

2020/21 JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN – Te Waihora Maimai

Management Report

Work Undertaken by the North Canterbury Fish & Game Council Relating to the Te Waihora Maimai Management Agreement in the 2020/21 Financial Year

Background

The Maimai Management Agreement has been active since September 1997, from which a procedure for managing gamebird hunter maimais was established for Te Waihora. In summary, the agreement requires Fish & Game to locate, register and map all useable maimais on DOC and Ngai Tahu land. Fish & Game are also responsible for removing derelict maimais on Ngai Tahu and DoC land funded by Fish & Game. Fish & Game pay a fee equivalent to 50% of the adult gamebird licence fee for each registered maimai, into a joint management fund administered by the three parties. The joint fund is used to fund projects under the Lake Ellesmere Joint Management Plan (JMP) which is managed by DOC, Ngai Tahu and Fish & Game. Any JMP projects which are undertaken by Fish & Game, staff time may be used to offset cash contributions to the JMP fund.

Removal of derelict maimais began in June 2002 and since then an estimated 6-700 have been removed. Removal began at the Harts Creek mouth and has progressed along to Kaitorete Spit. The derelict maimais are removed using a barged digger towed behind a jet boat. This has proved to be a very successful method, resulting in virtually no adverse environmental effects and has greatly improved aesthetics and safety for lake users in this portion of the lake.

One of the more significant enhancement projects undertaken using joint management funds from the maimai levy, has included the removal of debris encountered during the derelict maimai removal program. It seemed sensible to remove other debris such as tree stumps, posts, derelict maimais on private land in the lakebed and other debris at the same time as the maimais, to further enhance the safety and aesthetics for lake users.

Completed in 2003, was the removal of around 1,000 tyres which had been placed around the mouth of the Halswell River many years ago by local farmers to minimise lake shore erosion. These were no longer effective for minimising erosion and were scattered over a 750m stretch of lakeshore to the west of the Halswell River mouth.

Robert Giltrap contractors were also contracted to fill in vehicle ruts and gravel a track leading out from the stop bank to the east of the Greenpark huts, upgraded the boat ramp at the lake end of this track and created a vehicle and trailer parking area near the boat ramp.

A joint project looking at water quality and riparian fencing was undertaken in the Kaituna, Halswell and L2 rivers by Fish & Game staff and three French students in 2012. The results of

this project give a starting point for the restoration projects on the Kaituna and Halswell rivers.

GM Contractors were used in 2015 to remove willows around the lower Irwell River. Other projects undertaken have been the removal of old car bodies, derelict fences and improving the public access to the lake.

Overall, these projects have proved very successful and have significantly improved many areas of the lake. Public awareness of the management plan process to clean up the lake has also improved, with reports that some hunters have even removed some of the derelict maimais themselves and we have had no negative feedback from lake users. Hopefully this type of end user responsibility continues in the future.

Maimai Removal

Fish & Game staff did not carry out removal of derelict maimais from Te Waihora in the 2020/21 year as there are now very few remaining in the lake. No further maimai removal work is planned.

JMP Projects

No JMP projects were carried out in the 2020/21 year.

Maimai Registration

There were no new maimais registered in the last year. Most licence holders are well aware of their responsibilities with a majority of the maimais on the lake being registered. The usable maimais were GPS mapped in 2012, (map attached) and the number of maimais in the JMP zone remains unchanged from last year, at 167.

This equates to $167 \times (0.5 * \text{Gamebird Licence fee of } \$85.22) = \$ 7,115.65$ JMP money for the last year.

TE WAIHORA MAIMAI MANAGEMENT REPORT End of Year Financial Contributions - August 2021

1.	Internal Expenses for Fish and Game (non-transferring)	
	Fish and Game Staff Time	\$0.00
2.	Joint Management Plan Expenses 2021	
	Fish and Game Staff Time	\$0.00
	Bank Charges	\$0.00
	Lincoln Greenpark Sands Project	\$0.00
		\$0.00
3.	Balance	
	Opening Bank Balance as at 31 August 2020	\$54,403.04
	- Bank Audit Fee	\$30.00
	+ 2020/21 JMP Contribution from Fish and Game	\$7,115.65
	- JMP Expenses for the Year	\$0.00
	TOTAL	\$61,488.69

Steve Terry
Fish & Game Officer
31st August 2021

