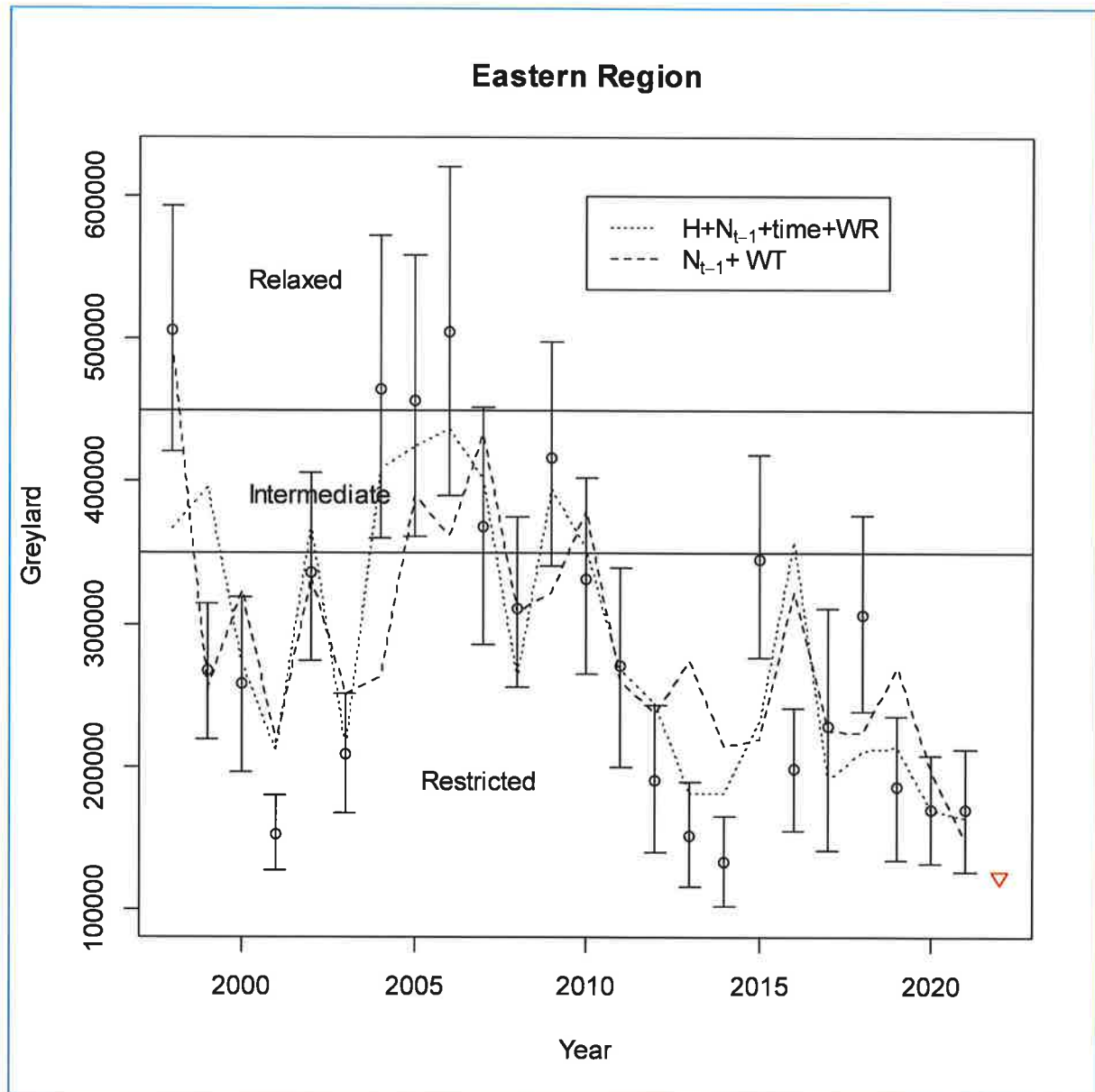


Figure 1. Eastern Region mallard population (open circle; mean \pm 95% BCI) 1998–2021, with three zones of regulation constraint, Restricted, Intermediate and Relaxed. The dashed line shows the model $N(t) = N_{(t-1)}+WT$ where $N_{(t)}$ =mallard population in year t, WT=average winter temperature. The dotted line shows the predicted mallard population as a function of greyland harvest (H), the previous population level $N_{(t-1)}$, time=year, WR =total winter rain (recorded at the Whakatane weather station). The upside down red triangle represents the predicted 2022 greyland population.

Black swan regulations are based on population size estimates and trends over the past nineteen years, and paradise shelduck regulations on population trends alone (see Appendix 1 to this agenda item). Aerial counts of swans and parries are undertaken in mid-January. Analysis of this data is usually completed by Waitangi Weekend. Shoveler duck populations are assessed from ground-based counts undertaken throughout New Zealand in August each year, but unlike other waterfowl species there are no established criteria for setting season regulations other than applying a conservative approach to the trend counts obtained. As a result, regulations have tended to remain the same each year.

Upland game regulations also tend to remain the same from year to year. Staff undertake some monitoring of pheasant populations by conducting crow counts in November, but this provides only limited insight into numbers as it is undertaken prior to the breeding season. At this stage we do not have a robust means of quantifying upland game populations to inform the setting of bag limits and duration of season. Quail are also recorded during the November survey, but the data collected is insufficient to enable a meaningful analysis. Staff have only seen a few brown quail in the Eastern Region in recent years, and for some years prior to that they were only ever observed in small, isolated coveys. The annual Game Bird Hunter Survey has not recorded a brown quail having been shot since 2007, which suggests that they are an inconsequential harvest, and/or that the population is too low to support a harvest.

At Council's November 2021 meeting, six issues were raised for further consideration at this December meeting. The Western Bay of Plenty Fish & Game Club (WBOPFGC) was subsequently invited to comment on these issues, or any others they thought pertinent. The club, and Chris Lynch, provided feedback on some of the six issues. Their respective comments are summarised in the following.

Appendix 2 provides the proposed schedule and regulations for the 2022 game season. The content of the highlighted cells in the schedule is subject to the outcomes of summer monitoring in January 2022 and will be finalised as per the policy direction indicated in Appendix 1. Council will be advised in early February of the results of the summer monitoring programmes (trend counts), and the consequent regulations that will apply.

3. Resolutions from the December 2020 Meeting

Council agreed:

- 3.1 *Agreed (Ngahi Bidois/Debbie Oakley) that the Reporoa/Broadlands area should be subject to the same mallard and grey duck regulations as the rest of the Eastern Region for the 2021 season. [20/12/9.3]***
- 3.2 *Agreed (Alan Baird/Adam Rayner) that a special swan season be scheduled for the weekend of 26-27 February 2022 in Management Area A1 and that Council commits to reviewing how long the special swan season will be, if there is one, in the 2022 Game Season. [20/12/9.5]***
- 3.3 *Agreed (Alan Baird/Geoff Thomas) that a special pukeko season be scheduled for the weekend of 26-27 February 2022 for the Eastern Region. [20/12/9.7]***
- 3.4 *Agreed (Geoff Thomas/Adam Rayner) that there will not be an open season for brown quail in the 2021 season. [20/12/9.9]***

- 3.5 *Agreed (Ngahi Bidois/ Murray Ferris) that no person shall within the Eastern Fish & Game Region, in or on any public place, or in or on any private land without consent of the land occupier, with intent:*
 (a) *deposit any type of litter, including carcasses or parts thereof, of any shot game.*
 (b) *having deposited any type of litter, including carcasses or parts thereof, of any shot game, leaves it after having been deposited.*
 (c) *for the purposes of this regulation litter includes any refuse, animal or game remains, or waste matter or items of any type used in the course of hunting, which is abandoned or intended to be abandoned. [20/12/9.10]*
- 3.6 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/ Adam Rayner) that the extension to the upland game season on designated upland game properties for junior hunters be dropped. [20/12/9.11]*
- 3.7 *Agreed (Alan Baird/Adam Rayner) that the use of drones to disturb game birds is not permitted. [20/12/9.12]*
- 3.8 *Agreed (Adam Rayner/Murray Ferris) that the Council write to the New Zealand Council suggesting that Section 3 of the First Schedule (Magazine Shotguns) of the Open Season for Game Gazette Notice notes there is a 5-shell limit imposed by the Arms Act. [20/12/9.14]*

4. Information for Further Discussion and/or Making of Resolutions

4.1 Special Black Swan Season (*resolution required*)

The background to this topic is provided in Council’s November meeting agenda. To reiterate, swan on Tauranga Harbour and some of the Rotorua lakes in Management Area A1 have been reasonably high since 2014 (Figure 2). There is a strong inverse relationship between the increase on Tauranga Harbour and a decrease in swan numbers in the Waikato lakes. The Bay of Plenty Regional Council and some Tauranga residents have expressed concerns around the number of swan on the harbour and the effect large numbers have on seagrass (*Zostera sp.*). The January 2021 count however, was down on recent years.

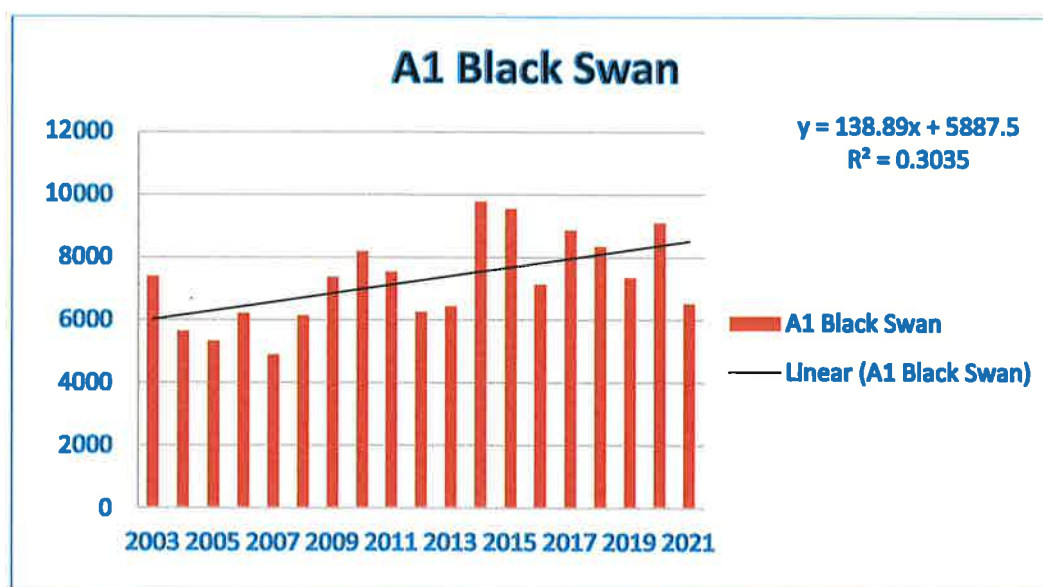


Figure 2. Black Swan counts in Management Unit A1 2003 – 2021

A special two-day season has been held every year since February 2019 (refer 2018 Game Gazette Notice), and a two-day season has been provided for at the end of February 2022. Council needs to decide if they wish to have another special season in 2023. Following discussion at the November 2021 meeting Cr Ken Coombes proposed that an extended season (more than one weekend) could be gazetted for Tauranga Harbour. The Western Bay of Plenty Fish & Game Club has suggested that the special season could be moved to late March as the end of February coincides with a lot of other activity on the harbour. They suggest the date for this should be before the birds leave to breed, and before Easter weekend. The club has no issue with extending the special season but considers it may not be necessary if it is moved to later in the year.

Recommendation

4.1.1 *That there is a special black swan season in Management Area A1 coinciding with the same period for a proposed special pukeko season i.e. 25 February – 5 March 2023 (one week and two weekends), or;*

4.1.2 *That there is a special black swan season in Management Area A1 for 25–26 March 2023.*

4.2 **Special Pukeko Season (resolution required)**

In previous years the dates of a special season for pukeko have coincided with the special swan season but the area has applied to the whole of the Eastern Region (i.e. not just Management Area A1). The rationale for the season is to reduce predation by pukeko on ducklings and other water birds (refer to Council's November 2021 meeting agenda for more detail). At the November 2021 meeting Cr Rayner suggested that the pukeko season could be extended beyond just one weekend. The WBOPFGC also noted that the season could be extended but that it did not need to coincide with the swan season, and could occur at the end of February.

Recommendation

4.2 *That there is a special pukeko season 25 February – 5 March 2023 (i.e. one week and two weekends).*

4.3 **Brown Quail (resolution required)**

In 2020 and 2021 there was no open season for brown quail in the Eastern Region. This came about because of a perceived decline in the population. There has been no reported harvest (hunter survey) for many years and they have disappeared from the few pockets staff know of. The WBOPFGC have also reported members had not seen any brown quail for a number of years.

Recommendation

4.3 *That the season for brown quail in the Eastern Region remains closed for the 2022 season.*

4.4 Upland Game Property

Refer to the October agenda on this matter. We have been advised that the Pirini Family Trust no longer releases pheasants on the property meaning the operation does not need to, nor will be notified in the 2022 game season gazette notice.

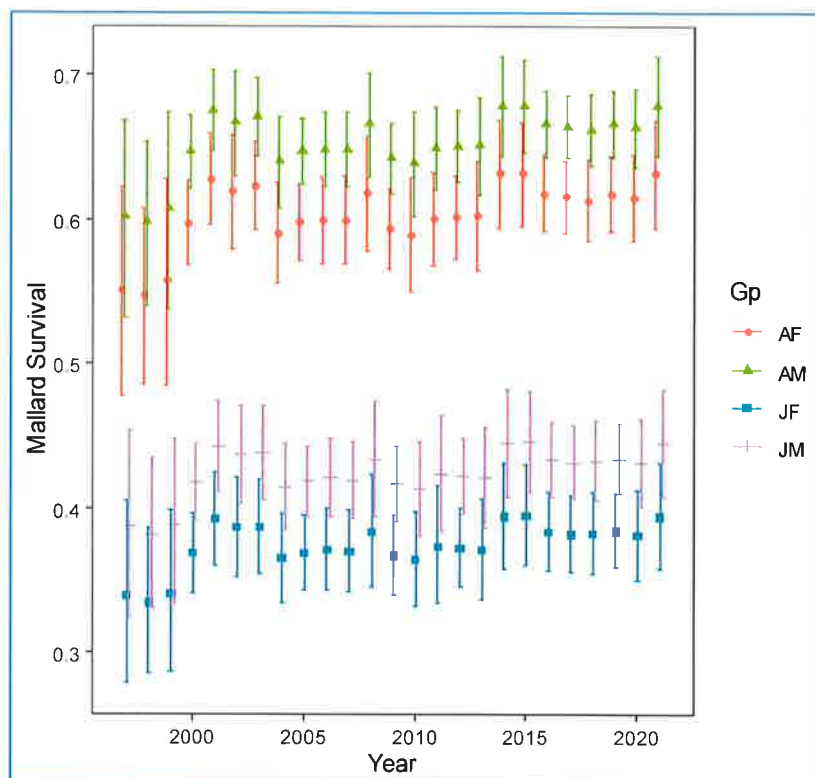
Recommendation

4.4 That Council notes the exclusion of the Pirini Family Trust upland game property from the 2022 Game Gazette Notice.

4.5 Queen's Birthday Weekend (resolution required)

Council asked that the inclusion of Queen's Birthday weekend for the mallard season during a short (4-week season) be reviewed. Last game bird season (2021) was a four week long season with a start date of 1 May which meant that the season finished on 30 May. Queen's Birthday fell on 7 June this year meaning if it had been included the season would have been of five weeks' duration. Both the WBOPFGC and Chris Lynch have asked that Queen's Birthday weekend be included under the Restrictive conditions. Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game Region includes Queen's Birthday in their restrictive conditions.

From a biological point of view, survival rates are so low for juvenile females in the Eastern Region (Figure 3) that another week every so often is unlikely to make a significant difference. Irrespective of Council's position in relation to this, in 2022 Queen's Birthday will fall within a season of four weeks' duration.



**Figure 3. Greylard (mallard and grey duck) survival in the Eastern Region 1997–2021
AF=adult females, AM=adult males, JF=juvenile females, JM= juvenile males.**

Recommendation

4.5. *That the restrictive conditions for mallard and grey duck be a daily limit of six mallard and grey duck for the period extending from the first Saturday in May until the end of Queens Birthday Weekend.*

4.6 *Hunting in Wetland Reserves (resolution required)*

Hunting in Eastern Fish & Game managed wetland reserves finishes at the end of the mallard season. This is aimed at promoting early nesting of mallard as the early nesters tend to be more successful. Previous research in the Eastern Region also suggests that females have better survival rates in seasons of shorter rather than longer duration. The issue arising is that the reserves provide opportunity for pukeko hunting and that pukeko are known to prey on ducklings.

The question is if additional opportunity was made available to hunt pukeko would this result in more ducklings surviving? From our observations the wetland reserves do not produce large numbers of ducklings (though this might be due in part to the substantial numbers of pukeko present in some of these). The WBOPFGC has advised it supports the hunting of pukeko in the reserves after the close of the mallard season.

Kaituna, and possibly Awaiti, appear to have large numbers of pukeko inhabiting them. We could, as a trial, have an 8-week season on pukeko in these reserves only, and monitor how effective this this might be. This extended opportunity would not need to be gazetted, rather it can be provided for via the ballot rules for these two areas.

Recommendation

4.6 *That the ballot rules for the Kaituna Wildlife Management Reserve (and possibly the Awaiti WMR) allow hunting of pukeko for the first eight weeks of the game bird season.*

4.7 *Bob white quail (resolution required)*

Bob white quail were included in the Game Gazette Notice when some upland game properties were releasing them. To our knowledge this has not occurred for a number of years and there is no longer justification for continuing to provide a season for them.

Recommendation

4.7 *That reference to bob white quail is removed from the 2022 Game Gazette Notice.*

APPENDIX 1: CURRENT POLICY AND CRITERIA

1. GREYLARD (Mallard and Grey Duck) POLICY

- (i) *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Ngahi Bidois) that Council re-affirms the current threshold levels, criteria, and conditions for regulation setting for grey duck/mallard, paradise shelduck and black swan. [18/11/10.16]*
- (ii) *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Alan Baird) 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. [16/12/10.3]*
- (iii) *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Alan Baird) 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. [16/12/10.4]*
- (iv) *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]*

2. Paradise Shelduck

- (i) *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Alan Baird) that paradise shelduck and black swan thresholds and regulations remain the status quo and are subject to January monitoring results. [16/12/10.5]*

Threshold Criteria

Table 1: Eastern Paradise Shelduck threshold levels

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

Table 2: Eastern Paradise Shelduck season conditions

SEASON	Area	Specific Conditions	
		Length (weeks)	Bag Limit
Restricted	A1 & A2	4	4
	B2 & B1 South of true right bank Uawa River	4	4
Intermediate	A1, A2	8	6
	B2 & B1 South of the true right bank Uawa River	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

3. Black Swan

- (i) *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Alan Baird) that paradise shelduck and black swan thresholds and regulations remain the status quo and are subject to January monitoring results. [16/12/10.5]*
- (ii) *Agreed (Alan Baird/Adam Rayner) that Council supports changing the “Intermediate” regulations for black swan from a daily bag limit of 2 to 5 birds (i.e, when the population is assessed at 1,000-3,000 birds) to provide more incentive to hunt swan once the mallard season finishes. [18/11/10.15]*

Threshold Criteria

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	SPECIFIC CONDITIONS (LENGTH AND DAILY BAG)
Restricted	No season
Intermediate	8-week season with a 5-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

4. Hunting with Australasian Harriers Policy

- (i) *Agreed (Mike Little/Murray Ferris) that Council approves the application submitted by the NZ Falconers Association and Wingspan to hunt Pukeko with Australasian Harriers in the Eastern Region subject to the game bird season conditions and bag limits. [13/10/8.2]*
- (ii) *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Lindsay Lyons) that Council supports the proposal to allow registered falconers, who hold a game bird licence and an Authority to Handle birds from the Department of Conservation, to hunt other game bird species as listed within the Game Bird hunting regulations. [16/10/9.11] Cr Alan Baird opposed the motion.*

APPENDIX 2: PROPOSED 2022 GAME SEASON

The First Schedule below is an extract from the 2021 game season and has been included for information only. The Second Schedule has been updated to reflect what's proposed for the 2022 season, but it needs to be noted that some daily bag limits and season lengths are subject to the outcome of population monitoring in January 2022.

FIRST SCHEDULE

Hunting conditions generally common to all fish and game regions

1 Bag limits

- 1.1** 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 2 May 2021, when that person may have in his or her possession twice the number of game birds specified as the daily bag limit for Saturday 1 May 2021.
- 1.2** 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 person¹ 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 extensions², 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;

¹Section 17 of the Wildlife Act 1953

²Amended 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

(f) West Coast Fish and Game Region.

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

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

5.1 No person may possess lead shot, or use lead shot, while hunting or killing waterfowl within 200 metres of open water on Department of Conservation or Fish and Game administered lands with any shotgun, except those using a .410 cartridge. Non-toxic alternative shot must be used, including steel.

5.2 No person, with any shotgun using a 10 or 12 gauge cartridge, may possess lead shot, or use lead shot, while hunting or killing waterfowl within 200m of open water. Non-toxic alternative shot must be used, including steel.

5.3 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 rhynchotis*);

Pukeko (*Porphyrio porphyrio melanotus*).

5.4 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 (4)(a).

5.5 In 2021 lead shot will be prohibited for all licence holders (irrespective of gauge used, excepting 0.410) across all lands (public and private) when hunting waterfowl within 200 metres of all waterways and wetlands.

6 Camouflaged Rowboats

A person³ 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 1 and 2 May 2021

³Section 18(1)(f)(vi) of the Wildlife Act 1953

Eastern – excluding 1 and 2 May 2021
Hawke’s Bay – excluding 1 and 2 May 2021
Taranaki – no excluded period
Wellington – excluding 1 and 2 May 2021
Nelson/Marlborough – no excluded period
West Coast – no excluded period
North Canterbury – excluding 1 and 2 May 2021
Central South Island – excluding 1 and 2 May 2021
Otago – excluding Clutha River 1 to 9 May 2021 inclusive
Southland – excluding the Matarua, Aparima, Oreti, Waiau and Waimatuku rivers and their tributaries 1 to 31 May 2021 inclusive.

7 Restriction on Taking of Game

No person shall use any vehicle propelled by mechanical power (including motorised watercraft)⁴ to chase or kill game, except in such circumstances and at such times as authorised by the Conservation Act 1987 and Wildlife Act 1953.

8 Pegging Day

- 8.1** Stand claimants who claimed and occupied a stand during the 2019 Game Season (provided they purchased a 2020 Game Season licence before 23 May 2020) or 2020 Game Season may claim that stand at any time prior to pegging day (up to 10.00 a.m. on 28 March 2021) following the purchase of the 2021 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.
- 8.2** Otherwise, unclaimed stands can only be claimed any time after 10.00am on 28 March 2021 in all Fish and Game Regions.
- 8.3** 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.
- 8.4** The licence holder claiming a stand must be present in person at the stand when marking it up.
- 8.5** No one can claim more than one stand.
- 8.6** A stand cannot be claimed closer than 90 metres to a stand already claimed by another person without that person’s consent.
- 8.7** 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.

⁴Section 18(1)(f)(v) of the Wildlife Act 1953

9 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.

SECOND SCHEDULE

EASTERN FISH AND GAME REGION⁵

1 Game That May be Hunted or Killed—Duration of 2021/2022 Season

Species	Season Duration (dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit	Hunting Area
Grey/mallard duck	7 May to ? 2022	6	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	7 May to 7 June 2022	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	7 May to ? 2022	6	Area A1, A2
	7 May to ? 2022	10	Area B2 and that part of B1, which lies south of the true right bank of the Uawa River Mouth, Tolaga Bay
	7 May to 3 July 2022	20	That part of B1, which lies north of the true right bank of the Uawa River Mouth, Tolaga Bay
Pukeko	7 May to 28 Aug 2022	10	All areas
	25 Feb and 26 Feb 2023	10	All areas
Black swan	7 May to 28 Aug 2022	No limit	Area A1
	25 Feb and 26 Feb 2023	No limit	Area A1
	7 May to 19 Jun 2022	5	Area A2
	Closed season	0	Area B1 & B2
Bobwhite (Virginian) quail	7 May to 28 Aug 2022	No limit	All areas
Brown quail	Closed season	0	All areas
California quail	7 May to 28 Aug 2022	No limit	Area A1 & A2
	7 May to 28 Aug 2022	5	Area B1 & B2
Cock pheasant	7 May to 28 Aug 2022	5	All area

2 Definition of Areas

The following descriptions refer to Management Units within the Eastern Region (described on Infomap 242B-2 Land Information New Zealand). The Management Units are defined using both District Council and Eastern Region Fish & Game boundaries. The coastal boundaries of Management Units A1, B1 and, B2 follow the coastline as per Infomap 242-2.

⁵Reference to Description: *Gazette*, No. 83, of 22 May 1990, at page 1861

- 2.1 **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.
- 2.2 **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.
- 2.3 **Area B1:** Gisborne District.
- 2.4 **Area B2:** That part of Wairoa District within the Eastern Fish and Game region.

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

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 No maimai shall impede the use of navigable channels in the Tauranga Harbour, Ohiwa Harbour, Little Waihi Estuary, Lake Aniwhenua and Lake Taupo.
- 5.3 A person who erects a maimai in the Little Waihi Estuary, Lake Aniwhenua, Ohiwa Harbour, Stump and Waihi Bays of Lake Taupo must dismantle and remove it within 2 weeks of the close of the season (ie by 12 September 2022).
- 5.4 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.
- 5.5 No person shall wilfully within the Eastern Fish and Game Region, in or on any public place, or in or on any private land without consent of the land occupier:
 - a. deposit any type of litter, including any carcass or part of it, of any shot game.
 - b. having deposited any type of litter, including carcasses or parts thereof, of any shot game, leaves it after having been deposited.
 - c. for the purposes of this regulation litter includes any refuse, animal or game remains, or waste matter or items of any type used in the course of hunting, which is abandoned or intended to be abandoned.

5.6 A person must not use a drone to disturb game birds.

6 Hunting From a Boat Under Power

No person may possess a firearm that can be rapidly deployed in or on any unmoored vessel, except (1) where the unmoored vessel is not being propelled at the time by a motorised device, or (2) the firearm is needed to retrieve wounded game. For the purpose of this rule a firearm is considered unable to be rapidly deployed if it has been dismantled or secured in a case, gunslip or other secure compartment.

10. TAKE A MATE HUNTING

Ref: 3.04.08

24 November 2021

1. Purpose

To discuss the merits of extending the Take A Mate Hunting concessionary licence we made available within the Eastern Region during the 2022 Game Season.

2. Background

For some years the Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Council has offered, to the first 100 game bird hunters who apply for it, the opportunity to take a mate hunting on opening weekend for the equivalent cost of the Game Bird Habitat Trust stamp (currently \$4). Strict conditions apply, e.g. the mate must not have held a game licence previously, it's for opening weekend only, and it can only be used within the Auckland/Waikato Region. Uptake over the years has reportedly been quite limited but the opportunity has not been vigorously marketed.

In December 2020 the Eastern Fish and Game Council considered the option of trialling the concept during the 2021 Game Season in recognition of its potential as an R3 recruiting initiative, and resolved as follows:

“Agreed (Ngahi Bidois/Adam Rayner) that Council supports a trial of the “Take a Mate Hunting” programme in the Eastern Region during the 2021 season. [20/12/11.3]

NZC staff confirmed at the time that it was legal to do so and issue game licences for the price of the GBHT stamp under clause 13 of the Wildlife Regulations 1955:

13 Forms and classes of licences

(1) Licences to hunt or kill game must be in the forms and for the classes fixed by notice in the *Gazette*.

(2) It is lawful for a society to issue a complimentary licence where this has been approved of by the society, or to issue a licence to any person for either no fee or at such reduced fee as the society may approve when adequate compassionate grounds are shown. The annual report of each society must include a list of persons to whom complimentary licences were issued during the year of the report.

The legislation is clearly dated as it refers to a society rather than a Council, but the intent and provision still applies.

Five “Take a Mate Hunting” special licences were issued for the 2021 game season. The conditions that applied included:

- (i) Hunting could only be undertaken within the Eastern region;
- (ii) The licence was valid for 1 & 2 May only (opening weekend);
- (iii) The recipient of the licence must be accompanied by an adult whole season licence holder and abide by the 2021 Game Bird Hunting Regulations.

Feedback from the special licence holders indicated at least one of the recipients intended taking up duck hunting in future, but it won't be until closer to the commencement of the 2022 season before we'll know how many, if any of the five actually do so.

A template of the special Eastern Fish & Game Licence for 2021 is appended below.

3. Recommendation

3.1 *That Council approves extension of the Take A Mate Hunting trial to the 2022 Game Season.*

“TAKE A MATE HUNTING” SPECIAL LICENCE 2021

Name:
Address:

DoB:

Licence No: 3101
Valid for 1st & 2nd May 2021 Only



Conditions:

- This special licence is valid only for 1st and 2nd May 2021.
- Game bird hunting under this special licence can only occur within the Eastern Fish & Game region.
- The above-named recipient of this special licence must comply with the 2021 Game Bird Hunting Regulations.
- The above-named recipient of this special licence must be accompanied by an adult whole season licence holder.
- This special licence must be carried by the above-named recipient while hunting or in possession of game and must be produced to any ranger upon request.
- Signature of above-named recipient required below to validate licence.

Signature:.....

11. TAGGED TROUT EVENT

Ref: 4.04.01

24 November 2021

1. Purpose

To establish Council's position on utilising up to \$4,000 from the Public Promotions funding available in Project Code 1441 of this year's Operational Work Plan.

2. Background

From 2015 through to 2019 inclusive, Eastern Fish & Game ran a tagged trout event on lakes Tarawera, Rotoiti and Okataina, and in 2015, on Lake Rotorua also. Ten uniquely tagged takeable sized trout were released into each lake ahead of the opening of the fishing season on 1 October, and anglers who had registered for this free event who caught one of these tagged fish during the c.10 days the event ran for from the 1st, were eligible to go into a prize draw. Each tag was randomly allocated to a sealed envelope, there being 40 envelopes in the first year and 30 envelopes in the subsequent four years. One of those envelopes in the first year contained a \$25,000 token which we secured an underwriter for. In the following years this was reduced to a \$10,000 sum generously sponsored by friends of Eastern Fish & Game as we were unable to find an insurer anywhere in the world who was prepared to provide us with cover at an affordable rate in the event of the major prize being drawn. An outboard motor was also offered up as a prize two years running, and lake edge accommodation too was another sponsored prize. All remaining envelopes each year contained a voucher or prize to the value of \$200-\$250, once again courtesy of a sponsor.

An inability to locate a sponsor as a consequence of Covid for a really enticing grand prize such as a 4WD vehicle (which we considered was needed to attract a significant number of new licence holders), meant we didn't run a tagged fish event in 2020. This year, 2021, we decided to defer the event from the opening of the season to early next year (provisionally scheduled for 29 Jan to 7 Feb 2022 which spans two long weekends) in an attempt to increase participation and generate revenue of more meaningful proportions than has been the case over the past five years when we've barely broken even. In retrospect this was a good decision to have made given the lockdown of Auckland just prior to the opening of the season and Waikato shortly after.

Currently we don't have sponsorship for a tagged fish event in the new year. We do however have \$4,000 that could potentially be drawn from our Public Promotions budget in this year's Operational Work Plan. If available, this could be used as 'seeding' funds to approach potential 'grand prize' sponsors and endeavour to secure their support.

3. Recommendation

3.1 *That Council discusses the option of utilising funds from its current Operational Work Plan to put towards a tagged fish event this coming summer, and advises its support or opposition to such.*

12. OPENING DAY FOR THE FISHING SEASON

Ref: 1.07.01

26 November 2021

1. Purpose

To review Council's position on shifting the opening of the boat fishing season on lakes Tarawera, Rotoiti and Okataina from the 1st of October to the first Saturday in October.

2. Background

This shift in opening date was enacted for the first time this year, with the opening commencing on Saturday 2 October. It stems from resolutions made by Council in June 2020 as follows:

“Agreed (Ngahi Bidois/ Lawrence Tamati) to change the season opening dates for lakes Tarawera, Rotoiti and Okataina from 1 October to the first Saturday in October. Carried 6/3. [20/06/8.13] Cr David Woolner abstained, Crs Murray Ferris, Debbie Oakley, and Ken Coombes did not support the motion”. [20/06/8.13]

Agreed (Ngahi Bidois/ Lyndsay Lyons) that the recommendation [20/06/8.13] to change the season opening dates for lakes Tarawera, Rotoiti and Okataina from 1 October to the first Saturday in October comes into effect for the 2021-22 Sports Fishing Season. Carried 7/2. [20/06/8.15]

Additional detail and background is provided in Agenda Item 3.6 for the June 2020 meeting and the confirmed minutes for this, and these have been reproduced in the Papers for Information (PFI) for December 2021.

The shift of opening date this year generated considerable feedback on both social media and in emails to Eastern Fish & Game (see PFI for October 2021, Item 3 Vol 1, “Unsolicited Feedback on Change of Opening Date for Lakes”).

To obtain a potentially more representative perspective of anglers, staff undertook an online survey of anglers who purchased their 2021-22 licence prior to, or up until 18 November this year. This was emailed out to 3,690 recipients. A summary of the results of that survey will be forwarded to Councillors ahead of this agenda item being considered on 9 December.

3. Recommendation

3.1 That Council reviews and either reconfirms, or revises its position on the opening date for the boat fishing season on lakes Tarawera, Rotoiti and Okataina.

13. GOVERNANCE EXERCISE
(TO BE FACILITATED BY THE CHAIR NGAHI BIDOIS)

14. FINANCIAL PROCESSES
(PRESENTATION BY CARMEL VEITCH & KATE THOMPSON)

15. LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS

15.1 Report from New Zealand Council (Cr Oakley)

15.2 Feedback from video meeting with Regional Structure Review Team (Cr Lyons)

17. PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

Ref: 9.01.01

26 November 2021

1. Purpose

To discuss the manager's letter of resignation, attributes sought in a successor, and process and schedule for going to the market to recruit a successor.

2. Background

Council was notified that its manager of the past seven years had tendered his resignation on 21 November 2021 with a view to finishing up at the end of January or in early February 2022.

3. Resolution

3.1 *That pursuant to Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the public be excluded at ... pm from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely to discuss the manager's resignation, and the process and schedule for recruiting a successor.*

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

GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED	REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER	GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION
Manager's letter of resignation and recruitment of a successor.	Good reason to withhold exists under section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982	Section 48(1)(a)(ii)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 9 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

ITEM	REASON UNDER ACT	SECTION	PLAIN ENGLISH REASON
Protect the privacy of natural persons.	Sec. 9(2)(a)	Information provided identifies a particular person or can easily be connected with a particular person.	Once the person to whom the information relates consents to its disclosure.
Protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence ... where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.	Sec 9(2)(ba)(i)	Disclosing the information would jeopardise the relationship with the supplier because the supplier may no longer trust the Council to hold its information in confidence.	Not unless there is a public interest in disclosure of the specific information.

Note:

Section 48(4) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides as follows:

“(4) Every resolution to exclude the public shall be put at a time when the meeting is open to the public, and the text of that resolution (or copies thereof):

- (a) Shall be available to any member of the public who is present; and
- (b) Shall form part of the minutes of the Council.”