



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

FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD

THURSDAY 13th JUNE 2019.



Nice Makarewa River brown trout caught on the fly rod.

NOTICE OF MEETING:

The next meeting of the Southland Fish & Game Council will be held on **Thursday, 13th June 2019** at the Fish & Game Office Boardroom, 17 Eye Street, Invercargill commencing at **6.00pm**.

Please note earlier start time - 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 May 2019.
5. Minutes of the meeting held 11th April 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 27th May 2019.
 - Budget to Actual progress to 31st May 2019
 - Correspondence list.
8. Public Forum.
 - Crystal Brindle, Dept. of Conservation – Te Anau Wildlife Park Kid's shelter design plan.
9. Staff Report.
10. NZ Council issues:
 - NZ Fish & Game Council, CE, Martin Taylor- Can we stop licence fees going up?
 - National Policy on Prosecutions.
 - Conservation Infringement Systems Policy.
11. General Business:
12. Any Items for next Council meeting agenda and discussion.

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.

May 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. The Health & Safety Plan had been further updated by the F&G Health & Safety Committee and has been reviewed annually by staff. The last review & full update being August 2018.

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 is now also displayed in the Te Anau Office as well. 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 reviewed annually.

Tailgate forms have been 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.

2. Monitoring and Reporting

Work Place Accident Register
As at 31st May 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

3. Risk Management (identification and treatment)

Health & Safety meetings with staff are held on a regular basis with minutes of the meetings taken.

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.

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.

4. Training programme

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

5. H&S incidents

Nil to report

6. Recommendations

Council receive and accept this Health & Safety report.

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Fish & Game NZ, Southland Region Council meeting held at the Southland Fish & Game Office, 17 Eye Street, Invercargill on Thursday 11th April 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)
David MacGregor	Bevan McNaughton
Corey Carston	

In attendance:

Z Moss (Manager), C Stewart & E Garrick, W Jarvie, (F&G Officers) J Smyth (Resource Management Officer), Josh Tabak (CCD Contractor), C Mason (Minutes).

Members of the Public:

Gavin Roy

Welcome:

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6.30pm and welcomed those present.

The Chairman noted that he was aware of the length of the last few meetings and the fact that some Councillors had long trips home after the meetings. With that in mind he suggested a target to end meetings at 9.30pm at the latest, with any unfinished business added to the next agenda.

Cr Owen asked that the agenda item under NZC in respect to Governance held at the Governor's forum be moved to General Business for discussion by Council on how it related to our meetings.

Resolved Owen/Hartstonge that the NZC agenda item on Governance be moved to General Business for further discussion. Carried.

Apologies:

Apologies were received & accepted from Maurice Rodway & Len Prentice.

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.

Health & Safety:

The Council health & safety report for the period 1st February 2019 – 31st March 2019 was attached to the agenda for consideration.

All known hazards were listed in the Southland Health & Safety Plan.

The Manager reported that NZI Insurance had written off the Toyota Hi Lux vehicle LFH191, after a recent accident. The money for that had been received and a replacement vehicle was due to arrive next week.

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

Minutes of the meeting held 14th February 2019.

Resolved McNaughton/Hartstonge that the minutes of the meeting held 14th February 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 in the agenda.

Administration Reports:

The accounts paid, direct credit/debit payments list & automatic payments since the last meeting, licence sales progress to 31st March 2019, budget to actual expenses to 31/03/2019 & correspondence reports were attached to the agenda for Councillors consideration.

Southland Fish licence sales were down -5.3% on the same time last year. Nationally Fish licence sales were down -3.9% on the same time last year. Councillors noted that the drop in licence sales was probably realistic, being weather driven with the great summer we had at the start of the last fishing season compared to the poor start of this season. However, there was concern about a general decline in participation of our sport nationally & that needed to be addressed.

Cr Cochrane noted that the non-resident adult anglers had not declined as the adult resident anglers had. The Chairman said that the prediction of the Tourism Board was that tourist numbers generally were expected to drop off over the next couple of years. It would be interesting to see how that affected non-resident angler sales if general tourist numbers did drop.

Correspondence Reports:

Pressure Sensitive Fisheries:

In January 2019 the Southland Council had written to all Regional Chairs & the NZC in respect to a Southland proposal to restrict the Non-Resident Licence to each specific region, as an alternative that would assist in reducing the overall impact of non-resident angling.

The Manager reported that the NZC & Otago had both agreed that a broader analysis of options to address pressure sensitive fisheries should be made. No other region had replied to date.

Cr Cochrane reported that he had talked to a North Canterbury Councillor who had misunderstood our proposal and wondered if others had as well.

The Chairman said both he & Otago Chair had spoken on this at the Governor's meeting and Governors' were all aware of the concerns of our regions on pressure sensitive fisheries.

The Manager noted that at the Managers & NZC meeting last week, there was support for the Southland OWP project to work with an external provider to develop broader options including a licence regime based on hierarchical classification of waters with a variable pricing structure & potential restriction on access for non-resident anglers. Other South Island regions supported that and would help contribute to it.

Councillor Owen agreed and said NZC did note the issue but wanted to see a range of options to use rather than focus on one option.

The Manager reported that at the recent Managers meeting the Auditor General gave a presentation on changing our annual reporting requirements (potentially reducing audit costs). The main change suggested was that the Statement of Performance would be appended to the financial statements therefore not requiring an audit of the Statement of Performance itself.

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

Staff Report:

The staff report was attached to the agenda.

Drift diving:

The Manager went over the lower Mararoa drift dive results. The river had recovered as a fishery compared to earlier years 2003-2007, which was pleasing.

Mallard counts:

Mallard aerial counts were the highest since the technique was initiated in 2012, indicating a very good game hunting season, dominated by juvenile birds that were easier to hunt, following a poor season last year. Despite traditional brood counts, which are usually the best indicator of overall breeding season productivity and are based around broods from peak hatch in late September, not indicating a good breeding season, the significant amount of rain received in late November & December would have increased the survival of later broods, or second broods where the first broods were lost, due to the initially dry conditions.

This robust monitoring programme will increase the ability to predict population changes as we are able to link abundance to climatic and environmental variables.

Proposed Southland Water & Land Plan:

Jacob updated the Council on the progress of the Water & Land Plan.

Evidence on ecological health, water quality & supplementary planning had been filed on behalf of Fish & Game for the first part of the Hearing – Topic A, to be held in July. Fish & Game had some success in terms of a pre-hearing application by ES to limit the scope of F&G's evidence that could be presented at the Hearing. They did not want to be drawn into an argument about whether over-allocation existed, at this point in time, in terms of water quality and quantity and if so, if it is was possible to set interim limits in relation to that. F&G evidence dealt with that in detail in terms of developing thresholds around ecological health and applying those to determine if there was over allocation, i.e. if water quality & quantity were meeting the required standards.

The Court's preliminary view did not agree with the ES view and basically said that our evidence was in the scope of our appeal. The Court raised three key issues in relation to the proposed Plan with ES. The premise of our argument was that the National Policy Statement (NPS) required Regional Councils to provide for ecosystem health and the fact that the Courts were asking the experts to discuss water quality parameters that reflected ecosystem health was a positive sign for Fish & Game's case.

Game Bird Habitat Trust wetlands: (GBHT):

Erin Garrick gave a photo presentation of the successful construction of two significant wetlands in Southland that staff had obtained GBHT funding for. The Manager asked Council to let staff know if they became aware of any significant wetland sites that staff could put forward an application to the GBHT for.

The first was 2.5ha of open water wetland at Waimumu, which cost \$18,500 with \$12,000 covered by the GBHT. The bund was ~250m long and was built using a digger to build the key and track roll as the dozer pushed material up.

The second wetland was built on the edge of a peat dome at Browns and cost \$14,000, with \$10,000 covered by the GBHT. Here Erin raised the water level by 500mm for a dam wall of 250m in length, creating ~2.0ha of open water habitat and to prevent the incursion of gorse and blackberry into the peat dome. Some of this area was also in a QEII covenant.

Te Anau Rental Cottage:

With the current tenants leaving the cottage staff wished to use the opportunity to upgrade the very aged bathroom before we rented it out again. The Manager explained why the upgrade was needed. Bill Jarvie gave a brief history of the rental house and why we had it for the benefit of new Councillors. It was vested in Fish & Game as part of the whole Wildlife Park, so we could not sell it, but we could rent it out. Cr Hartstonge had visited Te Anau recently and viewed the bathroom of the cottage and agreed it was not ideal and needed an upgrade.

Bill Jarvie reported Council was fully compliant with the new rental laws.

Public Interface:

The Chairman reported he had attended the Athol Hunting & Fishing Club presentations for the kids fishing competition. The competition had a great attendance and the very strong Club appreciated the support of Fish & Game.

New Zealand Council Issues:

Cr Owen reported that there had been two NZC meetings since this Council's last meeting. One meeting was held 15th & 16th February. The 15th February was a joint meeting with the regional Governors. Cr Watson attended the Governor's meeting.

Cr Watson reported that at the Governor's meeting he had brought up the concerns of a few Councillors on the anti-farming sentiment coming from NZC. Other Chairs from other regions also had the same feedback about the blanket criticism of all farmers, rather than targeting those that weren't performing as they should.

The other NZC meeting was held on the 5th & 6th April and the 5th was a combined Manager's meeting. Licence categories and customer value perceptions, after a survey of licence holders, was presented by Steve Dougherty. There was a good acceptance by licence holders of the range and numbers of licence categories and the recommendation was to keep the status quo. There was no single approach to stop the fall of licence sales. Raising the price of licences was not the answer, as the threshold was getting very close. A clear message was to communicate better with licence holders, and this would be a focus of NZC. Finding other income streams and adding value to the licence was highly recommended.

The Manager reported that there was good recognition from Managers over the contestable fund requests and external expenditure of regions' respective budgets. Scrutiny of that was very healthy. However, there was some pressure from Managers on the NZC budget. The NZC did not have a detailed operational work plan like the regions, but used a three-year business plan, which had less specifics than the regions were required to have. This made it very hard for Managers to tell if there was any rigour in the project expenditure of NZC. There was always pressure on regional budgets to cut external expenditure to try and stop putting licence prices up all the time. However, the system would be more robust if managers could look more equitably across the board at all budgets, including NZC.

The managers reiterated their desire for further investigation around getting additional external revenue through a suite of opportunities, as licence price increases could not continue.

Cr Owen said that the ranking process the managers used for the contestable fund bids at their earlier meeting and then presented & described to NZC, worked better than previous years, in his view. After the NZC review the result was a proposed licence fee increase with fish licences \$133 & game licences \$94, for consultation with regions, including a larger increase in the non-residence adult licence. The GBHT stamp fee would also be increased by a dollar to \$4.00 per licence.

Cr Owen said that the transparency of the NZC budget wasn't there in time because of the impact of the gun laws review taking up a lot of staff time. It was hoped that more transparency of the NZC budget would be available in two weeks-time.

A large discussion occurred with NZC on external funding for the organisation and this was an area that NZC would seriously work on as part of trying to address reduced revenue from declining licence sales.

The CSI Audit report would be available soon. The Hawkes Bay audit was not finalised yet. The North Canterbury audit report had been released and they were now working to get back on track.

The Chairman thanked Cr Owen for the work and time involved with his role on the NZC.

General Business:

SFGC Meeting times:

There was concern raised at the length and late finishing time of some Council meetings went on for as there was a lot of travelling time for some Councillors to get home afterwards. The last meeting was unusually long as we had two members of the public making presentations, which took extra time. Council would like to see the meetings worked to a time frame in the future.

There was also a suggestion to split the AGM and December meeting which were normally held together. The game season regulations confirmed at the December meeting often had contentious issues and with public input the December meeting was sometimes late finishing. However, some Councillors liked the two meetings together and saw the game regs debate as a draw card for people to attend the AGM. If the AGM & December meetings were still to be held around the province then the two together made it more likely that more people would attend. In the past it had worked well and could again. It was agreed there was time to discuss & decide that, at a later date.

It was also suggested that the normal bimonthly Council meetings could start earlier at 6.00pm instead of 6.30pm. Most liked the idea of an earlier start, however a couple of Councillors had work commitments that meant they would be unable to always make a 6.00pm start and would be late arriving.

Cr Cochrane questioned if it was necessary at each meeting to go over the staff report again when it was attached to the agenda and Councillors should have already read it. The staff report was very good, and it was a doubling up of time in his view going over it again.

However, some Councillors said they got a better understanding from staff powerpoint presentations at the meetings and would like that to continue. Cr Cochrane also suggested that if there was a subject in the agenda that could be identified as needing long discussion, then we could look at a special meeting or workshop to discuss that, as we had done in the past e.g. pressure sensitive fisheries.

Cr Stenning said that it would be much better if we could discuss game bird regs later than December. However, the Manager said that timelines at present to get regs to the Minister & gazetted did not allow a time later than early January.

After discussions:

Resolved Owen/Cochrane that from now on the bimonthly Council meetings should start at 6.00pm and finish no later than 9.30pm. Carried.

Any unfinished business would be carried over to the next meeting.

Cr Owen asked if the August Council meeting date could be changed to after the NZC meeting. Councillors agreed and a new date would be advised for that meeting, at a later time.

Environment Southland Awards:

With all the work Southland Fish and Game did in creating wetlands and habitat the Chairman suggested that it would be good PR for Fish & Game to sponsor a category of the ES Environment Awards. If Council agreed the Chairman & Manager would approach ES about that.

Councillors all agreed that was a very positive idea and we should target an area that reflected what Fish & Game had criticised in the past and mitigation around that e.g. water quality & intensive agriculture.

Game Bird Regulations 2019.

Cr Cochrane was scathing of the Council's decision with the game bird regulations 2019 and said we should all take responsibility for that. After brood counts the recommendation was that the season be shortened by two weeks and the bag limit lowered and yet when the transect counts came out there were more birds around than ever. He saw the decision as the worst Council had ever made. To move forward he suggested Council find a better way of making the decision on harvest. Why was the decision made before the transect counts? He suggested we approach the Minister to change the timeframe for harvest regulations so they could be done after the transect counts.

Council generally disagreed with his opinion and said the game regs decision was made on the best information available at the time. Feedback from our licence holders survey was also taken into account in the decision, along with brood counts. The data set of brood counts had been used for many years and was usually pretty close, the transect counts were not done until March which was too late for the gazette publication. The season this year had adjusted itself from being dry, where broods were lost, and became very wet in late spring, which enhanced the breeding ability of the mallards. If we had a dry late spring/summer as well this would not have even been raised. Even though the transect counts were higher than the brood counts it did not mean our decision at the time was wrong.

Cr Stenning said that we should be looking at other ways of doing it better. Perhaps we should talk to the Minister about our predicament and see if the date for regulations could be moved later. He noted that season length & bag limits had nothing to do with sustainability of the population. It didn't really matter what the population was as regs were based on sociological reasons and not biological reasons anyway.

The Manager suggested that it was always difficult with the timeframes required by the Minister, however we could approach the Department and get approval for regs based on our subsequent transect counts of a low to high range and have limits for those ranges, therefore effectively using a rating system automatically. As time went on the transect counts would give us valuable data to develop predictive harvest regs.

In the meantime, he would talk to Robert (NZC) and the Department to see how we could streamline the process to see if there was any opportunity to use the March mallard counts.

Cr Stenning suggested having a three-year review of other game regs, like the angler regs, with the bag limit set automatically each year by the subsequent transect counts.

After discussion

Resolved Cochrane/Owen that the Staff investigate further a range of options within the current legislation and ask the Minister if we could set our game bird harvest regulations after the transect counts each year. Carried.

Governance:

On the 15th February 2019, Cr's Owen & Watson attended the Governor's forum in Wellington. Sir Geoffrey Palmer was a guest speaker and spoke on the statute roles & responsibilities of NZC and the Regions. Another speaker, Graham Narkies spoke on Chairs and Governors responsibilities.

Cr Owen said that the responsibility of Council's decisions rested with them and this was not always highlighted enough. We had to remember it was public funds being spent and needed due diligence. This was particularly important during OWP & budget time.

Governance was important and Council should not be wasting time with Staff matters. Council should be setting outcomes and what they wanted to achieve as a Council & have more focus on high level objectives & being more visionary.

The Chairman suggested that the notes from the Governor's forum on governance be forwarded to the Councillors. Cr Owen would attend to that.

Pressure sensitive fisheries:

Cohen Stewart had circulated to Councillors the updated report on the Upper Oreti fishery. The report showed a high percentage of non-resident anglers were using the fishery at present.

At the end of the season there would be a survey conducted on angler perceptions.

Council had approved a project using the non-resident levy to engage an external party to develop a suite of options, looking at international models and how they could be adapted and what we

could do within the current legislation or if law changes were required to present any changes to the Tourism Industry and Dept. of Conservation etc.

The next step was for the angler perception survey to be conducted over the winter period. After that an external party would begin looking at options in the next financial year starting September 2019.

Magazine delay:

Cr Carston asked if there was anything in the delayed game magazine this year regarding Southland's shortened season length. He was concerned that many hunters would not realise the season had been shortened. The Manager said that staff were mindful of that and would use social media and emailed newsletters (Both Barrels etc) during the season to remind hunters of the shortened season.

There were no items requested for the next agenda.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Chairman _____ Date _____

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

Cheques Paid:

8514	Reimburse petty cash	\$254.00	General Exps, Milk, coffee, cleaners, tea etc.
8515	Void cheque	\$0.00	
	Sub total	\$254.00	

Plus Direct Credits paid:

15/04/2019	Advocate	\$333.50	2019 Hunting feature
15/04/2019	Alex Reid Contracting	\$4,140.00	M McKenzie pond subsidy (reimbursed by Mckenzie \$2,000)
15/04/2019	Amenity Contracting	\$286.58	Wildlife Park mow March
15/04/2019	Fuji Xerox	\$80.48	Service & maintenance agreement
15/04/2019	Graphic Press	\$586.50	Game 2019 Regulation books
15/04/2019	Inland Revenue	\$11,634.56	Paye & Kiwisaver to 31/03/19
15/04/2019	Office Max	\$97.90	Copy paper etc.
15/04/2019	Office Products	\$79.07	Stationery general
15/04/2019	Sarah Ongley	\$5,190.25	Legal fees pSWALP March
15/04/2019	Wanaka Helicopters	\$7,590.00	Mallard transect flights
18/04/2019	Ann Heffernan	\$217.62	Extra hours cover staff
18/04/2019	Cherilios lunches	\$375.00	F&G meeting supper April
18/04/2019	Chris Owen	\$61.60	Mileage April meeting
18/04/2019	Craig Horrell	\$243.32	Mileage April meeting
18/04/2019	Dave Halder Contracting	\$1,992.38	A&R Johnstone Waimumu pond subsidy
18/04/2019	Dave McGregor	\$110.11	Mileage April meeting
18/04/2019	Evans Freight	\$17.02	Gallant to Te Anau
18/04/2019	Goldpine Invercargill	\$40.30	Posts for signage
18/04/2019	Ken Cochrane	\$63.14	Mileage April meeting
18/04/2019	Lyndon Norman	87.31	Mileage April meeting
18/04/2019	Office Max	10.63	Stationery
18/04/2019	Datavault Co	18.00	Server backup
18/04/2019	Trevor Plank	650.00	Paint fascia - office east wall.
10/05/2019	Amenity Contracting	286.58	Wildlife Park mow April
10/05/2019	AoN NZ Ltd	166.06	Insurance addition new vehicle Ranger MBS600
10/05/2019	Caltex Te Anau	116.25	WoF Toyota HLT568, Puncture repair boat trailer.
10/05/2019	Cameo Framers	211.50	Framing 2019 duck print
10/05/2019	Chao Wang	130.00	Refund AWS Lic 5089139 Fish 18/19
10/05/2019	Environment Southland	1,049.95	Share of fencing costs Josephville angler access
10/05/2019	Fiordland Frontier	69.99	Fiordland clay target prize - decoys.
10/05/2019	Ford Motor Company	50,779.62	Replacement vehicle Ford Ranger MBS600
10/05/2019	Fuji Xerox	267.23	Service & maintenance agreement
10/05/2019	Inland Revenue	11,770.02	Paye & Kiwisaver to 30/04/2019
10/05/2019	Pohangina Consulting Ltd	25,300.00	pSWALP evidence Russell Death
10/05/2019	Sarah Ongley	1,656.00	Legal fees pSWALP April
17/05/2019	NZ Fish & Game	195,612.25	3rd Quarterly levy
20/05/2019	Ann Heffernan	149.90	Clothing allow reimbursement
20/05/2019	Bridgestone NZ	1,625.55	4 Tyres & wheel alignment KTF247
20/05/2019	C & T Jane	96.00	Refund game lic 5101998 two purchased in error.
20/05/2019	Fastway Couriers	183.59	Labels for courier parcels
20/05/2019	Inland Revenue Dept.	20,430.78	GST return to 30/04/2019
20/05/2019	Sthld Vehicle Sales	260.23	Service Toyota JGL 96, 91,832 kms
20/05/2019	TP Van Eeden	96.00	Refund game lic 5107489 (In hospital can't hunt).
20/05/2019	Te Anau Plumbing	94.88	Pump issues Te Anau Office
20/05/2019	Yellow Pages	362.25	Yellow pages telephone number F&G Southland.
	Sub total	344,873.90	

Plus Direct Debits

28/03/2019	Eyede	804.00	Office Sales February Fish 18/19
29/03/2019	Genesis Energy	425.78	Power 17 Eye Street
1/04/2019	BNZ Services fee	4.80	Internet banking fee
3/04/2019	Vodafone NZ	380.50	Vodafone cell phone usage

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

ACCOUNTS PAID SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING

10/04/2019	BP Oil NZ Ltd	2,238.32	McLay Boat fuel	211.89
			PS Fisheries Truck fuel	309.72
			Vehicle Fleet fuel	1,361.27
11/04/2019	BNZ Visa	2,645.79	Diesel Fuel Ranger JUU310	40.00
			Staff Clothing Allowances CS & CM	201.99
			Waiau Trust reimb. Flowers for Bridget Speight	150.00
			2 Talk Ingill fixed line	51.75
			Google emails	72.13
			Staff SI Conference air fares	1,342.16
			Mallard flight lunches	87.60
			BNZ Visa fee	31.25
			Bluetooth headset - Manager	107.99
			Webcam E Garrick	57.58
			Drobox W Jarvie & E Garrick	344.00
			Te Anau letterbox numbers	5.73
			T/A Office general exps - milk, coffee etc.	12.89
			T/A Office weedkiller	37.95
			Inflatable boat sealant	12.58
			ES Lake Sampling Volunteers MT.	32.20
			Court Parking JS	1.20
			Diversion papers postage	3.00
			Pressure sensitive fisheries - camera batteries	53.79
15/04/2019	Vodafone	135.28	Fixed line & broadband services Te Anau	
15/04/2019	BNZ Services fee	20.00	Merchant service fee	
17/04/2019	NZTA	688.63	RUC for Toyota Hi Lux HLT568	
17/04/2019	NZTA	2,048.63	RUC for Ford Ranger MBS 600	
23/04/2019	Paymark Ltd	16.10	Monthly eftpos fee	
23/04/2019	Fairfax media	44.20	Office paper subs	
23/04/2019	Genesis Energy	201.00	Power Te Anau Office	
23/04/2019	Velocitynet	115.00	Invercargill internet services	
23/04/2019	Farmlands	1,235.16	Tree basal & gallant etc reimbursed Waiau Trust	
26/04/2019	Eyede Ltd	684.00	Office licence sales March	
1/05/2019	BNZ Services fee	8.70	Internet banking fee	
2/05/2019	Genesis Energy	436.01	Power 17 Eye Street	
6/05/2019	Vodafone NZ	407.52	Cell phone usage April	
10/05/2019	BP Oil NZ	1,882.88	McLay boat fuel	211.89
			PS Fisheries truck fuel	309.72
			Vehicle fleet fuel	1,361.27
13/05/2019	BNZ Visa	2,514.00	PS Fisheries camera batteries	32.56
			Trailer reg 34FLU	26.73
			Air fares SI Conference	243.00
			2 Talk Ingill fixed line	51.75
			Staff clothing allowance CM	236.00
			Waiau Trust job advert reimbursed	563.50
			Managers meeting exps	65.20
			Google emails	72.71
			Apex car rentals EG	441.00
			Gloves protective clothing EG	23.99
			Reg Ford Ranger JUU310	183.31
			Flu vaccination WJ	35.00
			Laminate hunter sheet T/A	8.00
			Milk, coffee, tea, T/A	18.38
			Kiwicare rat bait T/A	9.41
			J Tabak farwell lunch	26.50
			Staff gear allowance WJ	476.96
15/05/2019	BNZ Bank charges	20.00	Merchant service fee	
16/05/2019	Vodafone	135.28	Fixed line & broadband services Te Anau	
20/05/2019	Paymark Ltd	16.10	Monthly eftpos fee	
20/05/2019	Fairfax Media	44.20	Office paper subs	
20/05/2019	Genesis Energy	101.32	Power Te Anau Office	
20/05/2019	Velocitynet	115.00	Internet services Invercargill	
Grand Total		\$362,242.10		

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	27/05/2019	Category	No Sold	27/05/2018	Category	No Sold	
Whole season adult	2864	\$372,320.00	Whole season adult	3208	\$407,416.00	Whole season adult	3210	\$407,670.00
Whole season Jun	557	\$14,482.00	Whole season Jun	624	\$15,600.00	Whole season Jun	627	\$15,675.00
NR Adult	1152	\$149,760.00	NR Adult	1017	\$129,159.00	NR Adult	1021	\$129,667.00
NR Junior	33	\$858.00	NR Junior	19	\$475.00	NR Junior	20	\$500.00
NR Child	15	\$0.00	NR Child		\$0.00	NR Child	0	\$0.00
NR Day Adult	1496	\$31,416.00	NR Day Adult	2369	\$47,380.00	NR Day Adult	2485	\$49,700.00
NR Day Junior	47	\$235.00	NR Day Junior	84	\$420.00	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	238	\$24,752.00	Local Area	192	\$19,584.00	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	1045	\$21,945.00	Adult Day	983	\$19,660.00	Adult Day	1187	\$24,927.00
Junior Day	114	\$570.00	Junior Day	100	\$500.00	Junior Day	117	\$585.00
Short Break	297	\$13,959.00	Short Break	272	\$12,512.00	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	82	\$6,396.00	Winter Adult	61	\$4,636.00	Winter Adult	91	\$6,916.00
TOTAL	10935	\$1,106,049.00	TOTAL	11981	\$1,132,574.00	TOTAL	12431	\$1,146,709.00
LEQ'S	8508		LEQ'S	8918		LEQ'S	9029	

LEQ TARGETS FOR FISH 2018/2019 = 8830

LEQ TARGETS FOR FISH 2017/2018 = 8523

FISH LICENCE LEQ'S ARE CURRENTLY 96.3% OF TARGET. LAST YEAR AT SAME TIME 104.6% OF TARGET

Please note that the non resident levy of \$66,675 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 -2.8% ON LAST YEARS SALES TO THE SAME TIME
STHLD FISH LICENCE SALES ARE CURRENTLY -4.5% 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	as at 27/05/2019	Category	No Sold	as at 27/05/2018	Category	No Sold	
Adult WS	4751	\$456,096.00	Adult WS	4881	\$458,814.00	Adult WS	4888	\$459,472.00
Junior WS	428	\$9,416.00	Junior WS	436	\$9,156.00	Junior WS	438	\$9,198.00
Ad Day	7	\$154.00	Ad Day	11	\$231.00	Ad Day	28	\$588.00
Jun Day	1	\$7.00	Jun Day	1	\$7.00	Jun Day	2	\$14.00
Child	146	\$438.00	Child	150	\$450.00	Child	150	\$450.00
TOTALS	5333	\$466,111.00	TOTALS	5479	\$468,658.00	TOTALS	5506	\$469,722.00
LEQ'S	4855		LEQ'S	4986		LEQ'S	4997	

LEQ TARGETS FOR GAME 2019 = 5118

LEQ TARGETS FOR GAME 2018 = 5277

GAME LICENCE LEQ'S ARE CURRENTLY 94.9% OF TARGET. LAST YEAR AT SAME TIME 94.4% OF TARGET

STHLD GAME LICENCE SALES ARE CURRENTLY -2.6% DOWN ON LAST YEARS SALES TO THE SAME TIME
NATIONALLY THE GAME LIC SALES ARE DOWN -2.3% ON LAST YEARS SALES TO THE SAME TIME

Southland Fish & Game Council

Profit and Loss (Excl GST) September 2018 - May 2019

Using Budget: Budget 2018-2019 (01/09/18)

	Sep 2018- May 2019	Budget	Variance
Income			
Licences			
2520 Fishing Licences	117,886.47 -		117,886.47
2521 Eyede Public Online Fishing Licences	344,330.16	295,100.00	49,230.16
2522 Eyede AOL Fishing licences	579,261.68	658,156.00	(78,894.32)
2523 Fishing licences Secretary sales	(1,571.33) -		(1,571.33)
2531 Eyede Public Online Game Licences	20,938.08	36,590.00	(15,651.92)
2533 Game Licences Secretary	(558.26) -		(558.26)
2534 Eyede AOL Game licences	42,897.12	358,675.00	(315,777.88)
3163 Refunds Fishing Revenue	(1,630.36) -		(1,630.36)
3164 Refunds Game Revenue	(166.96) -		(166.96)
Total Licences	1,101,386.60	1,348,521.00	(247,134.40)
Non Specific Income			
2535 Sale of Books, Maps etc	988.32	100.00	888.32
2575 Fine Income	309.93 -		309.93
2576 Fishing offences Diversion Scheme	8,475.30	4,000.00	4,475.30
2577 Game offences Diversion Scheme	8,808.70	8,000.00	808.70
2586 MPI - Biosecurity CCD programme	-	25,000.00	(25,000.00)
2588 NIWA Periphyton Monitoring Waiau River	16,695.00	10,000.00	6,695.00
2592 Dept of Conservation - Water sampling - didym	5,540.00 -		5,540.00
2597 Environment Sthld Lake Monitoring	9,478.87	11,000.00	(1,521.13)
2598 Environment Sthld Recreational monitoring	500.00	1,000.00	(500.00)
2599 Put & Take Fisheries	2,443.00 -		2,443.00
2700 Meridian Energy Contracts	7,063.35	12,000.00	(4,936.65)
2705 Rent - Te Anau Cottage	9,000.00	15,000.00	(6,000.00)
2708 Rent - Jane Kitson office space	1,650.00	2,000.00	(350.00)
2710 Waiau Trust	2,779.01	3,500.00	(720.99)
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 hire,etc)	104.34 -		104.34
Total Non Specific Income	82,475.91	100,100.00	(17,624.09)
Interest			
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	1,233.51 -		1,233.51
Total Income	1,175,038.70	1,471,156.00	(296,117.30)

Southland Fish & Game Council
Profit and Loss (Excl GST) September 2018 - May 2019
Using Budget: Budget 2018-2019 (01/09/18)

	Sep 2018- May 2019	Budget	Variance
<u>Species Management</u>			
3008 Fish monitoring in Lakes	207.41	200.00	7.41
3011 Sportsfish Population Monitoring	-	50.00	(50.00)
3012 Adult trout population monitoring	-	400.00	(400.00)
3013 Salmon spawning monitoring	-	400.00	(400.00)
3014 Mallard Monitoring	6,676.17	6,500.00	176.17
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	-	720.00	(720.00)
3019 Put & Take Fisheries	131.97	150.00	(18.03)
Species Management Total	13,205.53	14,920.00	(1,714.47)
<u>Habitat Protection & Management</u>			
3028 ES Water & Land Plan Appeal	57,011.68	5,500.00	51,511.68
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 & development	93.00	100.00	(7.00)
3036 Reserves rates	-	700.00	(700.00)
3042 Pond creation & enhancement	26.97	150.00	(123.03)
3048 Estuarine Health Study	501.27	500.00	1.27
Habitat Protection & Management Total	58,011.35	7,400.00	50,611.35
<u>Participation</u>			
3059 Anglers Access Reparation Fund Expenses	913.00	-	913.00
3060 Access protection & enhancement	30.00	500.00	(470.00)
3061 Access placement/management signs	551.13	1,000.00	(448.87)
3062 Carrying Capacity Studies	-	40.00	(40.00)
3063 Pressure Sensitive Fisheries	17,770.03	-	17,770.03
3070 Promotions fish/hunt Radio	146.96	200.00	(53.04)
3071 Promotions fish/hunt Television	26.43	-	26.43
3072 Promotions fish/hunt newspapers	792.40	800.00	(7.60)
3075 Promotions fish/hunt via newsletters	-	3,000.00	(3,000.00)
3078 Prod. angler / hunter regulation brochure	-	1,800.00	(1,800.00)
3080 Handouts & Pamphlets	-	2,500.00	(2,500.00)
3085 Hunter training programmes & competitions	241.73	500.00	(258.27)
3087 Angler training programmes & competitions	7.02	-	7.02
Participation Total	20,478.70	10,340.00	10,138.70

Southland Fish & Game Council

Profit and Loss (Excl GST) September 2018 - May 2019

Using Budget: Budget 2018-2019 (01/09/18)

	Sep 2018- May 2019	Budget	Variance
Public Interface			
3100 Communication with Conservation Groups	113.04	100.00	13.04
3105 Communication with farmers, anglers & hunters	-	50.00	(50.00)
3129 Fishing Contests	133.81	120.00	13.81
3130 Office Displays (Ingill & Te Anau)	240.43	250.00	(9.57)
3132 Schools & Youth organisations	191.34	250.00	(58.66)
Public Interface Total	678.62	770.00	(91.38)
Compliance			
3144 Hunter ranging duties	-	200.00	(200.00)
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	92.78	200.00	(107.22)
3156 Fiordland Compliance CCD Contract	20,672.00	25,000.00	(4,328.00)
3157 Fiordland Compliance - Expenses.	3,841.53 -		3,841.53
3159 Fiordland Compliance Boat Fuel	807.90 -		807.90
Compliance Total	28,355.49	31,950.00	(3,594.51)
Councils			
3192 Councillors mileage	2,261.92	4,000.00	(1,738.08)
3193 Councill meeting exps /staff meals	2,558.59	3,330.00	(771.41)
3194 Combined meetings with other regions	23.48 -		23.48
Councils Total	4,843.99	7,330.00	(2,486.01)
Planning and Reporting			
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)
Levy NZFG			
4200 NZ Fish & Game Levies	510,292.83	680,390.00	(170,097.17)
Depreciation			
3905 Depreciation	-	52,163.00	(52,163.00)

Southland Fish & Game Council
Profit and Loss (Excl GST) September 2018 - May 2019
Using Budget: Budget 2018-2019 (01/09/18)

	Sep 2018- May 2019	Budget	Variance
3850 Bank Charges	347.14	730.00	(382.86)
3851 Bank Charges Eftpos	112.00	170.00	(58.00)
3860 Computer E-mail & Internet Services	1,370.91	2,150.00	(779.09)
3861 Computer email & broadband Te Anau	71.04	150.00	(78.96)
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	287,467.93	408,201.00	(120,733.07)
3925 Field Staff Expenses(clothing , gear etc)	2,355.72	3,850.00	(1,494.28)
3930 Field Staff Vehicle Running	23,755.56	40,500.00	(16,744.44)
3935 Field Staff Training	78.26	4,000.00	(3,921.74)
3965 Fringe Benefit Tax	3,774.53	3,500.00	274.53
4000 General Expenses	1,261.02	1,700.00	(438.98)
4001 Te Anau Office General Expenses	131.48	100.00	31.48
4025 Insurance	15,115.70	19,300.00	(4,184.30)
4026 Insurance - Te Anau	5,721.47	5,700.00	21.47
4040 Inter Regional Meeting Exps	1,378.40 -		1,378.40
4160 Legal Expenses General	-	500.00	(500.00)
4170 Light, Heat & Power	3,029.77	6,000.00	(2,970.23)
4221 Office Equipment under \$2,000	1,301.85	1,500.00	(198.15)
4250 Photocopying	1,178.54	3,500.00	(2,321.46)
4255 Postage & Courier exps	1,511.56	4,400.00	(2,888.44)
4260 Printing, & Stationery	998.04	2,900.00	(1,901.96)
4261 Printing & Stationery Te Anau Office	175.32 -		175.32
4265 Protective Clothing & Gear	529.77	2,000.00	(1,470.23)
4300 Rates	193.45	4,000.00	(3,806.55)
4301 Rates Te Anau Wildlife Park	281.83	1,000.00	(718.17)
4315 Repairs & Maintenance Office	6,728.46	7,000.00	(271.54)
4316 Repairs & Maintenance Te Anau Office/Wildlife	128.66	1,500.00	(1,371.34)
4317 Repairs & Maintenance - Wildlife Park -Mowin,	1,993.60	3,000.00	(1,006.40)
4320 Repairs & Maintenance Office equipment	1,702.23	4,500.00	(2,797.77)
4321 Repairs & Maintenance Te Anau Office Equipm	-	500.00	(500.00)
4322 Repairs & Maintenance Field Equipment	506.33	4,000.00	(3,493.67)
4324 Repairs & Maintenance Te Anau Cottage	193.25	2,000.00	(1,806.75)
4460 Subscriptions	345.87	600.00	(254.13)
4480 ESCT	3,606.51 -		3,606.51
4481 Kiwisaver Employer Contributions	8,088.05	19,892.00	(11,803.95)
4500 Telephone & Tolls/ Fax	3,453.03	6,500.00	(3,046.97)
Administration and Staff Total	446,611.28	658,293.00	(211,681.72)
Total Direct Expenses	1,090,029.73	1,471,156.00	(381,126.27)
Gross Profit (Loss)	85,008.97 -		85,008.97

Southland Fish & Game Council
Profit and Loss (Excl GST) September 2018 - May 2019
Using Budget: Budget 2018-2019 (01/09/18)

	Sep 2018- May 2019	Budget	Variance
Gross Profit (Loss)	85,008.97 -		85,008.97
<u>Non Specific Income</u>			
2581a Pond Subsidy Scheme	3,532.50 -		3,532.50
Total Expenses	3,532.50 -		3,532.50
Net Profit (Loss)	81,476.47 -		81,476.47

CORRESPONDENCE INWARDS:

1 12/04/2019 Martin Taylor – NZ Fish & Game Council.

2019/20 Licence Fee Recommendations. (Emailed to Councillors).

2 08/05/2019 Adam Love - Licence Holder, Invercargill

Request to keep sports fish for private aquaponics. – To file.

3 21/05/2019 John Whitehead – Chair, Southland
Conservation Board.

Advising of bi-monthly meeting dates for the board. – To file.

4 30/04/2019 Robert Sowman – NZ Fish & Game Council

Draft Conservation Infringement Systems Policy for consultation with Regions. - Copy to Council with Agenda.

5 30/04/2019 Robert Sowman – NZ Fish & Game Council

Revised Draft Policy on Prosecutions for consultation with Regions. – Copy to Council with Agenda.

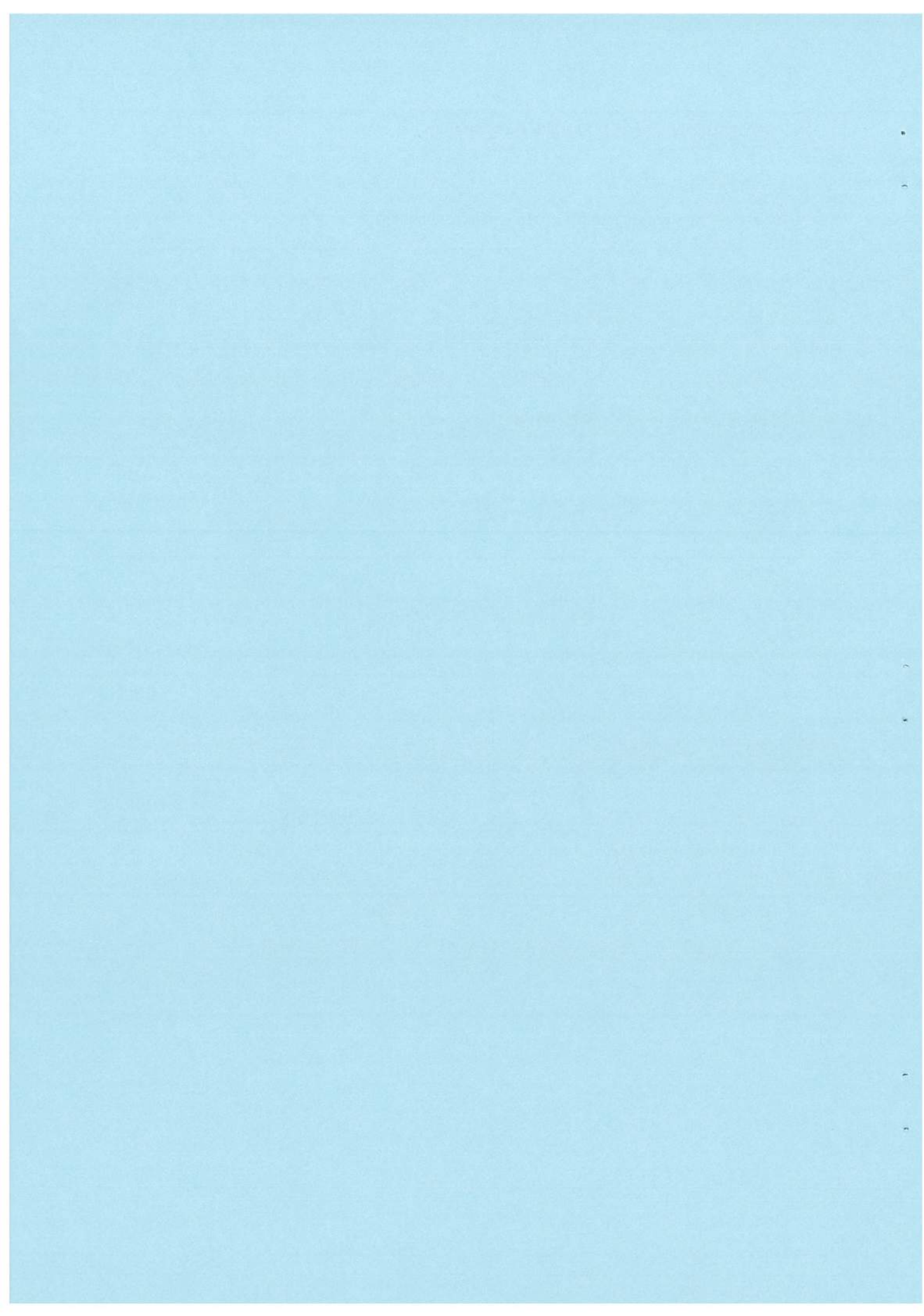
CORRESPONDENCE OUTWARDS:

10 08/05/2019 Adam Love - Invercargill

Re: Reply advising how to proceed with a formal application to keep sports fish.

11 10/05/2019 Gore Boat & Water Ski Club

Re: Approving uplifting of speed restrictions on Lake Te Anau for time trials.



Southland Fish and Game Staff report, February/March 2018

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1100 Species Management Projects:

Gamebird harvest surveys

Staff have conducted our opening weekend gamebird harvest survey and continue to conduct fortnightly surveys. It is worth noting that the average OW bag for active hunters was lower than staff expected, given reports of high bags from some areas and the relatively high abundance of ducks. To ensure this low apparent harvest is not a consequence sample size staff will conduct additional OW interviews as part of their remaining surveys.

Along with harvest information, staff asked hunters how satisfied they were with their opening weekend experience. Below is a comparison of 2017 and 2019 hunter harvest and satisfaction.

2017	2019
Bag limit of 20 per day	Bag limit of 15 per day
3 month season	2.5 month season
13.4 average bag over OW	10.4 average bag over OW
14.0% hunters reached bag limit on Saturday	18.5% of hunters reached bag limit on Saturday
Hunter satisfaction - 72% very satisfied	Hunter satisfaction - 77% very satisfied

Despite a lower opening weekend bag limit this year and a significantly lower average harvest, hunters were equally satisfied as they were in 2017. Council should be confident that the reduced bag limit did not affect the opening weekend satisfaction of the average Southland hunter.

Spawning surveys

Salmon spawning surveys could not be completed this year due to high flows immediately prior to when the spawning survey was scheduled.

Pressure sensitive fisheries

Monitoring of angler use of the upper Oreti has continued and our study is now complete. A full summary of the results will be provided during the meeting.

Results from our study on the upper Oreti were shared at the South Island staff conference and staff from the Fish & Game national office have requested that we produce an instructional document which outlines methods which can be used to help regions monitor angler use of their pressure sensitive fisheries.

Jack Kos from the Wellington office is enthusiastically engaged in the background work on pressure sensitive fisheries models that may be appropriately developed for New Zealand. Jack is ideally placed as an experienced backcountry angler, who has also fished some of the northern hemisphere rivers where alternate systems have been developed. Fortunately, Jack is an internal resource, so his involvement will reduce the costs associated with this work. It has also enabled a start to the work before the next financial year, when our Council (& Otago & Nelson/Marlborough) had budgeted for the project.

Trout ecosystem requirements

The results from our Otapiri Stream study were accepted for publication by the NZ Journal of Natural Sciences. The amended version has been sent to the editors.

Predator studies

The results from our stoat diet study have been submitted to the New Zealand Journal of Zoology.

Put and Take Fisheries

Te Anau Events have confirmed that they wish to have us rear and release salmon for the Labour Weekend TAKF event. To date (and for the foreseeable future) we have incurred no cost for food for the fish being raised.

Sanfords, who donated the salmon as smolt, also donated food. Whilst there have been no external costs the daily time commitment is not insignificant.

1200 Habitat Protection/ Management

Proposed Southland Water and Land Plan

Time tabling directions have been issued by the Environment Court in order to progress Topic A matters on appeals against the Proposed Southland Water and Land Plan ('the Proposed Plan') to a hearing, which will commence on Tuesday, 4 June 2019 and is scheduled to run continuously until Tuesday, 18 June 2019. Topic A matters broadly cover the state of the environment, including in relation to ecological health and ground / surface water quality, and overarching policies and objectives, which

create the framework for subsequent rules in the Proposed Plan. Specific rules, including discharge and land use rules, will be dealt with in Topic B.

The following evidence-in-chief on behalf of Fish & Game was filed for Branch A in mid-February 2019 in support of its originating notice of appeal:

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

In addition:

1. Professor Russell Death participated on behalf of Fish & Game in expert conferencing between expert witnesses with respect to freshwater quality and eco-system health, which was convened in Invercargill in mid-April 2019. In response, a joint witness statement was issued outlining areas of agreement and disagreement between expert witnesses regarding freshwater quality, including lake and estuarine health, and eco-system health; and
2. Additional rebuttal evidence by Ben Farrell in relation to planning issues was filed on behalf of Fish & Game.

Reading the evidence and supporting our case has required a significant amount of time. For example, there is now some 2000 pages of evidence in the case. Without going into too much detail given it is before the Court, we are happy with how the case is progressing.

Resource consents

A resource consent application for the construction of rock groynes at two sites on the Upukerora River, upstream and downstream of SH94, has been reviewed. Staff have needed to spend more time on this than desired. It is their view that the consultant-prepared application is both lacking in detail regarding impacts on river dynamics and was, in some parts, inaccurate. Rock groynes may be the best option for the issues needing to be addressed. However there is the concern that they are a continuation of piecemeal river works that have been undertaken in these reaches of the river for a number of decades. The reality is that the issues of bed level degradation upstream of SH94 is directly linked with the problems of accelerated deposition downstream.



Upukerora River upstream of SH94: bed degradation & confinement and lateral erosion.



Upukerora River downstream of SH94: floodway elevation, meander confinement and lateral pressure on erodible bank.

Consent applications (April – May 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.	Real Journeys Ltd – Application to undertake activities associated with Tawera slipway on Lake Te Anau foreshore.	ES Catchment Management Division – Application to install and maintain groyne structures at two locations in the lower Upukerora River bed	SDC – Application to discharge treated wastewater from Te Anau wastewater treatment plant into land at North Kepler and contaminants to air	Sinclair Contracting Ltd – Application for consent (5 years duration) to extract up to 10,000m ³ of gravel from the Lower Mataura River bed
			Greenbriar Ltd – Application to discharge treated coal ash into land at New Vale mine site (Waimumu) and contaminants to air	S & J Pike – Application for consent (10 years duration) to extract up to 10,000m ³ of gravel from the Mid Mataura River bed

Wetland surveys

Theo White, Makarewa – wetland design and planting advice

Periphyton surveys and flushing flows

No further lower Waiau/Mararoa periphyton surveys have been completed since March 14 due to high river flows. The period for these surveys has now passed for this season.

NIWA is looking to begin preparations for a trial to assess the effect of dewatering exposure on didymo. The trial itself would at one site on the lower Waiau and begin later this year with Fish and Game undertaking the actual field work.

1300 Participation

Facebook

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

R3

Laura Douglas of Real Country based out of Kingston has started running some ladies only clay target shooting and duck hunting workshops. Sixteen ladies attended the first workshop in May, and there is another workshop pencilled in for June 8th and 9th. Erin will tag along for this weekend and help out where needed. Additionally, Hunting and Fishing has donated a duck caller for a lucky lady, and Beretta New Zealand is lending some shotguns.

Fish in Schools

Fish in Schools 2019 is now underway. Classes received their salmon eggs on the 10th of June. This year, fifteen schools are involved: James Hargest Senior Campus, Windsor North, Enrich School, Dipton School, Waiau Area School, Otatara School, Limehills School, Menzies College, Gorge Road Primary, Longford Intermediate, Edendale Primary School, Garston Primary, Gore High and Woodlands Primary.

1400 Public Interface

Communication with hunters

Erin spoke at the H & J duck hunters' night and Zane spoke at the duck hunters' night for Hunting & Fishing.

Communication with farmers

Farm Environment Awards

Landcorp/Pamu Kepler Farm, Manapouri was the Regional Supreme Award winner of the 2019 Ballance Farm Environment Awards. A large, well-attended farm tour field day was held on May 9. Throughout the day manager Travis Leslie made a number of references to the valuable input Fish and Game had made to wetland creation on the farm.

Media

In the lead up to Opening staff were featured on several radio stations: MoreFM, Hokonui with Luke Howden and The Hits.

Staff have produced content for the fish edition of the Fish and Game magazine. During the South Island staff conference, the new magazine producers gave a talk on magazine formatting and advice on article style. There has been a shift in the focus of content and article length. We are now going to focus on several shorter articles with more focus on fishing advice. The reasoning for the shift in focus is (1) ease of reading and (2) upskilling licence holders with the aim of increased retention.

Predator free 2050

Staff have continued their involvement with local initiatives towards predator free 2050, attending meetings.

Communication Other Regions

Staff attended a three-day South Island staff conference out of the North Canterbury office. Cohen talked on our pressure sensitive Upper Oreti study, Erin on using trail cameras to monitor mallard brood use of ponds, and Jacob on prosecutions and diversion. We heard from other regional staff on various issues and how they dealt with them, Steve Dougherty on R3 initiatives. The third day was dedicated to public awareness. This involved discussion with the new magazine editors and social media experts. Perhaps the clearest message of the day was that Fish & Game stories occur in the regions, that regions need to contribute to or develop national communication opportunities and that to do this best a new broad communications strategy is required. Martin Taylor acknowledged that that had been identified and was being initiated the following week.

1500 Compliance

Compliance

All field staff and the manager were actively ranging on Opening Weekend.

Weather conditions with a bit of wind were generally much more conducive to hunting than the typical bright, clear and still days we seem to have had to endure on most openings.

Grey teal appeared to be more prevalent in some areas and it was pleasing find hunters clearly identifying them and finding none shot.

Staff operated in teams of two, with a Police officer making up the pair in two of the teams. This joint approach with the police has been used for over a decade now and staff are pleased with the results achieved. In particular it has helped us spread messages around the use of alcohol and it seems that this culture has changed significantly, with only one incident of a hunter found to be intoxicated. Both police officers reported that they were pleasantly surprised with the lack of alcohol consumption observed, compared to what they anticipated.

One pond in particular (HWL & no firearms licence with inappropriate conduct) that Cohen visited with a constable will result in compliance action from both agencies.

Areas covered were Northern Southland, Waimumu – Waitane, Hokonui – Dunsdale, southern Catlins and Lilburn Valley. Getting to some ponds away from roads may take up more time than anticipated, reducing the number of ponds visited. However, getting to a proportion of these more difficult to access ponds does pay dividends, particularly in reducing licence buying complacency and does lift the recorded HWL percentage.

We contacted a total of 134 active hunters at 57 sites (ponds, rivers, lakes).

HWL: 10

HWL and lead: 2

Owner occupier children (2) hunting without licence: 1

False Information: 1

Bird shot not in flight: 1

The police have now conveyed their view that if you are convicted for hunting without a licence (or other offences such as shooting protected wildlife) then you should be considered to have failed to maintain your status as a fit and proper person, and as a consequence your firearms licence may be revoked. This approach has been used in other regions and is certainly something that we will publicise in the lead up to next hunting season as it will reinforce the significance of such a conviction and therefore hopefully improve compliance.

Prosecutions

Prosecutions were concluded against 2 persons in the Invercargill District Court with respect to angling offences. The majority of prosecutions have also been initiated for Gamebird offences, with most resolved via diversion.

1800 Planning/Reporting

Staff Scholarship

Erin applied for and has been granted a staff scholarship to attend the 8th North American Duck Symposium in Winnipeg, Canada on August 26-30th 2019. It is known as North America's most prestigious waterfowl conference and only runs every third year. She is hoping to present a poster on the research completed in 2015 using game cameras to detect brood use of wetlands. She expects it to be a great opportunity for professional development, networking and to bring back knowledge gained from North American counterparts that can be applied to our NZ game bird management system and hunting fraternity.