



**FISH & GAME NZ, SOUTHLAND REGION
AGENDA**

FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD

THURSDAY 15th AUGUST 2019



Councillor Corey Carston with a brown trout caught during the annual spawning /capture data survey, Waituna Creek, July 2019.

NOTICE OF MEETING:

The next meeting of the Southland Fish & Game Council will be held on **Thursday 15th August 2019** at the Fish & Game Office Boardroom, 17 Eye Street, Invercargill commencing at **6.00pm**.

A finger tea will be provided for Staff & Council from 5.15pm.

MEETING AGENDA:

1. Welcome
2. Apologies.
3. Councillor “Conflicts of Interest” – Register circulated at meeting for Councillors to declare & sign if any conflicts of interest with agenda items.
4. Health & Safety Report to 31st July 2019.
 - Southland Fish & Game Council Health & Safety responsibilities – copy in agenda.
5. Minutes of the meeting held 13th June 2019.
6. Matters arising from the minutes.
7. Administration Reports: (Any items Councillors wish to discuss please contact the Manager prior to the meeting).
 - Accounts paid & Direct Credit/Debit payment list since last meeting.
 - Licence sales progress to 31st July 2019.
 - Budget to Actual progress to 31st July 2019.
 - Correspondence list.
8. Staff Report.
9. NZ Council issues:
 - NZC Seeking nominations for three new sub-committees to be established. (Emailed to Councillors, 18th June 2019).
Financial /Strategic – 2 regional appointees
Remuneration Policy – 2 regional appointees
Licensing – 3 regional appointees.
10. General Business:
 - 10.1 Confirmation of Waiau Trust nominees for next three-year term to 30th June 2022.
 - 10.2 Governance update – Chairman.
 - 10.3 ES Environment Awards update.
 - 10.4 Upper Mataura access – Simon Wilkinson.
 - 10.5 Fish & Game costs & Licence fees – Dave Harris.
 - 10.6 Initial discussions OWP 2020/2021 priorities.
 - 10.7 Pressure sensitive fisheries (perception survey update).
 - 10.8 Initial discussions 3 yr Angler Notice review. (1st October 2020 – 30th September 2022.
 - 10.9 Game regulations 2020 – initial discussions, & further options within current legislation.
 - 10.10 Te Anau Wildlife Park – children’s shelter further discussion.
11. Any Items for next Council meeting agenda and discussion.
- 12 Closure of meeting.

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Background

As part of its commitment to Health and Safety and providing a safe workplace the Southland Fish and Game Council requires a report at each meeting describing:

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

July 2019 update:

1. Implementation and adherence to the Health and Safety Plan

The Council Health and Safety Plan & Policy was approved at the Council meeting held 9th June 2016 and reviewed annually by staff. The 2019 annual review of our H&S processes & plan is currently underway.

This year we have compared our H&S plan and processes with those of another Fish and Game region (Nelson Marlborough), to see if we can adopt anything they are doing to improve on any elements of our H&S processes.

Conducting this comparison has been valuable. We have been able to add/adapt elements of Nelson Marlborough's H&S processes to improve on our own H&S processes. For example, we have now produced a Health and Safety Performance Checklist to make sure we are covering everything we need to during H&S meetings. We have also produced a H&S review schedule which documents any changes/additions we make to any elements of our H&S processes. A newly developed H&S action register documents H&S actions which need to take place, who is responsible for the H&S action and when it is to be completed by.

The Health & Safety Policy sets out the commitment that the Council has towards the Health and Safety of all Fish and Game workers and visitors.

A copy of the Policy is displayed in the entrance way to the office for all workers and visitors to see. It was also displayed in the Te Anau Office. The Policy will be reviewed every three years, next review being August 2021.

The Health and Safety Plan which incorporates the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 has been circulated to Staff. The plan sets out the policies and procedures that will be implemented to ensure that our workers and visitors to our workplace are safe. The plan sets out the roles and responsibilities for Council, management and all workers at the workplace. The plan, also sets out an annual timetable to ensure that all Risk areas within the business are identified and annually audited.

Staff meetings include Health and Safety on the Agenda. Staff are given an opportunity to raise any issues and as a team we develop a procedure to minimise the risk. All staff are made aware immediately of any new hazards identified.

Staff training requirements pertaining to Health & Safety, is ongoing and reviewed annually. Tailgate forms are used when staff go out in the Field or Ranging, these are updated as new hazards are identified.

The boardroom when used for a meeting (visitors to the site)- all persons attending the meeting will be given a verbal Health and Safety briefing by the Chairman – i.e. shown where all exits are in case of emergency and notified of any hazards in the area.

Monitoring and Reporting

Work Place Accident Register

As at 31st July 2019

Number of workplace injuries in 2018-2019 year	0
Number of workplace injuries in 2017-2018 year	0
Number of workplace injuries in 2016-2017 year	0
Number of workplace injuries in 2015-2016 year	0
Number of workplace injuries in 2014-2015 year	2
Total number of workplace injuries since 1 Sept 1995	15

2. Risk Management (identification and treatment)

Health & Safety meetings with staff are held on a regular basis with minutes of the meetings taken. The last staff H&S meeting was held 25th July 2019 with a review of all hazards undertaken.

Staff continue to supply the Office with work intention forms before any activities were undertaken with start and finish times and search times recorded.

Tailgate forms are signed off by workers prior to commencing activities to identify risks and hazards so that all members were aware of the hazards and the controls in place to minimise any risk. Tailgate forms were always being reviewed and necessary updates made.

The MLC operation tailgate form was updated with new hazards identified.

Also, a new tailgate form specific to boating was being created.

Access ways within the workshop and garage area of the Office were cleared and staff reminded to keep these areas clear, in case of emergencies.

Staff & Contractors were reminded to report any near misses and minor/major incidents and to update tailgate forms when any additional significant hazards were identified.

Contractors to Fish & Game were required to sign our H&S Plan & H&S induction checklist.

3. Training programme

A staff training schedule was ongoing to ensure all hazards that required specific training were identified.

A defensive driving course for staff was currently being investigated.

A Power boat refresher course was scheduled for October 2019.

In July 2019 Erin & Cohen both successfully completed the EAC Training Course for safety & procedural requirements for work at electrical generating stations and associated structures. This enabled them to undertake MLC work.

4. H&S incidents

Nil to report

5. Recommendations

Council receive and accept this Health & Safety report.

SOUTHLAND FISH AND GAME COUNCIL HEALTH AND SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

Below is a brief description of the health and safety responsibilities of the Southland Fish and Game Council. These responsibilities are outlined in the health and safety policy which is posted in prominent positions around the Southland Fish and Game office.

The Council's Commitment

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

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

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

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

The Regional Manager, as an Officer (under the HAS Act) must:

- Exercise due diligence in accordance with the provisions of the health and safety legislation;
- Take all reasonable steps to protect workers, volunteers and visitors in the workplace from unsafe or unhealthy conditions or practices;
- Ensure there are effective processes to deal with unacceptable behaviour, such as noncompliance;
- Provide information and training opportunities to workers;
- Keep Council fully informed;
- Advise the Council Chair of any emergency situations as soon as possible.

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

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Fish & Game NZ, Southland Region Council meeting held at the Southland Fish & Game Office, 17 Eye Street, Invercargill on Thursday 13th June 2019.

Present:

Graeme Watson (Chair)	Lindsay Withington
Chris Owen	Lyndon Norman
Paul Stenning	Craig Horrell
Dave Harris	Ken Cochrane
Mike Hartstonge	Cyril Gilroy (Te Runanga Ngai Tahu, 6.25pm)
David MacGregor	Bevan McNaughton
Corey Carston	

In attendance:

Martin Taylor, Chief Executive, NZ Fish & Game Council.
Roy Knight, North Canterbury Fish & Game NZ Council rep.
Z Moss (Manager), C Stewart, E Garrick, W Jarvie, (F&G Officers) J Smyth (Resource Management Officer - 6.15pm), C Mason (Minutes).

Members of the Public:

Geoffrey Young (Southland Federated Farmers, President).
Stephen Rabbidge (Southland Federated Farmers).
Crystal Brindle (Dept. of Conservation).

Welcome:

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6.00pm and welcomed those present with a special welcome to Martin Taylor, Roy Knight, Southland Federated Farmer's representatives and Crystal Brindle, DoC.

The Chairman pointed out all exits from the building should an emergency occur.

Apologies:

Resolved Withington/Hartstonge that apologies be received & accepted from Jacob Smyth (6.15pm) & Cyril Gilroy (6.25pm) for lateness. Carried.

Conflicts of Interest with items on the agenda:

The individual member declaration of conflicts of interest with any item on the agenda had been circulated to members for signature before the start of the meeting.
Any conflicts were noted by the Chairman.

Health & Safety Report:

The Council health & safety report for the period 1st April 2019 – 31st May 2019 was attached to the agenda for consideration. The report showed a nil return for the period.
All known hazards were listed in the Southland Health & Safety Plan.

Resolved Owen/Harris that the Health & Safety Report to 31st May 2019 be received. Carried.

Minutes of the meeting held 11th April 2019.

Resolved Harris / McNaughton that the minutes of the meeting held 11th April 2019 were taken as read and were a true and accurate record. Carried.

Matters arising from Minutes:

There were no matters arising from the minutes that were not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda.

Administration Reports:

The accounts paid, direct credit/debit payments list & automatic payments since the last meeting, licence sales progress to 27th May 2019, budget to actual expenses to 31/05/2019 & correspondence reports were attached to the agenda for Councillors consideration.

The Manager reported that the Southland Water & Land Plan Hearing was taking longer than expected, now going into a third week. This would mean an overspend in that area.

Licence sales in both game & fish were down compared to the same time last year.

Cr Cochrane suggested that the adult whole season game sales were down due to the regulations of shortening the season and reducing the bag limit. However other members of Council did not agree with that suggestion.

The Chairman referred to the game bird harvest survey where hunters were asked how satisfied they were with their opening weekend experience. That survey question was also asked in 2017.

The results were 2017 – 72% were very satisfied and in 2019 77% were very satisfied. That result should give confidence that the reduced bag limit and shortened season did not affect the opening weekend satisfaction of the average Southland hunter.

Correspondence Reports:

The Chairman reported that he would try to attend the next meeting of the Southland Conservation Board on the 22nd August at the Te Rau Aroha Marae in Bluff.

Maurice Rodway had suggested that Councillors may wish to attend the 1st October meeting of the Conservation Board also as it would be held in Invercargill. The November meeting of the Board was to be held in Stewart Island.

Resolved Hartstonge/ Stenning that the Administration Reports be received. Carried.

Public Forum:

Crystal Brindle – Community Ranger, Dept of Conservation, Te Anau.

Crystal introduced herself & gave a brief background of her role in the Dept. and her involvement with the Te Anau Bird Sanctuary. She was currently involved in consultation on how they could bring more life into the Park and to show more connectivity to the natural & cultural heritage it provided. A local Te Anau business had approached DoC with a donation for the Bird Sanctuary.

Staff of the Sanctuary suggested the donation go to a visitor's shelter, to get out of the elements, to learn and partake in activities and to serve as an educational opportunity for students.

A community workshop had been held yesterday to create ideas for future projects at the Te Anau Bird Sanctuary and to develop a plan for the first project.

The first project was to be a children's shelter. The area it would be built in the Park was shown. The workshop was run by Design & Make Architects and several others in the community, including DoC, ES, local schools & students etc. 15 adults and 17 students attended the workshop.

Bill Jarvie also attended. Potential designs of what the shelter could look like were shown. Practical needs, educational needs, creativity & connection ideas were put forward at the workshop. Focus ideas for the shelter were discussed including showcasing ecosystems, running craft & cultural sessions, creating our own energy, showcasing species & how we cared for the environment and keeping the shelter relevant.

The students had been left with follow up questions and the next step was to retrieve their answers to the questions. From there, ideas from the workshop & the students would be shared with the steering group. After that they would engage with wider partnerships e.g. early childhood centres to make sure a design would appeal to very young children, as well as older students. After that a further meeting with the steering group to come up with a final plan and costing options would be held.

Crystal understood that the Wildlife Park was vested to the Southland Fish & Game Council and as this was only at the concept stage, they welcomed Fish & Game's input and asked would F&G like to be involved in this concept. Did Fish and Game agree in principle and what guidance would they like to provide?

Bill Jarvie gave a brief background to the meeting of how & why Fish & Game had the Park vested with them. The Park existed because of the stream of water from a natural spring source that drove the original hatchery on the property. The Dept of Internal Affairs, Wildlife Service, took over the running of the hatchery & grounds & introduced birds to the sanctuary. The Wildlife Service then became the Dept. of Conservation. At one point the Minister at the time decided that DoC was no longer going to invest in aviaries and the birds should eventually go from the Park display. Before that, there was an understanding that the land had equal value to the Wildlife Service for fish and game species as well as protected species. It was then agreed that the Fish & Game Council should be vested with all assets and land of the Wildlife Park for their use, until no longer required, at which time it would revert back to the Crown.

The Fish & Game Te Anau Office was situated in the Park and we still used a small part of the hatchery facilities for our put and take fisheries. Doc had also successfully reared Whio duck broods in the old raceways of the hatchery. The bird sanctuary was now clearly recognised as a valuable advocacy asset for the Dept and for Fish & Game potentially as well to jointly develop. As vested owners of the land we were part of the consultation process. The Council were generally in support of the concept at this stage, but to what level and degree required further discussion. In the meantime:

Resolved Harris/Horrell that Council preliminarily supported the concept in principle of the children's shelter in the Te Anau Wildlife Park, subject to further development and discussion. Carried.

*Cyril Gilroy joined the meeting 6.25pm
Crystal Brindle left the meeting 6.30pm*

Staff Report:

The staff report was attached to the agenda.

Pressure Sensitive Fisheries: Upper Oreti - Cohen Stewart.

The fishing season in the upper Oreti River was now closed and all data from the cameras had been retrieved and analysed. The data set report was circulated to the Council at the meeting. Cohen then went over the key results of the data.

The beat occupancy rates from October to April - number of days monitored, number of days occupied & occupancy % rates were shown.

The overall occupancy rate of the beats in Oct & Nov was 33%, December was 53%, January was 34%, February 52%, March 32%, & April 22%.

The weekend occupancy rates over the course of the season were also shown with the overall weekend occupancy rate being 42% for the whole season.

The angling duration time by month was shown, less than 4 hrs and more than 4hrs fishing. Roughly a third were fishing less than 4 hrs.

Beat arrival times each month before & after 9.00am were shown.

As the Ashton Burn was the most popular beat Cohen had looked at the environmental variables affecting occupancy of the beat. This was in relation to river flow, wind and rainfall data. There was no statistically significant evidence to suggest that these variables affected whether the Ashton Burn beat was fished on a given day or not. Anglers still fished there when conditions were rainy, windy or the river level elevated.

He then analysed if the environmental variables affected multiple visitation rates on the Ashton Burn beat. The environmental variables did not significantly affect multiple visitation rates on the Ashton Burn beat, however rainfall was close to being, a significant variable. Graphs showed that despite high rainfall anglers did still fish the beat.

Upper Oreti angler origins were determined by 367 staff visits to beat signs in Jan – Apr 19. Of the 168 physical licence checks 83% were non-resident & 17% were resident. Historical angler surveys (2000/2001) showed non-resident use to be 69%. So, either non-resident use had increased, or resident anglers had been displaced because of perceptions around crowding.

We now had angler origin data & angler usage/visitation rates. We were now waiting for the angler perceptions on crowding data from the back-country email survey results currently being done and once that was received Council would be able to make an informed management decision on the fishery.

Cr Cochrane noted that with 83% non-resident rate and low resident rate this suggested a strong correlation that non-residents still chose to fish the fishery in imperfect conditions.

Proposed Southland Water & Land Plan Hearing update – Jacob Smyth.

Jacob gave the meeting a quick update on progress of the Hearing currently underway.

Since the staff notes were prepared the first week and a half of the Hearing had begun. The Hearing for the first part of the Plan, Tranche A – covering state of the environment, the objectives and policies, had originally been set for two weeks. However, progress had been slower than anticipated and was now going to go for a full three weeks, with a further 3 days in late July for closing submissions. Tranche B – dealing with specific rules, would be dealt with at a later stage (early next year).

Fish & Game's evidence was presented yesterday & today by Ben Farrell in relation to planning and by Russell Death in relation to ecological health & water quality. Ben Farrell was being shared as a witness with Forest & Bird.

Fish & Game's case was that we needed to set attributes to determine where degradation existed. The old Water Plan set a goal to improve water quality by 10% in lowland, spring fed & hill water bodies, with regard to nutrients & microbial contaminates, to be achieved by 2020. It had already been abridged back from a 20% improvement. The incumbent Plan adopting a non-regulatory approach had essentially failed and this 2nd generation Plan was now underway.

There had been many questions on the state of the environment and how that had been responded to. Consequently, it was all taking longer than expected and a decision was not expected until later in the year.

The Manager said that once the decision of Tranche A was known that would give us guidance on Tranche B and how complex that would be, and how we would need to be involved.

Jacob added that before the Hearing there was a lot of scientific evidence presented in respect to water quality, particularly in respect to the existing state and to trends. There was a large degree of consensus reached among the experts that we needed numerics set for the purpose of determining degradation. In Jacob's view there would be a large gap in the Plan where it says that we will improve water quality where it was degraded, but there would be no means or tools to identify where that degradation existed. The National Policy Statement for Freshwater required that both ecosystem health & human health for recreation was safeguarded, and that requirement should apply now. There was until 2025 to set limits but that did not mean that nothing should be done in the meantime and that was Fish & Game's case. We needed to see something done now, we know we have a problem and we should do something about it.

Game Bird Season 2019:

The average opening weekend bag was lower than staff had expected given the relatively high abundance of ducks this season. Staff had completed a larger sample size in the subsequent game harvest surveys and got the same result. Cr Stenning suggested it was indicative of more juvenile birds this year, that tended to congregate at the food sources, whereas adult birds spread out further. Hence the reason why some hunters, near areas of food sources, had their best season ever while others, away from the food sources, did not do as well.

New Zealand Council Issues:

Martin Taylor, CE, New Zealand Council – Budgets & licence prices:

Mr Taylor congratulated staff for the work they were doing at the Southland Water & Land Plan Hearing. The whole issue of water quality was a national one and across the country there were real issues of water degradation.

Mr Taylor said he would like to slow or stop the increases in licence prices. They were reaching the peak that people would accept. After seeing two budget rounds with the NZC he said the current system did not support a strategic approach to the setting of the organisation's finances. As budgets were a bottom up, individual year by year process, it did not support a multi-year planned approach, taking into account trends, internal cost growth & licence price sensitivity.

He said there was a need to look at our budgets over a longer time period, such as three to five years. He circulated at the meeting a graph showing actual revenue & expenditure of the organisation since 2013-2014 & projected revenue & expenditure to 2023-2024 with 3 scenarios.

He noted that the participation rate was decreasing slightly, which was a concern. There had been a dramatic increase in the price of a fishing licence over the years, which needed looking at. He referred to the survey by Steve Doughty which suggested the fish licence at \$150 was the price people would stop buying it, as the perceived value of it was reached at that point.

Mr Taylor explained the graph & the three scenarios to the meeting. The scenarios highlighted possible outcomes for the organisation in the next few years.

The good news was that NZC were looking seriously at alternative revenue sources & looking for a licence sales system that was more cost effective than the current system. NZC was looking generally at all areas, to be more cost effective and efficient to hopefully make a reduction in the costs of the whole organisation. However, looking at the projections, in the meantime, the licence fee was going to have to increase by a couple of dollars a year.

Mr Taylor said that the average age of participation was increasing. This highlighted the importance of the R3 programme to increase participation. At present there was no replacement for those dropping off. This was not a

unique trend to Fish & Game and mirrored many other organisations both in NZ and overseas. F&G needed to plan for the future now.

Cr Cochrane noted the non-resident levy collected by the regions and how some regions struggled to use that money it was ring fenced for. Could that not be an alternative source of revenue to subsidise resident licences. Mr Taylor replied that the non-resident revenue was already included in the graph shown tonight. He added that it was up to F&G what they did with the non-resident revenue and not the Minister's decision.

Cr Harris believed we had already reached the peak of the licence price and that was why participation was dropping off. We needed to look much harder at that red line (organisational expenses). We can't just keep putting licence fees up. He had looked at the budgets of the regions and noted that some were very expensive to run. Only four regions actually paid for themselves.

The regions themselves needed to look more closely at their budgets to try and get expenses down.

The Manager said that the churn rate was very high across fishing & hunting, which implied that a high proportion of our clients just needed a bit of motivation to bring them back to the sport. Some were just on the cusp of buying licences, so there was hope there, but it was important to be more flexible in our sales channels, so we don't get left behind.

Sir Geoffrey Palmer had said that climate change was going to be a big threat to Fish & Game in the long-term future. As temperatures rose trout would not survive in some areas - lowland and some lake fisheries. This meant that more people would be concentrated fishing in smaller spaces.

Roy Knight added that we had to be open to & accept change. Fish & Game had plateaued for a few years. Costs had risen, staff numbers had risen, habitat had been lost. NZC had some initiatives coming up to raise more funds to try and help stop the downward trend.

Cr Owen agreed that we all needed to change, and we all had to be prepared to do that. Regions needed to address their spending also.

Cr Harris commented that this year the weather for fishing in Southland in the first part of the season was poor and he suspected that with better weather next year the licence sales would come up again.

National Policy on Prosecutions & the Conservation Infringement Policy.

Jacob Smyth advised the updated prosecution document was a revised version of National Policy on Prosecutions, approved in July 2014, to be more consistent with the Conservation Infringement Policy developed and now included the diversion process and removed the reparation option.

The Infringement Systems Bill was now passed into law and the Conservation Act amended. The Infringement Policy established national compliance and law enforcement policy to enable F&G to issue infringement fines.

The Infringement & Prosecution policies were designed to complement each other and set out principles and guidelines and process to follow. The policies were to be considered by each region before being finalised and ratified by NZC as National Policy.

It was unknown if DoC had begun the infringement system process or not at this stage.

Cr Harris queried who the infringement fee revenue went to. If it wasn't Fish & Game, then there would be an impact on our wetland habitat development and access creation funds. Jacob replied that his understanding was the fee would go into the Crown's consolidated fund. He said it would have an impact on our revenue but that was not a reason for not using the infringement system, as we had to be seen to be acting in good faith.

The Manager also reminded the meeting that Southland did not incur significant external costs for prosecutions & diversions because Jacob dealt with all legal issues here. However other regions did not have that, so there were savings to be made nationally in external legal fees with the infringement system.

After discussions:

National Policy on Prosecutions.

Resolved Owen/Stenning that the Southland Council accepts and approves the 3 recommendations from NZC on the National Policy on Prosecutions. Carried.

Conservation Infringement Systems Policy.

Resolved Withington/Hartstonge that the Southland Council accepts and approves the two recommendations from NZC on the Conservation Infringement System Policy. Carried.

General Business:

2019/2020 Licence fee recommendations:

Cr Harris expressed his disappointment at how the 2019/2020 licence fee recommendation from NZC was handled. Firstly, the paper was not received in time to discuss it at our normal meeting cycle and had to be done by email. Secondly, was the quality of the document to make the decision on. There seemed to be some omissions from the document supplied to Council, compared to that supplied to NZC, which was poor in his view.

Mr Taylor responded and said that the timing of the NZC meeting was changed so there could be a full formal meeting to set the fee instead of the usual teleconference as held other years and to meet the deadline of Officials & the Minister.

He said that the reasons the meeting dates were changed was sent out last year sometime.

He advised that a letter would be received by the Regions Chairs tomorrow asking for their meeting dates next year to be changed to accommodate the deadline of late June for the Licence fee process.

This would mean the June regional meeting may have to be shifted to the middle two weeks of the month so response was back to NZC by the third week of June where the licence fee would be formally adopted and the process with the Minister started in time to be gazetted and the Cabinet 28 day rule to apply. (Regulations could not come into effect until 28 days after they were gazetted).

Mr Taylor, in terms of the quality of the document, said he was sorry to hear that and would look at that further. He admitted that it was difficult to understand the document as the budgets were set not only by licence fee but also spending of regional one-off reserves approved.

Cr Harris added that in his view the whole process needed more work, both regionally & nationally.

He believed it was the Regions who should be setting the licence fee and that the fee should be set before the budgets were completed to ensure budgets were within the expected revenue rather than the other way around.

In reply to Cr Cochrane's query it was unknown if the pressure sensitive fishery email perception survey results would be available by the next meeting.

Items for the next Council meeting agenda:

- Game bird harvest regulations. (Further options within current legislation).
- Pressure sensitive fisheries - (perception survey update).
- Te Anau Bird Sanctuary – Children's shelter discussion.

Cr Owen on behalf of the Council, thanked Mr Knight for his attendance at the meeting.

The Chairman thanked both Mr Taylor & Mr Knight for their attendance and the public who attended. It was always good to have people attend the meetings, and he welcomed that.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 7.35pm

Chairman _____ Date _____

**SOUTHLAND FISH & GAME COUNCIL PAYMENT LIST FOR THE AUGUST 2019 MEETING.
ACCOUNTS PAID SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Cheques Paid:

8516	Reimburse Petty Cash	\$165.00	General Exps - Coffee, milk, tea, flu jabs, coffee cups etc
8517	Reimburse Petty Cash	\$170.00	General exps rubbish bags, cleaners, TP, batteries etc.
	Sub total	\$335.00	

Plus Direct Credits paid:

30/05/2019	AoN NZ Ltd	\$24,283.85	2019 Insurance package -Ingill & Wildlife Park
30/05/2019	Blue Star Group	\$21.08	Topo maps for onselling
30/05/2019	Bridgestone NZ	\$1,147.26	4 x tyres Toyota HLT568
30/05/2019	Inland Revenue Dept	\$8,046.56	FBT return to 31/03/2019
30/05/2019	Sthld Clay Target Club	\$200.00	Sponsor Intercollegiate Shoot 2019
30/05/2019	Swazi Apparel	\$583.27	Winter Jackets - EG & CS.
30/05/2019	Datavault Co	\$18.00	Server backup
19/06/2019	Amenity Contracting	\$286.58	Wildlife Park mow May
19/06/2019	Automotive Solutions	\$478.73	WoF & Full service 76,915 kms Ranger JUU310.
19/06/2019	Balfour Gun Club	\$300.00	Sponsor Intercollegiate Clay target shoot
19/06/2019	Caltex Te Anau	\$40.00	WoF - boat trailer 1920G
19/06/2019	Cherilios lunches	\$474.00	June meeting supper.
19/06/2019	Erin Garrick	\$79.95	Staff Gear allowance
19/06/2019	Fastway Couriers	\$29.68	Rural stickers for courier packs
19/06/2019	Fuji Xerox	\$103.41	Service and maintenance agreement
19/06/2019	Inland Revenue Dept	\$17,610.81	Paye & Kiwisaver to 31/05/2019
19/06/2019	Kongs NZ	\$166.18	Amonia test kits - Fish in Schools programme
19/06/2019	Nth Canterbury Fish & Game	\$806.39	Southland share SI Conference food and accomodation exps.
19/06/2019	Office Max	\$324.25	General stationery SWALP etc.
19/06/2019	Office Products	266.07	General stationery
19/06/2019	Sthld Girls High School	989.00	Second hand UPS unit for server.
28/06/2019	Bloomers Groomers	330.00	Groom for Toyota Hi Lux sale HLT568
28/06/2019	Chris Owen	61.60	Mileage June meeting
28/06/2019	Craig Horrell	243.32	Mileage June meeting
28/06/2019	Dave MacGregor	110.11	Mileage June meeting
28/06/2019	Ken Cochrane	63.14	Mileage June meeting
28/06/2019	Lyndon Norman	87.31	Mileage June meeting
28/06/2019	Sarah Ongley	2,369.89	SWALP legal fees Hearing
28/06/2019	Sthld Vehicle Sales	393.61	Refunded - paid in error.
28/06/2019	SIT	690.00	600 Hunter emails for pressure sensitive fishery survey.
28/06/2019	Te Anau Plumbing	2,476.12	Supply & install new water pump Te Anau Office & Wildlife Park
28/06/2019	The Science Shop	67.97	Microscope slides.
19/07/2019	Amenity Contracting	286.58	Wildlife Park June mow
19/07/2019	Cue Environmental	13,827.03	SWALP planning to 30/06/2019 - Ben Farrell
19/07/2019	Erin Garrick	120.00	Reimburse staff training TOA systems
19/07/2019	Fastway Couriers	11.98	Rural ticketing for courier packs
19/07/2019	Fuji Xerox	775.78	Service agreement part reimbursed Waiiau Trust.
19/07/2019	GWD Motor Group	78.89	Repair gas strut Toyota KTF 247
19/07/2019	Inland Revenue Dept	11,740.54	Paye & Kiwisaver to 30/06/19
19/07/2019	Mcleay Jewellers	245.00	Sponsor Nightcaps Clay Target Intercollegiate shoot
19/07/2019	NZ Salmon Anglers	25.00	Annual Subscription 2019-2020
19/07/2019	Office Max	45.59	Report binding covers
19/07/2019	Sarah Ongley	22,905.00	SWALP legal fees for Hearing
19/07/2019	Sthld Vehicle Sales	267.69	100,000 km service JGL96
26/07/2019	Ann Heffernan	600.00	Game Hunter Survey 2019
26/07/2019	Cheryl Mason	180.00	Game Hunter Survey 2019
26/07/2019	Ann Heffernan	1,427.03	Extra hrs to cover Annual leave 3 x weeks
26/07/2019	Invercargill City Council	5,078.26	Eye Street rates to 30/06/2020
26/07/2019	Inland Revenue Dept	4,254.57	GST return to 30/06/19
26/07/2019	John Stewart - Wyndham	1,000.00	Pond subsidy scheme
26/07/2019	Sthld District Council	644.68	Te Anau Office rates to 30/06/2020
26/07/2019	Sthld District Council	459.59	280 Sinclair Road access rates to 30/06/2019
26/07/2019	Sthld District Council	360.34	Mandeville ponds rates to 30/06/2019
26/07/2019	Te Anau Marine	761.22	Annual Service McLay boat & Honda motors
	Sub total	128,577.91	

SOUTHLAND FISH & GAME COUNCIL PAYMENT LIST FOR THE AUGUST 2019 MEETING.

ACCOUNTS PAID SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Plus Direct Debits			
28/05/2019	Eyede Ltd	2,453.00	Office Licence sales April - Fish \$585.00, Game \$1,868.00
31/05/2019	Genesis Energy	547.45	Eye Street Power
4/06/2019	Vodafone NZ	399.47	Cell Phone usage to 17 May 2019.
4/06/2019	Services fee	8.70	Internet banking fee
6/06/2019	NZTA	2,048.63	RUC for Toyota KTF247
10/06/2019	BP Oil Ltd	1,556.56	McLay boat fuel 30.42
			PS fisheries truck fuel 93.09
			Vehicle fleet 1433.05
14/06/2019	BNZ Visa	947.58	Game ranging bags 15.00
			2 Talk ingill fixed line 141.75
			SI Staff Conference exps 292.02
			Fish in Schools tubing 24.98
			Diversion papers courier fees 57.00
			Environment Court parking 11.00
			Flu Vaccination Jacob Smyth 39.00
			Google emails 149.57
			Morning tea for farmers 23.90
			Josh Tabak season end send off meal 288.50
			Coffee SWALP Hearing 17.50
			Diesel Ranger JUU310 20.30
			Macpac credit - WJ clothing allowance -359.98
			T/A Office general exps - milk 4.58
			Lake sampling batteries 35.96
			Rego Toyota HLT568 183.31
			Duckfeet bags for M Williams 3.19
17/06/2019	Bank charges	20.00	Merchant service fee
17/06/2019	Vodafone	135.28	Broadband & fixed line Te Anau office
20/06/2019	Paymark	16.10	Monthly eftpos fee
20/06/2019	Fairfax Media	44.20	Office newspaper subs
20/06/2019	Genesis Energy	101.92	Te Anau Office power
20/06/2019	Velocitynet	115.00	Invercargill internet services
21/06/2019	NZTA	3,417.26	RUC Toyota JGL96 1368.63, Toyota KEQ766 2048.63
28/06/2019	Eyede Ltd	667.00	Game licence sales Office May
1/07/2019	Service fee	7.50	Internet banking fee
2/07/2019	Genesis Energy	415.86	Eye Street Power
4/07/2019	Vodafone	379.58	Cell phone usage to 17th June 2019
10/07/2019	BP Oil NZ	1,730.84	McLay boat fuel 83.05
			Vehicle fleet 1,647.79
11/07/2019	BNZ Visa	2,480.99	Farmers Morning Tea 25.00
			Dropbox 5 x licences 706.56
			BNZ Visa fee 6 x months 31.25
			Pump Shed roof timber Te Anau 114.97
			General Exps Te Anau - milk etc 14.16
			SWALP hearing food & parking etc. 863.77
			Diversion papers courier fee 12.40
			Trade me vehicle listing HLT568 149.99
			2 Talk Ingill fixed line 141.75
			FIS tank cleaners & aeraters 46.81
			Vehicle diesel KEQ766 30.02
			Reg boat trailer 192OG 32.48
			Reg Burnett trailer 416TA 26.73
			Replace cell phone C Stewart 235.12
			Vehicle diesel JUU310 49.98
15/07/2019	Bank charges	20.00	Merchant service fee
16/07/2019	Vodafone	135.28	Broadband & fixed line Te Anau office
22/07/2019	Paymark	16.10	Monthly eftpos fee
22/07/2019	Fairfax NZ	44.20	Paper subs Office
22/07/2019	Velocitynet	115.00	Invercargill internet services
22/07/2019	Genesis Energy	197.87	Te Anau office power
24/07/2019	Genesis Energy	244.84	Te Anau Cottage power (bathroom renovations).
26/07/2019	Eyede	22.00	Eyede Game 2019 sales
31/07/2019	Genesis Energy	440.31	Power 17 Eye Street
	Grand total	\$147,306.43	

FISHING LICENCE SALES PROGRESS 2018-2019

Current season sales Fish 2018/2019			Last year at same time Fish 2017/2018			Complete season sales 2017/2018		
Category	No Sold	31/07/2019	Category	No Sold	31/07/2018	Category	No Sold	
Whole season adult	2866	\$372,580.00	Whole season adult	3209	\$407,543.00	Whole season adult	3210	\$407,670.00
Whole season Jun	563	\$14,638.00	Whole season Jun	626	\$15,650.00	Whole season Jun	627	\$15,675.00
NR Adult	1164	\$151,320.00	NR Adult	1021	\$129,667.00	NR Adult	1021	\$129,667.00
NR Junior	34	\$884.00	NR Junior	20	\$500.00	NR Junior	20	\$500.00
NR Child	16	\$0.00	NR Child		\$0.00	NR Child	0	\$0.00
NR Day Adult	1532	\$32,172.00	NR Day Adult	2417	\$48,340.00	NR Day Adult	2485	\$49,700.00
NR Day Junior	49	\$245.00	NR Day Junior	88	\$440.00	NR Day Junior	89	\$445.00
NR Day Child	41	\$0.00	NR Day Child		\$0.00	NR Day Child	0	\$0.00
Local Area	239	\$24,856.00	Local Area	193	\$19,686.00	Local Area	195	\$19,890.00
Senior Loyal	476	\$52,836.00	Senior Loyal	452	\$48,816.00	Senior Loyal	452	\$48,816.00
Family	2449	\$413,881.00	Family	2566	\$423,390.00	Family	2566	\$423,390.00
Adult Day	1178	\$24,738.00	Adult Day	1068	\$21,360.00	Adult Day	1187	\$24,927.00
Junior Day	126	\$630.00	Junior Day	110	\$550.00	Junior Day	117	\$585.00
Short Break	336	\$15,792.00	Short Break	301	\$13,846.00	Short Break	337	\$15,502.00
Long Break	29	\$2,639.00	Long Break	34	\$3,026.00	Long Break	34	\$3,026.00
Winter Adult	109	\$8,502.00	Winter Adult	82	\$6,232.00	Winter Adult	91	\$6,916.00
TOTAL	11207	\$1,115,713.00	TOTAL	12187	\$1,139,046.00	TOTAL	12431	\$1,146,709.00
LEQ'S	8582		LEQ'S	8969		LEQ'S	9029	

LEQ TARGETS FOR FISH 2018/2019 = 8830

LEQ TARGETS FOR FISH 2017/2018 = 8523

FISH LICENCE LEQ'S ARE CURRENTLY 97.1% OF TARGET. LAST YEAR AT SAME TIME 105.2% OF TARGET

Please note that the non resident levy of \$67,683 has been deducted off the sales figure and will be transferred to dedicated reserves for pressure sensitive fisheries at the end of financial year, less commission and GST.

NATIONALLY THE FISH LIC SALES ARE DOWN -2.3% ON LAST YEARS SALES TO THE SAME TIME
STHLD FISH LICENCE SALES ARE CURRENTLY -4.2% DOWN ON LAST YEARS SALES TO THE SAME TIME

GAME LICENCE SALES PROGRESS 2019

Current season Game 2019			Last season Game 2018			Final Game 2018 Sales.		
Category	No Sold	31/07/2019	Category	No Sold	31/07/2018	Category	No Sold	
Adult WS	4763	\$457,248.00	Adult WS	4886	\$459,284.00	Adult WS	4888	\$459,472.00
Junior WS	429	\$9,438.00	Junior WS	438	\$9,198.00	Junior WS	438	\$9,198.00
Ad Day	46	\$1,012.00	Ad Day	27	\$567.00	Ad Day	28	\$588.00
Jun Day	2	\$14.00	Jun Day	2	\$14.00	Jun Day	2	\$14.00
Child	146	\$438.00	Child	150	\$450.00	Child	150	\$450.00
TOTALS	5386	\$468,150.00	TOTALS	5503	\$469,513.00	TOTALS	5506	\$469,722.00
LEQ'S	4877		LEQ'S	4995		LEQ'S	4997	

LEQ TARGETS FOR GAME 2019 = 5118

LEQ TARGETS FOR GAME 2018 = 5277

GAME LICENCE LEQ'S ARE CURRENTLY 95.2% OF TARGET. LAST YEAR AT SAME TIME 94.6% OF TARGET

STHLD GAME LICENCE SALES ARE CURRENTLY -2.4% DOWN ON LAST YEARS SALES TO THE SAME TIME
NATIONALLY THE GAME LIC SALES ARE DOWN -2.2% ON LAST YEARS SALES TO THE SAME TIME

Southland Fish & Game Council
Profit and Loss - Annually (Excl GST) to 31st July 2019
Using Budget: Budget 2018-2019 (01/09/18)

	Sep 2018- July 2019	Budget	Variance
<u>Income</u>			
<u>Licences</u>			
2520 Fishing Licences	117,886.47 -		117,886.47
2521 Eyede Public Online Fishing Licen	349,094.56	295,100.00	53,994.56
2522 Eyede AOL Fishing licences	582,769.74	658,156.00	(75,386.26)
2523 Fishing licences Secretary sales	(1,322.64) -		(1,322.64)
2531 Eyede Public Online Game Licenc	42,447.26	36,590.00	5,857.26
2533 Game Licences Secretary	(188.69) -		(188.69)
2534 Eyede AOL Game licences	354,162.36	358,675.00	(4,512.64)
3163 Refunds Fishing Revenue	(1,743.40) -		(1,743.40)
3164 Refunds Game Revenue	(770.44) -		(770.44)
Total Licences	1,442,335.22	1,348,521.00	93,814.22
<u>Non Specific Income</u>			
2535 Sale of Books, Maps etc	1,072.67	100.00	972.67
2575 Fine Income	1,036.57 -		1,036.57
2576 Fishing offences Diversion Scher	8,475.30	4,000.00	4,475.30
2577 Game offences Diversion Schem	15,900.00	8,000.00	7,900.00
2586 MPI - Biosecurity CCD programm	25,000.00	25,000.00 -	
2588 NIWA Periphyton Monitoring Wa	21,465.00	10,000.00	11,465.00
2592 Dept of Conservation - Water sa	5,540.00 -		5,540.00
2597 Environment Sthld Lake Monitor	18,426.65	11,000.00	7,426.65
2598 Environment Sthld Recreational	1,000.00	1,000.00 -	
2599 Put & Take Fisheries	2,443.00 -		2,443.00
2700 Meridian Energy Contracts	10,397.35	12,000.00	(1,602.65)
2705 Rent - Te Anau Cottage	9,000.00	15,000.00	(6,000.00)
2708 Rent - Jane Kitson office space	2,025.00	2,000.00	25.00
2710 Waiau Trust	2,514.51	3,500.00	(985.49)
2725 Supporter Clothing	90.09 -		90.09
2726 Te Anau Wildlife Park Donations	8,550.00	8,500.00	50.00
2800 Sundry Income(Decoy hire,Tape	121.73 -		121.73
Total Non Specific Income	133,057.87	100,100.00	32,957.87
<u>Interest</u>			
2600 Interest Public Trust	90.58	309.00	(218.42)
2610 Interest Other	(10,147.90)	22,226.00	(32,373.90)
Total Interest	(10,057.32)	22,535.00	(32,592.32)
2515 Eftpos Transactions	(19.52) -		(19.52)
Total Income	1,565,316.25	1,471,156.00	94,160.25

Southland Fish & Game Council
Profit and Loss - Annually (Excl GST) to 31st July 2019
Using Budget: Budget 2018-2019 (01/09/18)

	Sep 2018- July 2019	Budget	Variance
<u>Less: Direct Expenses</u>			
<u>Species Management</u>			
3008 Fish monitoring in Lakes	266.51	200.00	66.51
3011 Sportsfish Population Monitoring	-	50.00	(50.00)
3012 Adult trout population monitoring	-	400.00	(400.00)
3013 Salmon spawning monitoring	-	140.00	(140.00)
3014 Mallard Monitoring	6,676.17	6,700.00	(23.83)
3014b Mallard predator study	11.73	300.00	(288.27)
3014c Mallard study muselid analysis	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
3015 Parrie, Swan Counts	5,178.25	5,200.00	(21.75)
3016 Game Hunter Telephone Survey	780.00	780.00	-
3019 Put & Take Fisheries	131.97	150.00	(18.03)
Species Management Total	14,044.63	14,920.00	(875.37)
<u>Habitat Protection & Management</u>			
3028 ES Water & Land Plan Appeal	91,779.66	89,500.00	2,279.66
3030 RMA Plans & Policy	-	50.00	(50.00)
3031 RMA Consents evaluation	38.43	50.00	(11.57)
3032 RMA Consultants Fees	340.00	350.00	(10.00)
3035 Reserves maintenance & develop	93.00	100.00	(7.00)
3036 Reserves rates	712.98	700.00	12.98
3042 Pond creation & enhancement	26.97	150.00	(123.03)
3048 Estuarine Health Study	501.27	500.00	1.27
Habitat Protection & Management Total	93,492.31	91,400.00	2,092.31
<u>Participation</u>			
3059 Anglers Access Reparation Fund	913.00	-	913.00
3060 Access protection & enhance	30.00	300.00	(270.00)
3061 Access placement/management	551.13	1,000.00	(448.87)
3062 Carrying Capacity Studies	-	40.00	(40.00)
3063 Pressure Sensitive Fisheries	18,450.98	-	18,450.98
3070 Promotions fish/hunt Radio	230.44	200.00	30.44
3071 Promotions fish/hunt Television	26.43	-	26.43
3072 Promotions fish/hunt newspaper	792.40	800.00	(7.60)
3075 Promotions fish/hunt via newsle	-	3,000.00	(3,000.00)
3078 Prod. angler / hunter regulation	-	1,800.00	(1,800.00)
3080 Handouts & Pamphlets	-	2,500.00	(2,500.00)
3085 Hunter training programmes & c	734.77	700.00	34.77
3087 Angler training programmes & cc	7.02	-	7.02
Participation Total	21,736.17	10,340.00	11,396.17

Southland Fish & Game Council
Profit and Loss - Annually (Excl GST) to 31st July 2019
Using Budget: Budget 2018-2019 (01/09/18)

	Sep 2018- July 2019	Budget	Variance
<u>Public Interface</u>			
3100 Communication with Conservati	113.04	100.00	13.04
3105 Communication with farmers, ar	42.52	50.00	(7.48)
3129 Fishing Contests	133.81	130.00	3.81
3130 Office Displays (Ingill & Te Anau)	240.43	250.00	(9.57)
3132 Schools & Youth organisations	398.26	400.00	(1.74)
Public Interface Total	928.06	930.00	(1.94)
<u>Compliance</u>			
3144 Hunter ranging duties	13.04	40.00	(26.96)
3150 Honorary rangers appointments	123.79	100.00	23.79
3151 Honorary rangers team	320.00	3,950.00	(3,630.00)
3154 MOSS compliance	2,497.49	2,500.00	(2.51)
3155 Informations / Prosecutions	162.70	200.00	(37.30)
3156 Fiordland Compliance CCD Contr	20,672.00	25,000.00	(4,328.00)
3157 Fiordland Compliance - Expenses	3,841.53 -		3,841.53
3159 Fiordland Compliance Boat Fuel	906.57 -		906.57
Compliance Total	28,537.12	31,790.00	(3,252.88)
<u>Councils</u>			
3192 Councillors mileage	2,827.40	4,000.00	(1,172.60)
3193 Councill meeting exps /staff mea	3,226.82	3,330.00	(103.18)
Councils Total	6,054.22	7,330.00	(1,275.78)
<u>Planning and Reporting</u>			
3204 Annual General Meeting costs	391.30	450.00	(58.70)
3210 Auditing Costs	6,969.59	6,950.00	19.59
3222 Corporate liaison	191.05	200.00	(8.95)
Planning and Reporting Total	7,551.94	7,600.00	(48.06)
<u>Levy NZFG</u>			
4200 NZ Fish & Game Levies	510,292.83	680,390.00	(170,097.17)
<u>Depreciation</u>			
3905 Depreciation	-	52,163.00	(52,163.00)

Southland Fish & Game Council
Profit and Loss - Annually (Excl GST) to 31st July 2019
Using Budget: Budget 2018-2019 (01/09/18)

	Sep 2018- July 2019	Budget	Variance
Administration and Staff			
3805 ACC Levies	(530.60)	1,500.00	(2,030.60)
3810 Administration Salaries	82,605.76	89,100.00	(6,494.24)
3830 Advertising General	315.00	350.00	(35.00)
3850 Bank Charges	435.97	730.00	(294.03)
3851 Bank Charges Eftpos	140.00	170.00	(30.00)
3860 Computer E-mail & Internet Serv	1,700.97	2,150.00	(449.03)
3861 Computer email & broadband Te	88.80	150.00	(61.20)
3908 Field Equipment under \$2,000	1,212.82	2,000.00	(787.18)
3915 Field Equipment Fuel	43.50		43.50
3920 Field Staff Salaries	354,598.71	408,201.00	(53,602.29)
3925 Field Staff Expenses(clothing , ge	2,112.21	3,850.00	(1,737.79)
3930 Field Staff Vehicle Running	32,655.41	40,500.00	(7,844.59)
3935 Field Staff Training	182.61	4,000.00	(3,817.39)
3965 Fringe Benefit Tax	3,232.60	3,500.00	(267.40)
4000 General Expenses	1,427.41	1,700.00	(272.59)
4001 Te Anau Office General Expenses	147.77	100.00	47.77
4025 Insurance	15,115.70	18,650.00	(3,534.30)
4026 Insurance - Te Anau	5,721.47	5,700.00	21.47
4040 Inter Regional Meeting Exps	2,357.02		2,357.02
4160 Legal Expenses General	-	500.00	(500.00)
4170 Light, Heat & Power	4,593.47	6,000.00	(1,406.53)
4221 Office Equipment under \$2,000	1,002.72	1,500.00	(497.28)
4250 Photocopying	1,415.65	3,500.00	(2,084.35)
4255 Postage & Courier exps	1,555.80	4,400.00	(2,844.20)
4260 Printing, & Stationery	1,316.92	2,900.00	(1,583.08)
4261 Printing & Stationery Te Anau Of	175.32		175.32
4265 Protective Clothing & Gear	529.77	2,000.00	(1,470.23)
4300 Rates	4,609.33	4,650.00	(40.67)
4301 Rates Te Anau Wildlife Park	842.42	1,000.00	(157.58)
4315 Repairs & Maintenance Office	6,728.46	7,000.00	(271.54)
4316 Repairs & Maintenance Te Anau	228.63	1,500.00	(1,271.37)
4317 Repairs & Maintenance - Wildlife	2,492.00	3,000.00	(508.00)
4320 Repairs & Maintenance Office eq	2,820.21	4,500.00	(1,679.79)
4321 Repairs & Maintenance Te Anau	-	500.00	(500.00)
4322 Repairs & Maintenance Field Eq	1,168.26	4,000.00	(2,831.74)
4324 Repairs & Maintenance Te Anau	193.25	2,000.00	(1,806.75)
4460 Subscriptions	447.73	600.00	(152.27)
4480 ESCT	4,742.66		4,742.66
4481 Kiwisaver Employer Contribution	10,639.30	19,892.00	(9,252.70)
4500 Telephone & Tolls/ Fax	4,468.44	6,500.00	(2,031.56)
Administration and Staff Total	553,533.47	658,293.00	(104,759.53)
Total Other Direct Expenses	1,236,170.75	1,555,156.00	(318,985.25)
Gross Profit (Loss)	329,145.50	(84,000.00)	413,145.50
Non Specific Income			
2581a Pond Subsidy Scheme	4,532.50		4,532.50
Total Expenses	4,532.50		4,532.50
Net Profit (Loss)	324,613.00	(84,000.00)	408,613.00

CORRESPONDENCE INWARDS:

1 03/06/2019 Simon Wilkinson - Queenstown

Re: Access on Mataura river (Copy in Agenda).

2 12/06/2019 Lindsay Lyons – Chair, NZFGC

Re: Dates to set Licence fees in 2020. (Copy in agenda).

3 07/06/2019 Nicol Horrell – Chair, ES

Re: Environment Southland's Annual Plan 2019/20.

4 24/06/2019 Raeleen Sinclair – Secretary, Nightcaps Clay
Target Club

Re: Request for sponsorship of the Scott Shield Inter College Shoot.

5 04/07/2019 Natasha Holland – Editor, Sthld Times

Re: Advising of price increase for Southland Times.

6 19/07/2019 Raeleen Sinclair – Secretary, Nightcaps Clay
Target Club

Re: Thank you for providing sponsorship for the Scott Shield Inter College Shoot.

7 23/07/2019 Kurt Bayer – Senior Reporter, NZ Herald

Re: OIA request.

8 29/07/2019 Grant Adolph – Queenstown

Re: Response to Both Barrels article expressing disappointment of the shorter game season.

9 29/07/2019 Shanin Brider – Administrator, SDC

Re: Advising the Southland District Council Adoption of 2019/20 Annual Plan.

10 10/06/2019 Waiau Trust – Planner Jan Riddell

Re: Advising Terms of Office expiring for current Trustees.

-

CORRESPONDENCE OUTWARDS:

11 24/07/2019

Kurt Bayer – Senior Reporter, NZ Herald

Re: Reply to Official Information Request.

12 02/08/2019

Roy Hutcheson - Gore

Re: Access to the Lower Titiroa River.



(2)

Mailed to
Chairman
19/6/19
Copy in August
Agenda.

12 June 2019

Graeme Watson
Chairperson
Southland Fish & Game Council
PO Box 159
INVERCARGILL 9840

Dear Graeme

DATES TO SET LICENCE FEES IN 2020

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council (NZ Council) considered feedback from consultation over the setting of the 2019 licence fees and has asked that I share with you the preference for confirming dates to set licence fees in 2020 and beyond.

Several Fish and Game Councils following the 2019 consultation made the comment that the timing of the NZ Council deadline for responses meant councils were unable to consider the NZ Council recommendations during the normal regional council meeting cycle and hence had to achieve this consultation by email or telephone conference.

The setting of the NZ Council deadline for feedback is dictated by two significant dates – the start of our own organisation's financial year (1 September) and Cabinet's 28-day rule. It is a requirement of Cabinet that regulations must not come into force until at least 28 calendar days after they have been notified in the *New Zealand Gazette* (2-3 days). The 28-day rule reflects the principle that the law should be publicly available and capable of being ascertained before it comes into force.

In addition, time must be provided to allow both officials and the Minister (in that order) to consider the submission with a buffer built-in should further information be sought. This is generally accepted to be 8-working days for each, i.e. 16 working days in total.

Meaning, our internal processes need to be completed by the beginning of July each year.

Working to this deadline, the NZ Council needs to have its initial recommendations to you in April or May and then be able to reflect on your feedback before confirming those recommendations in late June.

To allow your council and the NZ Council to complete this cycle through public meetings and meet this timeframe, it would require regional Fish and Game Councils to fix its June meeting in the middle two weeks of that month and have responses back to us in the third week of June. Is this something your Council would be willing to accommodate?

The NZ Council could then meet in the final week of June and formally adopt the new licence fee recommendations and start the submission process with officials and the Minister.

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

New Zealand Council

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Telephone (04) 499 4767 Email nzcouncil@fishandgame.org.nz www.fishandgame.org.nz

If you are happy with this timing, the NZ Council will look to confirm its 2020 meeting dates during its 22-23 November 2019 meeting.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lindsay Lyons', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lindsay Lyons
Chairperson
New Zealand Fish and Game Council
Ph: 07 357 4087 / 0272765454
flylyonz@gmail.com

Southland Fish and Game Staff report, June-July 2019

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1100 Species Management Projects

Gamebird harvest surveys

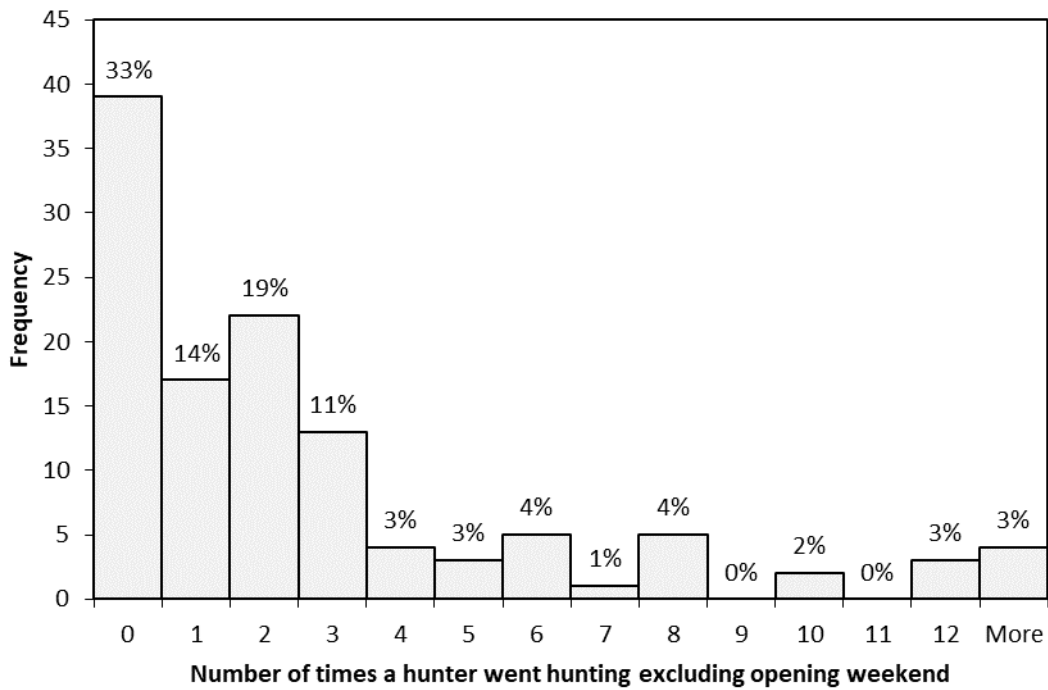
Staff have conducted fortnightly gamebird harvest surveys. Along with typical harvest questions, staff also asked additional questions to gain greater insight into hunter values and behaviour. Hunters were asked the following two questions:

- 1.) One a sale from 1-5, with one being not at all and 5 being highly valued, how much do you value mallards as a game bird?
- 2.) Excluding opening weekend, approximately how many times have you been hunting throughout the gamebird season.

Unsurprisingly, in general our hunters value their mallards. See the table below.

Score	1	2	3	4	5
Count	0	0	17	17	85
Percentage	0%	0%	14%	14%	71%

This season, Southland hunters appeared to be more active than last season. Only one third of hunters surveyed did not hunt after opening weekend whereas last year, 42% of hunters did not hunt after opening weekend. Extra hunter activity this season may be a result of more abundant mallards than the 2018 season.



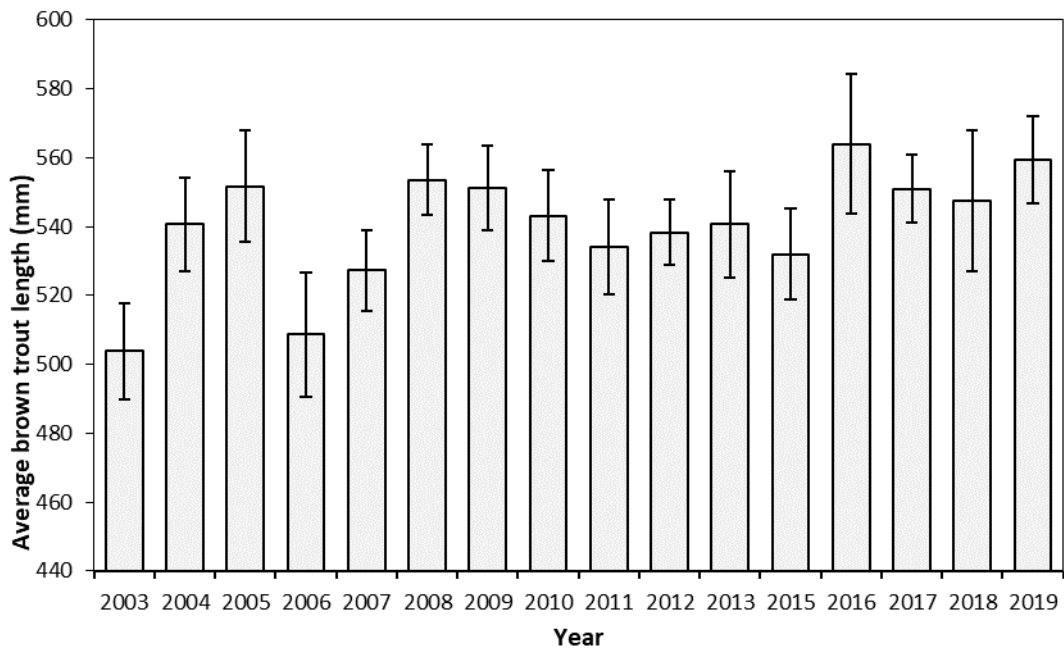
The figure above outlines the number of times our surveyed hunters went hunting after opening weekend.

Lake studies

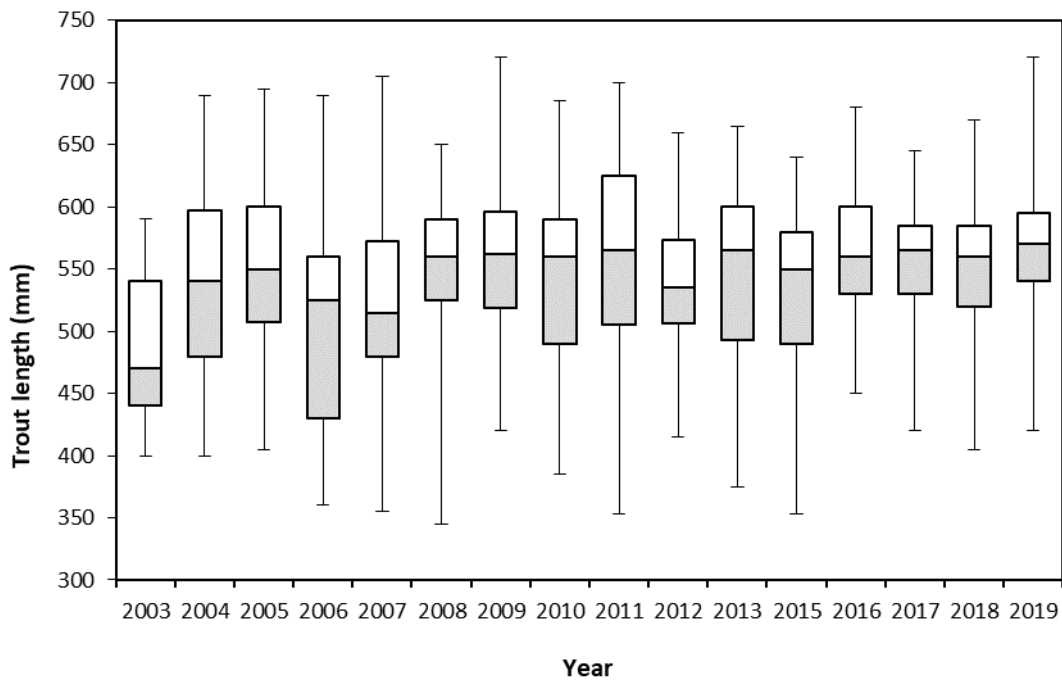
Staff are processing the remainder of the otoliths that were collected during our work on Lake Te Anau late last year. An SIT student is currently processing otoliths that were collected during the Labour Weekend fishing competition and he is expecting to complete this work by the end of September.

Trout spawning

Staff, along with Cr Corey Carston and a university student volunteer, captured spawning trout in the Waituna Creek as part of our annual trout monitoring program. The average size of spawning trout was 559mm which is slightly larger than the historical long-term average. See the figures below for more detail.



Average length of spawning trout from Waituna Creek



Size distribution of spawning trout from Waituna Creek.



Cr Corey Carston with a 720mm trout from Waituna Creek.

Staff have liaised with Meridian Energy re upper Waiau rainbow trout spawning. As of 31 July, lake storage is adequate to maintain full coverage of spawning sites.

Didymo lower Waiau

Staff set up a didymo exposure trial site with NIWA on lower Waiau. We will be undertaking field work on behalf of NIWA for Meridian Energy. The experiment will assess the effect of simulated short duration dewatering on didymo growth during summer.

1200 Habitat Protection/ Management

Wetland Surveys

John, Makarewa – wetland survey

Andrew Wilson, Makarewa – wetland survey

Chris Pyper, Branxholme – wetland planting and predator trapping advice

Sharn Mclay, Athol – wetland survey and planting advice

Ian Clarke, Athol – wetland survey

Neil Murdock, Te Tipua – wetland survey, pulled out of GBHT application

David Dodunski, Five Rivers – wetland survey

Justin van de Sadt, Mossburn – wetland survey and planting advice

Rex Carter, Mossburn – wetland enhancement and planting advice

Hamish & Mel Montgomery, Centre Bush – wetland survey

Darryl King, Lillburn Valley – planting advice

1300 Public Interface

Youth

Staff meet with a Scouts group to discuss angling opportunities in the region.

Facebook

Staff have produced several Facebook posts over the last few months with many of the posts receiving a good level of engagement.

1400 Resource Management

Consent applications (June - July 2019)

Water takes	Land use	Instream works	Discharges	Gravel / Rock
Castlerock Farming Company Ltd – Application to take and use 50l/s, 4,320m ³ /day and 113,745m ³ /year of groundwater to irrigate pasture.		ES Catchment Management Division – Application to install and maintain groyne structures at two locations in the lower Upukerora River bed	Greenbriar Ltd – Application to discharge used engine and hydraulic oil into land at New Vale mine site (Waimumu)	Wilson Contracting – Application for consent (10 years duration) to extract up to 100,000m ³ of gravel from the Upper Mataura River bed
		Bathurst Coal Ltd – Application to realign (divert) a 300m section of an unnamed tributary of Wairio Stream + install a 30m x 1.5m diameter culvert to facilitate vehicle access and mining at Black Diamond Pit	SDC – Application to discharge used filtration material to land and water from Riverton community water supply	O’Sullivan – Application for consent (10 years duration) to extract up to 23,000m ³ of gravel from the bed of Grassy Creek.

Staff assisted gravel contractor TA Earthworks with their application for long term extraction from Mararoa River flood plain. There is the potential for pond/wetland development.

There have been separate discussions with other gravel operators regarding access to Upukerora sites. There has been issues with the ES developed consent being impractical.

Proposed Southland Water and Land Plan

By far the most significant body of work has been the Environment Court hearing of Topic A appeals against the Proposed Southland Water and Land Plan (‘the Proposed Plan’) which commenced in Invercargill on Tuesday, 4 June 2019. The hearings themselves occupied three weeks of time + an additional three days for closing submissions during the week commencing 29 July. Obviously, staff were heavily involved in the preparation of evidence.

Topic A covered the following matters:

1. The state of the environment, including in relation to ecological health, human health for contact recreation and ground / surface water quality; and
2. Overarching policies and objectives, which create the framework for subsequent rules in the Proposed Plan.

Specific rules, including discharge (point source and diffuse) and land use rules, and remaining policies are to be dealt with in Topic B.

The following evidence-in-chief on behalf of Fish & Game was called at the hearing in support of its originating notice of appeal:

1. Ecological health / water quality – Professor Russell Death (Massey University, Palmerston North); and
2. Planning - Ben Farrell (Independent planning consultant, Queenstown).

Further directions have been made by Judge Borthwick in relation to Environment Court facilitated caucusing / conferencing of expert scientific and planning witnesses to further develop the following:

1. Thresholds to determine degradation with respect to ecological and cultural health from a water quality and quantity perspective, including where areas of degradation and at risk sites exist in the Southland Region – this is likely to occur in late August to early October. This work will involve identification of what, if any, additional scientific information / research is required; and
2. The proposed policy / planning response to the above.

Due to the unavailability of Professor Death it is anticipated that Dr Adam Canning of Wellington Fish & Game will participate in the above scientific caucusing / conferencing on behalf of Fish & Game. Adam has worked on scientific papers with Professor Death on closely related work, so he is very well placed to contribute.

At this stage, it appears unlikely that Topic B matters will be timetabled for either mediation and / or hearing until conclusion of the above causing / conferencing. However, it is anticipated that Topic B parties that have not previously been involved in Topic A matters will be given the opportunity to engage professional witnesses to participate in the above caucusing / conferencing. In the interim, Fish & Game will also need to actively progress engagement of additional professional witnesses for Topic B matters, including in relation to land use activities and discharges (point source and diffuse).

1500 Compliance

Game bird hunting

Thirteen people were issued infringement notices by Fish & Game staff with respect to game bird hunting offences committed during the 2019 open season, including: hunting without a licence, hunting with more than 1 shotgun and possession of 12-gauge cartridges containing lead shot. 9 people have been offered and successfully completed a diversion programme in relation to the above offences – accordingly application has been made to the Invercargill District Court for the charges

laid against them under the Wildlife Act to be formally dismissed. The remaining 3 people are being proceeded with by way of prosecution in the Invercargill District Court.

1600 Planning/Reporting

Winter grazing

Staff have engaged with NZ Council staff regarding identification of inappropriate winter grazing practices in the region.

1700 Maintenance of relationships

Support (and photos) from Bill provided for McGregor Concrete's entry in the Gravel Contractors Environmental awards. With an on-site assessment by the judge (Morgan Williams) of the extraction-created 'McGregor Pond' Children & Junior Fishery. Morgan was impressed and suggested we work to gain some protective status for the community asset.

1800 Staff training/H&S

Staff training

Cohen and Erin undertook training and an induction to enable them to operate the MLC fish pass. Erin undertook self-defence training.

H&S

H&S review and internal audit is currently underway. To ensure the continuous improvement of our H&S systems we are currently comparing our H&S processes to those of Nelson Marlborough Fish & Game. We will look to adopt any beneficial aspects of their approach to H&S.

1900 Maintenance and infrastructure

The water pump has been replaced at the Wildlife Park. The pump shed has also had a corrugated iron roof fitted over the existing concrete slab roof which was leaking. No cost other than timber rails/battens and fixings.

The upgrade of the bathroom in the Wildlife Park house is almost completed. Once a wall lining was removed it became obvious that the window required replacement which was included in the work.

The McLay lake boat received its annual service of motors and safety inspection.

Appointment of Trustees to the Waiau Fisheries & Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Trust

Under the Waiau Trust Deed each Trustee shall be nominated & appointed for a term of three years. The three nominating bodies are Southland Fish & Game, DoC & Meridian Energy.

It is now time to instigate the re-appointment process of the Trustees for the next three- year term. Graeme Watson's term has not expired yet, but to align all Trustees appointments we need to renew his appointment also for the next three years.

Southland Fish & Game have the right to nominate two Trustees (currently Graeme Watson & Peter Sutton).

Southland Fish & Game & the Minister of Conservation have the right to jointly nominate the Chairman (currently Cam McCulloch and one other Trustee who represents the rural community in the Waiau catchment (currently Mike O'Brien).

To align all Trustees appointments for the next three-year term to 30th June 2022 the relevant nomination forms attached will need to be signed.

Recommendation:

Council re-appoint the current Trustees for a further three-year term.

10.4

10.4 Upper Mataura Access issue

Received by Email, from Simon Wilkinson, NZPFGA

Hi Zane,

Thanks for your time on the phone yesterday. As discussed I am writing to you formally ask that you take this to your board for discussion.

Site: The marked access point on the the upper Mataura which is just below the pump house and the is the one above the highway bridge.

Sign: says to fish upstream from this point

Issue: This access point only has a very small amount of water (even for Mataura standards) before you hit the pump house access.

What has been happening is that most local anglers and some guides have been parking here and the walking about 1/2 down to the bridge access and fishing back to the access point. As you are aware this has created complications. It will likely continue to have complications unless something is done to remedy.

Possible solution: There is plenty of water for 2 beats allowing a full days fishing on each between the bridge access and the pump house access. We would suggest that there is a marker pole/s put in place at the most appropriate / halfway point. The Bridge beat can fish upstream to this point while the top access walks down to the marker pole and then fishes back upstream. Signage would need to be altered to reflect this change if adopted.



Green dots are current access points.

Blue line is the current very short section from access point to the pump house access

Orange Dot is approximately the half-way marker

Green Line is where you would walk down to and fish back up

Orange Line is where you would fish from bridge up to the marker pole

Please note these are just approximations.

We look forward to hearing from you in regard to this.

Simon Wilkinson

DoC Portfolio Officer

New Zealand Professional Fishing Guides Association

Ph 0272163787

Fish & Games – Costs & Licence Fees

Over the last 25 years the real cost of a full season fishing licence has increased by 43% in real terms. On the other hand, the game bird licence is still about the same cost as it was 25 years ago in real terms.

The information presented to us by the NZ Council CEO at our last meeting showed an expected continual increase in licence fees over the next 5 years and he didn't offer any way to change this. I don't think this is sustainable and we will start to lose licence sales because of the increases. We have been running the organisation in the same manner as a city council, just put up the fees to cover the budgeted costs regardless. City councils can get away with this because we have to pay their rates, our licence holders can opt out, so we are in a very different situation.

Here are the proposed budgets for next year as I have them. There are some errors as the licence sales do not include the overseas angler component and the budgets may include some expenditure to come from reserves. This is why the numbers show a deficit when the official budget apparently shows a small profit:

Estimated number of licences to be sold:	109,216
Total income from licence sales (excluding GST):	\$11,490,538
Total Budget	\$11,778,671

How to improve the situation

We need to reduce the licence fees.

The Conservation Act actually states that the regional councils are to recommend the licence fee to the NZ Council. This has not been happening and in fact would not work with the way the budgets are set at present. I think we need to change this and take control of the licence fees to the full extent we can. They will still finally be set by the NZ Council but this will give the Regional Councils far more input.

I suggest it would be better for the licence fees to be set before starting the budget round and that the budgets be set to ensure that the sales will cover the budgets not the other way around. This will require quite a bit of restraint with budgets and may make the final budget rounds a bit more challenging. However, all the regions would know where the overall budget was going to stand relative to the previous year and the planning could be more thoroughly carried out at regional councils. I also think this all needs to start earlier than we do at present as the final setting of licence fees has always been a bit rushed (not helped by only having meetings every two months).

Further to this, I suggest we set the licence fees for the 2020-2021 year to be \$132 (fishing) and \$97 (game including game bird habitat stamp at \$4). On the expected 2019-2020 sales this would reduce the available budget by \$110,000. The reason I am suggesting a decrease as it will be noticed, even if it is only \$1, and may actually help with numbers of licences sold. This would require the total budget to be reduced by 1%.

Dave Harris

As Council will be aware, each year Fish & Game develop an Operational Workplan, which outlines the various projects anticipated for the following twelve-month period. Generally, this is based around various output classes which the New Zealand Council has developed, which reflect Fish & Game’s statutory responsibilities under the Conservation and Wildlife Acts. The primary projects codes for these outputs are shown below (table 2).

While much of what Fish & Game does is determined by statute and external factors, nonetheless there is opportunity for Council to change emphasis or priorities within the OWP. The August meeting provides the first step for Councillors to discuss their own views on any area they think Council should consider including (or excluding) in the development of the OWP (table 1). Areas that receive support from the Council can then be developed by staff, for subsequent consideration by the Council.

Table 1. Council input into the development of alternate/additional OWP priorities

August meeting	Discuss possible additional/alternate priorities
October meeting	Receive and consider staff information and refine
December meeting	Receive and consider additional information
February meeting	Approve OWP & Budget

Table 2. Output codes that form the basis of the OWP

1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT
1110 POPULATION MONITORING
1120 HARVEST ASSESSMENT
1130 FISH SALVAGE
1160 RELEASES
1170 REGULATIONS
1180 CONTROL
1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MANAGEMENT
1210 RESOURCE MAN. ACT
1220 WORKS & MANAGEMENT
1230 ASSISTED HABITAT
1240 ASSESSING & MONITORING
1300 PARTICIPATION
1310 ACCESS
1320 SATISFACTION SURVEY
1330 NEWSLETTERS & MEDIA
1340 OTHER PUBLICATIONS
1350 TRAINING
1360 CLUB RELATIONS
1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE
1410 LIAISON
1420 COMMUNICATION
1430 ADVOCACY
1440 PUBLIC PROMOTIONS
1450 VISITOR FAC/EDUCATION/INTERPRETATION
1500 COMPLIANCE
1510 RANGING
1520 RANGER TRAINING
1530 COMPLIANCE
1600 LICENSING
1610 LICENCE PROD./DISTRIB.
1700 COUNCILS
1710 COUNCIL ELECTIONS
1720 COUNCIL MEETINGS
1800 PLANNING/REPORTING
1810 MANAGEMENT/STRATEGIC PLANNING
1820 ANNUAL OWP/BUDGET/FEE SETTING
1830 REPORTING/AUDIT
1840 NATIONAL LIAISON

Management mechanisms and potential implications- Draft report

In this sub-section anglers' opinions about the need for management mechanisms to control crowding, along with their willingness to pay more for such mechanisms, are examined. In terms of forecasting possible future displacement, the potential implications of introducing management mechanisms to control crowding are also discussed. For each river, anglers were asked to reflect on the extent to which they agree or disagree with the following three statements:

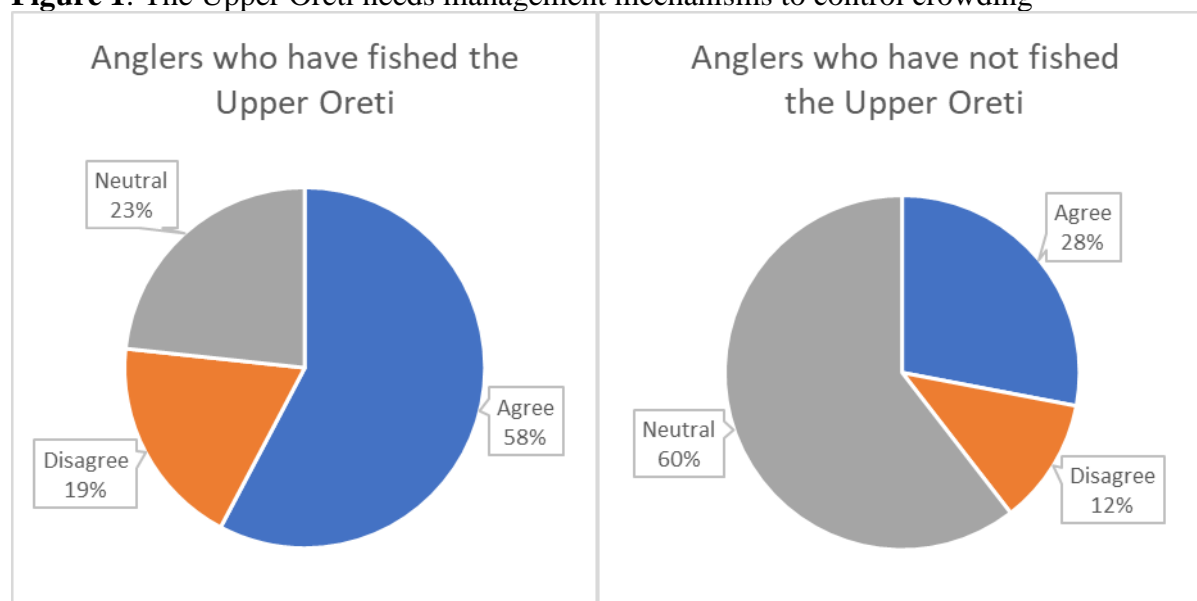
- This river needs management mechanisms to control crowding (examples could include allocation of days, limits to use etc.)
- If management mechanisms were introduced on this river I would be prepared to pay an increased administrative charge.
- If management mechanisms were introduced on this river I would stop fishing here.

Key findings are presented for each river¹.

Upper Oreti

Of the 1739 anglers who answered the question, 575 (33%) have fished the Upper Oreti at least once in the past and 1164 (67%) have not. Of the 575 anglers who have fished the river, 58% (n = 332) agree that the Upper Oreti needs management mechanisms to control crowding, and 19% (n = 109) do not; only 23% (n = 134) are neutral. However, anglers who have not fished the Upper Oreti (n = 1164) are much more likely to be neutral, with 60% (n = 704) neither agreeing nor disagreeing with the statement. Of the remaining 40%, 326 anglers (28%) agree and 134 (12%) disagree with the statement. These findings are represented graphically in Figure 1 below.

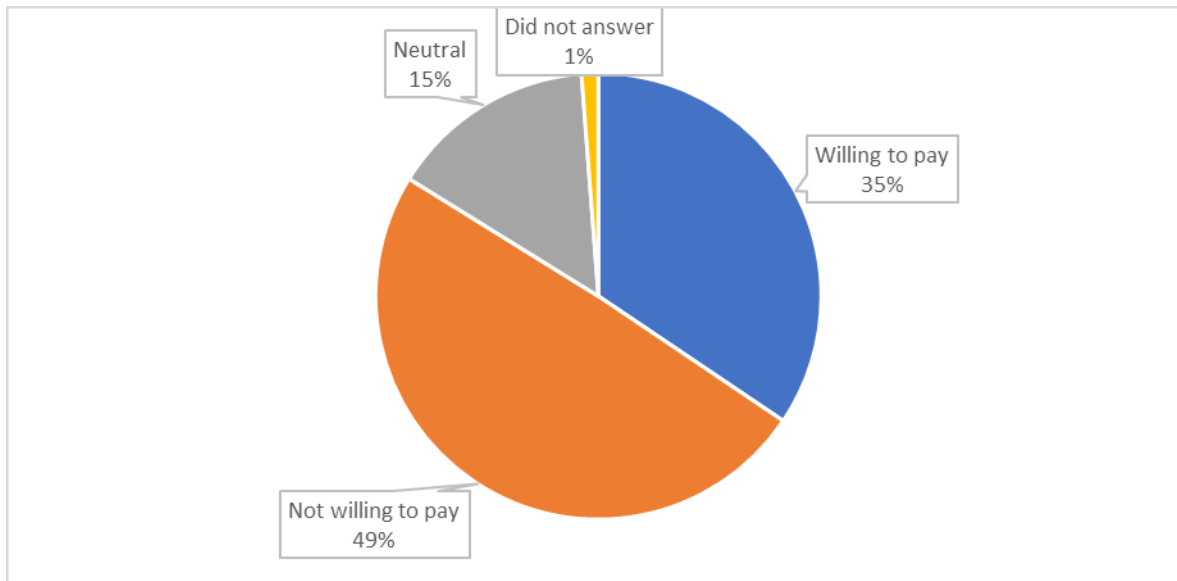
Figure 1: The Upper Oreti needs management mechanisms to control crowding



Focussing in on those anglers who have fished the Upper Oreti, of the 575 anglers who have fished the river 198 (34%) would be prepared to pay an increased administration fee for management mechanisms and 284 (49%) would not. Of the remaining anglers, 86 (15%) are neutral and 7 (2%) didn't answer the question. This data is graphically represented in Figure 2.

¹ In order to determine the characteristics of those anglers most likely to be displaced by the introduction of management mechanisms to control/limit angler numbers, findings are limited to anglers who provided details of their residency status.

Figure 2: Willingness of anglers who have fished the Upper Oreti to pay an increased administration fee for management mechanisms

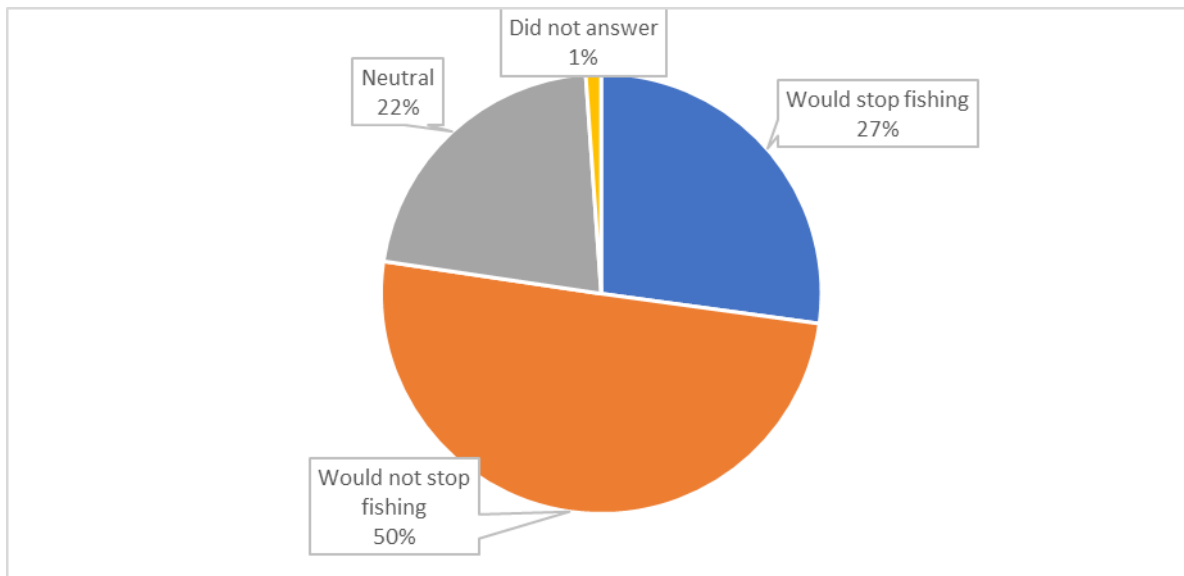


Of the 575 anglers who have fished the Upper Oreti at least once in the past, 265² (46%) are currently still fishing the river. Of those anglers who are currently active on the Upper Oreti, slightly fewer (n = 109; 41%) would be prepared to pay an additional administration fee for management mechanisms compared to the 125 (47%) who would not.

Crucially, if management mechanisms were to be introduced on the Upper Oreti, some of the 265 anglers who currently fish the river are likely to be displaced. Figure 3 shows the proportion of those anglers who would stop fishing the river if management mechanisms were to be introduced.

² Based on those anglers who stated that they continue to fish the river (regardless of whether this is to a similar, lesser or greater extent as in the past); Survey question 13, options 1, 2, 3 (see Appendix 1).

Figure 3: Proportion of active anglers on the Upper Oreti who would stop fishing the river if management mechanisms were introduced



As can be seen in Figure 3, of those active on the river, 133 (50%), said they would not stop fishing the Upper Oreti if management mechanisms were introduced, 57 (22%) anglers were neutral and 3 (1%) did not answer the question. Of most importance in the context of this study, however, are the 72 (27%) anglers who stated that they would stop fishing the Upper Oreti if management mechanisms were introduced; it is this group that seems most likely to be displaced by the introduction of mechanisms to limit or control use. The key characteristics of this relatively small group are:

- Mostly NZ residents (72%), predominantly from Southland (46%)
- Proportionately high number of non-resident anglers (24%)
- Almost all are intermediate/advanced anglers (97%), and most have over 20 years angling experience (78%)
- 81% (n= 58) do want to continue fishing the Upper Oreti in the future; thus, any decision not to return would most likely be as a direct consequence of management intervention.

In this meeting Council needs to identify what changes they wish staff to prepare any background information on, for more specific and detailed discussion at the October meeting. To start Council thinking about possible changes Cohen has prepared the following paper.

(1) Proposed change: All fishing methods permissible in all Southland water bodies.

Reasoning

1.) Simplification of the second schedule of our regulations.

It could be argued that our current regulations are unnecessarily complicated. Complicated regulations have been identified as a Recruitment-Retention-Reactivation (R3) barrier as anglers worry about making a mistake, find it 'all too difficult', and give up. Unnecessarily complicated regulations therefore have the potential to reduce licence sales.

Many of the regulations we have are somewhat historic and serve little purpose. For example, why is the Eglington fly fishing only? Why does it matter if a trout is caught on a fly or on a worm in the Eglington? The fly only regulation is an artefact going back to when there were Atlantic salmon present in the Eglington. The fly fishing only regulation was removed from the Upukerora, why not do the same for Eglington? Additionally, why is it that a child angler can use bait on Te Anau but an adult can't? What difference does it make if a trout is caught on a worm by a child or an adult?

2.) Make fishing easier, not harder

Historically, restrictive method regulations served to make fishing harder and therefore limit catch and take rates. Today, making trout fishing more difficult to reduce catch rates is nonsensical for several reasons.

Firstly, why do we want to make fishing harder for the angler? The average angler we encounter on the river often struggles to catch a trout despite trying hard and doing everything they can. What is the value in making it harder for them by not allowing them to use bait if they want to? Poor success rates are only likely to deter them from participation.

It is important to note that our national R3 focus is trying to shift perceptions of trout fishing from 'difficult' and 'elitist' to 'easy' and a sport that anyone can do. For our survival as an organisation, our potential, future and current customers need to see trout fishing as an easy and convenient recreational activity. We need to make things simple for our customers or we will lose them to other recreational pursuits which are easier and/or more successful. By making fishing harder, we are making the consumption of the product we are selling (the fishing experience) harder. Deliberately making consumption difficult for our customers is not an ideal business model.

3.) Overharvest is not an issue

Today, concern about angler harvest is not a problem. Catch and release is a popular practice and common amongst most anglers, particularly in fisheries with lower trout abundance. As such, far less trout are being harvested. This is clearly evident when looking at creel surveys and harvest rates 30-40 years back. Additionally, bag limits have reduced substantially. Historically (1980s and before), bag limits were often ten fish per day. Bag limits now range from one to four per day in Southland waterbodies. Current harvest restrictions are therefore far more restrictive. Bag limits can and should be used to protect stocks rather than restricting the methods an angler can use.

There may be some concern about 'worm burglars' catching their bag limit for the table. Is that really a problem? In Southland we have a terrific resource which is there to be utilised and harvest of the resource justifies our sport. Too much catch and release is problematic from an ethical standpoint. Moreover, there is evidence to suggest that harvest can actually be good for a fishery. For example, in the Taupo fishery trout size has dwindled overtime as fish numbers have increased. The increased trout numbers and reduced trout size is due to low harvest rates (too much catch and release) and increased competition amongst the fish.

There may be some concern that bait fishing may result in increased post release mortality. This concern is not overly warranted because bait anglers are typically more motivated to harvest for table.

4.) All legal methods in all waters is nothing new

All legal methods are permissible in all West Coast waterbodies and there are still plenty of fish in their river and lake systems.

Below is a table which outlines those waterbodies which would be affected if all legal methods were allowed throughout Southland and reasoning for why all legal methods should be allowed.

Waterbody	Reasoning
<p>Upper Waiau</p> <p>(currently fly and spin only)</p>	<p>Popular fishery with holidaymakers.</p> <p>Low catch rate amongst shore anglers.</p> <p>Scenery and quality of fish present – high value in terms of retaining anglers.</p> <p>Bait fishing would increase harvest for less skilled shore-based anglers.</p>
<p>All Southland Lakes – Particular emphasis on Mavora Lakes, Te Anau, Manapouri.</p> <p>(currently fly and spin only)</p>	<p>Popular fishery with holidaymakers.</p> <p>Low catch rate amongst shore anglers.</p> <p>Scenery and quality of fish present – high value in terms of retaining anglers.</p>
<p>Eglington</p> <p>(currently fly only)</p>	<p>High tourist traffic.</p> <p>Current fly only regulation means breach of angler notice offences can be a problem.</p> <p>Currently, if we prosecuted someone for spin of bait fishing in the Eglington we would have to justify to the Court why the Eglington is fly fishing only.</p> <p>The fly only regulation is a superfluous historical regulation from when Atlantic salmon would run up the river.</p> <p>Simplification of regulations.</p>
<p>Ettrick Burn</p> <p>(currently fly and spin only)</p>	<p>Simplification of regulations.</p>
<p>Monowai River</p>	<p>Modified river on the edge of Fiordland.</p> <p>No valid reason why bait should not be</p>

(currently fly and spin only)	allowed. Regulation simplification.
Whitestone (the whole river is currently fly and spin only)	Regulation simplification.
Aparima River (entire river) (currently fly and spin only upstream of the Hamilton Burn confluence)	Regulation simplification.
Hamilton Burn (entire river) (currently fly and spin only upstream of Mossburn Outautau Road)	Regulation simplification.
Mataura (entire river) (currently fly and spin only upstream of Garston Bridge).	Drift dive data can be used to monitor overharvest. Large fish population available to angler Regulation simplification.
Oreti (entire river) (currently fly and spin only upstream of Rocky Point)	Drift dive data can be used to monitor overharvest. Regulation simplification.
Mararoa (entire river) (currently fly and spin only upstream of Key Bridge)	Regulation simplification.
Wairaki (entire river) (currently fly and spin only upstream of transmission lines)	Regulation simplification.
Upukerora	Regulation simplification.

(currently fly and spin only)	
Borland Burn (currently fly and spin only)	Regulation simplification.
All rivers and lakes draining into the sea west of the Waiau River (currently fly and spin only)	Regulation simplification.

No bait fishing in Fiordland tributaries which require a clean gear certificate will be a required regulation because bait can't be cleaned.

2.) Proposed change: season length in Lake Fergus, Lake Gunn, Lake Hankinson changed from 1 November – 31 May, to all year.

Reasoning: to keep regulations in line with the other lakes (Te Anau, Manapouri) in the area.

3.) Proposed change: All anglers fishing from boats must stay at least 100m from any anglers fishing the shore.

Reasoning

During the last two sports fishing seasons, staff have conducted angler opinion surveys on the upper Waiau River. Anglers were given the opportunity to offer their opinions on:

1. Fishing from unmoored boats in general
2. Guided fishing from moving boats

The anglers also had the opportunity to make any other comments regarding the upper Waiau fishery. Survey responses ranged from no concern to either question, to quite definite concern over the impacts of the commercial fishing from moving boats.

For some shore-based anglers, the presence of a commercial fishing jet boat and the noise of their idling motors was undesirable, particularly during the evening.

In several cases, the complaints of over-fishing and repeated fishing of certain sites came from boat anglers who had boated to their shore fishing spots and were annoyed at the commercial jet boat drift fishing their pool.

From our angler surveys it does appear that the experience of shore-based anglers is being eroded by the actions of certain jet boat drivers. Otago Fish and Game has addressed this problem by introducing a regulation which restricts how close boat anglers can go to shore anglers. This would be a convenient and practical option for us. This proposed change would ensure that boat anglers remain a sufficient distance away from shore anglers in waters throughout the Southland region.

4.) Proposed changes to first schedule

(a) Molluscs to be included in the definition of bait

(b) Spin fishing definition to include 'actively fishing with scented soft baits so as to imitate a bait fish'.

Reasoning

Given our national focus on R3, there is the need to make some amendments to the definition of 'bait' and 'spin fishing' in the first schedule of our fishing regulations.

Looking at Steve Doughty's R3 report, nationally we need to change the perceptions around trout fishing from 'elitist and requiring expensive equipment' to 'easy and with minimal equipment'. Our current definition of bait needs to be amended so trout fishing is easier for the average angler and there is a greater likelihood of success.

Currently, Southland is the only region that permits the use of molluscs as bait. Molluscs (mussels and squid in particular) would be an ideal bait to suggest nationally. Both baits can be purchased from the supermarket so are very convenient and unlike worms, molluscs don't require any digging! On the ground staff are starting to see more and more Southland anglers opting for this convenient and effective bait.

There really should be no opposition to anglers using molluscs as bait. If there is any opposition to molluscs as a bait nationally, the logic behind the opposition must be questioned. If any F&G Councils oppose molluscs because they deem them too effective, that's simply nonsensical. An effective bait is exactly what we want to offer licence holders. We need anglers to be successful, so they continue to purchase a fishing licence. In Steve's R3 report, lack of success has been confirmed as a barrier to participation and a contributor to lapsing anglers. F&G councils also need to keep in mind that imported shrimps can be used under our current definition of bait. Why not allow mussels and squid too?

Our current definition of what constitutes spin fishing is also problematic. As the current spin fishing definition stands, throughout most of the country, scented soft baits are deemed a bait and therefore cannot be fished in fly and spin only waters. Soft baits in New Zealand are seldomly fished as a stationary bait and are more often fished actively as if they were a lure. As such, they should be deemed a lure and should be able to be fished in fly and spin waters.

The allowance of soft baits in fly and spin waters nationally could be of real benefit to the angler because when fished correctly, soft baits are highly effective at catching trout. As such, soft baits provide a way to get more licence holders catching fish which is imperative from an R3 standpoint. We need to move away from making things harder for the angler to making things easier for the angler. We need our anglers to be successful or we will lose them to other recreational pursuits.

Council has previously expressed (understandable) frustration that we are not able to modify our gamebird hunting regulations after we obtain our robust survey data in late March. After making enquiries with NZC office it is apparent that we cannot meet the timeframes to have the Game Notice approved after our March survey (see table below).

Table 1. The various steps required in the process of setting gamebird harvest regulations, prior to the printing of regulation guides, and the issuing of licences each season.

Schedule for 2019 Game Season	January	February			March			April	May
Information from regions to NZC	31st Jan								
Assembly of game notice & reg guides by NZ Council office		1st 2 wks Feb							
Draft game notice & reg guides for proofing with regions			2nd - 3rd wk Feb						
Assembly of submission on game notice & Licences, fees and forms notice				3rd -4th wk Feb					
Consultation with DOC officials					8 wkg days				
Approval by Minister of Conservation						8 wkg days			
Publish in NZ Gazette Game Notice							March		
Publish in NZ Gazette Licences, Fees & Forms Notice								March	
Printing of reg guides							Early March		
Distribution of licences & reg guides								2nd wk March	
Go-live with licence sales									14-Mar
Stand Claim mark-up day									7-Apr
First Saturday in May - Opening Weeknd									
									4-May

Another possible alternative that was investigated was to seek the approval for a ‘recipe’ regulation, where several regulations would be approved based on a high, medium or low population, and subsequently informed by the March survey. However, this was not considered possible and would not be accepted.

The third option is that staff develop a predictive tool that utilizes various factors that assist in predicting the likely abundance (outlined below).

Mallard regulation setting guideline

Mallard regulations for Southland are currently set each year at the AGM in December, for the following May. However, our population count is undertaken in March, at which point it can vary substantially from what the season prospects may have looked like mid-breeding season. Given decisions are based around the data we have available at the December meeting, we would like to create a more formal and transparent regulation setting process that in hindsight we can still support knowing that it was the best information we had at that time. This process would account for various factors that influence the population. Currently it is based around monitoring, anecdotes and gut feeling. We would prefer to remove the latter two and focus on the information available at hand.

Spring weather conditions

Weather through the breeding season has a large impact on brood survival. In particular, the presence of ephemeral water creates pockets of highly productive wetlands across the landscape creating an easily accessible, highly available food source for ducklings. The first ten days of a duckling’s life are the most critical for survival, and the prevalence of ephemeral water greatly increases brood survival.

Previous seasons mallard count

Our mallard aerial counts are undertaken in March as this is the most appropriate time to count the overall population as mallards are starting to group after molting and brood rearing is complete. However, as regulations are set in the December prior to the season, this figure is not available until regulations have already been set, hence for this process this number tells you the availability of mallards entering the previous hunting season.

Brood count

Our brood counts are undertaken in November, just prior to the AGM. We drive the same brood route multiple times throughout the month to determine prevalence and size of broods in the older age classes. As these

ducklings have survived through their first six weeks in life, they are much more likely to survive through to the hunting season making these age classes the most important cohort to monitor. Much like other forms of hunting, naïve juveniles make up the majority of a hunter's bag so relative hunting success relies on juvenile recruitment through into the hunting season.

Gamebird harvest survey

Every two weeks through the hunting season we randomly survey 120 hunters to gather information on participation and hunting success over the season. This correlates reasonably well with our population count just prior to the season, and in the literature (as we do not gather banding data) breeding season success (% juveniles in population), albeit from the previous season.

Spring weather conditions

Measured by comparing to the long-term average spring precipitation (Sept-Nov) at Winton

- 1 Drought conditions (lower quartile)
- 5 Average conditions
- 10 Wet conditions (upper quartile)

Previous seasons mallard count

Measured by comparing to the long-term average count

- 1 Poor count (lower quartile)
- 2.5 Average count
- 5 High count (upper quartile)

Brood count

Measured by comparing to the long-term average brood size count

- 1 Poor brood count (lower quartile)
- 2.5 Average brood count
- 5 High brood count (upper quartile)

Gamebird harvest survey

Measured by comparing to the long-term average opening weekend harvest per hunter

- 1 Poor harvest
- 2.5 Average harvest
- 5 High harvest

Maximum total points = 30

<10 points = reduce bag limit

10-15 points = no change

>15 points = increase bag limit

Examples

Ex 1: December 2015, setting the bag limit for the 2016 season.

Spring weather conditions: Up until our AGM, conditions were looking below average = 4

Previous seasons mallard population count: Between lowest quartile and average = 1.25

Brood count: At the end of November our brood count was looking above the upper quartile = 5

Gamebird harvest survey: Lower than average = 2

Total points = 12.25: Thus we would recommend to keep the bag limit the same, however we increased from 15 to 20 for OW for the 2016 season.

Ex 2: December 2016, setting the bag limit for the 2017 season.

Spring weather conditions: Up until our AGM, conditions were looking above the upper quartile = 9

Previous seasons mallard population count: In line with our long-term average = 2.5

Brood count: At the end of November our brood count was looking below average = 2

Gamebird harvest survey: Lower than average = 2

Total points = 15.5: Thus we would recommend to increase the bag limit from 15 to 20 for OW for the 2017 season.

Ex 3: December 2017, setting the bag limit for the 2018 season.

Spring weather conditions: Up until our AGM, conditions were below the lowest quartile = 1

Previous seasons mallard population count: Between average and the upper quartile of LTA = 3.75

Brood count: At the end of November our brood count was looking reasonable = 2.5

Gamebird harvest survey: Higher harvest than average = 3.5

Total points = 10.75: Thus we would recommend to have no change to the bag limit as we did for the 2018 season.

Ex 4: December 2018, setting the bag limit for the 2019 season.

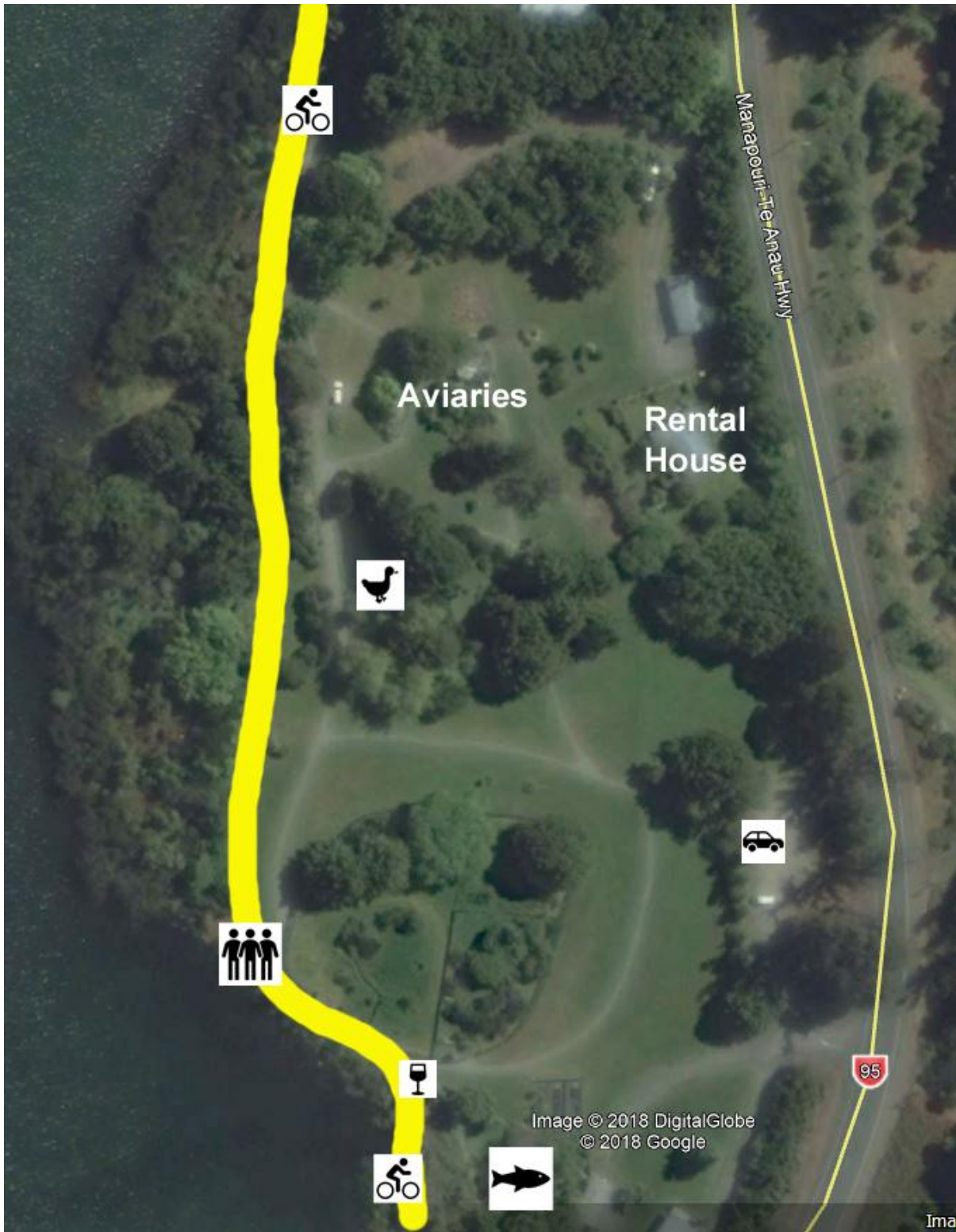
Spring weather conditions: Up until our AGM, conditions were looking average = 5

Previous seasons mallard population count: Count is below lowest quartile of LTA = 1

Brood count: At the end of November our brood count was looking below average = 2

Gamebird harvest survey: Harvest was in the lowest quartile = 1

Total points = 9: Thus we would recommend to reduce the bag limit to 15 for OW as we did for the 2019 season.



General layout of the Wildlife Park



Green circle shows approximate location of planned Children's Shelter.

