CENTRAL SOUTH ISLAND REGION

Future Management of the Upper Ahuriri Fishery

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1. Summary

The upper Ahuriri River possesses many of the characteristics commonly associated with a Pressure Sensitive Fishery (PSF) under the National Pressure Sensitive Fishery Policy (NPSFP), including a semi-remote setting, high scenic values, clear water, and a high-quality sight-fishing experience. The Central South Island Fish & Game Council (CSIFGC) has periodically undertaken investigations into the upper Ahuriri River fishery over the past decade in response to concerns regarding angling pressure and its potential effects on the quality of the angling experience (Refer to Appendices A). Initial investigations undertaken during the 2016/17 fishing season found little evidence that angling pressure was adversely affecting the fishing experience and, consequently, no management intervention was considered necessary at that time. However, increasing concerns regarding crowding, angler interactions, and perceived displacement during recent seasons prompted a renewed PSF investigation in 2024. This investigation identified significant information gaps relating to angler use, displacement, satisfaction, and support for potential management interventions. In response, a series of additional investigations were undertaken, including an online survey at the end of the 2024/25 fishing season to assess angler displacement and support for potential management tools, followed by an on-river angler use and satisfaction survey during the 2025/26 fishing season.

The displacement survey found that while crowding was influencing the behaviour of some anglers, its overall effect on the wider angler population was currently limited. However, approximately 22% of anglers reported some form of displacement due to crowding, and support for management interventions was mixed, with moderate support for a voluntary beat system but lower support for more restrictive management tools. The on-river angler use and satisfaction survey found that the fishery provided a moderate to high-quality angling experience overall, with 78% of anglers reporting satisfaction. However, the January–February peak season was characterised by an influx of non-resident anglers, who comprised approximately 65% of total angler use during this period. This increase in non-resident use was associated with higher angler encounter rates, increased competition for preferred fishing sections, and a decline in angler satisfaction to 65% in January and 73% in February.

The findings of these investigations were subsequently reviewed through a structured CSIFGC workshop process undertaken during June 2026. The first workshop focused on reviewing and discussing the findings to ensure a shared understanding of the results. The second workshop focused on evaluating the available PSF management tools, their respective advantages and disadvantages, and considering a range of potential fishery goals and associated management pathways. Through this process, CSIFGC explored the implications of different management approaches for the future management of the fishery.

The purpose of this paper is to present the outcomes of the workshop process and to provide CSIFGC with the opportunity to formally adopt a fishery goal and associated management approach for the upper Ahuriri River fishery. Four potential fishery goals are presented for consideration. For each goal a corresponding staff-recommended management approach is provided as the first step towards achieving that goal.

2. Available PSF Management Tools

2.1 Voluntary beat system

2.1.1 What is a beat system and how does it work?

Beat systems were originally introduced in response to increasing angler conflict and are designed to reduce angler encounters by encouraging anglers to spread out across a fishery. Beats are designated river sections marked for fishing, with anglers signalling their intent to fish a beat by parking at designated spots. Each beat features its own signpost and associated car park. When an angler parks at their chosen beat, they may fish within the boundaries of that beat. The presence of a vehicle at a beat sign indicates to other anglers which beats are occupied. Participation in the beat system is voluntary and relies on angler etiquette and cooperation, with anglers expected to respect occupied beats and avoid fishing sections already in use.

2.1.2 Licence revenue and implementation costs?

A voluntary beat system is not expected to affect licence revenue, as it does not restrict access to the fishery or alter existing licence requirements. Implementation costs are expected to be low to moderate and would primarily relate to signage.

2.1.3 Resourcing hours

The estimated staff resourcing requirements associated with implementing a voluntary beat system are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Estimated staff resourcing requirements associated with implementing a voluntary beat system on the upper Ahuriri River.

Activity	**First season (hours)**	**Subsequent seasons (hours/year)**
Beat design, signage, implementation	100	30
Field monitoring	192	0
Data analysis and reporting	60	0
Total	**352**	**30**

2.1.4 What fisheries are they best suited for?

1. Highly accessible PSF with vehicle access.
2. Fisheries with multiple vehicle access points spread along the length of a fishery.

2.1.5 What are potential benefits and risks of a beat system on the upper Ahuriri River?

Potential benefits:

- Likely to reduce angler encounters.
- Likely to increase angler satisfaction.
- Minimal restrictions on angling freedom.
- Establishes expectations for appropriate fishing etiquette.

Potential Risks:

- Will not control angler crowding.
- Will not specifically reduce non-resident use relative to resident use.
- Effectiveness may be limited if voluntary uptake is low, potentially resulting in angler encounters remaining similar to current levels.
- May increase competition for preferred fishing sections, with some anglers arriving early or camping overnight to secure access.
- Limited vehicle access to some upper river sections may reduce practicality, with anglers potentially parking elsewhere and walking into upstream beats.
- Birchwood Road is commonly used by hunters, trampers, and campers, who may park at river access points where beat signage is located, creating uncertainty as to whether a beat is occupied by an angler.
- May create higher expectations of solitude or no angler encounters, potentially reducing satisfaction if expectations are not met.
- High initial resource requirements, particularly during implementation, including consultation with landowners, anglers and other stakeholders, determining beat boundaries and access points, installing signage, communicating the system to anglers, and monitoring performance during the first year through a field survey to determine whether it is achieving the desired outcome.

2.2 Designated Waters Licence

2.2.1 What is a Designated Waters Licence and how does it work?

Designated Waters licensing was introduced to reduce and redistribute non-resident angler use while increasing opportunities for resident anglers on PSF. Fishing a Designated Water requires the purchase of an additional licence. Resident anglers must purchase a $5 licence in addition to holding a whole-season licence, while non-resident anglers must hold a whole-season licence and purchase a $40 day licence for each day fished. Non-resident use is limited to a maximum of five days per Fish & Game region each season.

2.2.2 Licence revenue and implementation costs?

Licence revenue impact is unknown. Furthermore, as Designated Waters is an established national Fish & Game programme, implementation costs are expected to be relatively low, with no requirement to develop new licencing or administrative systems.

2.2.3 Resourcing hours?

The estimated staff resourcing requirements associated with implementing a Designated Waters Licence are outlined in Table 2.

Table 2: Estimated annual staff resourcing requirements associated with implementing a Designated Waters Licence on the upper Ahuriri River.

Activity	**First seasons (hours)**	**Subsequent seasons (hours/year)**
Field and/or online survey	232 (both surveys)	8 (online only)
Compliance monitoring / administration	130	174
Data analysis and reporting	120	60
Total	**482**	**242**

2.2.4 What fisheries are they best suited for?

1. Fisheries with disproportionately high levels of non-resident angler use.

2.2.5 What are potential benefits and risks of a Designated Water on the upper Ahuriri River?

Potential Benefits:

- Will reduce non-resident use.
- Likely to displace proportionally fewer resident anglers than non-resident anglers.
- Likely to reduce displacement of some resident anglers.
- Likely to reduce angler encounters.
- Likely to increase peak-season satisfaction.
- Provides database for low-cost online surveys.

Potential Risks:

- Restrictive management may discourage some casual or opportunistic anglers, potentially shifting participation toward more highly motivated anglers, such as dedicated fly anglers or guided anglers.

- Additional licence requirement increases complexity and may reduce spontaneity of angling trips.

- May displace some resident anglers.

- May create higher expectations of solitude or no angler encounters, potentially reducing satisfaction if expectations are not met.

- High initial monitoring requirements, including a field and online survey during the first year to evaluate the management response. Thereafter, ongoing annual compliance and online surveys would be required.

- Birchwood Road has no internet coverage, meaning anglers would likely purchase licences prior to travelling up the road given the distance involved. Consequently, anglers may arrive to find that all access points are already occupied, or that river conditions are unsuitable for fishing (e.g., high or turbid flows), potentially resulting in frustration and reduced satisfaction.

- A Designated Water Licence must operate across the entire fishing season, meaning it would influence angler use outside the peak period, even though crowding issues are largely confined to January–February.

- Eligibility is restricted to whole-season licence holders, excluding anglers who fish on day licences and short- or long-break licences.

2.3 Controlled Fishery Licence

2.3.1 What is a Controlled Fishery Licence and how does it work?

Controlled fisheries were introduced to manage angling pressure and preserve a high-quality angling experience. They achieve this by regulating the maximum number of anglers permitted to fish a particular stretch of water at any one time. Controlled-period licences are issued to whole-season licence holders by Fish & Game regions through either a booking or ballot (lottery) system. At some controlled fisheries, river beats must be booked online, typically up to five days in advance. Only one party may book a beat on any given day, with booking conditions specifying the permitted number of anglers and licence holders. Alternatively, a ballot system may be used to allocate a limited number of controlled-period licences, such as the upper Ōhau River. Under this system, anglers enter a ballot for the opportunity to receive a licence, with successful applicants granted permission to fish on specified days during the controlled season.

2.3.2 Licence revenue and implementation costs?

A Controlled Fishery Licence is not expected to affect licence revenue. However, implementation costs are expected to be moderate due to the initial establishment of an online booking or ballot system. Ballot systems, such as that for the Ōhau River Controlled Fishery are run at no external financial cost.

2.3.3 Resourcing hours?

The estimated staff resourcing requirements associated with implementing a Controlled Fishery Licence are outlined in Table 3.

Table 3: Estimated annual staff resourcing requirements associated with implementing a Controlled Fishery Licence on the upper Ahuriri River.

Activity	**First season (hours)**	**Subsequent seasons (hours/year)**
Establishing/running booking or ballot system	16 booking / 80 ballot	0 booking / 40 ballot
Online survey design	40	8
Issuing controlled licences	0 booking / 40 ballot	0 booking / 40 ballot
Compliance monitoring / administration	130	130
Data analysis and reporting	60	60
Total	**246 booking / 350 ballot**	**198 booking / 278 ballot**

2.3.4 What fisheries are they best suited for?

1. Remote PSF that require significant effort/expense to access.
2. Fisheries with significant competition for access usually due to novel fishery characteristics (e.g., trophy trout).

2.3.5 What are potential benefits and risks of a Controlled Fishery on the upper Ahuriri River?

Potential Benefits:

- Will reduce encounters / crowding.
- Likely to increase satisfaction.
- No additional cost for anglers.
- Equal access opportunity for all anglers through ballot.
- Potential to control levels of non-resident use (although this approach has not been tested by another Fish & Game region).

- Option to schedule rest days aiming to reduce fishing pressure, potentially making fish less wary and easier to catch.

- Can be applied during specific parts of the season, such as peak periods of crowding (e.g., January–February), rather than imposing restrictions across the entire season.

Potential Risks:

- Restrictive management may discourage some casual or opportunistic anglers, potentially shifting participation toward more highly motivated anglers, such as dedicated fly anglers or guided anglers.

- Additional licence requirement increases complexity and may reduce spontaneity of angling trips.

- May displace some resident anglers.

- May create higher expectations of solitude or no angler encounters, potentially reducing satisfaction if expectations are not met.

- Moderate resourcing and administrative requirements, including establishing an online booking or ballot system for the upper Ahuriri River, issuing controlled-period licences, undertaking an online survey during the first year, and ongoing annual online surveys and compliance monitoring thereafter.

- An online booking system may not provide all anglers with an equal opportunity to obtain preferred fishing dates, as bookings are generally secured on a first-come, first-served basis.

- Eligibility is restricted to whole-season licence holders, excluding anglers who fish on day licences and short- or long-break licences.

3. Policy and Regulation Considerations

The selection and implementation of management tools for the upper Ahuriri River fishery should align with the NPSFP and, where required, proceed through the statutory approval process before implementation.

Unlike a voluntary beat system, which can be implemented administratively by the CSIFGC, the introduction of a Designated Waters Licence or Controlled Fishery Licence requires approval by the New Zealand Fish & Game Council before being recommended to the Minister for Hunting and Fishing for final sign off. Consequently, any proposal should be supported by evidence that clearly demonstrate how it meets the criteria outlined in the NPSFP.

The NPSFP is currently undergoing review. However, while some amendments to the policy framework are anticipated, the overarching principles of the policy are expected to remain largely unchanged. Importantly, the revised policy provides considerably greater guidance on the evidence and justification required to support the implementation of PSF management tools, including voluntary beat systems, Designated Waters Licence, and Controlled Fishery Licence. Although the specific evidence requirements vary between management approaches, they consistently require Fish & Game Councils to collect evidence from the fishery in its existing state to demonstrate that a management issue exists, justify why management intervention is necessary, demonstrate that the proposed management approach is appropriate, and show that anglers and other relevant stakeholders have been appropriately consulted. Across the three management tools, the revised policy identifies several common evidence requirements, including assessments of angler satisfaction, perceptions of crowding and competition, angler displacement, fishery characteristics, angler use and occupancy and consultation with anglers and affected stakeholders. For Designated Waters management, additional evidence is required to demonstrate that non-resident angler use is disproportionately high relative to resident use.

The recent investigations undertaken on the upper Ahuriri River have been specifically designed to establish a comprehensive baseline assessment of the fishery under its current open access state. The 2024/25 Angler Displacement Survey quantified impacts of crowding on angler behaviour, temporal and spatial displacement and support for management approaches. The 2025/26 Angler Use and Satisfaction Survey quantified angler use, angler encounters, occupancy, angler origin assessments and satisfaction. Collectively, these investigations provide the evidence required to determine whether management intervention is justified and to evaluate the suitability of a voluntary beat system, Designated Waters licence or Controlled Fishery licence under the proposed and existing NPSFP framework.

Based on the evidence collected, the upper Ahuriri River likely satisfies the principal evidence requirements for consideration of PSF management under both the existing and proposed NPSFP. Specifically, the investigations demonstrated that peak season angling pressure is adversely affecting the angling experience through increased angler encounters and poor angling etiquette, while non-resident angler use during this period is disproportionately high, resulting in the displacement of resident anglers. Collectively, these findings are likely to provide sufficient evidence to support consideration of a Designated Waters Licence or Controlled Fishery Licence under both the existing and proposed NPSFP. Whether management intervention is ultimately pursued, remains a decision for CSIFGC, taking into account the desired management objectives for the fishery and the characteristics of the upper Ahuriri River.

The revised NPSFP states that there should be broad levels of angler support before implementing more restrictive management approaches such as Designated Waters Licence and Controlled Fishery Licence. The 2024/25 Displacement Survey identified only low to moderate support for restrictive management tools, with restrictive management approaches receiving limited support from non-resident anglers. This presents a risk to CSIFGC, as it may be more difficult to demonstrate that the policy expectation for broad angler support has been met should either management approach be progressed. However, this finding should also be interpreted alongside the management objective. For example, where the purpose of a Designated Waters Licence is to reduce disproportionately high non-resident angler use, lower levels of support amongst non-resident anglers may indicate that the management tool is likely to influence the behaviour it is intended to change. While this does not replace the need to

demonstrate broad stakeholder support, it does provide additional context when considering whether restrictive management tools are likely to achieve their intended management outcomes.

CSIFGC should also be aware that, should a Designated Waters or Controlled Fishery be selected as the preferred management approach, implementation could not occur until the next Anglers Notice review process next year. Consequently, if CSIFGC elects to pursue either of these management tools, the earliest implementation date would be the 2027/28 fishing season.

4. Fishery goal setting – Peak Season

Previous investigations identified that angling pressure and reductions in angler satisfaction were largely confined to the January–February peak season. Accordingly, the strategic goals presented below focus on maintaining the desired fishery outcomes during this period. Before selecting management tools, it is first necessary to determine the desired outcomes for the fishery during the peak season. The strategic goal selected by CSIFGC will determine the most appropriate management approach. The proposed goals represent a spectrum of management philosophies, ranging from maintaining a highly managed remote-experience fishery with a strong resident focus, through to retaining the current open-access fishery with no restrictions. Each goal reflects a different balance between angling quality, access and opportunity, resident and non-resident participation, and the level of management intervention required.

The following four fishery goals are presented for CSIFGC consideration.

1. Manage the Ahuriri River as a remote-experience fishery characterised by low angler encounters, while ensuring resident anglers comprise at least 50% of use and angler satisfaction is at or above 75% during the peak season.

2. Manage the Ahuriri River as a remote-experience fishery characterised by low angler encounters and angler satisfaction is at or above 75% during the peak season.

3. Maintain a semi-remote angling experience with low to moderate angler encounters and angler satisfaction remains at or above 65% during the peak season.

4. Do not apply a management goal and pressure sensitive fishery management tools to the upper Ahuriri River fishery.

4.1 Goal 1 – Remote Experience: Resident Focus

Manage the upper Ahuriri River as a remote-experience fishery characterised by low angler encounters, while ensuring resident anglers comprise at least 50% of use and angler satisfaction is at or above 75% during the peak season.

4.1.1 Why would this be a fair goal?

- Manages non-resident dominance during the peak season.
- Aims to reduce current displacement of resident anglers.

- Aims to increase the proportion of resident anglers using the fishery.
- Aims to provide a remote experience by decreasing angler encounters.
- Aims to increase satisfaction.

4.1.2 Overall Management Pathway Response

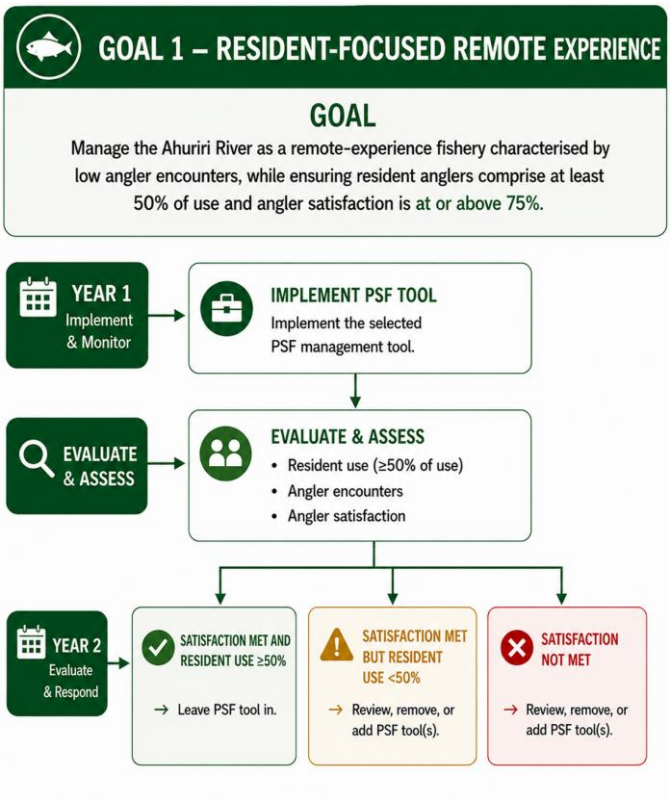


Figure 1: Goal 1 management pathway.

4.2 Goal 2 – Remote Experience

Manage the upper Ahuriri River as a remote-experience fishery characterised by low angler encounters and angler satisfaction is at or above 75% during the peak season.

4.2.1 Why would this be a fair goal?

- Aims to provide a remote experience by decreasing angler encounters.
- Aims to increase satisfaction.
- No discrimination between resident and non-resident anglers.

4.2.2 Overall Management Pathway Response

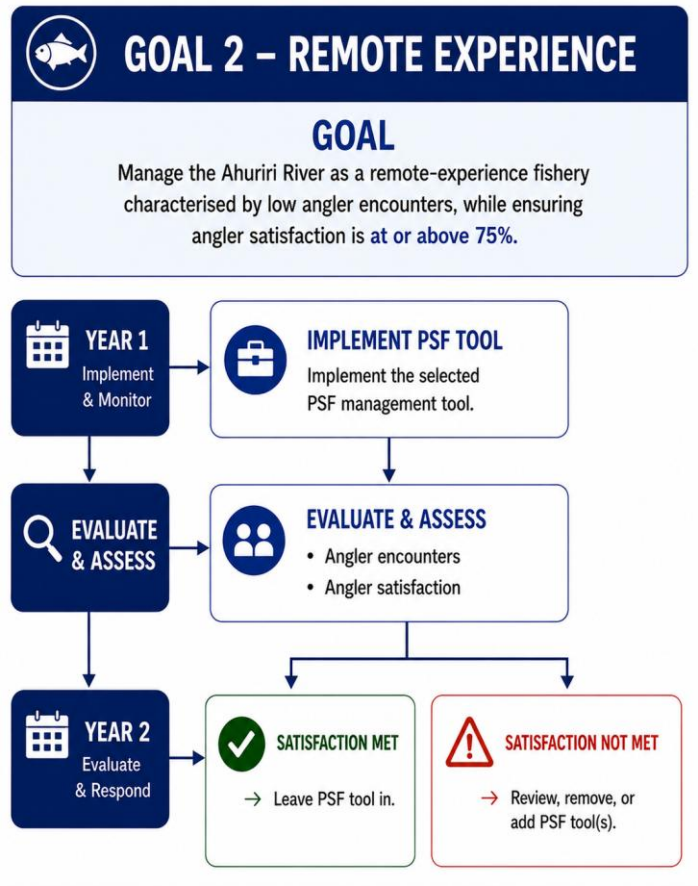


Figure 2: Goal 2 management pathway.

4.3 Goal 3 – Semi Remote Experience

Maintain a semi-remote angling experience with low to moderate angler encounters and angler satisfaction remains at or above 65% during the peak season.

4.3.1 Why would this be a fair goal?

- Recognises the need to monitor for decreasing satisfaction.
- Considers current satisfaction and issues tolerable for peak season.
- Recognises that outside of the peak season there are no appreciable issues.
- Maintains freedom of use of the fishery unless issues deteriorate.
- Recognises management may lead to greater dissatisfaction than current levels.
- No discrimination between resident and non-resident anglers.
- Low resourcing commitment.

4.3.2 Overall Management Pathway Response



Figure 3: Goal 3 management pathway.

4.4 Goal 4 – Status Quo

Do not apply a management goal and pressure sensitive fishery management tools to the upper Ahuriri River fishery.

4.4.1 Why would this be a fair goal?

- Does not consider peak season issues as a priority for active management.
- Recognises that an open fishery / participation model is suitable for the Ahuriri.
- Recognises management tools may lead to greater dissatisfaction than current levels.
- No discrimination between resident and non-resident anglers.
- Low resourcing commitment.

4.4.2 Overall Management Pathway Response



Figure 4: Goal 4 management pathway.

5. Goal Decision

Based on the findings of previous investigations and the outcomes of the upper Ahuriri River PSF workshop process, CSIFGC is requested to determine the future management direction for the upper Ahuriri River fishery.

Select and adopt one of the following fishery goals:

1. Manage the upper Ahuriri River as a remote-experience fishery characterised by low angler encounters, while ensuring resident anglers comprise at least 50% of use and angler satisfaction is at or above 75% during the peak season. **ADOPTED BY CSIFGC 23 JULY 2026**

2. Manage the upper Ahuriri River as a remote-experience fishery characterised by low angler encounters and angler satisfaction is at or above 75% during the peak season.

3. Maintain a semi-remote angling experience with low to moderate angler encounters and angler satisfaction remains at or above 65% during the peak season.

4. Do not apply a management goal and pressure sensitive fishery management tools to the upper Ahuriri River fishery.

6. Management Recommendation

If CSIFGC adopts Goal 1 – Remote Experience: Resident Focus

Option A: Introduce a Designated Waters Licence.
Option B: Introduce a controlled period for peak season.
Option C: Introduce a beat system and Designated Waters Licence.
Option D: Introduce a beat system and controlled period for peak season.

Recommendation – Option C

Implement a voluntary beat system in conjunction with a Designated Waters Licence. The voluntary beat system would be gradually introduced during the 2026/27 fishing season, while staff progress the statutory approvals required for a Designated Waters Licence. Subject to recommendation by the New Zealand Fish and Game Council and the approval Minister for Hunting and Fishing, the Designated Waters Licence would then be implemented for the 2027/28 fishing season. **ADOPTED BY CSIFGC 23 JULY 2026**

Justification: *The 2025/26 Angler Use and Satisfaction Survey found that during January–February peak season the fishery experienced a substantial increase in non-resident angler use, resulting in higher angler encounter rates, increased competition for preferred fishing sections, and a decline in angler satisfaction. The 2024/25 Angler Displacement Survey also demonstrated that resident anglers were more likely than non-resident anglers to avoid fishing the river during this period because of crowding, indicating that disproportionately high non-resident angler use (~65%) during the peak season is compromising the remote, resident-focused experience sought under Goal 1.*

A voluntary beat system firstly addresses the decline in angling experience by establishing clear expectations around appropriate angling etiquette and how anglers share the fishery. By reducing angler encounters, the beat system is expected to improve angler satisfaction. However, while a voluntary beat system is likely to improve the quality of the angling experience, it is unlikely to alter the resident to non-resident ratio during the peak season.

A Designated Waters Licence directly addresses the disproportionately high level of non-resident angler use. Although a Controlled Fishery could also be structured to favour resident anglers, resident anglers would still be required to obtain a controlled-period licence through a booking or ballot system before fishing and may be unable to access the fishery on their preferred day if bookings are full or if they are unsuccessful in the ballot. In comparison, a Designated Waters Licence has no restriction on when resident anglers can fish the river throughout the season, as long as they obtain an additional Designated Waters Licence at a small cost. Essentially, a Designated Waters Licence represents the less restrictive management approach for resident anglers while still achieving the objective of restoring a resident-focused fishery.

Implementing the voluntary beat system during the 2026/27 season also provides an opportunity for anglers to become familiar with the system while the statutory approvals required for a Designated Waters Licence are progressed. The two management tools are complementary, with each addressing a different aspect of the management issues identified. The Designated Waters Licence is expected to restore the resident focus of the fishery by reducing disproportionately high non-resident use during the peak season. By reducing overall peak-season angling pressure, it is also expected to reduce crowding, angler encounters, and competition for preferred fishing sections. The voluntary beat system complements this by establishing clear expectations around appropriate angling etiquette and how anglers share the fishery, further reducing angler encounters. Together, the two management tools are expected to provide greater improvements in the quality of the angling experience than either management tool implemented in isolation, with the Designated Waters Licence reducing overall angling pressure and the voluntary beat system improving how the remaining angling pressure is distributed throughout the fishery.

<u>If CSIFGC adopts Goal 2 – Remote Experience</u>

Option A: Introduce a beat system.
Option B: Introduce a controlled period for peak season.
Option C: Introduce a beat system and controlled period for peak season.

Recommendation – Option A

Implement a voluntary beat system. The beat system would be gradually introduced during the 2026/27 fishing season.

Justification: *The 2025/26 Angler Use and Satisfaction found that higher angler use during the January–February peak season resulted in increased angler encounter rates, increased competition for preferred fishing sections, and a decline in angler satisfaction. The 2024/25 Angler Displacement Survey further demonstrated that the mid-season period was the most commonly avoided due to crowding, indicating that increasing angler encounters are compromising the remote angling experience sought under Goal 2.*

A voluntary beat system directly addresses these issues by establishing clear expectations around appropriate angling etiquette and how anglers share the fishery. By reducing angler encounters, the system is expected to improve angler satisfaction while maintaining unrestricted access to the fishery. The 2024/25 Angler Displacement Survey indicated that a voluntary beat system received the greatest level of support compared with the more restrictive management approaches. While support for a voluntary beat system was not specifically assessed during the 2025/26 Angler Use and Satisfaction Survey, Fish & Game staff received several unsolicited comments from anglers during the field surveys expressing support for its introduction.

Although a Controlled Fishery would also be expected to reduce angler encounters, it would do so by restricting access through a booking or ballot system that limits the number of anglers able to fish the river on any given day. In addition to this direct restriction on access, the 2024/25 Angler Displacement Survey demonstrated that more restrictive management

approaches, such as a Controlled Fishery, would also result in greater behavioural displacement than a voluntary beat system, with more anglers indicating they would fish the upper Ahuriri River less frequently or stop fishing it altogether. Consequently, a Controlled Fishery would reduce angler participation through both direct restrictions on access and behavioural displacement. Considering that angler encounters and angler etiquette, rather than excessive overall angling crowding, were identified as one of the primary drivers of reduced angler satisfaction, this represents a greater level of management intervention than may be necessary to achieve the objective of Goal 2. If monitoring indicates that a voluntary beat system does not achieve low angler encounter rates and at least 75% angler satisfaction, a Controlled Fishery would be justified as the next step in management.

Overall, a voluntary beat system represents the least restrictive management approach capable of improving the remote angling experience sought under Goal 2 while maintaining unrestricted access to the fishery. It also provides CSIFGC with an opportunity to evaluate its effectiveness before considering more restrictive management approaches if monitoring indicates that further management intervention is required.

If CSIFGC adopts Goal 3 – Semi-Remote Experience

Retain the current management approach and undertake an on-river angler use and satisfaction survey every three years. The next survey would be undertaken during the 2028/29 fishing season to assess changes in angler use, encounters and satisfaction.

If CSIFGC adopts Goal 4 – Status Quo

Retain the status quo with no management restrictions or active monitoring programme. CSIFG to continue to document complaints and reported issues, with future management only reconsidered if evidence indicated major issues likely to be decreasing satisfaction below current levels.

Appendices A: Progression of Research and Management Investigations

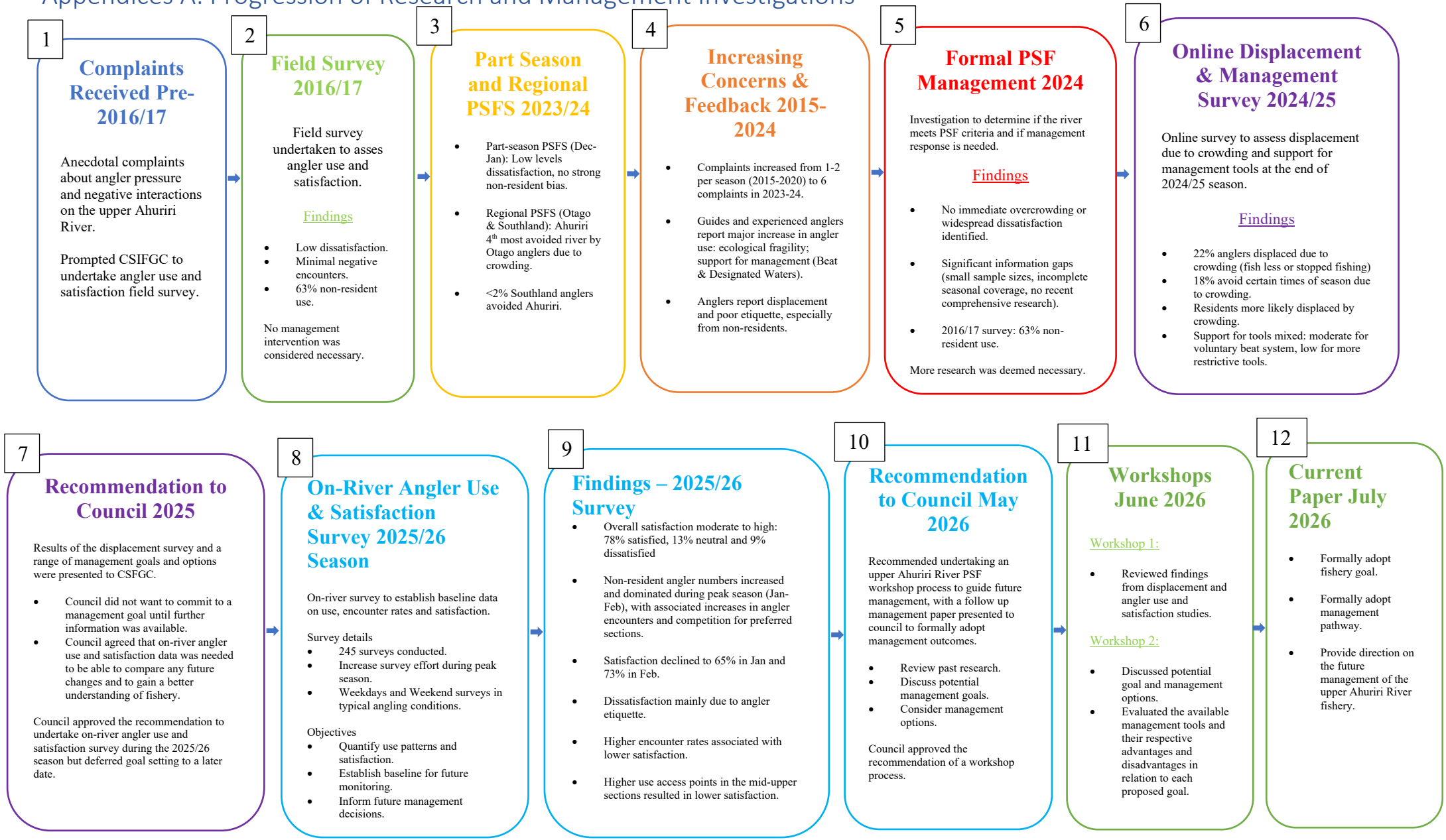


Figure A1: Progression of research and management investigations on the upper Ahuriri River.