

**Agenda For The AGM and Meeting of Otago Fish & Game Council  
On 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022  
At Cromwell Presbyterian Church, 10 Elspeth Street Cromwell  
Starting 11.45am with a light lunch**

<b>Timetable</b>	<b>Council Meeting</b>
11:30am	Meeting of Executive
12:00pm	Light Lunch for Councillors
12:30pm	Welcome by Chair, Council Meeting begins
2:45pm	AGM – Normal meeting adjourns
3:00pm	Afternoon Tea
3:15pm	Meeting Resumes
4:30pm	Meeting closes

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**1.0 Present and Apologies**

**2.0 Matters to be raised not on the agenda**

**3.0 Declarations of Interest**

## 4.0 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

### Minutes of The Meeting of Otago Fish & Game Council

On 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022

At Otago Fish and Game Council office

Cnr Hanover and Harrow Streets, Dunedin

The Chair opened the meeting at 12.30pm and welcomed the New Zealand Fish and Game Council chief executive officer Corina Jordan and Contact Energy representative Boyd Brinsdon.

The Chair thanked Otago councillors and staff for their support while he has been providing governance assistance to the Central South Island Fish and Game Council.

### 1.0 Present and Apologies

**Present:** Colin Weatherall (Chair), Mike Barker, Rick Boyd, John Highton, Adrian McIntyre, Blair Trevathan, Vicky May, Ian Cole

**Present via Zoom:** Richard Twining (Ngai Tahu)

**In attendance:** Ian Hadland (OF&GC CE), Bruce Quirey (Communications officer/minutes secretary), Corina Jordan (NZC CE), Boyd Brinsdon (Contact Energy).

**Apologies:** Ray Grubb

The Chair invited Ms Jordan to speak to the Council.

Ms Jordan thanked the Council for the invitation and reflected on her seven weeks' experience into the role.

She was familiar with Fish and Game having worked previously for the organisation for nine years before working for Beef + Lamb Zealand.

The organisation had a future within New Zealand, she said. New Zealanders had an inherent right to harvest free-range, organic protein to feed their families, she said. The strength of organisation sat within the 12 Fish and Game regional councils.

She then outlined significant challenges Fish and Game needed to lean into, such as public perceptions around hunting and fishing, access to resource, environmental impacts, the organisation's relationship with mana whenua, meeting its treaty obligations under the Act, organisational culture, and legislative changes.

The organisation needed to come together and rebuild its culture as it faced legislative changes and challenges to its social licence to operate.

With the Ministerial Review taking place, Fish and Game needed to consider how it might look in future to protect its brand for licence holders and the wider public, and its role and responsibilities towards mana whenua.

The Chair said the Otago Council was focused on going forward with its operational work plan and strategic plan, as it represented a large part of the country and the national licence income. The Otago Region boundary was not likely to change under proposed adjustments for the organisation, he said.

Ms Jordan took questions from councillors, including the future role of Fish and Game managing sports fish and game bird populations, government parties, the Ministerial Review and unity between regions. Cr Jordan said her approach would be to lead and support the organisation from the ground up and create a culture of transparency and trust.

## **2.0 Matters to be raised not on the agenda**

Cr Highton indicated he wanted to discuss in general business the media coverage on the closure of the salmon hatchery.

## **3.0 Declarations of Interest**

Declarations of interest were tabled. See attachment.

Moved (Chair/Cr McIntyre)

**That there were no more declarations to be added.**

Carried unanimously.

## **4.0 Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

Moved (Cr Highton/Cr Boyd)

**That the minutes of the Council Meeting of Otago Fish & Game Council held on 21st July 2022 be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

Carried unanimously.

Items in the order of business were shifted to facilitate a presentation by Contact Energy representative Boyd Brinsdon.

Moved (Chair/Cr Trevathan)

**That the meeting move into Public Excluded Items to allow negotiations on the proposed Trust Funding agreement to continue with Contact Energy.**

Carried unanimously.

## **8.0 Public Excluded Items**

### **8.6 Contact Energy Trust Deed and Funding agreement update**

Moved (Chair/Cr May)

**The Council agrees in principle to the Contact Energy funding schedule as provided.**

Carried unanimously

### **8.1 Public Excluded minutes of Otago Fish and Game Council meeting held 21st July 2022**

Moved (Cr May/Cr Barker)

**That the public excluded minutes of the meeting on 21st July 2022 be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

Carried unanimously.

**8.2 NIWA Contract for Lakes Acoustic Surveys**

Moved (Cr McIntyre/Cr Highton)

**That the CE be authorised to sign the NIWA contract to undertake the acoustic surveys, associated analysis, and reporting as described in the contract brief.**

Carried unanimously

**8.3 MOU Friends of Bullock Creek**

Moved (Cr May/Cr Barker)

**That Council agrees that the CE may sign the agreement with Friends of Bullock Creek and provide an annual grant of \$2000 towards works on the Hatchery Springs Wetland for the term of the MOU.**

Carried unanimously.

**8.4 Habitat Enhancement Fund Application – Pinders Pond**

It was noted the report should have referred to Perkins Pond, not Pinders.

Moved (Cr May/Chair)

**That the HEF Application for a \$2,000 grant to enhance the wetland at Perkins Pond be approved.**

Carried unanimously

**8.5 Wanaka Hatchery Site Update**

Moved (Cr Cole/Cr Barker)

**That the CE report on the Wanaka hatchery site be received.**

Carried unanimously.

Moved (Cr McIntyre/Cr Barker)

**That the meeting moves out of Public Excluded Items.**

Carried unanimously.

Moved (Chair)

**That Public Excluded decisions for Items 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5 and 8.6 be brought into the public record.**

Carried unanimously.

**5.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes**

None.

**6.0 Health and Safety Report**

Moved (Cr Boyd/Cr Cole)

**That the Health and Safety report be noted.**

Carried unanimously.

## 7.0 Items Requiring Decisions

### 7.1 QEII Covenant of Bullock Creek Hatchery Springs Wetland – Wanaka

The CE talked to the report on the draft QEII Covenant. Cr Highton expressed concern the draft did not specify trout and the order of purpose and objectives. Ngai Tahu representative Richard Twining asked about a tracking system for native seeds and the use of plastic with planting. The CE said plants were locally eco-sourced and the plastic was recycled. Cr Barker asked why the Covenantor would be expected to pay costs under Clause 14. The CE said he would seek legal advice.

Moved (Cr Trevathan/Cr Boyd)

**That, subject to final check by the Council's lawyer and Cr Highton's suggested amendment included, the Chair and CE be authorised to sign the QEII Bullock Creek Hatchery Springs Covenant on behalf of the Council.**

Carried unanimously.

### 7.2 Draft Meeting Schedule 2022-2023

The CE noted a meeting clash and proposed a strategic planning meeting on February 18-19, 2022.

The council meeting proposed for March 23, 2023, was on the Otago Anniversary public holiday.

The July 20 meeting would be shifted from Roxburgh to Tapanui. The CE said several other items would need further discussion, including a potential meeting at Otakou Marae, a joint meeting with Southland Fish and Game Council, and what, if any, policy Council would like to review. The schedule was subject to change and councillors were asked to remain flexible, especially as aspects of the Ministerial Review were implemented.

Moved (Cr Boyd/Cr Trevathan)

**That Council adopt the draft meeting schedule for 2022-2023.**

Carried unanimously.

### 7.3 Offence Guidelines for Otago Region – September 2022

The CE said there were no changes to the proposed Offence Guidelines. The schedule of diversion fees needed to be adopted publicly and it was important to describe how any funds generated would be used. The CE asked the Council to determine if the fees were still relevant.

Moved (Cr Cole/Cr McIntyre)

***That the prosecution guidelines be adopted, and the schedule of diversion payment levels be adjusted upwards by 10 per cent, noting that these have not changed since their first adoption in 2016.***

Carried (7/2)

## 9.0 Financial Report

Councillors asked the CE how the Otago Fish and Game Council financial report compared with other regions. The CE noted regions in the South Island had performed better than the North Island. The Covid lockdown had significantly affected Auckland/Waikato. In response to a councillor query about liabilities, the CE undertook to check and circulate an email.

Councillors sought more detail for Contact Energy mitigation and Take A Kid Fishing to demonstrate benefit to licence holders. The CE undertook to circulate an email on staff hours and expenditure on TAKF.

Moved (Cr McIntyre/Cr Boyd)

**1. That the profit and loss statement provided above be adopted as a draft set of account for Audit.**

**2. That the Financial Report be received.**

Carried unanimously.

The Chair thanked the Administration Officer for her diligence.

## 10.0 Chief Executive's Report

The CE discussed his report, including strategic priorities and species management. Councillors agreed the decreasing shoveler abundance needed to be discussed. Council supported a continuation of the CE having authority to issue Tenkara fishing permits as required. Other topics discussed included the Lower Clutha Sports Fish Management Plan and a road stopping proposal near Clydevale.

The meeting paused at 3.10pm.

The meeting resumed at 3.20pm.

Teviot Angling Club representatives John Preedy and Graeme Rae joined the meeting to be updated on the Contact Energy Trust Deed and Funding agreement. The Chair advised the intention was formalise a trust deed and funding agreement by December 1, 2022. He assured the community would have direct input to the trust. The CE said the Council had agreed today in principle to adopt the Contact Energy funding schedule.

Teviot Angling Club representatives left the meeting at 3.45pm.

The CE resumed his report to Council.

TAKF events had been completed. The licensing system upgrade had gone live, and feedback was being relayed to the software developers to ensure continuous improvement. The Council had appointed David Priest to the Central Otago operations manager position, and he would start in October. Advertising had begun to fill a field officer position in Cromwell, bringing staff levels in Central Otago to three.



Moved (Cr Trevathan/Cr Barker)

**That the Chief Executive's report be received.**

Carried unanimously.

## **11.0 RMA (Resource Management Act) Planning and Consents Report**

The CE spoke to the Environmental Officer's report. Otago Fish and Game Council was preparing to be involved in the planning process for the Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement. Following discussion about Lagorasiphon lake weed, the CE advised the Council probably needed to develop a position on the management of Lagorasiphon.

Moved (Chair/Cr Cole)

**That the RMA Planning and Consents Report be received.**

Carried unanimously.

The Chair asked the CE to write a briefing for the Council to develop a position on Lagorasiphon.

## **12.0 Committee & Delegate Reports**

### **12.1 CFT**

Clutha Fisheries Trust Chair Ian Cole updated the Council on the trust's activities. CFT met on October 27. The trust had contributed \$5,000 to the Donald Scott Memorial Scholarship. CFT had also been asked to contribute funding to the Southern Lakes acoustic surveys. Other discussion topics included galaxiid work in the Nevis, upper Lake Dunstan cycle trail access, willow control, and the need to embrace community involvement in habitat enhancement.

### **12.2 NZC**

The NZC CE mentioned correspondence on a national policy on pressure sensitive fisheries, which would be renamed designated fisheries.

The Otago Fish and Game Council CE said criteria for designated waters needed to be established. Some Otago back country fisheries might not fit the criteria. The OFGC CE would bring a paper to the December meeting, which would be consulted along with the Anglers Notice.

Cr Cole sought clarification on the wording about requirements for non-resident anglers. The CE said they would need a NR (Non Res) full season licence if they want to fish a designated water, then would pay a designated fee per day.

Other points raised by councillors concerned implementation of a guides licence, and how designated fisheries would be integrated with the rest of the fisheries structure.

The Chair departed the meeting at 4.15pm. Cr McIntyre stood in for the Chair. The CE sought and received approval from the Council to write to the NZC that the 2022-23 Annual Budget and Meeting Timetable was appropriate.

### **12.3 Ngai Tahu**

Ngai Tahu representative Mr Twining gave a brief report concerning the Mataura River project and offered a manuscript on customary management of black swan.

The Council wished Mr Twining all the best for a health matter.

### **12.4 Conservation Board**

Nil.

Moved (Chair/Cr May)

**That the Committee and Delegate reports be received.**

Carried unanimously

## **13.0 Correspondence**

### **13.1 NZC to Otago**

#### **13.1.1 Outcomes of the 159<sup>th</sup> NZ Council meeting August 2022**

The CE noted the NZC would be consulting regions about the use of lead in fishing tackle following a submission for its removal.

### **13.2 Otago to NZC**

#### **13.2.1 Feedback on 2022/2023 Licence Fee Recommendations**

### **13.3 General Correspondence In**

#### **13.3.1 Tenkara Method of Fishing Request**

Moved (Cr Cole/Cr Trevathan)

**That the correspondence be noted.**

Carried unanimously.

### **13.4 General Correspondence Out**

Nil.

## **14.0 Items to be Received or Noted**

[Presented in a separate file]

**14.1 Contact Energy Lower Clutha Sports Fish Management Plan**

**14.2 Upper Clutha Catchment Land-locked Salmon Spawning Surveys**

**14.3 Otago Pukeko Monitoring 2022**

**14.4 Macraes Flat Trout Hatchery Stocking Schedule 21/22 Season**

**14.5 Shoveler and Grey Teal Trend Monitoring August 2022****14.6 2022 Game Bird Harvest and Activity****14.7 Compliance Summary Report 2022**

CE invited questions from councillors on reports to be received or noted.

Cr Highton asked if Nenthorn Dam was still being stocked with hatchery-reared fish.

Addressing a question by Cr May, the CE undertook to break down the costs of activities for the Lower Clutha / Mata-au Sports Fish Management Plan. Cr Barker was disappointed about the loss of eDNA samples from the Hunter River. Cr Boyd questioned if farm development related to the loss of salmon populations in tributaries. Cr Highton suggested the Clutha Lagoon would be a potential future project for the Lower Clutha Sports Fish Management Plan. Cr Trevathan queried the wording in the 2022 Game Bird Harvest and Activity Report suggesting the season had been lengthened by two weeks. The CE noted compliance targets had not been met, attributed partly to staff levels down and Covid disruptions. There was also discussion about the casual appointment of Fish and Game advocates over summer, and regarding the survey method for pukeko.

Moved (Cr Cole/Cr Boyd)

**That the reports be noted and received.**

Carried unanimously

**15.0 General Business**

Cr Highton expressed disappointment about what he regarded as adverse publicity for Fish and Game concerning the closure of the Otago Harbour salmon hatchery. The CE said Fish and Game offered to help tag the salmon smolt and that had been declined. Salmon returns to Otago Harbour had been low.

Cr McIntyre, acting for the Chair, thanked councillors and staff.

The meeting was declared closed at 4.45pm.

## **5.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes**

## 6.0 Health and Safety Report

### Health and Safety Report – October - November 2022

#### Covid 19

- Several staff and families have now had covid, some twice.
- As of 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022 the traffic light system in NZ has finished.
- Masks are now a choice except in medical rooms and aged care facilities
- New variants have entered NZ. Staff advised to still isolate and test if symptoms start.
- Rapid Antigen Tests, masks, gloves and sanitizer are still available to all staff.
- Staff agreed to continue relaxed policy at work and meetings

#### Events Requiring OHS Planning

- Safety plan prepared for Soft bait fishing classes at Henley and Wanaka Outlet

#### Otago Fish and Game Council Policy

- Attached is the Otago Fish and Game Council Health and Safety Policy document for annual adoption by Council.

#### OHS Audits

##### Completed audits:

- Boat audits
- Staff training schedule

##### Next audits:

- General Main Hazard List audit
- Final year end audit of audits

#### Incidents/Accidents/Near Misses/New Hazards

- Poolburn- Bumped a submerged rock with the boat at low speed. No damage and no injury. More care to be taken, noted and mapped new water hazard at the lake.
- Vehicles still speeding at TAKF events and ignoring signs and cones – Increase in traffic management and judder bars to be used next year.
- A staff person had a slip in stream while out working. No lasting injury – Use walking poles where possible and take care.

#### General

- Staff continue to discuss intentions systems for field base work. New in out system for the office is now set up.

- Staff were emailed and handed information on mental health for Mental Health Awareness Week. Reminded an 0800 number is available to all staff for confidential chats.

#### Training Completed

- New staff member inducted into Otago Fish and Game
- One staff member attended refresher first aid course
- Fire drill walk out for staff, tenants and others at OF&GC office
- Ranger training in November

#### Recommendations

1. That this report be received
2. Council adopts the 2022/23 Health and Safety Policy

Sharon Milne  
Administration Officer  
November 2022



## **OTAGO FISH AND GAME COUNCIL HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY**

### **Introduction**

The Otago Fish and Game Council (the Council) is a 'person conducting a business or undertaking' (PCBU) in terms of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (HSWA) and associated regulations - Health and Safety at Work (General Risk and Workplace Management) Regulations 2016.

The Council is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy work environment for its workers - staff, councillors, volunteers and other persons (visitors, clients and contractors) in its 'workplace' and to complying with relevant legislation, New Zealand standards and approved codes of practice.

The Council has a 'primary duty of care' or the primary responsibility for the health and safety of workers and others influenced by its work.

### **Scope**

This policy applies to all Otago Fish and Game Council 'workers' and others influenced by its work in any place a worker or other person goes or is likely to be while at work or where work is carried out be it permanent or intermittent.

### **Key elements of the policy**

The Council will comply with the provisions of legislation dealing with health and safety in the workplace, by:

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

### **Liability and personal liability**

The Council, its chief executive (CE) and staff are responsible for implementing health and safety policy. Councillors and the CE are 'officers' in terms of the legislation and while the

Council may be liable, and the CE and workers may be personally liable, for a failure to meet health and safety obligations an individual councillor cannot be prosecuted under the HSWA for failing to comply with his or her duties because they are volunteer officers.

The CE has primary responsibility for implementing this policy including:

- exercising due diligence in accordance with the provisions of the health and safety legislation;
- taking all reasonable steps to protect workers, volunteers and visitors in the workplace from unsafe or unhealthy conditions or practices;
- ensuring there are effective processes to deal with unacceptable behaviour, such as non compliance;
- providing information and training opportunities to workers;
- keeping the Chair and Council fully informed, including reporting at bi-monthly meetings, and advising them of any emergency situations as soon as possible.
- Resourcing Health and Safety appropriately.

### **Everyone is responsible**

All workers (employees, contractors, and volunteer workers) are expected to play their role in maintaining a safe and healthy workplace through:

- being involved in improving health and safety systems at work;
- following instructions, rules, procedures and safe ways of working;
- reporting all injuries, incidents and near misses;
- reporting any pain or discomfort as soon as possible;
- helping new staff members, trainees, volunteers and visitors to the workplace understand the risks and hazards and why they exist;
- reporting any hazards, new hazards or health and safety issues through the reporting system;
- keeping the workplace tidy to minimise the risk of any trips and falls;
- wearing or using protective clothing and equipment when required to minimise exposure to workplace hazards;
- taking reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and of others in the workplace.

**All others** (e.g. visitors) in the workplace must:

- follow all instructions, rules and procedures while in the workplace;
- report all injuries, incidents and near misses to the Chief Executive;
- wear or use protective clothing and equipment as an when required to minimise their exposure to hazards.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Ian Hadland (Chief Executive)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Colin Weatherall (Chairman)

Adopted: 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022



## 7.0 Items Requiring Decisions

### 7.1 Future Treatment of Non Resident Levy Income

#### Purpose

The NZC has prepared a consultation paper on the future treatment of the non resident (NR) levy.

The levy, which is imposed on every whole season and day licence sold to non residents, is currently separated from licence revenue and held in reserves in the region it is earned. NZC have presented a number of options and seek this councils feedback on two fundamental questions;

1. Whether to include the NR levy as general licence income from the 23/24 year onwards.
2. Where the present reserves should remain. Options are for them to remain in regional dedicated reserves or merged to a national pool - either now or in the near future.

#### Levy as income proposal

In its rawest form, the non resident levy is part of a licence and is straight licence income. Now that the need for the levy to be ringfenced specifically for management of backcountry fisheries (or fisheries of interest to non residents) has been removed, it is harder to justify the levy as anything other than revenue, revenue that should be used to support the organisation and to help defray the costs to kiwi licence holders.

If the levy were to be regarded as licence income under the present financial system, the full non resident licence fee would be brought into the budget and become part of total estimated licence sales for the budget process. This would mean that Otago's expected revenue figures will be inflated by levy component. Much of it would be taken via the Levy/grant system for NZC's reallocation of funds around regions.

The only way to return that revenue to the region is by way of contestable funding applications the following year. Under the present system, the NR funds held in reserve in regions can be used and NZC simply 'notified' of the intended expenditure.

#### Financial policy

Management of reserves and allocation of financial resources within the organisation needs a complete overhaul. The present distribution of revenue is inequitable and bigger earning regions like ours (and others in the South Island) are contributing increasing amounts via levies to fund smaller regions and the NZC instead of meeting our own licence holders needs first. Our levies for the current season are \$1,200,082 and our budget is \$1,051,410.

Use of reserves and the treatment of NR levy income should be covered by a wider set of financial policy which should address the use of all reserves and the budget system itself. Managing small aspects of the financial system in an ad hoc way (such as this proposal)

without a sturdy, fit for purpose resource allocation system is undesirable at this time. The system is best left undisturbed until that policy is developed to ensure there isn't any perverse outcomes from tweaking the current arrangement.

It should be noted that proposing to centralise presently held funds to NZC may cause a surge in regional spending from NR reserves which also may not be desirable at this time.

### **Advice on response**

My advice to Council is to

1. Refuse the NR levy becoming part of general income until such time as either;
  - a. There is a full suite of financial policies developed and adopted
  - b. The resource (re)allocation project is completed and a new system is in place
  - c. The amalgamations (if any) are complete.
  
2. With regards to where the present funds should go/remain;
  - a. These should remain in the Region they where earned, noting that some non residents would have purchased in specific regions to support their local F&G council in managing fisheries which are of direct interest to them.

Ian Hadland  
Chief Executive  
22.11.22

**CONSULTATION 2022:09****Future treatment of non-resident levy (inclusion as licence income)**

**To:** Council Chairs  
**CC:** Council Managers/CEO's  
**Prepared by:** Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council  
**Date:** 21 September 2022  
**Comment Due:** 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023

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**Kōrero taunaki - Summary of considerations*****Purpose***

To Consult with Regional Councils on the inclusion of the non-resident levy in total licence income.

**Ngā taunaki - Recommendations**

The NZ Council is consulting with Fish and Game Councils on the following points:

1. Whether to include the non-resident levy as general licence income from the 2023/24 Financial year onwards

Agree/Disagree

*Note: If agreed, it is the intention for the increase in overall income to be used to offset increases to resident licence fees in the future.*

2. Whether existing non-resident reserves should:
  - a) Remain in regional dedicated reserves

Agree/Disagree

- b) Be merged into a National Pool

Agree/Disagree

- c) Be maintained in the Regions for use until 2024/25 then merged into a National Pool.

Agree/Disagree

**Note:**

1. The Minister has noted that the New Zealand Fish and Game Council intends to consult with regional Fish and Game Councils on the inclusion of the non-resident levy as general licence income and has raised no objections. Resultantly this would no longer need to be earmarked for fisheries projects.

## Whakarāpopoto - Executive Summary

- 1 There is presently a levy on the non-resident licence, which is not included as Fish and Game licence income. Instead, it accrues in a dedicated reserve of Regional Council that sells that licence.
- 2 NZC wishes to change this policy so that all revenue from the sale of a non-resident licence becomes licence income for the whole of Fish and Game and is included in the Annual Budget process.

## Takenga mai - Background

- 3 The non-resident levy was introduced in 2014/15.
- 4 The levy amount was the difference between the resident whole season licence and the non-resident licence, less GST & any applicable commission @ 4.5%.
- 5 When it was introduced, it was the Minister's wish that the levy be used for the improvement of back country fisheries management.
- 6 In September 2015 NZC resolved that each region maintain a dedicated fund of the levies collected in their region.
- 7 In 2019/20, The Minister confirmed that the non-resident levy is able to be used for any fisheries management.
- 8 A prior decision of NZC in August 2020 to treat the levy as licence income was made without consultation and was rescinded in February 2021.
- 9 In June 2022, as part of the licence fee setting process, NZC agreed to consult with Regional Councils on bringing the non-resident levy amount into general licence income for the 2023/24 season and onwards.
- 10 At the 158th NZC meeting on 16th June 2022 the NZC  
*Agreed to consult with regions on bringing the non-resident levy amount into general licence income.*
- 11 In the subsequent Licence Fee recommendation to the Minister dated 20 June 2022, the Minister noted that NZC was undertaking consultation on treating the non-resident levy as licence income.

## Kōrerorero - Discussion

- 12 There are 3 distinct areas within the Fish and Game financial system that would be impacted changes to the treatment of non-resident levy income.
  - 12.1 Treatment of non-resident levy income moving forwards:
    - 12.1.1 From the 2023/24 season the levy is included as licence income in the budget and licence fee setting processes. note:

covid impacted overseas licenses and it may take a few years to get a clear indication of LEQ's to budget on).

OR

12.1.2 Status quo continues and the levy stays in the Region that sells the licence.

12.2 Reserves - How does Fish and Game treat the current non-resident reserves held by Regional councils?

12.2.1 All non-resident reserves get transferred to a central pool for Councils to apply to for fisheries management purposes. The balance of non-resident reserves as at 31 August 2023 are transferred to National pool.

OR

12.2.2 Each region maintains the non-resident reserve and works towards spending over the next 3 years (by 2024/25) Any unspent funds at the end of 2024/25 will be transferred to a national pool.

OR

12.2.3 Status quo. Regions retain non-resident reserves and funds accrued in these on an ongoing basis.

12.2.4 As there is no ability to levy reserves, any transfer of reserves to a national pool would be on a voluntary basis. However, this would enable the cost of managing fisheries to be spread across multiple councils and would facilitate national scale projects.

12.2.5 It is proposed that this would function akin to the Legal/RMA fund, whereby NZC would administer the fund on behalf of the organisation and applications would be made to the fund by Councils with the usual review of application undertaken by managers.

12.3 Impact on budget:

12.3.1 Because the non-resident levy is proposed to be included as general licence income, this will mean that there is an increase in the total available funds for distribution between Fish and Game Councils via the levy/grant system.

12.3.2 This increase in licence revenue further facilitates the ability to offset or reduce the resident licence fee, in keeping with the policy basis on which the Minister approved the increase in whole season non-resident licence fee to \$250.

## Ngā kōwhiringa - Options

- 13 The Regional Councils are being consulted on whether they support the recommendations to:
- 13.1 include the non-resident levy as general licence income from the 2023/24 Financial year onwards;
  - 13.2 And for existing non-resident reserves to:
    - 13.2.1 Remain in regional dedicated reserves
    - 13.2.2 Be merged into a National Pool
    - 13.2.3 Be maintained in the Regions for use until 2024/25 then merged into a National Pool.

## Whai whakaaro ki ngā whakataunga - Considerations for decision-making

### Financial Implications

- 14 Income generated from the non-resident levy from 1/9/14 to 31/8/21 total \$1.48m (average \$211k per annum)
- 15 Total spending of this fund over the same period was \$372k.
- 16 The Balance of the non-resident reserve across all Regions as at 31 August 2021 \$1.11m.

Table 1: Summary of Non resident Levy - Back Country Fisheries Reserve

Summary	N/land	Akd/Wai	Eastern	H's Bay	Tara	Well	Nel/ Marl	N/Cant	WC	CSI	Otago	S/Land	Total
TOTAL LEVIES since 1/9/14	16,256	84,690	137,429	59,778	12,794	32,398	164,627	152,325	62,932	200,072	334,934	221,086	1,479,321
TOTAL SPEND to 31/8/21	2,214	-	10,162	-	5,000	-	77,831	105,046	16,802	22,629	67,128	66,099	372,911
Balance	\$24,042	\$84,690	\$127,267	\$59,778	\$7,794	\$32,398	\$86,796	\$47,279	\$46,130	\$177,443	\$267,806	\$154,987	\$1,106,410

17

- 18 The above information identifies that the fund is not being utilised to its full capacity.
- 19 Merging the fund into a single pool will allow better collaboration and the ability to dedicate funds for National projects as well as towards Regionally focussed projects.
- 20 With the non-resident licence having being increased to \$250 (\$87 to the non-resident levy) this fund (held by Regional Councils) is likely to grow significantly if non-residents return to pre-covid numbers.

### Legislative Implications

- 21 See attached the correspondence to/ from the Ministers with regard the use of the non-resident levy.

#### **Section 4 Treaty Responsibilities**

- 22 As this consultation document exclusively pertains to the treatment of non-resident licence income there are no direct s4 responsibilities identified. However, if the proposed changes are adopted and there is an offset in resident licence fees this could support the accessibility of New Zealand's freshwater sports fishery to whānau/hapū.

#### **Consultation**

- 23 This document undertakes consultation with regional Fish and Game Councils.

#### **Ngā mahinga e whai ake nei - Next actions**

- 24 Feedback from Regional Councils due 31 January 2023.
- 25 NZC will then reach a decision having regard to regional feedback.



17 April 2019

Hon Eugenie Sage  
Minister of Conservation  
Private Bag 18041  
Parliament Buildings  
WELLINGTON 6160

Dear Minister

I want to raise with you a change in Fish & Game NZ's handling of non-resident angler licence income.

A non-resident sports fishing licence (NRL) was approved by the Hon Kate Wilkinson, Minister of Conservation on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2012. In this letter the Minister stipulated that the NRL be *"at a cost of 1.3 times the adult whole season fishing licence, with the increased revenue obtained being directed to specific management to improve back country fisheries."*

The NRL was introduced in the 2014 sports fish licences, fees and forms notice and since that date this revenue has been set aside for back country fisheries. In the last completed fishing season (2017/18) there were 6,508 adult NRL's sold with a total additional revenue of \$204,807.

Fish & Game NZ remains concerned about non-resident anglers fishing intensively on our high-quality backcountry fisheries. However, we have come to realise that this demands more than a focus solely on the backcountry as non-residents also fish in our lowland rivers and lakes.

Hence Fish & Game NZ believes there is no value in continuing the ring-fencing of increased revenue obtained from NRL sales. We believe it more pragmatic to spread the full licence fee from non-resident anglers across each Council's budget in exactly the same way we treat other licence income. This will allow each licence to contribute fairly to the overall cost of managing sports fish and game each year.

Yours sincerely

Martin Taylor  
Chief Executive

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

New Zealand Council

Level 2, The Dominion Building, 78 Victoria Street, Wellington 6011. P.O. Box 25-055, Wellington 6146, New Zealand.  
Telephone: (04) 499 4767 Email: nzcouncil@fishandgame.org.nz www.fishandgame.org.nz

**Otago Fish and Game Council Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022**





## Office of Hon Kate Wilkinson

MP for Waimakariri  
 Minister of Conservation  
 Minister of Labour  
 Minister for Food Safety

Associate Minister of Immigration

30  
 K.

29 MAY 2012

Matthew Hall  
 Chairperson  
 New Zealand Fish and Game Council  
 PO Box 13141  
 Wellington 6440

Dear Matthew

In February 2012, I was briefed by the Department of Conservation on a proposal to establish a non-resident (i.e. not a New Zealand resident) sports fishing licence. At this time, I gave instructions to the department to finalise a report summarising submissions, to develop a preferred proposal taking into account submissions received, and to liaise with Fish and Game Councils over the proposal. Subsequent to that briefing, the department and Fish and Game officials have developed a preferred proposal. This proposal takes into account submissions received, and was formulated in consultation with Fish and Game officials. The proposal is that a non-resident sports fishing licence be introduced at a cost of 1.3 times the annual licence. It is also proposed to restrict eligibility for family and winter licences to resident anglers only. Attached to this letter is a more detailed schedule showing the proposed changes to Sports Fishing Licences.

Four regional Fish and Game Councils submitted on the discussion paper to support the introduction of a non-resident sports fishing licence. This specific proposal has not been formally considered by the New Zealand Fish and Game Council, nor any Regional Fish and Game Council. There is no current request from the New Zealand Fish and Game Council to me recommending the establishment of a non-resident sports fishing licence.

I am also interested in the view of your council on any increased revenue being ring-fenced for specific management purposes for the improvement of back country fisheries management, rather than being applied to general advocacy work.

Should you have any questions, please contact Stephen Wynne-Jones [swynneiones@doc.govt.nz](mailto:swynneiones@doc.govt.nz) who will be happy to assist.

Yours sincerely

Hon Kate Wilkinson  
 Minister of Conservation

## Attachment

### **Proposed Changes to Sports Fish Licences to introduce a new Non Resident Sports Fishing Licence**

A non-resident is defined as any person who does not have a permanent residential address in New Zealand  
(Amended text shown as underlined)

The proposed new Sport Fishing licence structure is as follows:

#### **24 Hour licence**

Adult	\$23.00
Junior	\$7.00

#### **Family**

Adult	\$151.00
-------	----------

(available to residents only)

#### **Whole Season**

##### **Resident**

Adult	\$116.00
Junior	\$23.00
Child	No fee

##### Whole Season

##### Non-resident

Adult	\$151.00
-------	----------

#### **Winter**

Adult	\$70.00
Junior	\$14.00

(Available to residents only)

# Hon Eugenie Sage

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Minister of Conservation

Minister for Land Information

Associate Minister for the Environment

Minita mō Te Papa Atawhai

Minita mō Toitū Te Whenua

Minita Tuarua mō Te Taiao



**- 4 NOV 2019**

Mr Martin Taylor

Via email: [mtaylor@fishandgame.org.nz](mailto:mtaylor@fishandgame.org.nz)

Dear Mr Taylor

Thank you for your letter dated 17 April 2019 seeking a change in Fish and Game NZ's handling of non-resident licence income. I note that non-resident licence holders fish in both the front and back country fisheries.

I understand that there is no legal constraint to spending the revenue raised through the non-resident licences in either or both the front and back country fisheries.

I note you are seeking to improve the value of your expenditure, and I look forward to getting further feedback on the financial strength of Fish & Game NZ.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E Sage". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hon. Eugenie Sage

**Minister of Conservation**

## 7.2 Applications for Authorisation to Remove Sportsfish

### Background

The Council has received two separate applications to remove sportsfish from sections of 11 small streams containing threatened non migratory galaxiids (NMG). The full applications and background material has been circulated to you via email.

### Summary of proposed areas for trout removal

Applicant	Waterway	Catchment	Outcome
Otago Regional Council	Thompsons Creek	Manuherekia	Control
Otago Regional Council	Maori Creek	Manuherekia River	Eradication
Otago Regional Council	Pongs Creek	Cardrona River	Eradication
Otago Regional Council	Tyre Gully	Cardrona River	Eradication
Otago Regional Council	Kidds Creek	Upper Clutha River	Eradication
Otago Regional Council	Boundary Creek	Kyeburn River	Eradication
Otago Regional Council	Pisgah Creek	Kyeburn River	Eradication
Otago Regional Council	Johnnie Hore Creek	Kyeburn River	Eradication
Otago Regional Council	Spec Gully	Kyeburn River	Control
Waterways Consulting Ltd	Campbells Creek	Manuherekia River	Control
Waterways Consulting Ltd	Laheys Creek	Manuherekia River	Control

### Scope

As you will have seen, the removal is mostly from short sections of these tributaries and undertaken by electric fishing.

Long term aims for **eradication** are in all cases associated with natural or manmade fish excluding devices to assist with enduring protection.

Areas for **control** do not have such barriers and NMG populations are often 'sandwiched', ie NMG trapped between populations of trout up and downstream. Control is required to alter the species balance in the fishery in favour of galaxiids and/or stop localised extinctions. It is a management response to ensure they remain a viable population in situ while further investigations are undertaken to assess longer term solutions for protection.

### Impacts to sports fishery

The removal of small numbers of often stunted and isolated trout from these small streams is unlikely to have any impact on the angling experience or downstream fishery recruitment. In all cases, the lower reaches of these systems have sufficient spawning and rearing to sustain the sports fishery in the rivers downstream.

### Transfer of removed sportsfish

The options for transferring caught sports fish are limited and may require further permissions. The areas are remote and the stress of the fish does need to be taken into

account. Euthanising has been proposed by both parties in cases where F&G can't be there to collect and transfer to other waters.

### **Fisheries management plans**

The Kyeburn irrigators group is in the process of establishing a fish species management plan. This was part of a side agreement that was made between the irrigators, Aukaha, DoC and F&G when the groups water take consents were being negotiated three years ago. This will be an important consideration as this may propose further removals and the Council has a duty to look at the cumulative effects of such activities at a catchment scale.

Similarly, Moutere Stations' water consent has conditions related to the establishment of a fish species management plan and staff have only been recently provided with this. Staff requested this to check if other tributaries of Chatto Creek are proposed to have trout removals. At this stage they do not.

### **OF&GC Policy**

The **Sportsfish and Gamebird Management Plan** has guidance on the protection of non migratory galaxiids. It prohibits liberations or establishment of new trout fisheries in areas where there are vulnerable galaxiid populations and *also to cooperate with other freshwater fisheries agencies over freshwater fisheries conservation and habitat protection.*

Council also adopted a **Species Interaction Policy** in 2020 which also provides direction and give priority to threatened non migratory. The following sections apply:

*e. Threatened non-migratory galaxias populations are vulnerable and will require more active management than for other species in the catchment, as a priority.*

*f. Species interactions (i.e. predation, competition) which can cause adverse effects for threatened non-migratory galaxias populations are undesirable and may require specific interventions to separate species through exclusion and/or removal, where this is practical to do so.*

*g. Where it is identified sports fish (or other fish) are impacting negatively on threatened non-migratory galaxias species, careful consideration will be given to management responses to improve the security of those indigenous species populations.*

*h. Specific solutions for the management of species interactions will be determined on a case by case basis and agreed by the parties as statutory managers of freshwater species.*

*i. Where it is agreed species should be separated, priority will be given to the construction of permanent fish barriers which will provide reliable, long-term protection for vulnerable fish populations.*

### **Conclusion**

On balance, the proposals will likely have little or no impact on the wider sportsfishery and is in line with the Otago Council's policy. Council could consider providing assistance if staff time is available, if only to salvage captured fish for transfer to approved 'put and take' fisheries.

### **Recommendations**

- That authorisation be given to Waterways Consulting Ltd to remove trout from the sections of Laheys and Campbells creek identified. A 5 year term to be imposed so the project can be reviewed.
- That the ORC be granted and authority to remove sportsfish from the waters described for a term of 5 years, with the exception of the Kyeburn tributaries where the authorisation will have a term of one year, to allow time for the species management plan to be completed.

Ian Hadland  
Chief Executive  
22.11.22

### 7.3 Draft Game Notice 2023 (Gamebird hunting regulations)

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to recommend the draft 2023 Game Gazette Regulations to Council.

#### Changes proposed

The Council generally aims for consistency of regulations between seasons. This, alongside seeking alignment of regulations between regions, seeks to reduce the confusion associated with small one-off changes on an annual basis.

This year's shoveler population trend count is down, with a longer-term downward trend evident. Measures to reduce the shoveler harvest are recommended to address the indicative decline in population.

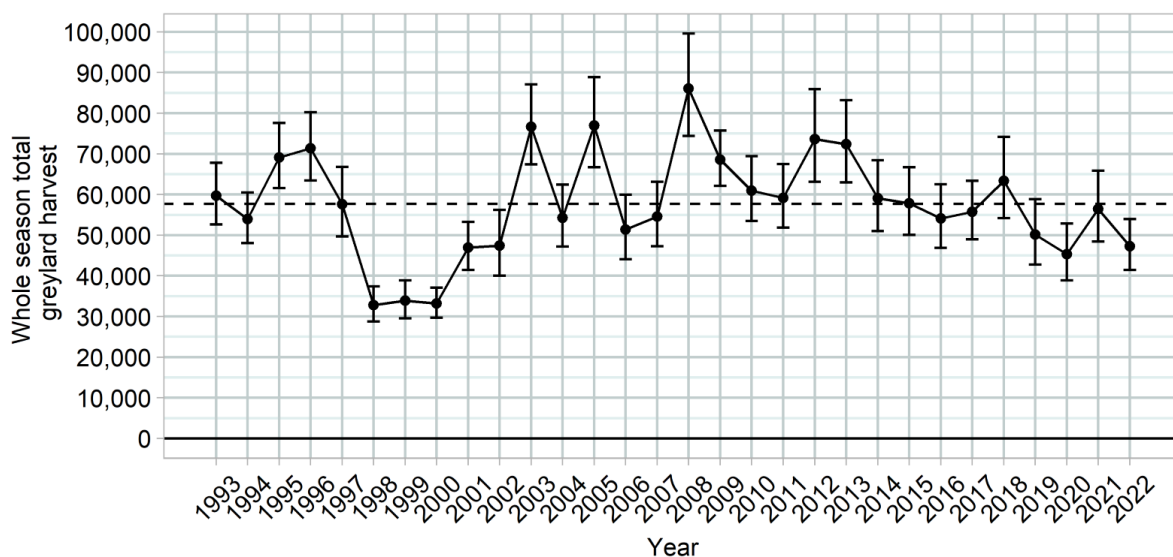
Paradise shelduck limits are subject to the January 2023 moult counts. If the trend figures are high again then it is proposed to increase the daily bag limit.

#### Gamebird Species Monitoring

##### Greylards

Aerial surveys were completed in April 2022 and reported to Councils May 2022 meeting. The trend showed an improvement of around 83% on the previous 2021 greylard survey result while the long-term trend indicates a stable population. Staff observations from this spring point towards an average year for duckling survival for the 2022 breeding season. There are no indications that there is an issue with sustainability of the population.

The greylard harvest for 2022 was 47,300 birds, around 9,000 less than last year's harvest and significantly below the long-term average of 58,000 birds.

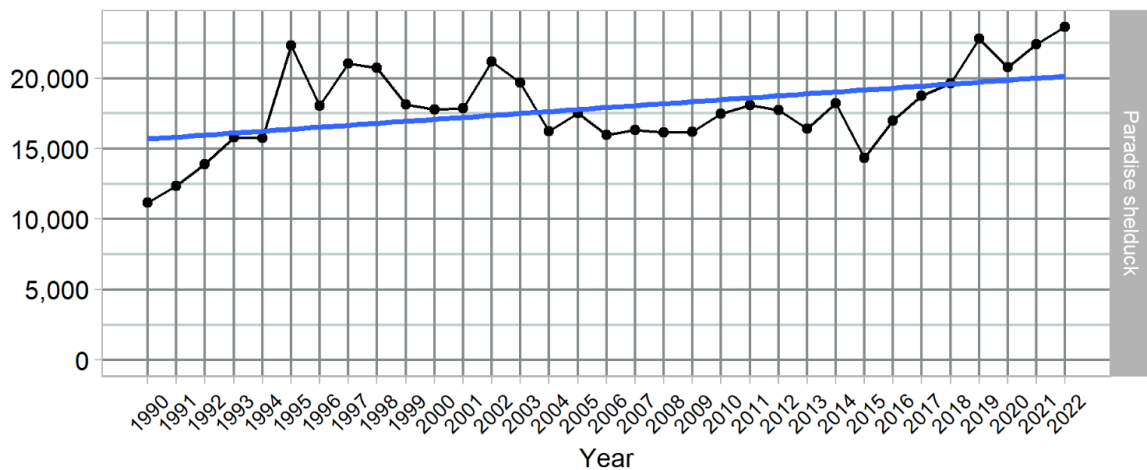


There has been a slight and statistically insignificant downward trend of greylard harvest ( $p=0.27$ ) over the survey period. The average harvest rate of greylards this season was 0.86 birds per hour, below the long-term mean at 0.95. Greylard harvest rates appear to be relatively stable over this period. (J Couper. 220921 Whole Season Game harvest)

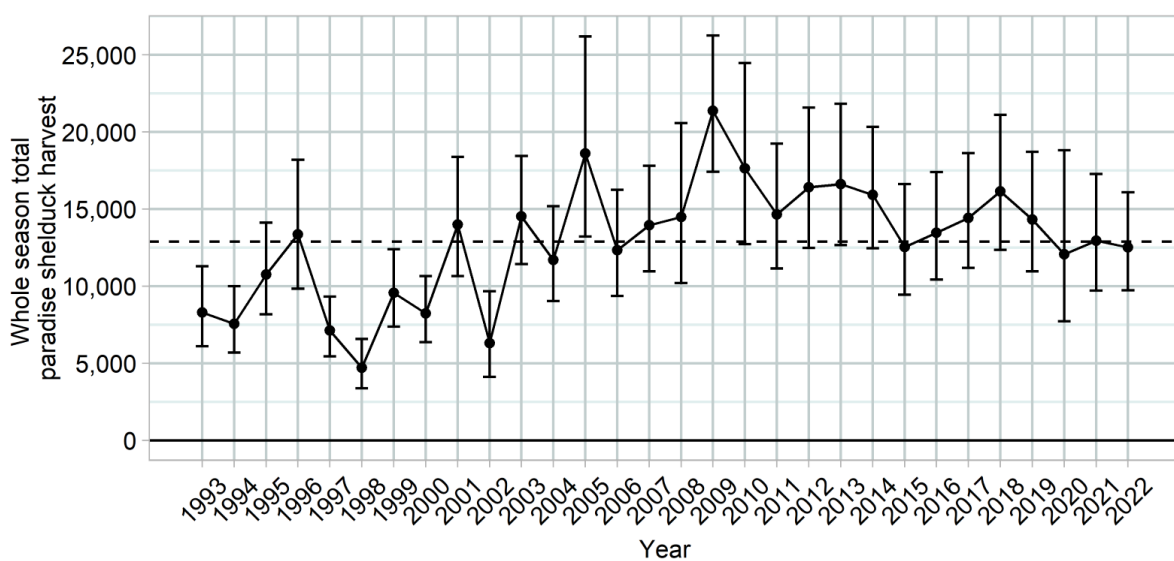
**Paradise Shelduck**

January’s aerial trend counts (reported in March 2022) showed an increase in the Paradise shelduck population from 22425 to 23,660. That result is up on the 2021 count and in line with counts since 2018 indicating a stable population. This is above the long-term range of between 16,000 and 23,000. Paradise Shelduck trend counts will be completed in January 2023 and the final bag limit is usually reconsidered against the population trend. With the 2022 count above 23,000, another year of bird numbers being above the 23,000-bird threshold has the potential to maintain or amend this year's bag limits.

The 2022 harvest was just below average on long term trends, even with raised limits and a longer season in 2022. If the summer moult trend count result again exceeds 23,000, the 12 birds/day daily bag limit should be raised to 15 birds/day. In the event of a significantly lower moult count reducing the daily bag limit and/or reimposing the focus back onto junior hunters for the summer hunts should be considered.



Paradise shelduck moult trend counts. Continuing upward trend.



Whole season total paradise shelduck harvest for 1993-2022 with 95% confidence intervals and the average for the period (dotted line).



**Black swan**

Monitoring data of Black swan shows a substantial increase in abundance, this count is undertaken alongside our Paradise shelduck monitoring in January. The aerial black swan count in January 22 showed an increase from 2678 birds in 21 to 3,573, with an estimated 600 birds harvested in 2022 (16% of the estimated population).

*“As black swans tend to congregate in large numbers on a few select coastal sites, estimates for their trend in abundance comes with lower confidence. Black swans are also more difficult to count accurately than the other species as they tend not to be as mobbed together (B Quirey, pers comms). Although black swans were only present at under 40% of the sites counted, their numbers were relatively high, and they likely represent a sizeable proportion of the regional population. Despite a recent change to less restrictive harvest regulations, black swan numbers appear to be increasing and were particularly high for this count.” (J Couper. 220921 Game harvest report)*

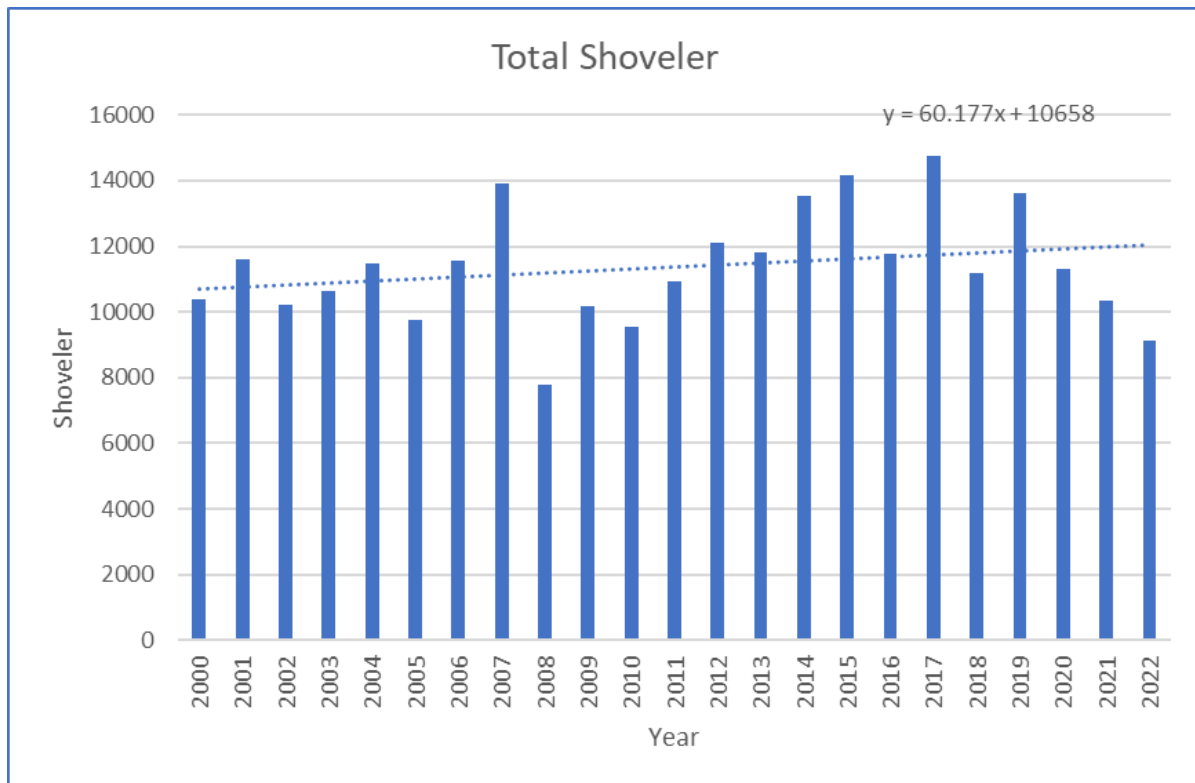
The present 10 bird/day limit could have a significant impact on localised populations while our monitoring may not be sensitive enough to define population trends with confidence. Further monitoring of black swan is required to evaluate the ongoing impact of the raised bag limit with 16% of the monitored population harvested in 2022. The bag limit was raised in 2022 to address crop and pasture damage in spring near areas where black swans congregate in high numbers. Both the adjoining Southland and CSI regions have 5 bird/ day limits.

**Pukeko**

Counts are undertaken annually to understand trends in the population and for setting game regulations. The population surveys for pukeko have recently had 9 extra transects added to attempt to better understand the pukeko dynamics in the region. There has only been one year of surveying the new transects and as such there is not enough data to indicate a stable and expanding population of pukeko, therefore no change to the 2023 regulations is proposed for pukeko.

**Shoveler**

The 2022 shoveler trend count has indicated a lower population of shoveler, and a longer-term downward population trend, with 2022 being the second lowest count of shoveler on record. A recommendation to consider reducing harvest has been made. Southland region are considering a reduced daily bag limit of one male bird/day, and CSI are looking for guidance from other regions. Staff recommend aligning a reduced shoveler daily bag limit to one male bird/day as proposed in Southland region. Otago and Southland regions combined account for 40% of the national harvest of shoveler so a precautionary approach needs to be taken.

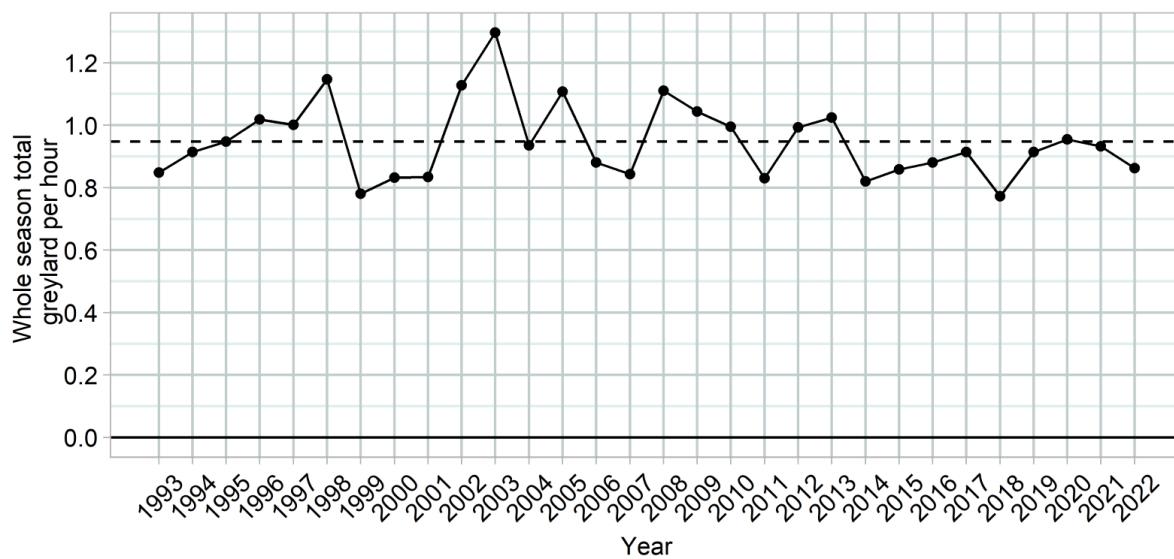


Total shoveler counted throughout New Zealand 2000–2022. The dashed line is the regression line.

### Hunter Harvest

The 2022 game bird season was similar to long term averages in every key metric except the amount of time that hunters spent hunting. Licence sales this year, while down on 2021, were the fourth highest on record. Overall, there were an estimated 62,800 game birds harvested in the Otago Region this season. Just over three quarters of harvested game birds were greylards.

*Total seasonal harvest largely hinges on the success of opening weekend when a high proportion of the hunter effort (62% of total effort) is expended. Hunter effort on opening day is down on previous years. This may partly be explained by the change to the length of season. Weather conditions can play a significant role in the success of individual hunters and arguably have a bigger bearing on harvest than the abundance of birds. In saying that, the harvest per hunter per hour is remarkably consistent over the last decade at around 0.9 'greylards' per hour hunted. (J Couper. 220921 Whole Season Game harvest)*



There has been a slight and statistically insignificant downward trend ( $p=0.27$ ) over the survey period. The average harvest rate of greylards this season was 0.86 birds per hour, below the long-term mean at 0.95. Greylard harvest rates appear to be relatively stable over this period. (J Couper. 220921 Whole Season Game harvest)

### Liaison with neighbouring Fish and Game Regions

We have communicated with both Central South Island and Southland staff over regulation changes for their respective regions.

**CSI** are taking a wait and see approach to what is being done nationally to address the downward trend of shoveler. This is the only change CSI are considering.

**Southland** are considering imposing a daily bag limit on shoveler of one male bird/day.

Further discussion is required with adjoining regions to align measures for harvest reduction of shoveler.

### Recommendations for the 2023 game bird hunting season:

1. ***That the draft game regulations be adopted subject to Paradise shelduck trend counts and the population falling between 16,000 and 23,000 birds.***
2. ***If the Paradise Shelduck trend count exceeds 23,000 birds that the daily bag limit for that species to be increased to 15/day.***
3. **Impose a daily bag limit of 1 male bird/day for shoveler**

A draft set of Game Regulations have been attached as Appendix 1.

David Priest  
Operations Manager, Cromwell  
November 2022

## Appendix 1 – Draft Game Notice

### OTAGO FISH AND GAME REGION

#### 1 Game That May be Hunted or Killed—Duration of 2023/2024 Season

Species	Season Duration (Dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit	Hunting Area
Grey/mallard duck and any hybrid of those species	6 May to 30 Jul 2023	25	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	6 May to 30 Jul 2023	1 Male only	All areas
Paradise shelduck	6 May to 27 Aug 2023	12	All areas
	2 Mar to 10 Mar 2024	5	All areas (refer to clause 5(4) for this Region)
Pukeko	Closed season	0	All areas
Black swan	Closed season	0	Area A
	6 May to 27 Aug 2023	10	Area B
California quail	3 June to 27 Aug 2023	10	All areas
Chukar	3 June to 27 Aug 2023	2	All areas
Cock Pheasant	3 June to 27 Aug 2023	5	All areas
Red-legged partridge	Closed season	0	All areas

#### 2 Definition of Areas

- (1) **Area A:** The Clutha River catchment upstream from the Clyde Dam.
- (2) **Area B:** The Clutha River catchment downstream from the Clyde Dam; the Taieri River catchment and all the coastal catchments between Shag Point and The Brothers Point on the east coast of the South Island.

#### 3 Shooting Hours

- (1) **Area A:** 7.00am to 6.45pm
- (2) **Area B:** 7.00am to 6.30pm

#### 4 Decoy Limit

No limit.

#### 5 Special Conditions

- (1) No person shall use or cause to be used on any water within the region for the hunting or killing of game, any fixed stand, pontoon, hide, loo or maimai, except within a distance of 10 metres from the water margin in non-tidal waters, or from the low water mark in tidal waters, or from the outside edge of the raupo growth where raupo abounds, without the prior consent of the Otago Fish and Game Council.
- (2) No person may leave on the hunting ground the bodies or parts of bodies of Black swan or other game shot in the Otago Fish and Game region.
- (3) Shooting from a boat is prohibited on the Clutha River from 6 May to 14 May 2023 (refer to First Schedule clause 6).
- (4) The summer paradise shelduck season is open from 2 March to 10 March 2024. Hunting is restricted to locations 200 metres or more from open water.

## **6 Refuges and Closed Game Areas**

The following wetland refuges and closed game areas are closed to hunting:

### **Refuges      Location**

- (1) Lake Hayes    Queenstown/Arrowtown highway
- (2) Hawksbury Lagoon    Waikouaiti– East Otago
- (3) Finegand Balclutha

### **Closed Game Areas    Location**

- (4) Ashley Downs Near Clinton, South Otago
- (5) Tomahawk Lagoon    Dunedin
- (6) Kawarau River outlet from Lake Wakatipu downstream to the Shotover River confluence

## **8.0 Public Excluded Items**

**8.1 Confirm Draft OF&GC Public Excluded Minutes from 29<sup>th</sup> Sept 2022**

**8.2 Clutha Lagoon Culvert Consent**

**8.3 Contact Energy Trust**

## 9.0 Financial Report

### Finance and Licence Sales 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022

#### 9.1 Finance Reports

The audit has been completed and the final set of accounts and Statement of Service Report for the 2021/2022 year will be presented at the AGM.

The financial Profit and Loss report and Balance sheet for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 are below.

Expenditure at the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 for the 2022/23 financial year is \$507,346 (including levies \$300,021, agent commission \$37,294, depreciation \$9,176.

This also includes \$5,627 of spending from our reserves.

The annual expenditure budget \$2,494,466. This includes levies, commission and depreciation.

Budget and expenditure figures are exclusive of GST.

The draft accounts show a surplus at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 of \$478,410

#### **Bank Funds Position at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022**

ANZ 00 account	\$201,933.04
ANZ 70 account	\$256,264.19

#### **Term Investments as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022**

ASB 0079	\$371,049 @ 2.85% Maturing on 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
ANZ	\$501,110 @ 2.35% Maturing on 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 (Re invested Nov 22)

#### **Donations and Grants (not in budget)**

Donation/Grant from	For	Amount GST excl
Mt Aspiring Station	Bullock Creek Planting	60
Kaiwhakahaere Kaupapa Taiao	Bullock Creek Planting	300
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$</b>

#### **Doubtful Debtors**

nil

#### **Capital Expenditure and Sales**

nil

#### **Attempted Fraudulent Use of Office Visa Card**

The office visa card was found to have a fraudulent external transaction \$1.48. This was notified to the bank and fraud office. The card was closed and a new one issued. 23rd November 2022.

#### **Otago Fish and Game Council Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

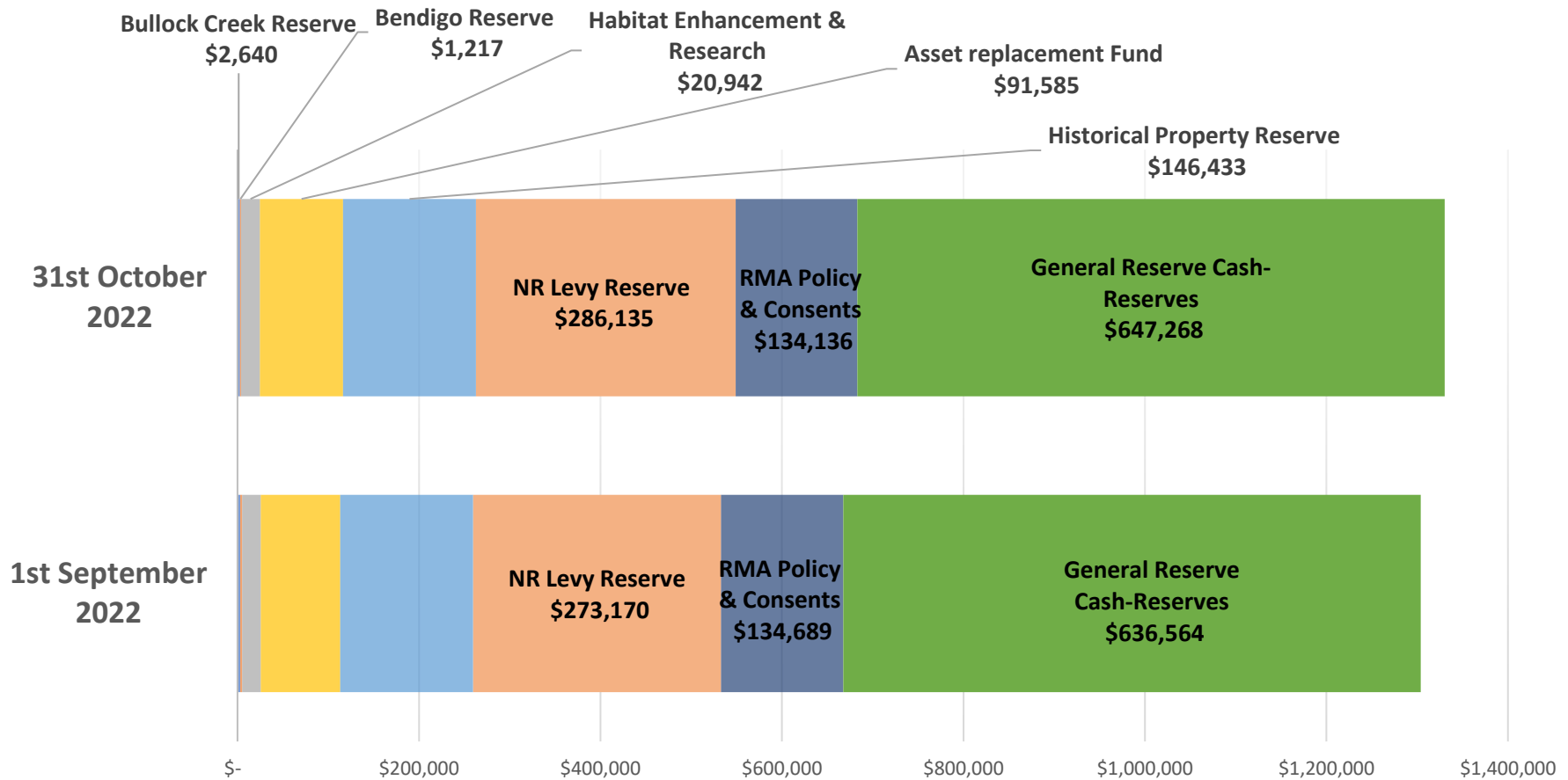
**Otago Fish and Game Reserves 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022**

Otago Reserves Movements	Balance August 2022	Income (To) Reserve	Note	Outgoing (From) Reserve	Balance Oct 2022
Back Country Non-resident Levy	\$273,170	\$12,965	1	\$	\$286,135
Habitat Enhancement & Research	\$20,642	\$2,300	2	\$2,000	\$20,942
Bullock Creek Reserve	\$3,121	\$360		\$841	\$2,640
Bendigo Reserve	\$2,039	\$	9	\$823	\$1,217
Mining Rights Reserve	\$17,537		3	\$	\$17,537
Priority Consents Reserve	\$41,697		7	\$	\$41,697
Historical Property Reserves	\$146,433		4	\$1,410	\$145,023
Regional Policy Statement Reserve	\$44,379		5	\$553	\$43,826
Priority Plan Changes	\$31,076		6	\$	\$31,076
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$580,094</b>	<b>\$15,625</b>		<b>\$5,627</b>	<b>\$590,093</b>
<b>NZC RMA/Legal Funding</b>					
Regional Policy Extra		\$60,000	8	\$	\$60,000

- Note 1 \$5000 a year for five years is to be taken from the Non resident fund for the Dr Donald Scott University Fund beginning. Agreed by Council May 2021. 2021/22 is year three.
- Note 2 Balance is \$20,942. Less committed but not yet paid out of \$11,500 so balance of \$10,092 is available for dispersal by way of grants.
- Note 3 \$150,000 (Mining Rights) approved prior to 2018 by NZC from our reserves. Includes \$80,000 of Lindis expenses, agreed by Council July 2019.
- Note 4 Historical Property Reserve, used on development of the Wanaka site
- Note 5 OF&GC agreed to \$60,000 May 2020. NZC notified.
- Note 6 OF&GC agreed to \$120,000 May 2020. NZC notified. \$81,000 agreed to be spent by council September 2020.
- Note 7 OF&GC agreed to \$60,000 May 2020. NZC notified.
- Note 8 August 2021 NZC approved the use of \$60,000 to be reimbursed by the Regional RMA legal fund towards our Regional Policy Planning Costs
- Note 9 May 2022 council agreed to Habitat Enhancement funds for Bendigo



## MOVEMENT IN RESERVES FROM 1ST SEPTEMBER 2022 TO 31ST OCTOBER 2023



# Balance Sheet

## Otago Fish and Game Council As at 31 October 2022

	31 OCT 2022	31 AUG 2022
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Bank	458,378	432,082
<b>Receivables</b>		
Accounts Receivable	900,787	77,117
<b>Total Receivables</b>	<b>900,787</b>	<b>77,117</b>
GST	(85,232)	42,695
Investments	872,159	872,159
Inventory	21,151	21,151
Accrued Interest	-	4,959
Accounts Receivable - Other	18,883	-
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>2,186,125</b>	<b>1,450,162</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Property Plant & Equipment	1,339,237	1,348,413
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>1,339,237</b>	<b>1,348,413</b>
Credit Card SM 6180	(621)	(3,799)
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>3,524,741</b>	<b>2,794,777</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable	378,317	74,951
Other Payables	190,866	192,806
Employee Entitlements	8,712	60,441
Rounding	-	-
Salmon Endorsement	1,948	91
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>579,843</b>	<b>328,289</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>579,843</b>	<b>328,289</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>2,944,898</b>	<b>2,466,488</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>		
Accumulated Funds	1,622,094	1,607,045
Current Year Earnings	478,410	15,049
Transfer (To)/From Reserves	163,016	176,937
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>	<b>2,263,521</b>	<b>1,799,031</b>
<b>Dedicated Reserves</b>		
Non Resident Levy Reserve	286,135	273,170
Habitat Enhancement & Research	20,642	20,642
Priority Plan Changes Reserve	31,076	31,076
Priority Consents Reserve	41,697	41,697

	31 OCT 2022	31 AUG 2022
Regional Policy Statement Reserve	43,826	44,379
Mining Privileges Reserve	17,537	17,537
Historical Property Reserve	145,023	146,433
Renovation Reserve	-	-
Asset Replacement Funding	91,585	87,363
<b>Total Dedicated Reserves</b>	<b>677,521</b>	<b>662,296</b>
<b>Restricted Reserves</b>		
Bullock Creek Reserve	2,640	3,121
Bendigo Reserve	1,217	2,039
<b>Total Restricted Reserves</b>	<b>3,857</b>	<b>5,161</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>2,944,898</b>	<b>2,466,488</b>

# Profit and Loss

## Otago Fish and Game Council For the 2 months ended 31 October 2022

	SEP 2022	OCT 2022	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	VARIANCE	% OF YTD BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET	LAST YEAR
<b>Income</b>								
<b>Licence Sales</b>								
Fish Licence Sales	439,357	522,985	962,343	711,956	250,387	135%	1,959,517	1,750,886
Non-Resident Licence Revenue	4,783	7,882	12,665	-	12,665	-	-	10,364
Game Licence Sales	83	-	83	-	83	-	370,659	340,189
<b>Total Licence Sales</b>	<b>444,224</b>	<b>530,867</b>	<b>975,091</b>	<b>711,956</b>	<b>263,135</b>	<b>137%</b>	<b>2,330,176</b>	<b>2,101,439</b>
<b>Other Income</b>								
Contact Energy Mitigation Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	94,109
Reserves Mngt Income	-	-	-	216	(216)	-	1,300	-
Govt Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,210
Interest Income	(4,819)	315	(4,504)	2,552	(7,056)	-177%	15,322	14,008
Fines - Fishing & Game Offences	31	23	55	332	(277)	17%	2,000	265
Rent Received	5,789	4,818	10,608	9,396	1,212	113%	56,386	60,320
Fishing Competitions	-	447	447	-	447	-	-	493
Profit on Sale of Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,080
Donations & Grants	-	300	300	-	300	-	-	4,249
Merchandise Sales/Other	165	-	165	-	165	-	-	196
Sundry Income	1,094	200	1,294	-	1,294	-	-	7,582
Diversion - Habitat Enhancement and Research Fund	2,100	200	2,300	-	2,300	-	-	14,700
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>4,361</b>	<b>6,303</b>	<b>10,665</b>	<b>12,496</b>	<b>(1,831)</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>75,008</b>	<b>219,212</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>448,586</b>	<b>537,170</b>	<b>985,756</b>	<b>724,452</b>	<b>261,304</b>	<b>136%</b>	<b>2,405,184</b>	<b>2,320,651</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>448,586</b>	<b>537,170</b>	<b>985,756</b>	<b>724,452</b>	<b>261,304</b>	<b>136%</b>	<b>2,405,184</b>	<b>2,320,651</b>

	SEP 2022	OCT 2022	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	VARIANCE	% OF YTD BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET	LAST YEAR
<b>Expenses</b>								
<b>Species Management</b>								
Population Monitoring	-	-	-	8,156	(8,156)	-	48,930	12,844
Harvest Assessment	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,000	3,500
Hatchery Operations	54	176	230	1,500	(1,270)	15%	9,000	1,792
Releases	-	88	88	170	(82)	52%	1,000	911
Game Bird Control compliants	444	-	444	-	444	-	-	750
<b>Total Species Management</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>9,826</b>	<b>(9,064)</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>60,930</b>	<b>19,797</b>
<b>Habitat Protection &amp; Mngt</b>								
Contact Sports Fish Management Plan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	53,487
Resource Mngt Act	-	-	-	166	(166)	-	1,000	57,010
Works & Management	606	30	637	836	(199)	76%	5,000	3,131
Habitat Enhancement Research Fund Grants	-	2,000	2,000	-	2,000	-	-	-
<b>Total Habitat Protection &amp; Mngt</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>2,030</b>	<b>2,637</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>1,635</b>	<b>263%</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>113,628</b>
<b>Participation</b>								
Access and Signage	70	-	70	416	(346)	17%	2,500	2,681
Back Country Surveys/Monitoring	-	75	75	-	75	-	-	-
OF&G Training Events	959	19	978	1,584	(606)	62%	2,000	2,023
Club Relations and Grants	-	-	-	166	(166)	-	1,000	1,132
R3 Campaigns	-	-	-	82	(82)	-	500	-
F&G Advocacy at Popular Fisheries	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,000	-
<b>Total Participation</b>	<b>1,029</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>1,123</b>	<b>2,248</b>	<b>(1,125)</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>5,836</b>
<b>PUBLIC INTERFACE</b>								
World Wetlands	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	-
Liaison	-	-	-	166	(166)	-	1,000	566

	SEP 2022	OCT 2022	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	VARIANCE	% OF YTD BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET	LAST YEAR
Media Releases	294	-	294	498	(204)	59%	3,000	1,215
<b>Total PUBLIC INTERFACE</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>(370)</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>1,781</b>
<b>COMPLIANCE</b>								
Ranger Training and Expenses	252	872	1,124	416	708	270%	5,500	6,543
Compliance	-	-	-	832	(832)	-	5,000	26
<b>Total COMPLIANCE</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>872</b>	<b>1,124</b>	<b>1,248</b>	<b>(124)</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>10,500</b>	<b>6,569</b>
<b>LICENCING</b>								
Agent Servicing	-	40	40	90	(50)	44%	500	441
Commission/Fees	17,549	19,745	37,294	34,952	2,342	107%	104,858	85,709
<b>Total LICENCING</b>	<b>17,549</b>	<b>19,784</b>	<b>37,333</b>	<b>35,042</b>	<b>2,291</b>	<b>107%</b>	<b>105,358</b>	<b>86,150</b>
<b>COUNCIL</b>								
Council Meetings	2,363	-	2,363	2,500	(137)	95%	15,000	14,080
<b>Total COUNCIL</b>	<b>2,363</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,363</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>(137)</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>14,080</b>
<b>PLANNING &amp; REPORTING</b>								
Reporting/Audit	-	3,772	3,772	-	3,772	-	16,000	16,891
National Liason	124	-	124	332	(208)	37%	2,000	248
Corporate Liaison	-	4	4	-	4	-	-	-
<b>Total PLANNING &amp; REPORTING</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>3,776</b>	<b>3,900</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>3,568</b>	<b>1,175%</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>17,139</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>								
Salaries	(1,547)	84,495	82,948	136,486	(53,538)	61%	818,935	745,060
Staff Expenses	1,887	1,231	3,119	4,164	(1,046)	75%	32,000	20,914
Office Premices	20,689	14,936	35,625	17,470	18,155	204%	104,839	105,980
Office Equipemnt	14	14	27	416	(389)	6%	2,500	2,802
Communications	1,218	1,096	2,315	3,646	(1,331)	63%	21,900	20,367
General Exp (incl Insurance)	1,282	1,189	2,471	1,816	655	136%	3,900	2,794
General Field Equipment	970	201	1,171	548	623	214%	3,300	2,962

	SEP 2022	OCT 2022	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	VARIANCE	% OF YTD BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET	LAST YEAR
Vehicles	11,724	5,687	17,411	14,498	2,913	120%	52,000	55,113
<b>Total ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>36,238</b>	<b>108,848</b>	<b>145,086</b>	<b>179,044</b>	<b>(33,958)</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>1,039,374</b>	<b>955,993</b>
Approved Reserve Expense	677	2,851	3,527	-	3,527	-	-	60,289
Depreciation	4,588	4,588	9,176	702	8,474	1,307%	4,222	60,101
NZ Fish & Game Levies	-	300,021	300,021	200,012	100,009	150%	1,200,082	959,241
University of Otago Research Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>64,217</b>	<b>443,129</b>	<b>507,346</b>	<b>432,620</b>	<b>74,726</b>	<b>117%</b>	<b>2,494,466</b>	<b>2,305,602</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>384,369</b>	<b>94,042</b>	<b>478,410</b>	<b>291,832</b>	<b>186,578</b>	<b>164%</b>	<b>(89,282)</b>	<b>15,049</b>

## 9.2 Licence Sales

### ***Fish Licence Sales 2022/23 Season to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022***

See appendix 1 for a table showing fish licence sales categories and numbers. This table shows fish licences sales for seasons 2021/22 and 2022/23 to the end of October of the season.

In summary, fishing licence sales in whole season licence equivalents (LEQs) 7817.31 LEQs compared with 8734.05 LEQs for the same period last year. Last year was an exceptional year as shown in the cumulative sales graph.

Licence sales are slow so far this year, for whole season family and adult. Non resident licences have increase for the early part of the season with the increase in tourism.

Fish licence revenue from the Profit and Loss statement for the 2022/23 season recorded to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 total \$975,108 compared with \$1,032,163 for the 2021/22 season. These figures include both resident and non resident sales. Figures exclude GST and commission to agents.

The 2022/23 budget for fish licence sales is \$1,959,517 exclusive of GST.

### 9.3 ***Agents Debts***

Nil

### 9.4 **Recommendation**

***That the finance and licencing report be received.***

Sharon Milne  
Administration Officer  
22/11/2022



## Otago Region Fish Licence Sales till the 31st October of the Season

2022/23																			
Sales Chan	FWFA	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	SRSE	Total	Fish LEQ	Fish \$
Public	1140	1228	92	298	129	4	40	295	107	202	0	48	9	0	0	0	4102	3,277.32	\$486,299.00
Agency	1515	1894	20	605	85	2	27	104	68	206	2	12	4	0	1	448	4995	4,539.99	\$663,576.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2655</b>	<b>3122</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>903</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>9097</b>	<b>7,817.31</b>	<b>\$1,149,875.00</b>

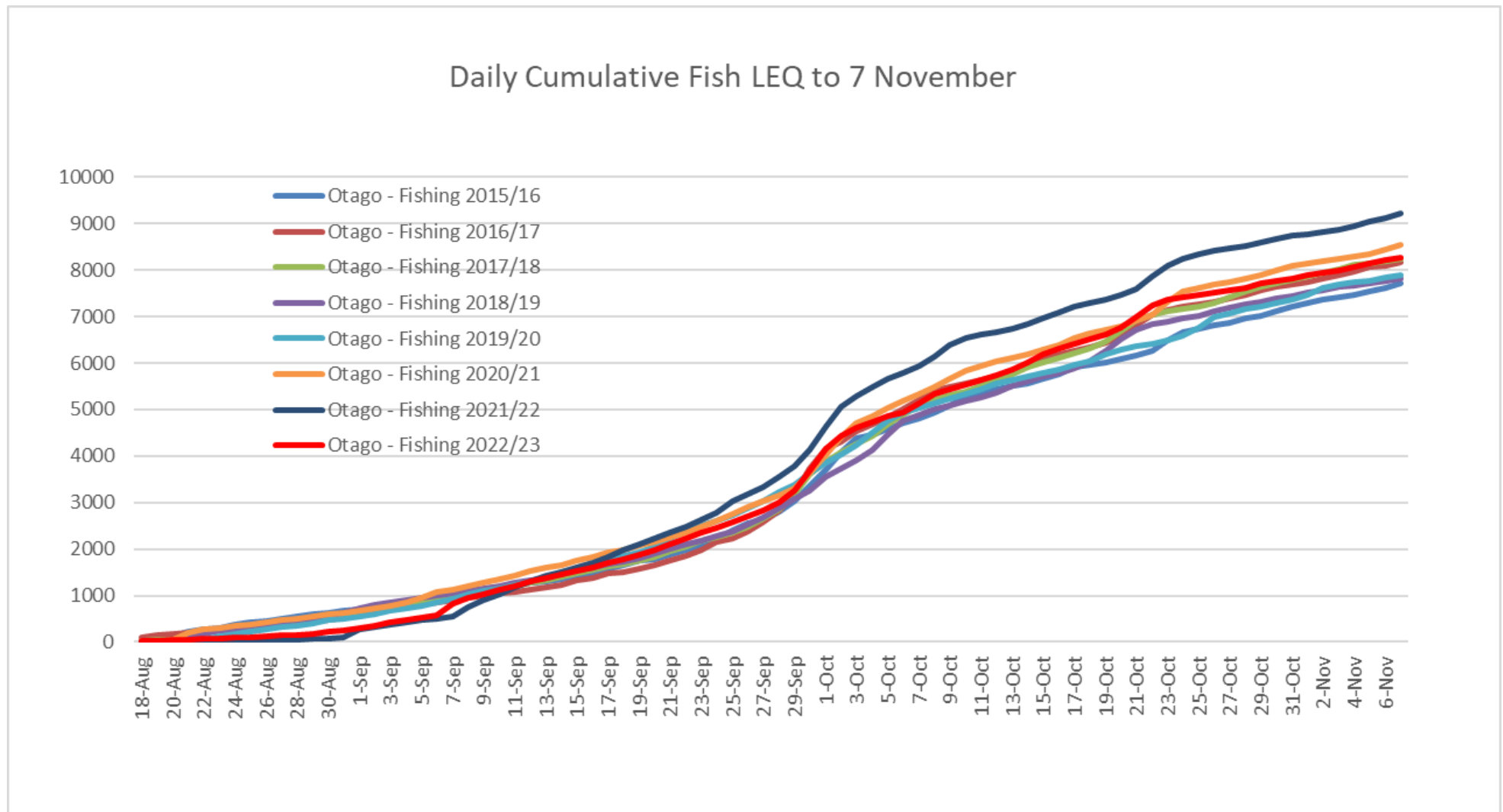
2021/22																			
Sales Chan	FWFA	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	SRSE	Total	Fish LEQ	Fish \$
Public	1177	1377	27	269	138	0	53	300	15	181	2	28	0	0	0	0	3998	3,378.44	\$464,353.00
Agency	1724	2426	1	646	82	2	30	110	4	228	0	13	0	0	0	0	5272	5,355.61	\$733,818.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2901</b>	<b>3803</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9270</b>	<b>8,734.05</b>	<b>\$1,198,171.00</b>

FWF (Family), FWA (Adult), FWNA (Non Resident), FSLA (Senior Loyal), FLAA (Local Area),

FWJ (Junior), FWNJ (Junior non resident), FLBA (Long Break), FSBA (Short Break), FDA (Adult Day), FDJ (Junior Day)

FDNJ (day non resident Junior), FWNC (non resident Child), FDNC ( day non Resident child day

SRSE (Salmon Endorsment)



## 10.0 Chief Executives Report

### 10.1 OF&GC Strategic Priorities 2020-2023 – December 2022 update

Output	Goals 2020-2023	Objectives	What success looks like	December 2022 Update
Species Mgt	<b>That OF&amp;GC have sufficient understanding of Southern Lakes sportsfish populations to meet management needs</b>	<p>Robust monitoring system for southern lakes fisheries established by 2023 with enough sensitivity to detect long term population change.</p> <p>Research proposal to investigate drivers for that change lodged to NZC for funding by 2024</p>	Ongoing monitoring programme established to meet the Councils management needs - primarily maintaining a sustainable sportsfish population for anglers.	<p>Random and peak use angler surveys are being undertaken at Lake Hawea to gather fisheries and effort data.</p> <p>Acoustic monitoring by NIWA of Lakes Dunstan, Hawea, Whakatipu and Wanaka is scheduled to take place in February 2023. Staff are making arrangements presently for associated netting and logistics to support the project.</p> <p>Lakes fisheries workshop is still proposed for winter 2023 but there are a number of similar events planned on Southern lakes health which F&amp;G may be able to dovetail into.</p>

<b>Habitat Protection &amp; Mgt</b>	<b>Improve outcomes in RMA planning processes – Plans reflect F&amp;G input</b>	<p>Submissions reflecting F&amp;G positions made on time and hearings attended for all planning matters impacting on F&amp;G managed species, habitat and users.</p> <p>Joint freshwater and habitat outcomes developed with partner agencies and promoted through planning processes.</p>	<p>RMA planning documents recognise fish &amp; gamebird values and protect important habitats that they depend upon. (Regional Policy Statement and Land and Water plan)</p> <p>Areas of agreement on freshwater outcomes are documented ahead of advocacy opportunities in planning processes</p>	<p>Submission to the Regional Policy Statement has been completed and submitted on time. That submission covers all areas of F&amp;G interest.</p> <p>Discussions with DoC, Iwi and other agencies continue with regular meetings between the parties, and also occasional meetings of the same group and ORC policy and planning staff.</p>
<b>Licence holder communication</b>	<b>High licence holder understanding of F&amp;G organisation and its work on their behalf</b>	<p>Improve licence holder knowledge of F&amp;G activities by 10%- or two-unit points (in licence holder survey) by end of 2023</p> <p>15% of fish and 10% of game licence holders have one face to face contact with F&amp;G annually</p>	<p>Increased knowledge of F&amp;G and its activities among licence holders will result in improved value for money in a licence</p> <p>Direct contact will improve opportunities for two-way communication with licence holders</p>	<p>No action. Survey to be completed late in 2023.</p> <p>No specific metrics at this point but angler contact rate should increase over summer with a full suite of staff, summer interns, creel surveys at Hawea and Poolburn, and a motivated ranging group. Staff have been in attendance at several fishing competitions.</p>

<b>Public awareness and strategic relationships</b>	<b>Improved understanding by the general public of F&amp;G role and work</b>	<p>Survey results from perceptions of F&amp;G stakeholder survey analysed.</p> <p>PA programme established and implemented, based on an overall communications strategy, by end of 2023.</p>	<p>Stakeholder understanding is measured, and a communication plan implemented to address any gaps.</p> <p>Public and stakeholders appreciate Fish &amp; Game as guardians of freshwater and heritage of hunting and angling.</p>	<p>Stakeholder survey to get underway in new year.</p> <p>NZC have developed a draft communications strategy and are seeking to refine this and engaged contractor to review F&amp;G brand. Otago can ride the back of that work.</p>
	<b>Proactive engagement with Ngai Tahu</b>	<p>Iwi and F&amp;G aspirations for freshwater outcomes shared, and aligned where possible, to achieve longer term protection of Otago freshwater and wetlands.</p> <p>Engage with Ngai Tahu in a conversation on cultural harvest of gamebird species under F&amp;G management.</p>	<p>Regular engagement with iwi at a local level. Iwi and F&amp;G aspirations agreed and shared to achieve greater protection of freshwater and wetland values.</p> <p>Cultural harvest of species is managed to provide opportunities for iwi to exercise mahinga kai while maintaining sustainable gamebird populations in Otago.</p>	<p>Environmental Officer has been regularly engaging with Aukaha over RMA planning and consenting matters including Regional Policy Statement and Land and Water Plan</p> <p>May Council meeting is proposed to be held at Otakou runanga to build on relationship already formed.</p> <p>CE has met briefly with a local Ngai tahu member and discussed cultural harvest. The approach was positively received and a more formal meeting will be held in the new year.</p>

<p><b>Form alliances/collaborations with landowners (and rural stakeholder organisations) on areas of common interest</b></p>	<p>90% of catchment group meetings attended by staff to engage and communicate F&amp;G values.</p> <p>100% of wetland development/enhancement enquiries are visited with 50% resulting in Habitat fund applications</p>	<p>Landowners and other rural stakeholder groups see F&amp;G as a valuable organisation in habitat protection, species management and as a partner in wetland development projects, and also in fostering public access to those resources.</p>	<p>Staff have been assigned one (or two) catchment groups each and have been attending meetings and activities where time permits.</p> <p>Wetland development applications have slowed. Issues with overly complicated consenting remains an issue to solve.</p>
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## 10.2 Chief Executives Report - September 2022

### 10.2.1 SPECIES MANAGEMENT

#### Lakes Fisheries Monitoring

Angler surveys on Lake Hawea and Poolburn Reservoir are underway and this will continue at a rate of 4 days per month for the season. Numbers of anglers encountered on each outing has varied widely. Trout measured and weighed at Poolburn were noticeable larger and in better condition than has been seen by staff for a number of years.

#### Acoustics Survey of Southern Lakes

NIWA has now been contracted to undertake the acoustic surveys of Hawea, Whakatipu, Wanaka and Dunstan. The Lake Dunstan portion of the contract is helpfully being funded by the Clutha Fisheries Trust. That project is scheduled for February.

#### Hatchery and Liberations

Low numbers of returning breeding trout into Macraes Hatchery grounds forced the hatchery supervisor to harvest surplus ova from Rainbow trout in Quarts Creek near Wanaka. There is now enough eggs in incubation for the coming growing and liberation season.

#### Regulations

The Game Gazette notice is required to be finalised by the end of January so needs to be considered at this meeting. It is usually adopted subject to paradise shelduck moult trend counts fitting within a certain threshold. A report is attached to this agenda.



### 10.2.2 HABITAT PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

#### Contact Energy – Lower Clutha Sportsfish Management Plan Implementation

The programme of works has been agreed for the year and will progress over summer.

An item in the Public Excluded part of the agenda will provide an update to the proposed Trust Deed and funding agreement. Contact staff are presenting the proposal to their senior leaders after this agenda has been distributed but the CE should be in a position to update the council on the progress of that.

### Wetland planting days

Volunteers have assisted with wetland planting days at Bullock Creek, Bendigo Wetland and at Takitakitoa. We have been encouraging various groups to participate over the years and hundreds of hours of volunteer effort has been committed to wetlands under our management. Our thanks must go to the Ricoh Dunedin crew who also paid for a good portion of the 600 shrubs planted at Takitakitoa. *(Photo – Ricoh Dunedin staff)*



## 10.2.3 USER PARTICIPATION

### Advocacy at high profile fisheries

Two summer contractors are on the verge of being hired to increase the Councils presence around our southern lakes fisheries. Staff are presently sorting equipment and logistics to ensure we get the most from the additional personnel over the 6 week summer holiday period. They will be involved in angler surveys, boat ramp liaison and other F&G work to support our F&G staff.

### Backcountry Fisheries

NZC and a selection of regional staff are progressing the 'designated waters' proposal for pressure sensitive fisheries. One of the stumbling blocks is how to best integrate the present Backcountry Fisheries regime into the new system. It may be as simple as rolling all of the current backcountry fisheries directly into the new schedule but much will depend on the criteria used to select 'designated waters'. This will be an item for the February meeting when the structure of the designated waters regime is more tightly defined.

### Fishing training events

Two soft bait fishing clinics (at Henley and Wanaka outlet) coordinated by staff were very well attended. A run of kahawai into the Taieri on the evening of the event saw most of the group land a fish and while not the target species, it did promote the method and allow newbies to hone their fish fighting and landing skills. *(Photo – Not a trout but good practice)*





## 10.2.4 PUBLIC INTERFACE

### Media

Our Facebook page numbers continue to grow, most likely driven by the quality of the content being populated to it. Our diligent communications officer has worked hard on his video editing skills to allow more video content to be added to the platform.

## 10.2.5 COMPLIANCE

### Prosecutions

A handful of angling offenders have been processed since the start of the new season with all being resolved by way of Council approved Diversion.

### Rangers

Training for rangers has been completed at a one day session held in Roxburgh. Southland staff. Councillors and rangers were also in attendance.

### *Chair to update*

## 10.2.6 LICENCING

### Licence system upgrade

An upgraded licencing system went live in late July and has been running efficiently enough. Bugs continue to be ironed out but it has some way to go to be a user friendly system for agents.

## 10.2.7 COUNCIL

### Donald Scott Scholarship Fund launched

The Donald Scott fund was finally launched after covid related delays. Around 30 people attended the event at the University and the fund is now being promoted to both applicants and potential donors. *(Photo – Donald's wife Pat Scott at centre)*



### Staffing

One of the primary tasks of the new Operations Manager (David Priest) was to fill the vacancy for the F&G officer role in the Cromwell office. That role has now been taken by Mason Court and he will start in mid December. This brings the staffing back to full strength.

### **QE2 Covenant at Bullock Creek Hatchery Springs**

The Chair and CE have signed off the documents to advance the covenanting of the Councils wetland at Bullock Creek. The QE2 board has accepted the application and also offered funding for fencing and animal pest control which staff will take them up on.

## **10.2.8 PLANNING AND REPORTING**

### **Audit and Annual Report**

This has now been finalized and is ready for adoption by Council at the AGM. While it felt a disjointed year with key staff departures, much was still achieved and statement of service performance at the back end of the report highlights the breadth of work completed.

### **Recommendation**

That this report be received

**Ian Hadland**

Chief Executive

November 2022

## 11.0 RMA Planning and Consents Report

Planning and Consenting Report: 8 September – 23 November 2022

### Current Legislation, Policy and Planning Processes

#### *Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement (PORPS)*

Since the last reporting period, the Otago Regional Council (**ORC**) has released details on the split between the freshwater and non-freshwater hearing processes for the PORPS. It is apparent that Fish and Game will need to participate in both, as both contain provisions central to its freshwater interests. For example, the non-freshwater hearing process still contains provisions relating to natural wetlands, natural character of water bodies, criteria for selecting outstanding water bodies and hydroelectric generation.

The additional cost and complexity associated with the split is likely significant but difficult to estimate. No doubt the process will end up costing more than had been originally anticipated. A contingency has already been factored into the existing budget, it remains to be seen whether this will be sufficient.

Staff are in the process of completing two key tasks at the time of writing:

1. Authoring evidence for the non-freshwater hearing process.
2. Authoring a submission for the freshwater hearing process.

Hearing dates for each process have not been set yet; however, it is expected that both will begin early in 2023.

#### Natural and Build Environment Bill (**NBA Bill**)

The NBA Bill, set to replace the Resource Management Act 1990, was released during the reporting period. Staff are analysing the wording and will work with the New Zealand Fish and Game Council and other Fish and Game Councils to develop a joint submission on the Bill.

#### Land and Water Regional Plan (**LWRP**) Development

The ORC continues to develop the LWRP. It is currently in the middle of a consultation campaign to get feedback on desired environmental outcomes and actions to be taken to achieve them. Staff will provide feedback to the ORC on the consultation and have been working with its networks to promote the consultation.

The ORC has also set dates for stakeholder workshops to discuss options for regional provisions in the LWRP. Staff will attend these workshops and provide feedback.

### Current Notification processes

There are no current notification processes.

**Written approval provided during the period**

Applicant	Activity	Outcome
<b>Otago Regional Council Applications</b>		
The Department of Conservation	To aerially apply cereal baits containing brodifacoum to Mou Tapu Island in circumstances where it may enter water	Upon confirming that the chemical would not pose harm to people harvesting and eating fish from the lake, affected party approval was provided.
Dunedin City Council	To establish stormwater outlets in Thomson Creek near Sawyers Bay	Affected party approval was provided, noting a distaste for additional untreated stormwater discharge to freshwater.
Central Otago District Council	To establish structures associated with a river park on the bed and margin of the Clutha River/Mata-au	Affected party approval was provided
Clutha District Council	To disturb the bed of the Clutha River to upgrade the Kaitangata water treatment plant intake	Affected party approval was provided
<b>Queenstown Lake District Council Applications</b>		
Robert Butson	To establish a new jetty at Frankton Arm	A condition providing for public access was negotiated and affected party approval was provided.
Anthony Hill	Renewal of an existing mooring beside Park Street, Lake Whakatipu	Affected party approval was provided
Real Journeys Limited	To operate a public water ferry service between Queenstown Bay and Walter Peak	Affected party approval had been provided after confirmation that vessels would not travel within 200m of the shoreline, except when berthing.
Better by Bike	To operate a kayak rental business near the Hilton Jetty	A condition requiring the holder to advise customers to stay 50m away from anglers was negotiated and affected party approval was provided

No written approvals were provided during the period for consents from the following bodies:

- Central Otago District Council
- Dunedin City Council
- Clutha District Council
- Waitaki District Council

**Recommendation:**

- 1. That this report be received**

**Nigel Paragreen  
Environmental Officer  
23 November 2022**

## **12.0 Committee & Delegate Reports**

**12.1 CFT**

**12.2 NZC**

**12.3 Ngai Tahu**

**12.4 Conservation Board**

## 13.0 Correspondence

### 13.1 NZC to Otago

#### 1.1.2 Future Implementation Steering Group

**From:** Rainsford Grubb <[raygrubb@gmail.com](mailto:raygrubb@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, 4 November 2022 5:30 pm

**To:** Regional Chairs <[regionalchairs@fishandgame.org.nz](mailto:regionalchairs@fishandgame.org.nz)>; NZC Members <[nzcmembers@fishandgame.org.nz](mailto:nzcmembers@fishandgame.org.nz)>

**Subject:** Future of the Implementation Steering Group (ISG)

Good afternoon

You will have seen this afternoon that we are taking the first tentative steps to an enduring relationship between Fish and Game and Iwi. It has been a complicated process getting us to this point, and I want to thank Debbie in particular, Dean and Barrie for stepping up to give me space and time. Over the last 3 months I have written, (and endured interminable drafts of !!!!) the public consultation document, the Iwi document out today, and worked on proposals for the review recommendations we can implement now. I have also commenced work on a schedule of necessary legislative and regulation amendments to give effect to the Review; this amount of lead time is essential if we are to be before Parliament in 2024. In case you are wondering why, the reality is there is no-one else to do it.

There has been very recent speculation over the future of the ISG. It has been in part caused by my contract with DOC ending on 22 October, by the fact that DOC has been re-structuring for the last few months and there is no certainty as to its continuing involvement with the Review, and by the on-going inability of the Section 4 Unit in DOC to assist with Iwi consultation. That is not a criticism; they have not had the personnel as I understand it

On my contract; it was entered into 18 months ago at the request of Merv English. I accepted to protect Fish and Game's interests and insisted I be paid a nominal amount. I considered that an important signal that the ISG and the Review itself were regarded as important by the Department. However I understand there was no budget provision made at DOC for 22/23 to pay the ISG Chair due to budget cuts and the contract therefore ends.

For your interest the following is the email of 20 October to the Department; we are yet to receive a substantive response

"Can I please have, as a follow up to my previous emails, an indication as to;

- 1 when DOC will be able to agree to the draft public consultation document
2. timetable for submission for Ministerial agreement (and Cabinet for noting)
3. agreement to the changes in the ISG
4. scheduling of meetings to push this along

I expect to have a draft tangatawhenua consultation document this week and will forward it. It will also be provided to my Iwi advisors for comment

I'm looking forward to working with you both on this really important project which is behind schedule"

I will update you as soon as I know anything more

In the meantime Debbie has been Acting Chair allowing me time to concentrate on all this other stuff; sadly with modern computers it is just as easy to work when out of the country as within. Many thanks Debbie

Kind regards

Ray  
Chair  
NZ Fish and Game Council

## 13.2 Otago to NZC

### 13.2.1 Regional Chairs Meeting October 2022



8 November 2022

Ray Grubb

Chairman, New Zealand Council (NZC) and the Implementation Steering Group (ISG)

*Via email copied to the New Zealand Council (NZC)*

**Re: Regional Chairs Meeting 29 October 2022**

Dear Ray

Following our meeting in Christchurch we are writing to you as the regional Chairs to ask you to consider several matters that we consider vital in progressing the organisation's wider interests.

The first is the need for our organisation to strengthen its governance, modernise its operations, maintain its social licence and ensure it is relevant for the next 30 years. Our discussion underlined the risk to the organisation if we fail to demonstrate an acceptance of the issues highlighted and implementing the recommended actions. Fish & Game was given the opportunity to implement the review recommendations itself, we must ensure we succeed in this. As regional Chairs we acknowledge that some of the Review recommendations require legislative change. However, we can implement many of the recommendations ourselves, we should progress those as matter of urgency.

To ensure our independence and to protect the organisation's future, we consider that as many of the recommendations we can act on internally as possible should be implemented by next year's general election.

There are recommended changes which, for example, will affect our staff such as the potential mergers of existing councils. While there is uncertainty about these changes our staff will remain unsettled. The organisation has an obligation to minimise staff stress and distraction from delaying the implementation of the recommendations. Mergers and changes to council make up should be decided and implemented as soon as possible but, prior to the 2024 Fish and Game elections.

We, therefore, request that you work with the New Zealand Council, to provide authority for the New Zealand Council CEO to work with the regions and collaboratively begin implementing the following recommendations. Also to approve the appropriate delegation to the New Zealand Council CEO for the use of funds required for implementation:

- 09, **Merger of Regions:** Wellington and Taranaki have indicated a willingness to merge, we suggest the proposed professional change manager should be engaged to assist and develop a process for mergers. This process can be used as a template for other mergers if required.
- 16, **Professional Development for Councillors:** A programme should be implemented over the next 12 months.
- 17, **Suite of Governance and Corporate Polices:** All the national policies need to be updated to ensure they are functional and relevant. This will require collaboration with regions to develop and implement the Polices as required.

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- 18, 19, **Conflicts of Interest:** A national policy and a programme for audits by NZC needs to be developed.
- 20, **Consolidated Annual Report:** Work with regional councils and managers to develop a process moving to a consolidated annual report for all regions including New Zealand Council.
- 23, **NZC Establishes a standing advisory panel on Treaty issues and engagement with Mana Whenua.**
- 26, **NZC Develop a national policy governing a system of consultation with Mana Whenua,**
- 27, **NZC to initiate a national Hui in collaboration with DOC:** Regional collaboration will still be required, and a process developed.
- 29, **NZC Review the eligibility for voting:** Review voting in respect of the type of licence held to expand our voter base.
- 32, **NZC Review the employment rules:** A person cannot be a councillor while simultaneously being employed. This may already be in the Conservation Act but is required to be reviewed.
- 33, **NZC Implement programmes to increase participation:** using the coordination powers of the New Zealand Council assist regional councils and managers to put programmes in place to increase participation. Review and strengthen the R3 programme.
- 34, **NZC to develop guidelines for a process for public input into the development of management plans.**
- 35, **NZC to ensure the CEO has a KPI relating to stakeholder relationship strategy.** A focus on increasing our national advocacy is required.
- 36, **NZC should assure itself that FGCs give notice of their draft management plans to iwi and local authorities.**

We suggest where required experienced professionals should be engaged forthwith to assist New Zealand Council staff with the preparation and development of the documentation required to successfully implement the recommendations.

Due to the overwhelming importance of implementing the review recommendations, and the potential risk of failure to do so, the chairs request an update on the progress of the ISG and its members. We believe that the implementation work is critical to the future success of Fish and Game.

During our meeting we had a session with a Ngai Tahu Appointee. It was suggested that the 4 weeks shown in your draft document "Fish and Game NZ governance Engagement with Tangata Whenua" is unlikely to be long enough for this process. He also commented on the desirability of the terms Tangata Whenua and Mana Whenua being used where appropriate. We suggest it would be useful to seek advice on the consultation document from appropriate iwi sources.

The Chairs meeting was very positive about the future and the role of Fish and Game in the management of our fresh water and game bird species. We suggest an important component of that is to increase our national advocacy work to ensure Fish and Game is seen by all New Zealanders as the 'Guardian of Fresh Water'.

This letter is the opinion of the regional chairs; however, any regional decisions will still need to be made by each regional council. It is now 18 months since the release of the Review report, and we must now act without delay implementing its recommendations.

Regards

Phil Durham – Northland

Ngahi Bidois – Eastern

Owen Baigent – Nelson Marlborough

Colin Weatherall – CSI (Acting)

Nigel Juby – Auckland Waikato

Chris Donald - Taranaki

Andy Harris – Westland

Colin Weatherall – Otago

Bruce Bates – Hawkes Bay

Paul Dewar – Wellington

Alan Strong – North Canterbury

Lindsay Withington - Southland

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**13.3 General Correspondence In**  
Nothing of note

**13.4 General Correspondence Out**  
Nothing of note

## **14.0 Items to be Received or Noted**

### **14.1 Greenstone River and Long Burn - Sports Fish Spawning Report**

#### ***Introduction***

The Greenstone River was surveyed for rainbow trout spawning in early October 2022. Two sections were surveyed for spawning fish which are the Controlled Fishery Beats 1 and 2. The sections start upstream of the gorge above Steele Creek confluence and extends all the way to McKellar Hut which is approximately 13km.

Long Burn, a tributary of the Lochy River was surveyed for rainbow trout spawning in mid October 2022. The lower 1km of the Long Burn upstream from the confluence of the Lochy River was surveyed.

This reports the results of the two spawning surveys.

#### ***Methods***

The survey was conducted in early October which was based on previous anecdotal records of when rainbow trout have been observed present or spawning in inflowing tributaries of the Southern Lakes. Anecdotal information suggests that rainbow trout spawning occurs in these two sections of the Greenstone River and the lower Long Burn.

Information recorded included flow and general river conditions and the grid reference (NZTM) for the start and end of each survey section. Weather conditions were recorded using the Weather Bureau codes for sky and Beaufort wind codes for wind speed. The Greenstone River was surveyed by one observer and the Long Burn by two observers.

#### ***Results***

The upper section of the Greenstone River, Beat 1 was surveyed on day 1 walking downstream from McKellar Hut to the bottom of Beat 1 (approximately 8.0 km). Four trout including 1 rainbow, 1 brown trout and 2 unidentified trout were observed. No spawning redds were observed (Figure 1). Beat 2 was surveyed the following day by walking upstream from the gorge above Steele Creek confluence to the start of Beat 2 (approximately 5.0 km). Six trout (4 brown, 2 rainbows) and one redd were observed (Figure 2).

The lower 1.0km of the Long Burn was surveyed from the confluence of the Lochy River upstream. A total of 6 rainbow trout, 1 brown trout and 4 redds were observed (Figure 3).

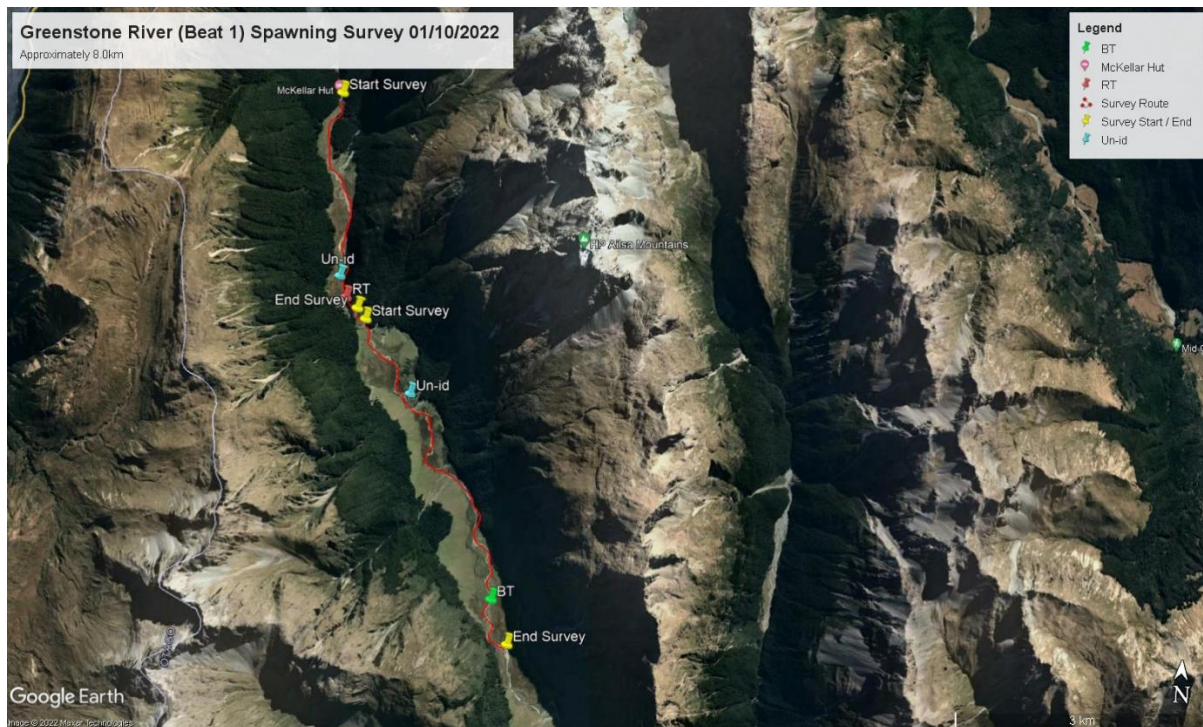


Figure 1. Map of spawning survey Greenstone River (Beat 1) and results showing 2 unidentified trout, 1 rainbow trout and 1 brown trout in approximately 8.0 km of river covered 01 October 2022.

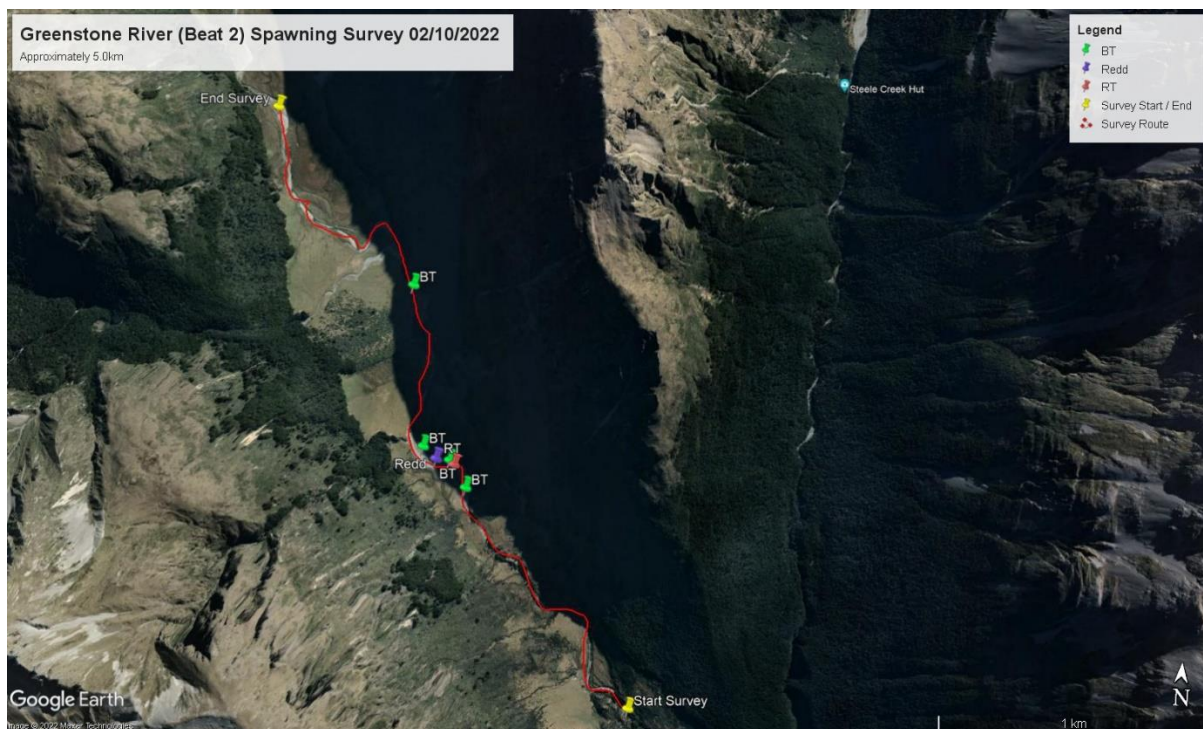


Figure 2. Map of spawning survey Greenstone River (Beat 2) and results 02 October 2022.



Figure 3. Map of spawning survey Long Burn and results 12 October 2022.

### **Discussion**

Surveys for spawning trout in both the Greenstone River and the Long Burn have not been completed before. The survey in the Greenstone River revealed a very low number of trout and only one spawning redd. This may be due to the timing of the survey and that the spawning run was yet to occur. If rainbow trout had already spawned and then out migrated to Lake Wakatipu redds would be evident in the sections where suitable spawning gravels exist. The Greenstone River Survey (Progress Report 1, Kroos, 1987) identified over 50 pairs of large rainbow trout spawning in the Greenstone River in late October 1987. The fish were observed in small channels above the drift dive station A which is in the Beat 1 section that was surveyed in this survey. A drift dive survey undertaken in October 2021 completed this section of the Greenstone River and also observed few spawning rainbow trout (van Klink, 2022).

The rainbow trout spawning run can vary annually and it can start as early as July and run through to late November. Rainbow trout were present in Quartz Creek a tributary of Lake Wanaka at the start of October (P. van Klink, pers. obs.) so it was surprising to see so few fish in the Greenstone River. The Glenorchy Fishing competition which is held on 01 October annually also noted a very low number of rainbow trout caught this year (12 out of 102 fish weighed)(B. Sowry, pers. obs.). Ideally the spawning surveys would have been repeated in late October prior to the start of the High Country season to ascertain if the spawning run was still to occur or whether the rainbow trout population in Lake Wakatipu is lower than normal.

Numbers of spawning fish observed were also low in the Long Burn. Anglers have previously observed numerous rainbow trout spawning in the lower Long Burn when the season opens on 01 November. Anglers have also reported that floods have scoured out the spawning gravels from this reach and the number of rainbow trout spawning has declined in recent years. Our observations support those observations expressed by anglers that the reach in the lower Long Burn appears to be limited for spawning due to the lack of suitable spawning gravels.

### ***Recommendations***

That this report be received

### ***Acknowledgements***

Otago Fish & Game wish to thank Dave Girling, Department of Conservation and Sharon Salmons Southern Lakes NZ Deerstalkers Association for coordinating helicopter flights in and out of the Greenstone River. Thanks to Heli Glenorchy for aerial access to and from the Greenstone River. hut. Thanks to Stu and Anne Percy, Route Burn Station for the use of Rats Nest. 01.

### ***References***

Kroos, T. 1987. *Greenstone River Survey Progress Report 1*. Unpublished report.  
Sowry, B. Fish & Game Officer, Cromwell  
van Klink, P. A. 2022. *Greenstone River Drift Dive Survey, October 2021*. Council Report June 2022.

Paul van Klink  
Fish & Game Officer  
02 November 2022

## **14.2 2022 Southern Reservoir Take a Kid Fishing & Adult Beginner Spin Fishing Classes**

On the weekends of the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> September and 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022, the Otago Fish & Game Council held four 'Take a Kid Fishing' (TAKF) events at the Southern Reservoir.

### **Planning**

The DCC approved four Fish & Game Council TAKF events at the Southern Reservoir. A conditional agreement has been reached to use the venue for future events.

### **Sponsorship**

The Otago Community Trust generously donated \$2900.00 towards the event. The money was used for things such as toilet hire, traffic management, fish transportation.

### **Promotion**

The TAKF day was promoted on the Otago Fish & Game Facebook page and a email was sent out to all the Dunedin Schools.

### **Access**

The Southern Reservoir is closed for fishing for September. This is to facilitate the liberation of trout and help improve catch-rates for the events. The reservoir was visited randomly during this month and there was no evidence of unlawful fishing.

### **Support**

Traffic Management & Control LTD supplies and erects all the road signage for the event. Hirepool supplied the toilets for the weekends.

### **Entries**

All entries were taken online using "Survey Monkey". This captures details of the attendees so they can be later contacted for follow up surveys.

### **Format of events**

There were four sessions over the two weekends (one session per day). All the sessions were held from 10 am to 12 pm. On the day of the event, participants were greeted by our friendly volunteer rangers and staff, signed in and then found a spot around the reservoir to fish.

The "Take Me Fishing" trailer was set up beside the registration table, children that didn't have a fishing rod or the rod they bought along was not suitable for trout fishing could borrow one for the event.

The TAKF trailer has 40 rod and reel sets for loan and many of the rods were used across the four sessions with all the rods being loaned out on one occasion.

### Stocking of the Southern Reservoir

Approximately 700 two-year-old rainbow trout were set aside at the Macraes Trout Hatchery for the event. 350 fish were transported and released into the reservoir before the 17<sup>th</sup> of September. Another 350 fish were released into the reservoir the week after the first weekend.

### Events

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September: 140 children registered + 5 extra on the day  
(39 didn't show)

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September: 135 children registered + 5 extra on the day  
(33 didn't show)

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September: 139 children registered + 11 extra on the day.  
(37 didn't show)

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September: 142 children registered + 9 extra on the day.  
(52 didn't show)

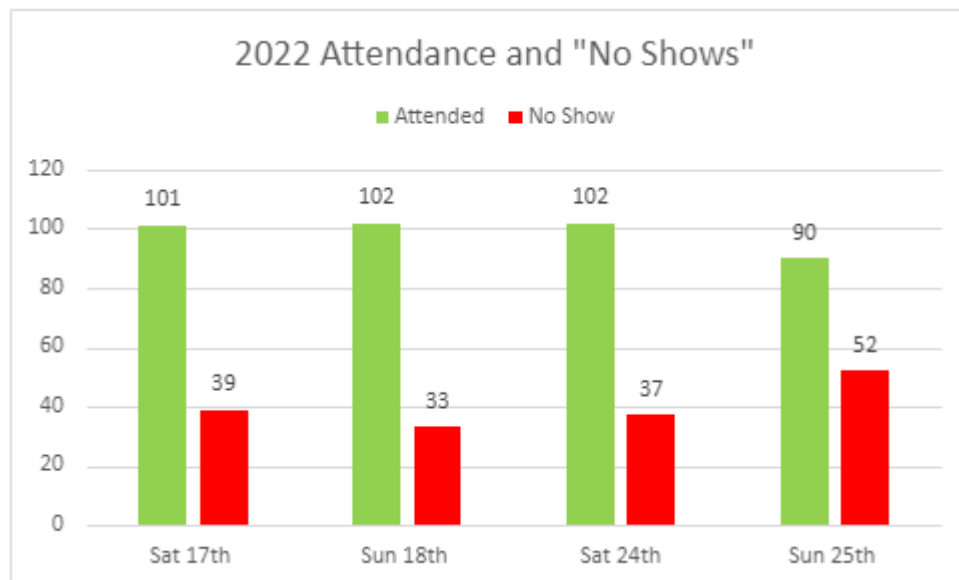
Overall registered = 556

Overall attended = 395

Overall, no show = 161

Extras on the day = 30

*This equates to a no-show rate: 29%*



*Figure 1: Attendance rates for all 4 sessions*

The low attendance/no shows on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> was most likely to be caused by the bad weather on the day.



This year, there was no form to fill out with catch data. In past years, the form was returned with just a name for the lucky draw and little by way of catch information. As with last year it was decided to survey all attendees via email to gather information.

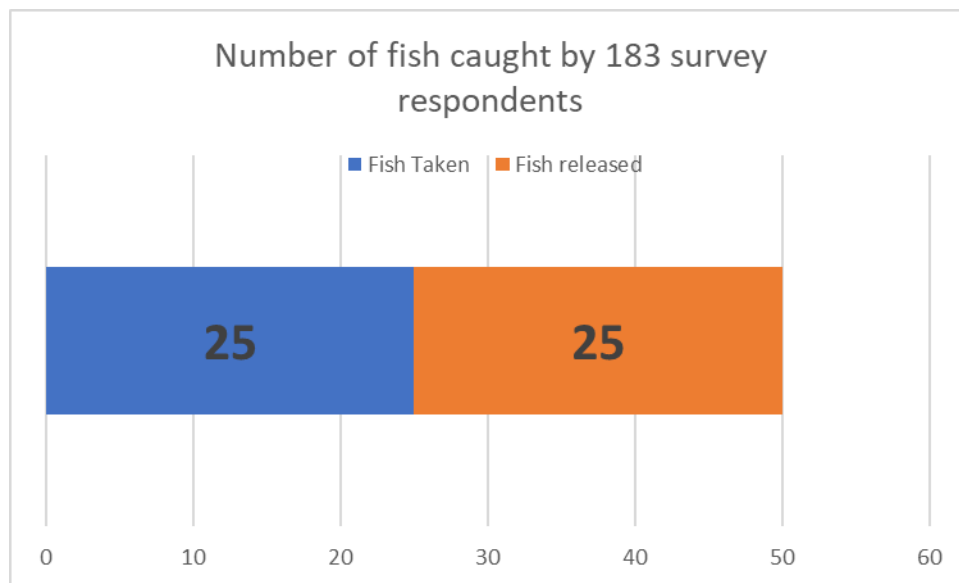
### **Survey Results and feedback**

329 families were sent the survey, with 183 completed responses.

Out of the completed responses:

25 fish were harvested (across the 4 days)

25 fish were caught and returned to the reservoir (across the 4 days)



*Figure 2: Overall catch from survey respondents*

Children that caught fish were able to keep the fish if they wished which were gutted and cleaned by Fish & Game rangers.

Fish & Game rangers and volunteers walked around the reservoir giving advice on knot tying, casting, and assisting with the landing and releasing of fish.

Participants were also asked if they had any suggestions for future events. All responses are summarised in appendix 1 below. Note: the responses highlighted in yellow show how valuable our volunteer rangers are at these events.

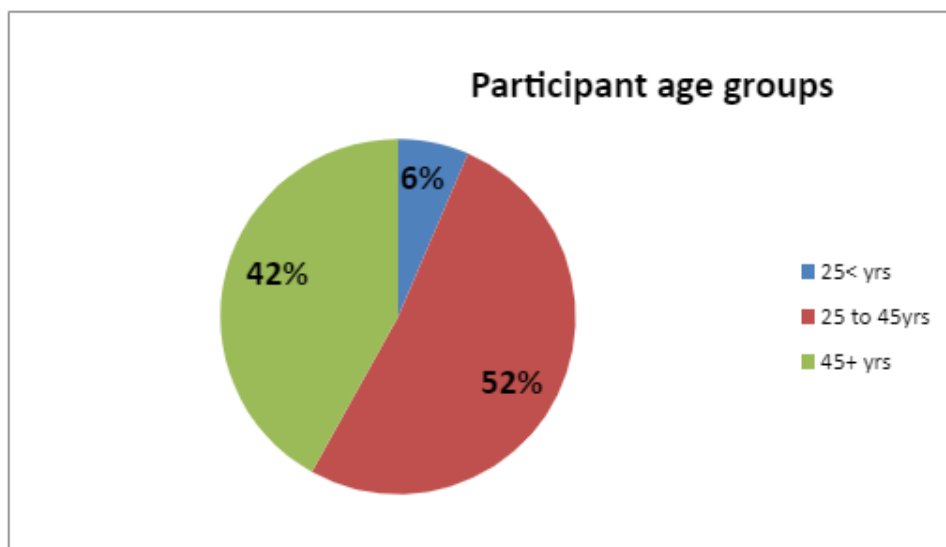
### **Beginner Adults Fishing Class**

For the last nine years, Otago Fish & Game Council has been running adult beginner fishing classes. This year there were 3 classes in Dunedin (30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> October & 1<sup>st</sup> Sept) and one class in Cromwell (2<sup>nd</sup> Sept).

**Dunedin classes** - there was a 2hr theory session (held in the Dunedin office boardroom) with a PowerPoint presentation on equipment, knots, fish species, where fish can be found, licences etc and on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> the classes were combined and a 1.5hr practical session was held at the Southern Reservoir. There were 29 registrations for the Dunedin classes and 5 fish caught on the Saturday.

**Cromwell class** - there was a 2hr theory session (held at Presbyterian Hall) on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> evening and on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> the class had a 1.5hr practical session at Sarita Orchard Pond. There were 8 registrations for this class but only 4 showed up for practical session. Most participants caught a fish.

Advertising was by way of the Fish & Game web site and on Facebook.



*Figure 3: Relative percentage of participants across age groups*

### **Acknowledgements**

Otago Community Trust, DCC, Macraes Oceana Gold, Traffic Management & Control LTD

### **Volunteers/Rangers**

Ross Taylor, Mike Teasdale, John Burnip, Brian Hutton, Ben Davies, Mark Barrett, Dan Natter, Geoff Dee

**Fish & Game staff**

Steven Dixon, Bruce Quirey, Sharon Milne, Ian Hadland

**Recommendations**

That this report is received.

**Steven Dixon  
Fish & Game Officer  
November 2022**

**Appendix 1: Suggestions for future events**

Put more Fish to catch
No it was great
It was absolutely great time and the helpers were so friendly and knowledgeable. We can't wait for next year
No suggestions , we had a great time, was a great opportunity for the kids to get out.
No we had a lot of fun
It was great as usual Thanks
Less people per day, it's way too crowded
No, very good idea and very well run. Rangers were a great help.
Would be good to have some days to help kids learn to put lures on, how to put rods together. Deal with knots that might come us etc, And for parents that are starting out.
No was run well just weather didn't play ball
Fun activity for kids and the whole family. Thank you for organising this yearly.
We couldn't find parking for a disabled family member but were eventually directed to a spot close to the entrance. Thank you
Please continue the event. Appreciate the very friendly staff and volunteers. We'll organised event.
It was fantastic
More fish!
nothing just keep going
Great Day - have the sun out
No. It was great
It is a fun activity, although we failed to get one. Hope we can catch one next year.
No. I liked the laid back approach. Last few years fish seem to be shy.
No. Everything was really well organised
None, it was a great day. Thanks
Maybe a casting corner would be helpful where kids can learn how to cast with a line that doesn't have a hook first.

More :). We dont have a rod for each child, so it would be awesome If you could Provide more rods Just for Testing before we need to buy
These are well run well thought out events
Perhaps if someone could teach how to fish will be great.
More of them.... my boys love them
It as great, really appreciated the help bd patience from the man who helped my two kids and me
Great event...just no fish
Nope well organized and great fun
None at all, it was a great day out and kids enjoyed it despite the bad weather
More fishing rods. Thanks
I was impressed with how much help we got.
Nope, I think they are good.
Get more competition
More fishing tips or a information video for the kids with parents with no fishing knowledge.
Apart from the gusty winds my 2 boys loved it.
This event was wonderful! We are completely new to fishing, and the helpers (Stuart in particular!) were very supportive and kind and patient. Stuart has a wholesome view on fishing and enjoys it as an artform and a "science" and a time to connect to nature and living things, and to enjoy the skill and the experience as much as the meal from fish that he's caught - which aligns very well with our family's view. He had a wealth of information and tips to share which we received gratefully, and good advice about how to cost-effectively kit our family of (very keen and skilled) beginners out, good fishing pratctice, and how to make sure there is as little damage to released fish as possible. This event encouraged us to pursue our interest in fishing. It was well organised and easy to attend (despite the freezing rain!). Thank you so very much for the opportunity, and for what it has added to our outdoor life :)
It was earlier in the day than we were able to manage but I understand why
No, event was very well run and organized
It is a great event, and I am very grateful to Fish and Game for doing this. I have come to the last three with grandchildren. A ver good introduction for them. The two hour time frame this year was good. My only suggestion is that it's quite a long way for little ones from the car park to the reservoir. A shuttle?

No always enjoy event organizers and rangers always helpful.
More fish!
Hungry fish?
Not really. It was well organised, just a shame we didn't catch any fish 🙄
We had a great time - very well organized and encouraging
No, we really enjoyed it & everyone was very helpful
No
Can't control the weather bur we didn't see anyone catch a fish in over an hour. Not sure if stocking rates could be increased or not, or changing when the events are.
No
No it was good
Use of crumbs to lure the fish??
No
that's excellent, thank you
More freebies
It was a great day and the second time I have taken my kids. Both times they have caught fish so that's awesome.... Would be great to see it run a few weeks later as fish were very few and far between
This is just perfect for the kids, they loved this experience. Would love to be considered next year. Maybe in he school holidays.
No
The event was superb. Maybe next time if possible the event will take place during summer time?
More fish , BBQ, coffee Van, we were last group through
hope to make it next year! great initiative
Great event.
Was well run with plenty of info. Shame about the bitter cold wind but can't change the weather!
No, I think it was well organised.
There seemed to be a lot more people this year and it was very squashed. The only thing my youngest boy hooked was the ladys head next to us. It would also be more fun if the

fish were more agreeable to being caught...Otherwise, it was a fun experience but we probably won't do it next year.
No a really well run event my boys enjoy it every year
More fish she said
Better weather. LoL.
We've been regulars at TAKF and have always thoroughly enjoyed the event. No fish this time - next time better. Thank you F&G!
Would of liked to attend but did not want to go in rain
No, was a well run event
Nope, went as well as could be expected, sometimes the fish just won't bite. Very well run event as far as I'm concerned, thanks for doing this!
More fish?
No. It was well organised and fun even without managing a catch on the day.
No, and the staff were great
No, I thought it was great
Coffee cart 😊
earlier start
Maybe a sausage sizzle? (Be a good fundraiser!) & good to have something for the kids to eat
Keep having them.
It's a great even we would have loved to have had one on the line, but it wasn't to be. Thanks again
Was a really great time even though we didn't catch anything. Will for sure do again. Thank you
Nope, it's run pretty well
No. Everything was fine.
Advertise a lure kit. I got one from hunting and fishing but I didn't know they had it. Maybe I had missed it though. Cheers
-Weather check is feasible to be able to catch a fish.
I think the event is amazing for the kids ....and it was run extremely well....the rangers had some good advice too

Great event. Keep it up. My kid really enjoyed it
It would be cool to have a bbq that people could purchase from.
No
None so far, we didn't catch any fish but we had a great time :)
Could give family's a crash course on different techniques of fishing proper knots to use proper ways to handle a fish if releasing and humane ways to harvest a fish for the plate also could run a early bird event for family's with no previous experience for these lessons would really give the family's with no proper experience a really good chance and in return would create more excitement and encourage more family's to enjoy the sport
Good fun
Great event, apart from the fish not biting on the day my 5yo and I had a great time, lovely introduction to fresh water fishing.
No
Spot Prizes
Looking forward to being able to attend the next one. Unfortunately didn't get to bring my kid to this one because I had covid. :(
No it was great, we struck wet cold weather but that's not fish & games fault!
No, very well organised. Shame about the weather!
Maybe some giveaways or perhaps kids could enter a competition drawn on the day.
BBQ sizzle
What foot wear etc one should wear
Well run event, people there were very helpful you just can't control the weather :)
It's good that fish and game are doing this
Maybe a different place?
Very well run and the people that run it were very warm, friendly and welcoming which was part of the experience for the kids
Spread over say 3 hours, allow bait fishing, stop adults fishing
Not at all , a great run day , all the officers were great value and keen to help
Food and drinks trucks
No it was fantastic, possibly maybe less families as was very crowded



We look forward to coming every year. Thanks so much for continuing to support junior anglers.
Kids really loved it. More events would be awesome
Way less numbers of children participating. It was very crowded.
Nil
Warmer and drier weather if possible. Otherwise was still a good day out.
No it was fun thanks
Put more fish in there
No. It was great
no
No, this one was our first and it was fantastic.
The kids didn't like the cold wind. Or some other peoples lures hitting them, like getting a pen licence at school some people need a casting licence, they had a higher chance catching a rabbit than a fish
It's a really good activity and more power to the team. I guess the hype is just on the 1st day. We were on the 2nd day and there's hardly anyone to help when 1 kid caught a fish and no photos :( Hope the event will get more attention and will be good to have coffee/food trucks too.
You could sell equipment or merchandise. The event was brilliantly run and we loved it thank you!
No perfectly ran and perfect day out with the kids
Possibly a few too many people - got tangled up a bit with other anglers, particularly with kids casting!
We went on the final day which is why I think we didn't catch anything. If there's a way to replenish the fish each day so the kids have more chances then that would be great but understand if this isn't an option
Previously it was possible to buy a cup of coffee which was nice
Not really, it was a great event
No it was a very well run event
More fish :-) Just kidding, the kids liked it, but we have always had terrible luck at the reservoir

## **15.0 General Business**