



TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL

AGENDA PAPERS

COUNCIL MEETING

**SATURDAY
8 DECEMBER 2018**

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

Taranaki Region

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AGENDA

SATURDAY 8 DECEMBER 2018

TO BE HELD AT
AUTOLODGE MOTOR INN
393 DEVON STREET EAST, NEW PLYMOUTH

COMMENCING AT 10:00AM

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TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL, HELD AT THE TET MULTI SPORT STADIUM, 65 PORTIA STREET, OPUNAKE ON 3RD NOVEMBER 2018 COMMENCING AT 10:00AM.

The Chairman, Paul Blewman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

1. PRESENT

Councillors Paul Blewman, Alan Flynn, Romon Sargeson, Steve Hugo, Cory Potroz, David Potroz, Gerard Karalus, Chris Bright, Chris Donald and Craig McEwen.

IN ATTENDANCE

Manager Glenn Maclean, Senior Field Officer Allen Stancliff, Secretary Jilli Steedman and Daniel Gordon and Terry Russell.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Graeme Mackenzie.

MOVED D. POTROZ / HUGO

THAT THE APOLOGIES RECEIVED BE SUSTAINED
CARRIED

3. WELCOME TO GUESTS

The Chairman welcomed Councillors, Fish and Game staff and visitors to the meeting. He congratulated councillors on the election results.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The secretary circulated a conflict of interest form for councillors to register any conflicts of interest for this meeting, it was noted that this will be a requirement for every meeting.

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING 18 AUGUST 2018

MOVED HUGO / D. POTROZ

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 18TH AUGUST 2018 IN OPUNAKE, BE CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.
CARRIED.

MOVED D POTROZ / HUGO
THAT THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE FOLLOWING PARTS OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF
THIS MEETING, NAMELY;
TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED MEETING HELD 18 AUGUST 2018
CARRIED

MOVED D. POTROZ / HUGO
THAT THE PUBLIC BE READMITTED
CARRIED

6. MATTERS ARISING

There were none.

7. AGENDA MANAGEMENT & 5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

Completed items will be removed from the Action List.

The manager noted that Lake Takaora, in Hawera has received its first release of trout.

8. HEALTH AND SAFETY

MOVED NANCARROW / DONALD
THAT THE MANAGERS HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT, BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

9. 2017/18 LICENCE SALES REPORT

There was discussion on the affordability of our licences and options for other means of payment. The manager agreed to raise the ideas re payment with Q or Farmlands cards with the Licence Working Party.

MOVED D POTROZ / SARGESON

THAT THE 2017/18 FISH AND GAME LICENCE SALES REPORTS AND 2018/19 OPENING
WEEKEND FISH LICENCE SALES REPORT, BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

10. 2017/18 GAME BIRD DISPERSAL REPORT

Councillors noted the higher number of mallard and pukeko permits issued.

MOVED DONALD / NANCARROW

THAT THE GAME BIRD DISPERSAL REPORT – 2017/2018, BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

11. 2017/18 HATCHERY AND TROUT LIBERATION REPORT

There was a reduction in the number of ova ordered and received but the fish produced were excellent.

It was noted that there had been a trout release into the lower Patea River, the second year of a five year trout release program.

Councillor Donald enquired about hatchery volunteers and if there was a need for any maintenance at the Hatchery.

There was discussion on the optimum number of fish. and the manager noted the Cawthron report.

Councillor Flynn noted the goodwill of Lowe Walker allowing the hatchery to operate on their land rent free.

Councillors commended staff on the excellent report.

MOVED D POTROZ / BRIGHT

THAT THE 2017/2018 TROUT LIBERATION REPORT DATED 20TH SEPTEMBER 2018, BE RECEIVED

12. 2017/2018 COMPLIANCE REPORT

Ranger's warrants have been renewed for a further 3 years.

There had been no offences detected this year. The presence of Police with Fish and Game Rangers during the opening weekend of the game bird season was well received by hunters.

MOVED KARALUS / C POTROZ

THAT THE TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL ACCEPT ACCEPT THIS COMPLIANCE REPORT FOR 2017/2018 NOTING THAT;

- RECRUITMENT, MANAGEENT AND TRAINING OF HONORARY RANGERS MET THE PLANNED RESULT IN THE OPERATIONAL PLAN.
- COMPLIANCE CHECKS OF HUNTERS AND ANGLERS REACHED THE TARGET OF 100 LICENCE HOLDERS IN EACH CASE.
- COMPLIANCE WITH THE REGULATIONS WAS 100%

CARRIED

13. SOUTH TARANAKI RAINBOW TROUT RELEASE TRIAL

There was discussion on the impact hatchery reared fish have on the wild population.

The manager noted the Cawthron report reviewing national stocking practices and that a National Policy on stocking was currently being developed which would influence development of the Council's own stocking policy and rearing requirements.

MOVED HUGO / C POTROZ

1. THAT THE COUNCIL CEASE ALL LIBERATIONS OF HATCHERY TROUT INTO THE WAINGONGORO RIVER, KAPUNI STREAM AND KAUPOKONUI STREAM;
2. THAT RELEASES OF HATCHERY YEARLING AND TWO YEAR OLD RAINBOW TROUT CONTINUE INTO OPUNAKE LAKE IN THE WAIUA RIVER CATCHMENT;

3. THAT THE PROPORTION OF RAINBOW TROUT IN THE CATCH CONTINUE TO BE MONITORED VIA THE ANGLER DIARY SCHEME;
4. THAT THE REPORT ON THE SOUTH TARANAKI RAINBOW TROUT RELEASE TRIAL BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

14. 2017/2018 FISHERY MONITORING REPORT

The manager noted the success of the angler diary scheme.

Councillor Karalus wondered that in light of the council resolution to cease liberations into the Waingongoro River if the 4 fish bag limit be reduced to 2, and suggested that the Waingongoro River continue to be monitored for any decline in population and fish health.

MOVED KARALUS / SARGESON

THAT THE TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL ACCEPT THIS FISHERY MONITORING REPORT FOR 2017/18 AND RECORDS ITS APPRECIATION FOR THE VALUED EFFORTS OF THE DAIRY CONTRIBUTORS.

CARRIED

15. HUNTING AND HABITAT SCHEME APPLICATIONS

The manager and field officer described the three applications that meet the criteria for funding.

Councillor Sargeson noted his relationship with one of the applicants and a conflict of interest has been registered for this meeting.

MOVED NANCARROW / C POTROZ

THAT COUNCIL APPROVES THE FOLLOWING APPLICATION FOR FUNDING (GST INCL) FROM THE HUNTING & HABITAT SCHEME;

1	TAKAHURI	\$5,482
2	COTE BROOK	\$475
3	ANNADALE WATERS	\$7,538

CARRIED

16. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman noted his discussions with the Manager about staff remuneration.

He noted his submissions regarding the Indigenous Freshwater Fish Bill.

MOVED BLEWMAN / HUGO

THAT THE CHAIRMAN'S VERBAL REPORT BE RECEIVED

CARRIED

17. NATIONAL COUNCILLORS REPORT

National Council appointee Alan Flynn reported on the following matters that were discussed at the National Council meeting held on 28th September 2018 in Wellington:

- Guides licence – further discussions are occurring with DOC officials
- Infringement bill
- Stocking and hatchery review;
- Promotion of the R3 initiative;
- Trout farming;
- Clearer definition of a non-resident;
- New National Office headquarters;

MOVED FLYNN / DONALD

THAT NATIONAL COUNCIL APPOINTEE, ALAN FLYNN'S VERBAL REPORT BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

18. WORK PLAN AND BUDGET PROGRESS REPORT TO 31ST AUGUST 2018

Councillors discussed the opposition to the application for a category 1 listing by Heritage NZ for the Kaupokonui River, Glenn Road weir.

MOVED D POTROZ / C POTROZ

THAT THE WORK PLAN AND BUDGET PROGRESS REPORT TO 31ST AUGUST 2018, BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

19. PROFIT AND LOSS AND BALANCE SHEET

MOVED NANCARROW / D POTROZ

THAT THE PROFIT & LOSS AND BALANCE SHEET TO 31ST AUGUST 2018, BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

20. CORRESPONDENCE SCHEDULES

MOVED D POTROZ / DONALD

THAT THE CORRESPONDENCE SCHEDULE TO 10 OCTOBER 2018 AS SHEWN ON PAGES 84 & 85, BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

21. GENERAL BUSINESS

Councillor Karalus tabled a paper on NZ Beef & Lamb initiatives to help farmers monitor and measure their on-farm environmental foot print, and welcomed this development. The manager mentioned the Indigenous Freshwater Fish Bill amendment and the implications it could have for Fish & Game

The manager gave an update on 3 audits currently underway within Fish & Game nationally.

22.

The next ordinary meeting and AGM will be held on 8 December 2018, in New Plymouth.

23. CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 12:30pm.

The Chairman noted that the first meeting of the new Council will commence after the break for lunch.

Terry Russell left the meeting.

APPROVED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

CHAIRMAN _____

DATE _____

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

MINUTES OF FIRST MEETING OF NEW TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL, HELD AT THE TET MULTI SPORTS CENTRE, 65 PORTIA STREET, STRATFORD. ON SATURDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2018 COMMENCING AT THE CLOSURE OF THE COUNCIL'S ORDINARY MEETING.

The Manager assumed the chair and called the meeting to order at 1:30pm.

1. PRESENT

Chairman Glenn Maclean, Councillors Paul Blewman, Daniel Gordon, Chris Bright, Chris Donald, Alan Flynn, David Potroz, Gerard Karalus, Romon Sargeson, Craig McEwen, Cory Potroz, John Nancarrow and Steve Hugo.

IN ATTENDANCE

Fish & Game Staff Jilli Steedman and Allen Stancliff.

2. APOLOGIES

Terry Russell

MOVED D POTROZ / HUGO

THAT THE APOLOGIES RECEIVED, BE SUSTAINED
CARRIED.

3. LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987

The manager described the Fish & Game structure, National Council, regions, funding, budgeting and planning. He noted the importance of notifying council of any conflicts of interest

4. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

The manager called for nominations for Chairman.

MOVED FLYNN / DONALD

THAT COUNCILLOR PAUL BLEWMAN BE NOMINATED AS CHAIRMAN OF
TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
CARRIED

There were no other nominations received.

COUNCILLOR BLEWMAN WAS DECLARED ELECTED, AND
CONGRATULATED BY THE COUNCIL

Declared elected by acclamation. Paul Blewman expressed his thanks for Council's confidence.

The Chairman Paul Blewman assumed the chair and called for nominations for the appointment of the National Council appointee.

5. APPOINTMENT OF NATIONAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

MOVED BRIGHT / DONALD
THAT COUNCILLOR ALAN FLYNN BE NOMINATED AS NATIONAL
COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE FOR TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
CARRIED

There no other nominations received.

COUNCILLOR FLYNN WAS DECLARED ELECTED, AND
CONGRATULATED BY THE COUNCIL

6. PROVISIONAL 2019 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

The Secretary tabled an updated paper, explaining that NZ Council had recently advised of their meeting dates for 2019.

Councillors decided that the 2019 AGM should be held in Raetihi.

MOVED D POTROZ/ HUGO
THAT THE MEETING DATES AND VENUES FOR 2019 BE:
10 FEBRUARY RAETIHI
6 APRIL WHANGANUI
22 JUNE WAITARA
24 AUGUST OPUNAKE
12 OCTOBER STRATFORD
9 DECEMBER RAETIHI
CARRIED

7. CLOSURE

There being no further business the chairman declared the meeting closed at 1:45 pm.

APPROVED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

CHAIRMAN _____

DATE _____

TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Taranaki Fish & Game Council

AGENDA MANAGEMENT

Council should do the following things;

- Review progress with items on the Action List, these items derived from past Council meetings
- Review the Annual Program for Meeting Agendas, and decide if any items should be added/ moved or deleted from this
- Review the Current Agenda and decide on the order of items, the timing requirements for items, any items to be deferred, or any new business to be tabled.

No resolutions should be necessary here, unless to resolve debate on a future course of action. The Minutes will record all issues that Council agrees, and these will be reflected in future Action Lists, Annual Programs, and Agendas as may be appropriate.

Glenn Maclean
Regional Manager
27 November 2018

TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL

ACTION LIST ARISING FROM COUNCIL DECISIONS

Subject	Responsible	Target Date	Item Update – Actions Required
Reinstatement of sign at Lake Mangamahoe/ erection of fishing platforms	Manager	June 2017	Platform design approved by engineer
Invite to Conservation Board chair	Manager	February 2018	Awaiting appointment of new board
Add milestones in 5 year Strategic Plan	Manager	February 2019	
Definition of Valid Paradise Special Season Permit included in Game Gazette Notice	Manager	December 2018	Included in draft Game Gazette Notice for December 2018 Council meeting
Takaora release	Manager	November 2018	Initial release made
Note to Licence working party re Q card/ Farmlands card	Manager	November 2018	Completed
Advise H&H applicants of outcome	Manager	November 2018	Completed

TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA PROGRAM

Meeting	Board	Operational	Statutory	Strategic/Policy
9 February 2019 Raetihi	All Board Items	All Operational Items, to be received	Confirm Game Season Regulations.	Review 5 Year Strategic Plan
6 April 2019 Whanganui	All Board Items	All Operational Items, to be received	Consider Draft 2019/2020 Annual Operational Work Plan & Budget.	
44 June 2019 Waitara	All Board Items.	All Operational Items, to be Received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish Season Regs. • Licence fee recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominations for Bruce McKenzie Memorial Award
24 August 2019 Opunake	All Board Items.	All Operational Items, to be Received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt 2019 / 2020 Annual Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive nominations for Bruce McKenzie Memorial Award • 2019 Game Season Report
12 October 2019 Stratford	All Board Items.	All Operational Items, to be Received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of Year Project Reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020 meeting dates • First meeting of new Council
7 December 2018 New Plymouth meeting and AGM	All Board Items.	All Operational Items, to be Received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2019 Game Gazette Notice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

2017/18 – 2021/22 Strategic Plan

Approved 10th February 2018

Work Area	Key Result	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2020/22
Advocacy	Signage	Identify sign locations and priorities and prescribe replacement schedule	Replace/ erect new signs on rivers and lakes around the region consistent with the priorities identified			
		Lake Mangamahoe information signs				
	New or updated angling and hunting pamphlets and/or web pages	Coastal lakes with emphasis on how to catch perch	Whanganui River			
		Update Waimarino information including Manganuioteao and Mangawhero rivers			Produce pamphlet with guidance re where to find detailed information	
		Update Waingoro information	Update Taranaki Ringplain information			

		Introduction to pheasant hunting in Taranaki Region	Introduction to duck hunting opportunities in the Taranaki Region	
	Effective use of the Media	Develop new pages and regularly update		
			Review media strategy	
		Develop facebook page		
Children's fishing days		Trial to rear fish for Stratford fishing day		
Increase participation			Explore options for discounted licences for beginning hunters	
		Develop mentoring schemes for hunters and anglers including public instruction/ information days		
Manage hunter behaviour		Develop long-term strategy to achieve appropriate hunter behaviour	Implement strategy	
Compliance strategy			Review Compliance Strategy	
			Consider other options to undertake compliance if and when these become available	
Honorary Rangers				
Taranaki Freshwater Plan		Actively engage in process as opportunities arise		
Resource				

Management Act	Our long-term approach					Review strategic approach (to include priorities and time commitments)
Administration	Simplify operational outputs and coding	Implement any outcomes of National Council financial review				
	New Plymouth office	Implement preferred option				
	Whanganui office	Update signage and office interior				
	Administrative support	Review computing requirements including file storage/ sharing				
Sports fish monitoring and management	Obtain baseline information for key streams	Manganuioteao River (yr 2)	Waiwhakaiho system			
	Investigate value of stocking specific streams and lakes	Waingongoro, Kapuni & Kaupokonui Stream and tributaries (yr 3)	Review and refine stocking plan for region			
	Investigate opportunities to restore fisheries	Timaru Stream			Stony River	

	Improve angler access	Provide for increased angling access around Lake Mangamahoe through provision of two angling platforms			
	Use of angler surveys and diaries	Develop fishery in Hawera irrigation pond			
	Review Management Plan	Review opportunities to monitor specific rivers in light of NAS results and to include satisfaction		Review and complete new Management Plan (expired 8 August 2021)	
Hatchery	Long-term operation	Review requirements and options. Will be influenced by stocking studies above, children's fishing day review and also by future NP office requirements		Implement decisions	
		Exotic disease response plan			
Gamebird monitoring and investigations	Mallard Duck monitoring	Investigate movement of ducks between high and low country and implications for any monitoring programme			
		Implement trial monitoring protocol for Waimarino and refine as required (yr 2)	Implement trial monitoring protocol for Whanganui		
	Pukeko			Review option of a	

monitoring	Habitat enhancement	Promote practical outcomes out of the Mallard Research Project	Establish environmental award	summer season	
		Promote and develop quality wetland and upland game habitats in association with private landowners and other agencies and including by promoting the GBHT and H&H funds			
New opportunities		Keep up to date with current predator control techniques and operations and actively seek to implement effective programmes as appropriate			
		Explore option for wider Nukumarū wildlife area			
		Predator trapping trial/s to enhance game populations			
Hunter aspirations		Resolve permits to rear, release and disturb	Review criteria/ policy to rear and release upland game		
			Locate and publicise quality gamebird recipes especially for paradise duck		
		Survey of aspirations of upland game bird hunters	Survey of aspirations of waterfowl hunters		

Review: February 2019 Council Meeting

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Taranaki Fish and Game Council

HEALTH AND SAFETY – December 2018

Background

As part of its commitment to Health and Safety and providing a safe workplace the Council requires a report at each meeting detailing the implementation and adherence to the Health and Safety policy and manual including;

1. any new issues or hazards that have arisen and how these have been addressed
2. progress with any ongoing issues
3. outcomes of audits and reviews required in the Health and Safety manual
4. any near misses or injuries and including investigation outcomes and recommendations

Update

1. New issues or hazards	
None identified	

3. Ongoing issues	
Reliability of fire extinguishers	NP Office – office extinguisher being replaced by landlord. Allen to follow this up again
Safe storage – New Plymouth Office	Mezzanine floor completed. NP Office Hazard Control Plan updated to reflect this change
Unstable hillsides above Parapara highway	Follow NZTA instructions, recognise the risk of falling rocks and avoid stopping under any cliffs
4. Audits , reviews and meetings	
HSE included as agenda item for staff meeting	Staff meeting held 27 November 2018. Discussed importance of

<p>Annual review of Health and Safety Manual</p> <p>Self-audit form</p> <p>Annual review of Hazard Control Plans</p> <p>Staff check use of PPE gear by others in the field</p>	<p>adjusting weekly intentions form when plans change and ensuring someone is always aware when we are expected home.</p> <p>Completed July 2018</p> <p>Completed July 2018</p> <p>Review of Whanganui Office, Kids fishing days, Fish releases and Hazardous substances completed</p>
<p>5. Near misses and injuries</p>	
<p>Nil this period</p>	

Glenn Maclean

Regional Manager

23 November 2018

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

INTERIM WAIMARINO BANDING REPORT

During January over the last two years staff implemented a duck banding programme in the Waimarino area. This involved building traps and learning new techniques as well as developing an effective programme. It has proved successful and in 2017 we banded 122 grey and mallard ducks at 3 sites and in 2018 banded 248 ducks at 4 sites.

Hunters have also been encouraged to return data on any banded ducks they have shot either via contact during the gamebird harvest survey, by articles in the F&G magazine, hunting newsletter and newspaper or through personal contact.

The results to date are summarised in table 1.

Table 1. Number of ducks banded and bands returned by hunters in 2017 and 2018

	Banded	Recovered 2017	% recovered	Recovered 2018	% recovered
2017	122	6	4.9	5	4.3*
2018				11	4.4

* Adjusted to account for the banded birds shot in 2017

Table 1 reveals that consistently less than 5% of banded ducks were reported shot. This suggests that hunting in the Waimarino results in approximately 5% of the overall duck population being shot. This ignores that there will be a level of non-reporting of bands but nevertheless hunting mortality is clearly low.

That a similar proportion of banded birds was shot in 2017 and 2018 from the 2017 banded group suggests that survival of these ducks was very high over these 18 months, including over the 2017 breeding period.

We can also use the known harvest and band returns of two local hunting groups and also from the gamebird harvest survey (table 2) to derive an estimate of the local population size.

Table 2. Known bag and band returns from two hunting groups and gamebird harvest survey respondents in the Waimarino area 2018

Hunters	Recorded bag	2018 bands recovered
Berry	214	2
Maclean	24	4
Waimarino hunters interviewed on the gamebird harvest survey	60	0
TOTAL	298	6

In table 2 2% of the recorded 2018 harvest comprised ducks banded in 2018. From this data we can estimate the local population size using the Chapman mark-recapture method (Ricker 1975)

$$N = \frac{(M+1)(C+1)}{(R+1)-1}$$

Where N = total population estimate, M = number of ducks banded, C = total number of ducks shot and R = number of banded ducks recaptured (shot).

By applying this formula we can derive a population estimate for the immediate Ohakune/ Raetihi area of 12,400 ducks in 2018. On the basis that 5% of the population is shot (table 1) then this represents a total harvest of approximately 620 ducks.

This is obviously only a limited data set and by repeating this programme again this summer will give us greater confidence in the results. Similarly the hunting effort in the Waimarino region represents only a very small part of the total effort across the region. For example in the 2018 gamebird harvest survey Waimarino hunters accounted for 4% of Taranaki hunters interviewed and 5% of the total harvest. Nevertheless the following can be concluded at this stage;

1. In the Waimarino area the duck population is healthy and hunting harvest is only a minor source of duck mortality
2. Tweaking the hunting regulations is unlikely to have any impact on the local population, at least in good breeding years like 2017 and 2018
3. The technique and programmes can be successfully used to estimate hunting mortality and total population size.

Another interesting piece of information is the apparent movement of some ducks between Auckland and the lower Waikato and this area. Two birds banded north of Auckland were recaptured during our banding operations little over a month later, and two birds we banded were later shot at Huntly and Cambridge. Conversely there is no apparent link at this stage with further south.

The intent at this stage is to repeat this programme for one more year in the Waimarino to hopefully confirm these results and then to move to the more heavily hunted Whanganui region.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Taranaki Fish & Game Council receives this Interim Waimarino Banding Report

Glenn Maclean

Regional Manager

15 November 2018

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

2018 TARANAKI PHEASANT HUNTER SURVEY

At the completion of the 2018 gamebird season the Council emailed an electronic survey of 15 questions (using Survey Monkey) to all Taranaki gamebird hunters over 18 for whom we held a valid email address. The email invited current pheasant hunters or those who had been one to complete the survey, or to otherwise to ignore the survey request.

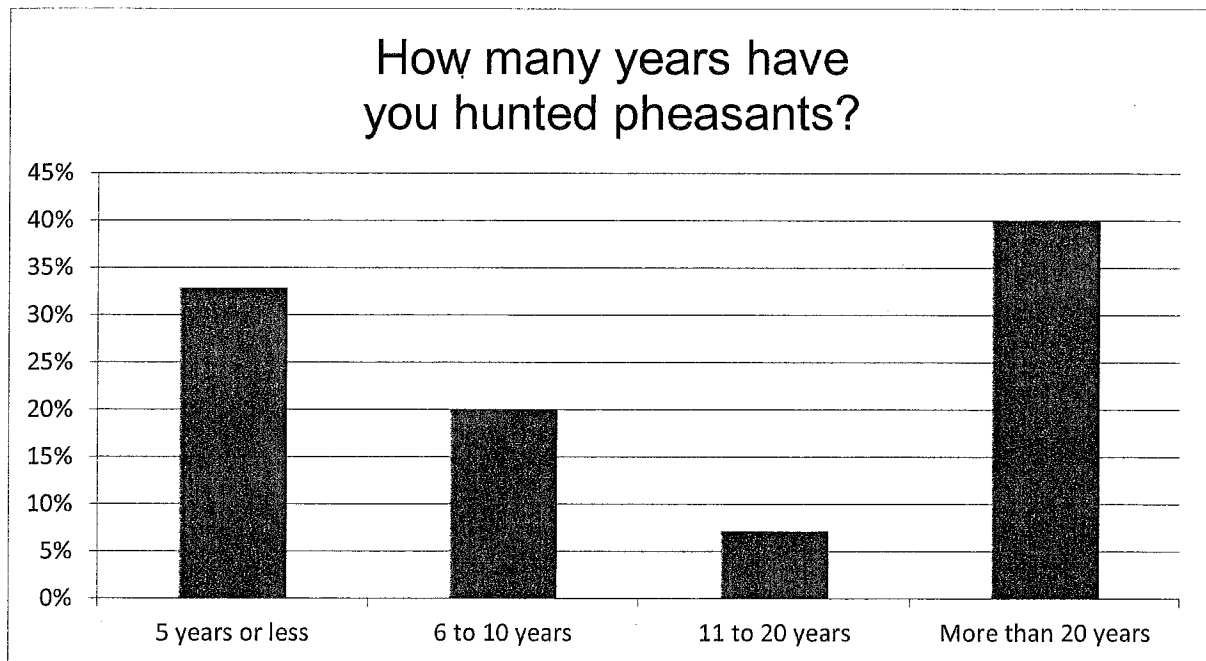
In total 658 hunters were sent the survey request and 333 of the emails were opened. 81 hunters (12.3%) clicked through the survey, 70 answered at least some questions and 64 hunters fully completed the survey.

This represents a response from 10.6% of the hunters emailed the survey, recognising that many, if not the majority of these hunters were likely not to be pheasant hunters.

Results

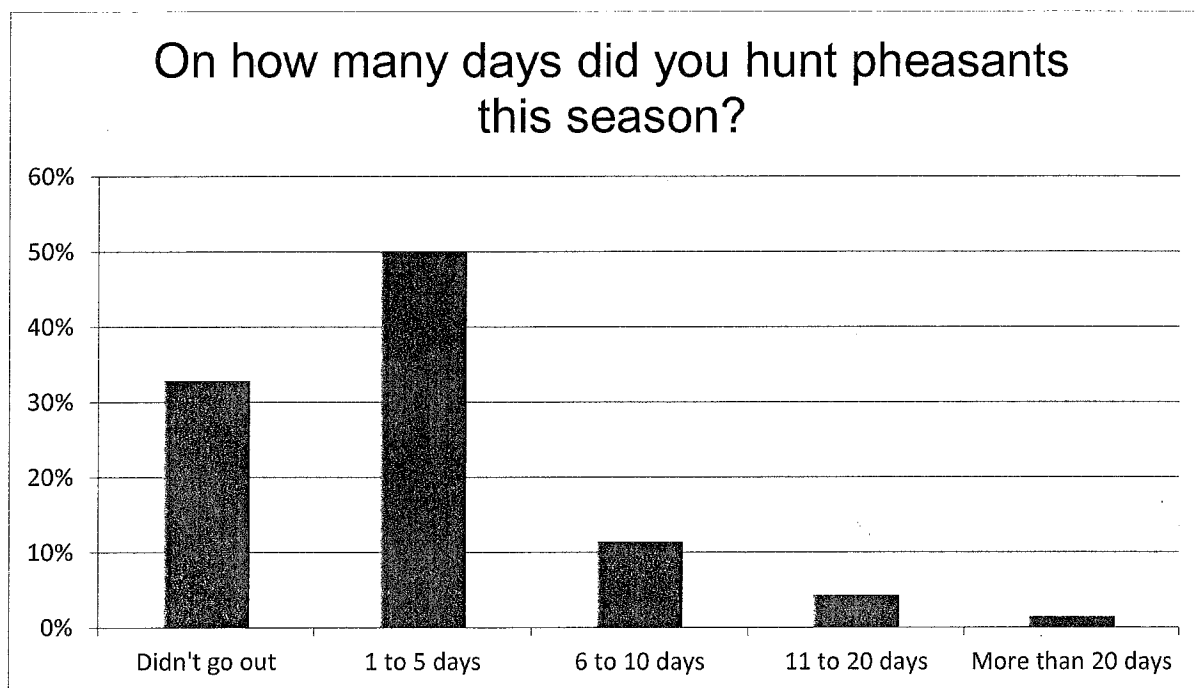
Q1. How many years have you hunted pheasants? (70 responses)

Question	Number of hunters	% of hunters
5 years or less	23	32.9
6 to 10 years	14	20
11 to 20 years	5	7.1
More than 20 years	28	40
	70	



Q2. On how many days did you hunt pheasants this season? (70 responses)

Question	Number of hunters	% of hunters
Didn't go out	23	32.9
1 to 5 days	35	50
6 to 10 days	8	11.4
11 to 20 days	3	4.3
More than 20 days	1	1.4
	70	



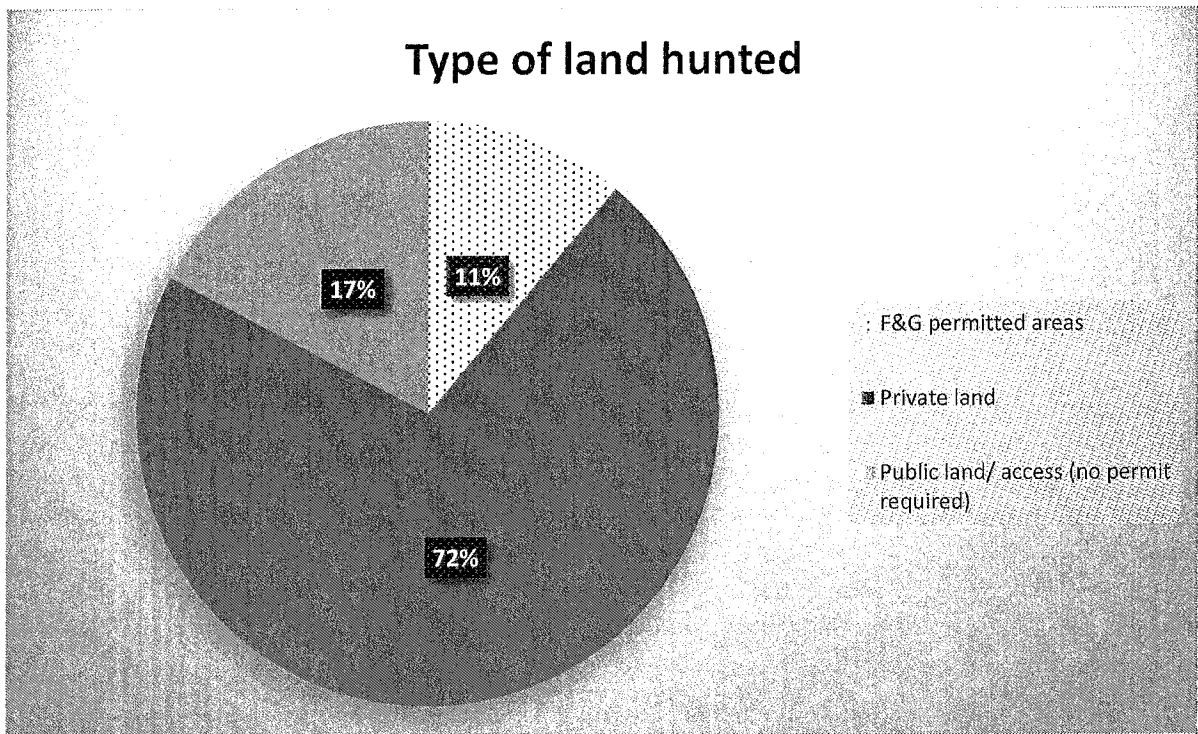
Note the following questions 3 to 6 were only asked of those hunters who indicated they went pheasant hunting this season in Q2.

Q3. Overall how did you rate your pheasant hunting experience this season? (0 – terrible to 100 - excellent). Average score over 43 responses was **62.5 ± 6.64** (95% C.I)

Q4. Where did you hunt pheasants this season? (41 hunters responded, some of whom utilised more than 1 type of land)

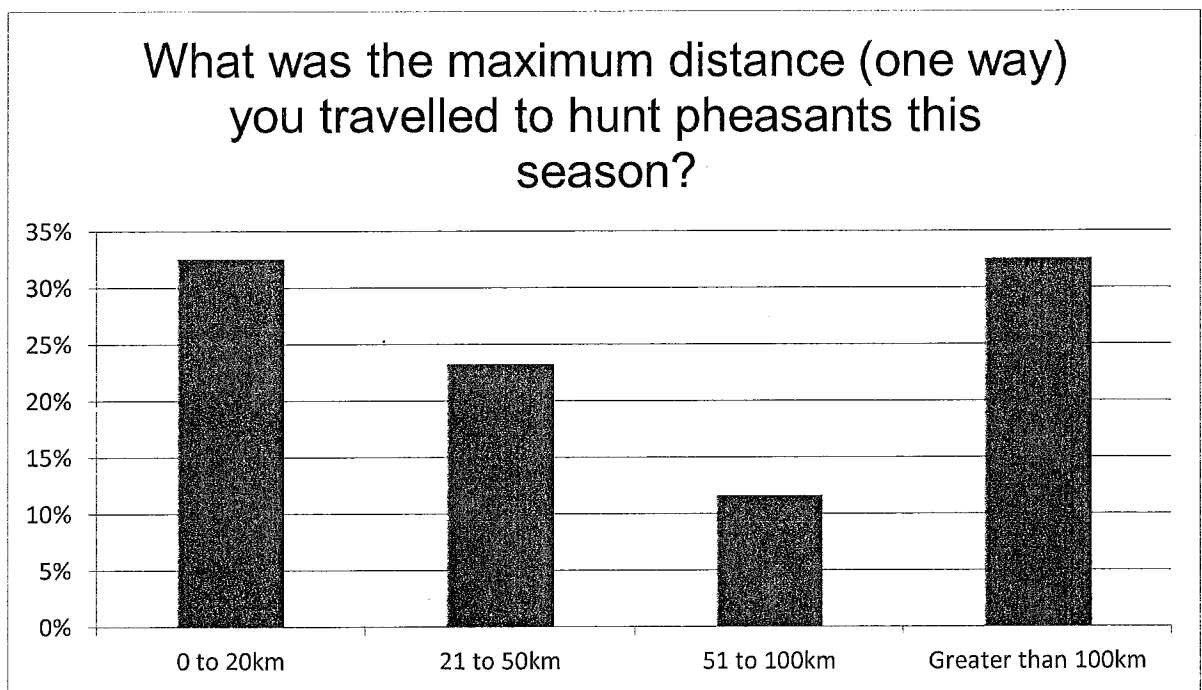
Type of land	Number of hunters	% of hunters	Total number of hunts	% total effort
F&G permitted areas	7	17.1	25	11.1
Private land	37	90.2	161	71.6
Public land/ access (no permit required)	7	17.1	39	17.3
			225	

Type of land hunted



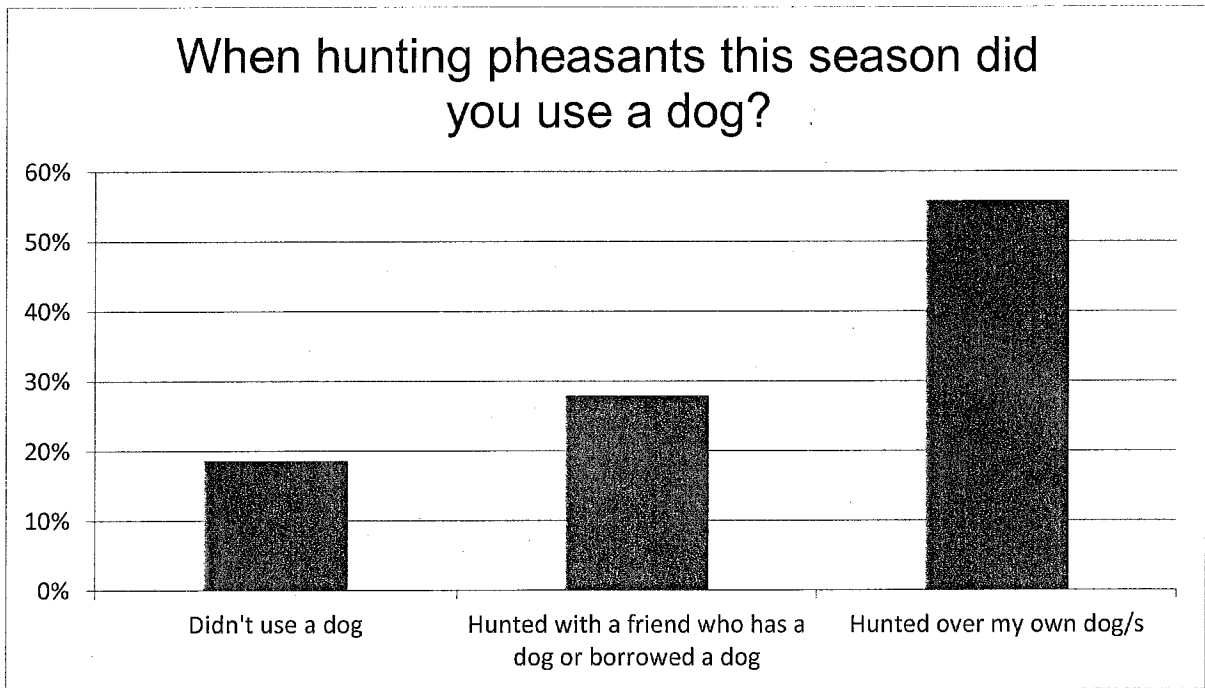
Q5. What was the maximum distance (one way) you travelled to hunt pheasants this season? (43 responses)

Distance travelled	Responses	% of hunters
0 to 20 km	14	32.6
21 to 50 km	10	23.3
51 to 100 km	5	11.6
Greater than 100 km	14	32.6



Q6. When hunting pheasants this season did you use a dog (click as many responses as apply)? (43 responses)

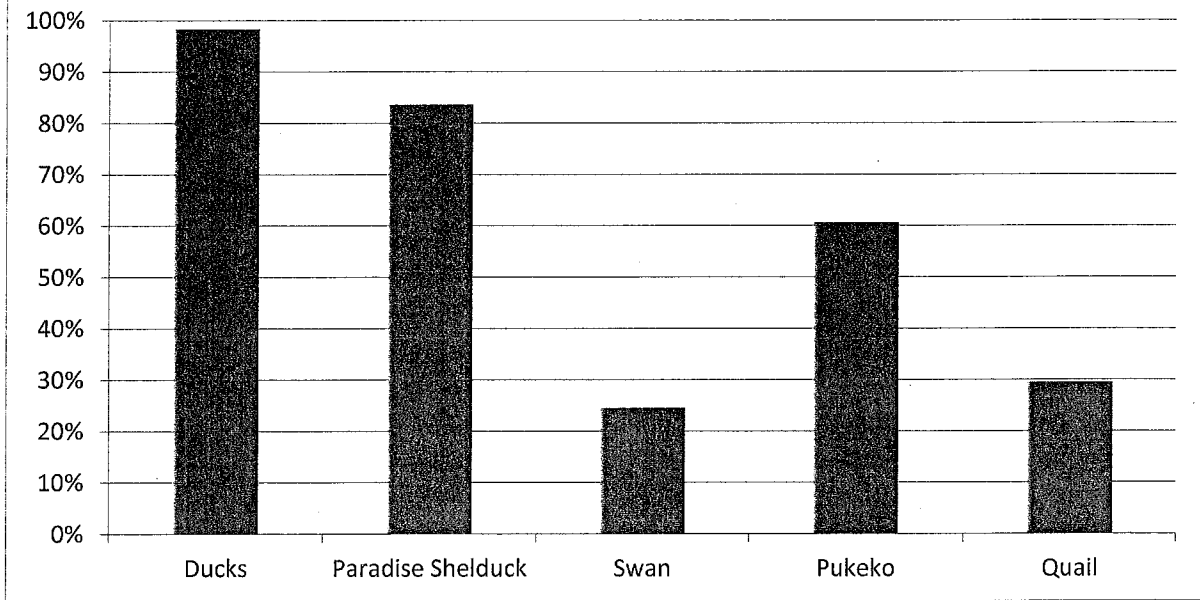
	Number of hunters	% of hunters
Didn't use a dog	8	18.6
Hunted with a friend who has a dog/ borrowed a dog	12	27.9
Hunted over my own dog/s	24	55.8



Q7. What other gamebird species do you hunt (click as many as apply)? (61 responses)

	Number of hunters	% of hunters
Ducks	60	98.4
Paradise Shelduck	51	83.6
Swan	15	24.6
Pukeko	37	60.7
Quail	18	29.5

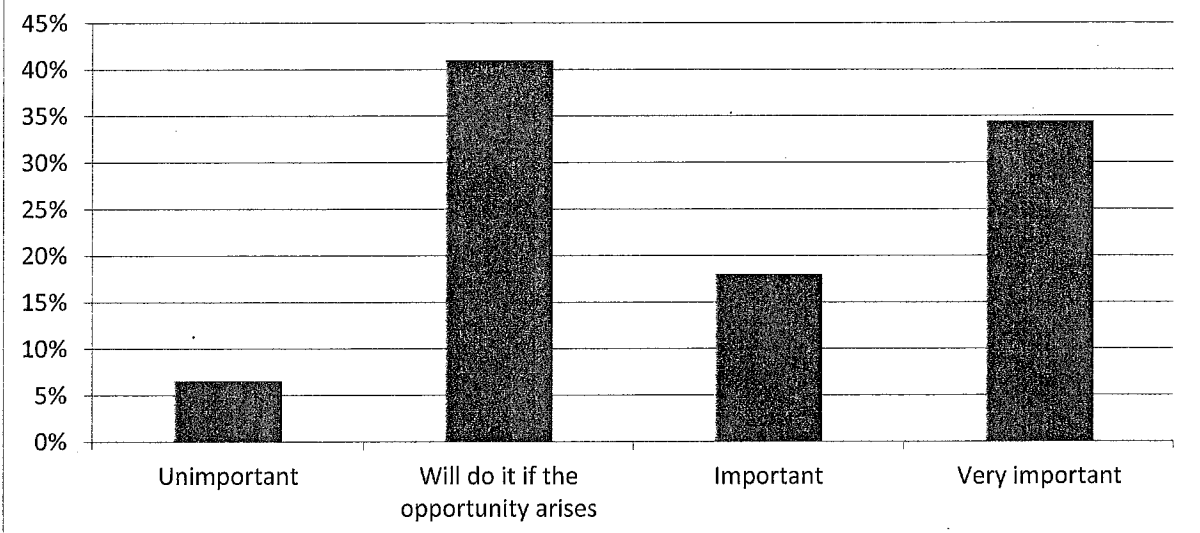
What other gamebird species do you hunt?



Q8. How important to you is pheasant hunting in the Taranaki region? (61 responses)

	Number of hunters	% of hunters
Unimportant	4	6.6
Will do if the opportunity arises	25	41
Important	11	18
Very important	21	34.4
	61	

How important to you is pheasant hunting in the Taranaki region?



Questions 9 to 11 were deliberately kept open ended so as to avoid suggesting any particular response.

Q9. What is the key factor/s for you that contribute to having a good pheasant hunting experience?

62 hunters answered this question and their responses are summarised as follows.

	Number of hunters	% of hunters
Working with a good dog	14	22.6
Having a good place to go	15	24.2
Seeing enough birds	34	54.8
Success	3	4.8
Sharing hunt with mates	8	12.9
Hunting good habitat/ predator control	7	11.3
Controlled access/ no other hunters or poachers	3	4.8
Weather	1	1.6

Q10. What is the key factor/s for you that make for an unsatisfactory pheasant hunting experience? (61 responses)

	Number of hunters	% of hunters
Lack of birds	26	42.6
Not enough habitat	5	8.2
Lack of access	12	19.7
Poor weather	4	6.6
No dog or poor dog	3	4.9
Other	9	14.8
Nothing	8	13.1

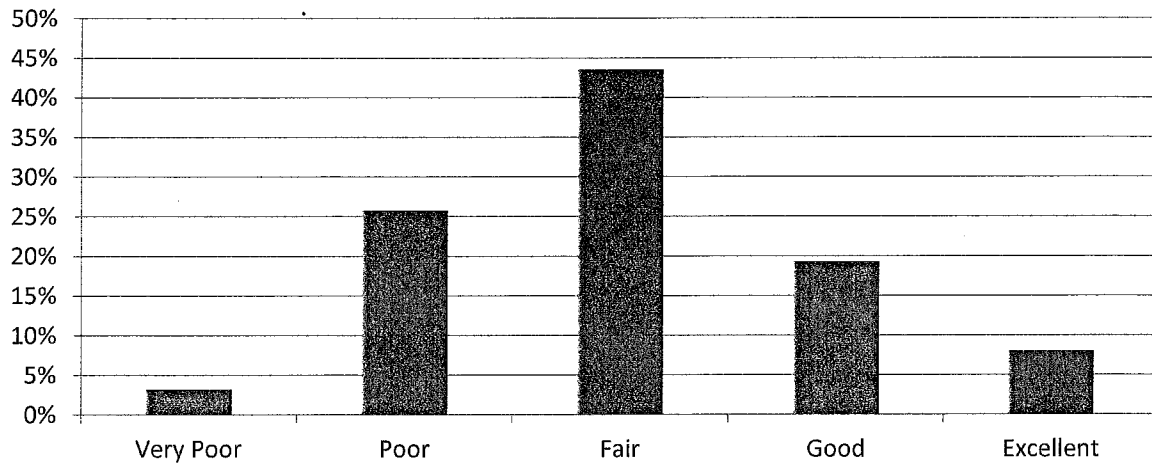
Q11. How could F&G improve your pheasant hunting experience? (60 responses)

	Number of hunters	% of hunters
Release/ breed more pheasants	19	33.9
Secure more access	6	10.7
More access information	4	7.1
Improve habitats	8	14.3
Predator control	6	10.7
Not sure	4	7.1
Other	7	12.5
Everything is ok	6	10.7

Q12. Overall how would you rate pheasant hunting opportunities in the Taranaki Region? (62 responses)

	Number of hunters	% of hunters
Very poor	2	3.2
Poor	16	25.8
Fair	27	43.6
Good	12	19.4
Excellent	5	8.1

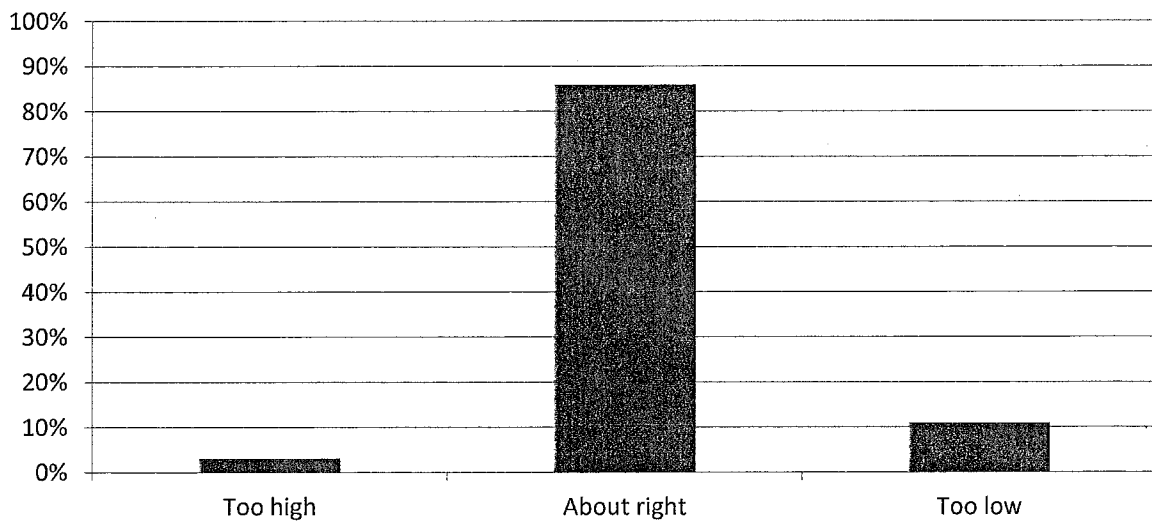
Overall how would you rate pheasant hunting opportunities in the Taranaki region?



Q13. What is your view on the current daily bag limit for pheasant (2 birds)? (64 responses)

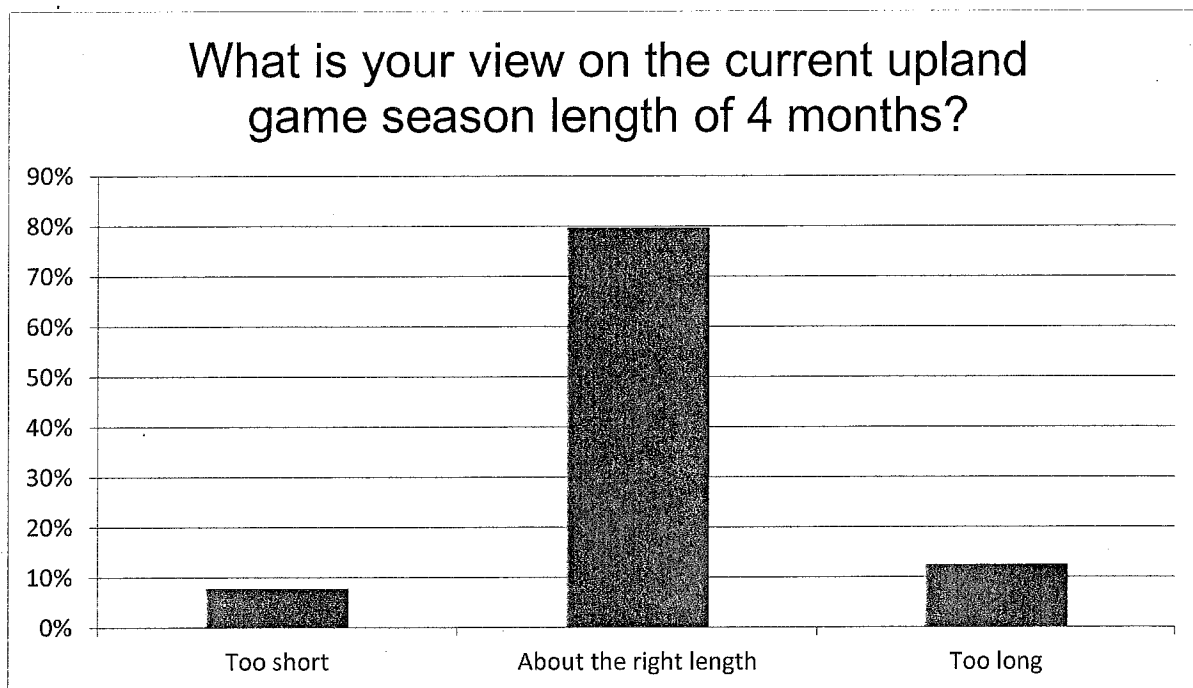
	Number of hunters	% of hunters
Too high	2	3.1
About right	55	85.9
Too low	7	10.9

What is your view on the current daily bag limit for pheasant (2 birds)?



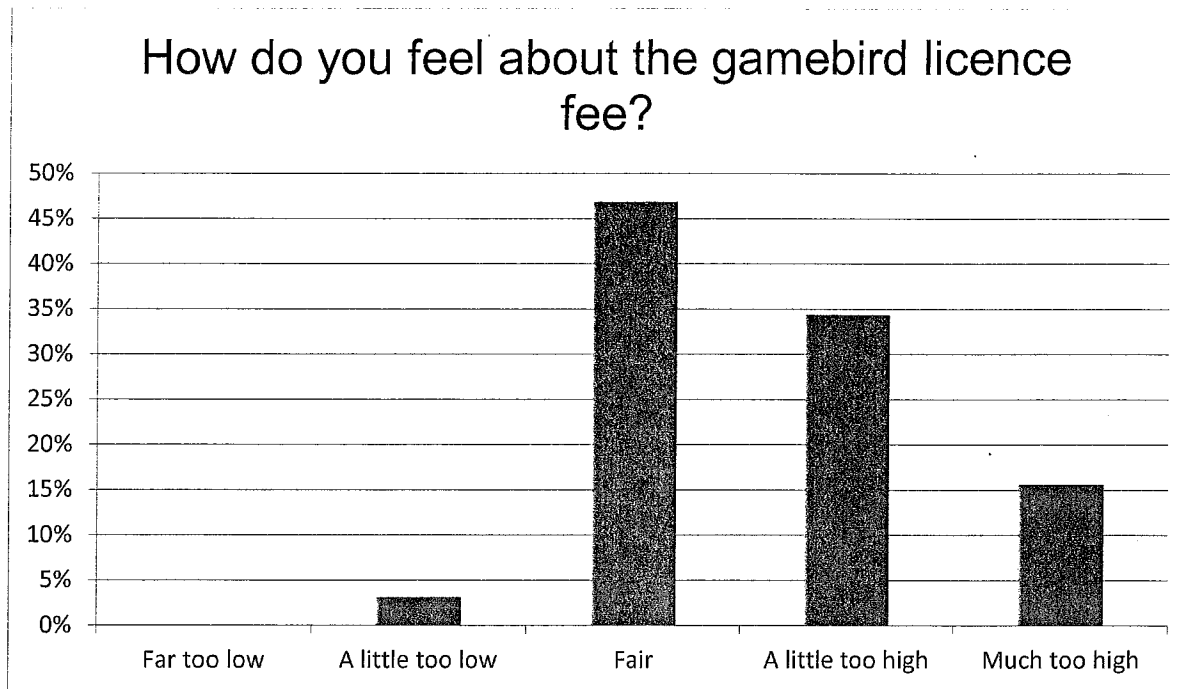
Q14. What is your view on the current upland game season length of 4 months? (64 responses)

	Number of hunters	% of hunters
Too short	5	7.8
About the right length	51	79.7
Too long	8	12.5



Q15. How do you feel about the gamebird licence fee? (64 responses)

	Number of hunters	% of hunters
Far too low	0	0
A little too low	2	3.1
Fair	30	46.9
A little too high	22	34.4
Much too high	10	15.6



Interpretation and Conclusions

Among Taranaki pheasant hunters 40% are long-time hunters with greater than 20 years experience (Q1). Of the remaining hunters nearly all have less than 10 years experience, with a third of all hunters newly recruited in the last 5 years. This is similar to the 2013 survey of 47 known Taranaki hunters other than there was a more even spread between the 11 to 20 years and more than 20 years categories then. The continued high level of recent recruitment is positive however the challenge will be to retain these hunters in the sport as the older hunters drop out.

Linked to this a third of all hunters who described themselves as pheasant hunters didn't actually hunt this season, and half of all pheasant hunters only hunted 1 to 5 days (Q2). Again this is similar to the 2013 survey where 60.4% of hunters had hunted between 1 to 5 days that season (this survey didn't include any hunters who didn't go out at all). This low activity by more than 80% of hunters is consistent with Q8 where 40% of hunters indicated they will hunt pheasants if the opportunity arises rather than it being an important or very important activity to them. However by contrast a third of hunters who responded rated the activity as very important to them. This compares to the 2013 survey when 74% of hunters rated pheasant hunting as very important to them, however this result may well be an artefact of this earlier survey targeting known pheasant hunters who are more likely to be enthusiastic.

Q7 also highlights that essentially all Taranaki pheasant hunters are also duck and paradise shelduck hunters. This is consistent with a 1986 survey of all local gamebird hunters by the Wanganui Acclimatisation Society. In this survey 98.9% of respondents had hunted ducks while 66.9% had hunted pheasants which implies the pheasant hunters were also duck hunters. Therefore pheasant hunting appears to be part of partaking in wider gamebird hunting experiences over the season rather than just about this activity.

Overall hunters who went out this season rated their pheasant hunting experience on average as 63 out of 100, with only 7 hunters (16%) rating it at less than 50. On the other-hand 13 hunters (30%) rated it 75 or better.

Of interest and perhaps some surprise is that 90% of hunters hunted pheasants on private land (Q4) with over 70% of total hunting effort occurring here. 17% of hunters utilised F&G permitted areas (comprising 11% of the total effort) and a similar percent other public areas. This appears much lower than in the 2013 survey where 62% of respondents said public/ permitted areas were very important to them. However this high importance may again be an artefact of targeting known hunters who in part may have been known because of their use of public/ permitted areas. The results this season again highlights the importance of having access to private land for gamebird hunting in the Taranaki region.

There is no pattern in the maximum distances travelled to go hunting with a third of hunters confining their efforts close to home (within 20km) but a similar proportion travelling more than 100km one way (Q5).

Overall nearly two thirds of Taranaki hunters rated local opportunities as fair or good though another third rated them as poor to very poor (Q12).

Q6 highlights the importance of having access to a dog with 83% of hunters either owning their own dog or hunting with a friend who had one.

The open-ended questions (9 – 11) show consistent themes in terms of what makes for a good trip or vice versa for a less memorable hunt. Good trips are about seeing lots of birds/ having a good place to go and also working with a good dog. Interestingly the concept of seeing lots of pheasants was raised by many more hunters (34) than actually having success (3) indicating that the key is confidence there are birds to be had rather than success per say. Conversely poor trips were about a lack of pheasants/ habitat or a lack of access. Along the same lines suggested measures F&G could take are around having more birds (releasing pheasants, predator control and habitat management) and enabling more access.

Finally there was very large support for the current daily bag limit (86% - Q13) and season length (80% - Q14). Interesting 47% of hunters felt the current licence fee was fair though 50% thought it was either a little too high or much too high (Q15).

In summary pheasant hunting in the Taranaki region is important and highly valued by a small group of hunters. However for many pheasant hunters it appears an additional activity during the gamebird season and when the opportunity presents itself though the experience is reasonably regarded. Most hunting occurs on private land and a good trip is about having access to places with good numbers of birds. The current season and bag limit regulations have high support though the licence fee is viewed as too high by many.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Taranaki Fish & Game Council receives this 2018 Taranaki Pheasant Hunter Survey Report

Glenn Maclean

Regional Manager

13 November 2018

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

DRAFT 2019 GAME SEASON GAZETTE NOTICE

Background

Since 2016 Council has had a policy of retaining consistent game regulations from year to year unless new information supports making significant changes. This reflects that recent detailed analysis of long-term harvest data indicates that large changes in bag or season length would be required to make any meaningful difference to the duck harvest.

Consistent with this our banding results as reported in this agenda suggest hunter harvest is only minor, at least in the Waimarino region. Or turning it around the other way tweaking the bag limit is unlikely to have any impact in this area.

Furthermore total harvest is directly related to the total effort and analysis by Eastern Fish and Game found annual changes in effort were best explained by changes in the duck population size. In other words in years of low duck numbers hunters spend less time in the field, and the total harvest is inherently smaller irrespective of any regulation changes.

These findings support the Council's policy of retaining consistent regulations from year to year in the absence of any identified need to dramatically reduce harvest.

Current population status

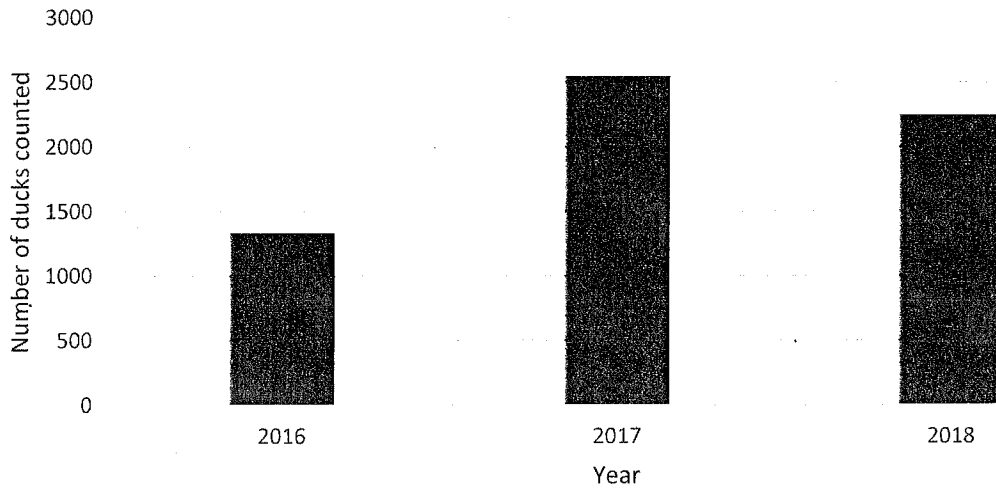
Grey and mallard ducks (greylards)

Given the degree of interbreeding and hybridisation these species are treated as a single population for this discussion.

In April 2016 we successfully implemented a new census method around the Taranaki ring-plain utilising counts from a helicopter. Subsequent counts are higher than previous counts from a fixed wing aeroplane, however whether this reflects that the population is larger and/ or simply that observers could better detect birds from the helicopter is unknown. Certainly it is evident that when the helicopter hovers over a pond that often previously unseen birds will swim or walk out of cover. These birds would not have been counted using the 1 pass methodology undertaken when counting from the aeroplane.

While we can't compare our helicopter counts with earlier counts because of this uncertainty we have now undertaken these over 3 years (Figure 1) and so we can start to compare the trend just over these helicopter estimates. The count over 20 transects in April 2017 was 91% higher than in 2016 (2548 ducks vs 1334 in 2016) and while the April 2018 count was slightly lower (2245 ducks) than 2017 it was still 68% higher than 2016. These higher counts were not unexpected given the wet spring in each of the last two years which was ideal for duckling survival.

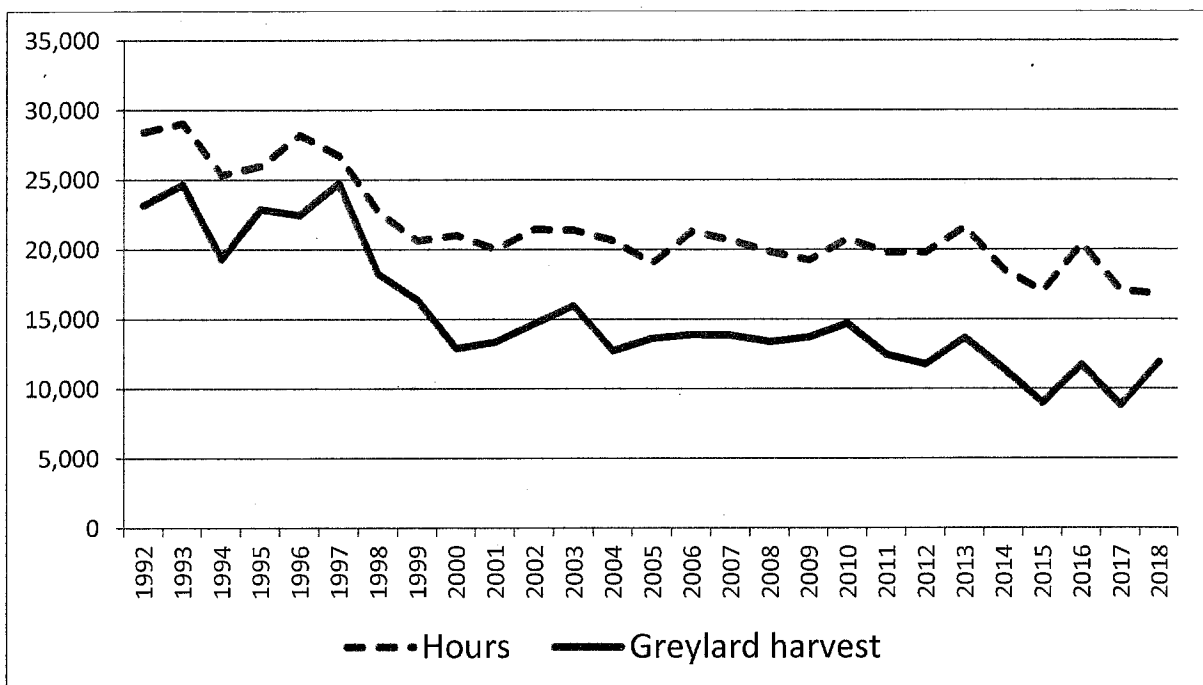
Figure 1. Helicopter count of greylard numbers over 20 transects around the Taranaki ring-plain 2016 to 2018



The hunting results for the 2017 season did not reflect the high numbers counted in that year (Figure 2). Rather the harvest (and hours spent hunting) was along with 2015 the lowest recorded since the National Hunter Survey began in 1992.

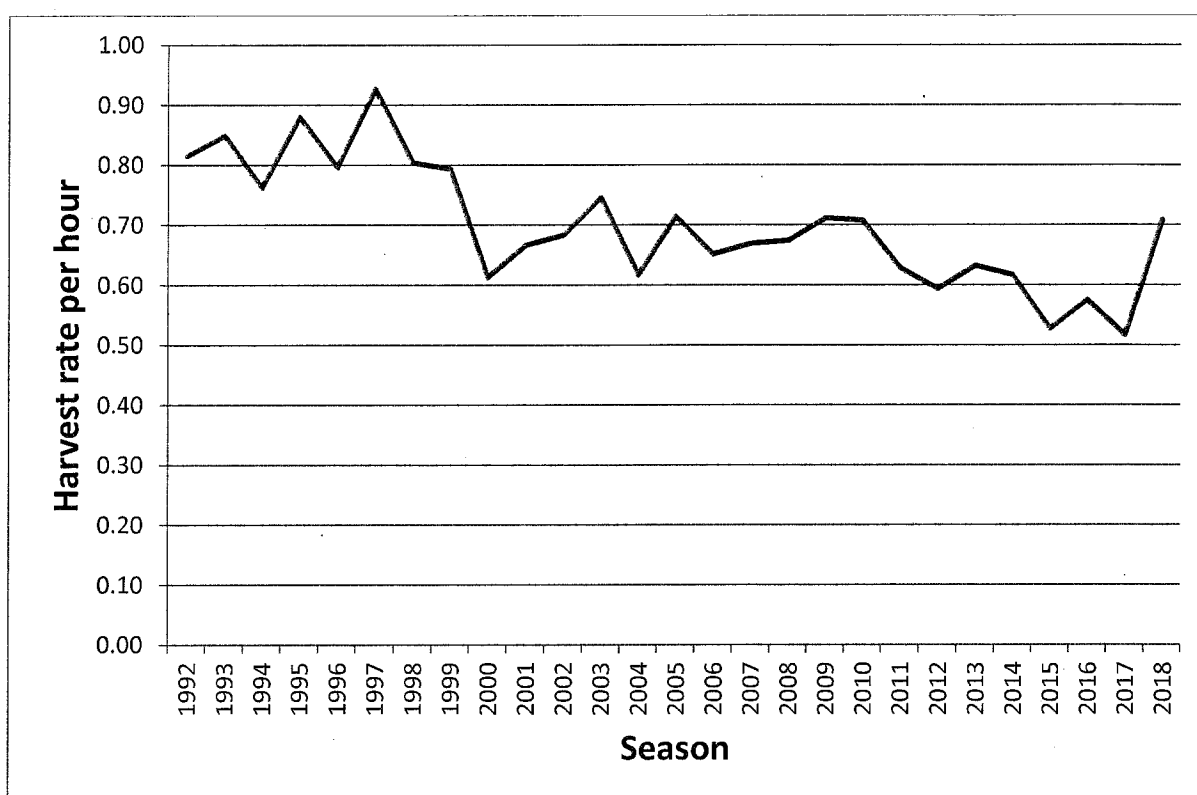
However in 2018 the harvest did increase, largely because hunters experienced an increased rate of success averaging 0.71 ducks per hour of effort. This rate of success was last recorded in 2009 and 2010 and is on a par with the best recorded since the turn of the century (figure 3). Nevertheless despite the good hunting the total estimated effort was the lowest recorded since the survey began in 1992. This low effort is what constrains the estimate of total harvest.

Figure 2. Greylard harvest and total hours spent waterfowl hunting by Taranaki resident hunters – Taranaki Fish & Game Region 1992 to 2018.



The harvest estimates for the last five years are significantly less than for 2013 and prior to 2011 (figure 2). In other words we can be confident that the harvest in recent years is less and not a cause for concern given apparent bird numbers.

Figure 3 Reported harvest rate (grey and mallard ducks per hour) by resident Taranaki hunters 1992 to 2018.



With respect to the current breeding season it started off very wet and the ducks will have gone into it in good condition. However, conditions dried out much earlier than in 2016 and 2017 and much of the casual water had disappeared by October.

Recent research indicates that a key influence on breeding success is the rate of survival of ducklings in the first 10 days following hatching. During this period they feed almost exclusively on protein, switching to more vegetation once they reach this milestone. A fundamental source of protein is invertebrates, and in particular worms brought to the surface in wet paddocks. Therefore, wet conditions in spring favour duckling survival and depending on just when they hatched this spring how well they have done.

The mallard research also indicates that a major driver of production is simply the number of hens that get to breed, and in particular older experienced birds which have a higher success rate. One advantage of the apparently lower harvest over 2017 and 2018 seasons is that there should be more hens to breed further increasing production this spring and summer.

The banding results from the Waimarino also indicate the apparent high survival of these ducks from one season to the next. So, in summary there should be a strong existing population from 2017

bolstered by reasonable recruitment this spring. The currently reduced hunter effort is limiting hunting impact on the population and in line with the earlier discussion on the ineffectiveness of minor regulation changes, it is recommended that the status quo of a 10-bird limit and two month season be retained.

Shoveler duck

Monitoring of known aggregations of shoveler occurs in August each year. At this time the birds congregate to select mates before separating off to secluded breeding sites. Monitoring occurs across NZ reflecting the view that the population is a single national population that moves around the country.

Across the Taranaki region we counted 524 shoveler duck in August 2018, which is well above our long-term average of 352 shoveler. However nationally the count was lower than average though the trend over the 18 years of survey indicates no change in the shoveler population at the sites counted.

Over the 2018 season an estimated 60 shoveler ducks were harvested. In light of the monitoring results and low harvest it is recommended that the status quo of a 2 bird daily bag limit for 1 month be retained.

Paradise Shelduck

The moult count in January 2018 in the Waimarino region (3,975 paradise shelduck) was slightly higher than 2017 but generally consistent with counts over the last 4 years. The count confirms that the Waimarino population remains stable but at the "low end" of its historical range of abundance.

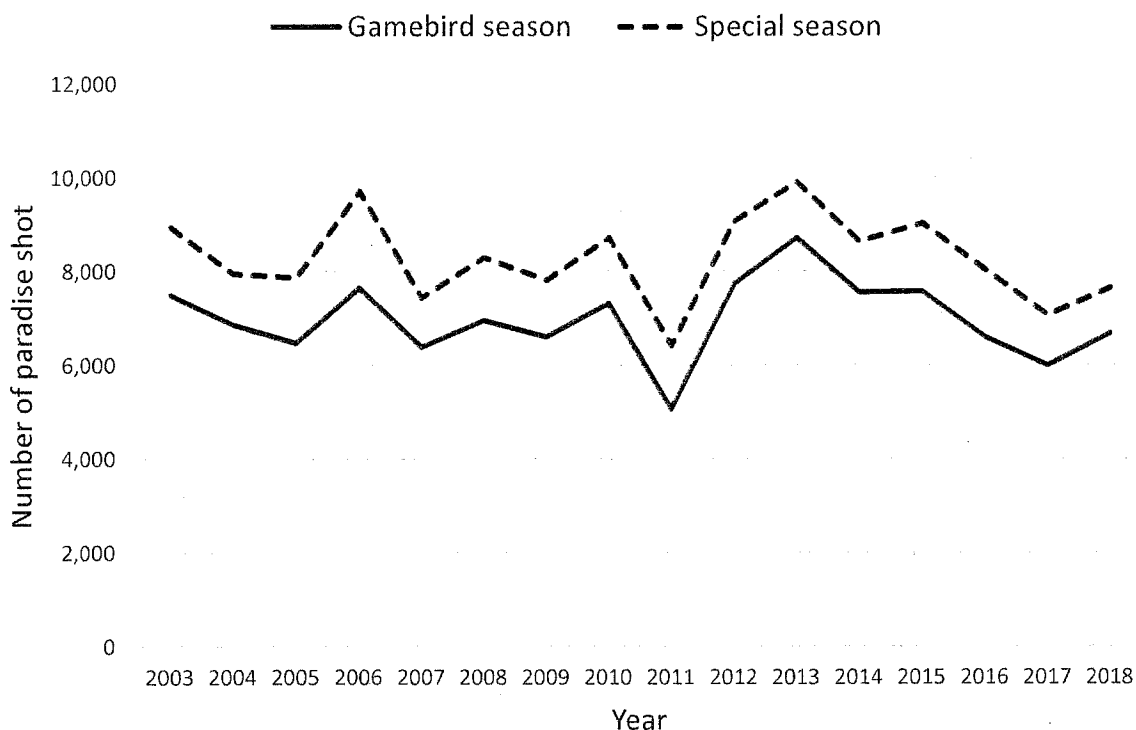
Similarly the 2018 Whanganui estimate of 3,945 paradise ducks was slightly lower than the estimated 4,137 paradise in 2017 which in turn was the lowest count since 2009. This suggests the Whanganui paradise population is also at the "low end" of its historical range of abundance.

In Taranaki the 2018 count (9,096 birds) was also well down on the estimated 11,635 birds in 2017 which in turn was similar to the 2016 and 2015 counts. Similarly the average number of birds per site (186 birds) was only 73% of the long-term average of 251 birds per site. In response to this apparent decline from what was a high point in the population Council reduced the opening weekend daily bag limit for Area C back to 10 birds per day, consistent with the rest of the region for the 2018 gamebird season.

Figure 4 indicates that despite the reduced bag limit the estimated harvest (6,674 paradise shelduck) was higher than 2017 (5,984 birds) though still down on the long-term average of 7,051 paradise.

With the reduced population in Taranaki there was considerable discussion amongst Council re continuing with the special summer season in Area C. This special season plays an important role in dispersing flocks of post-moult paradise shelduck that can cause a nuisance to farmers by grazing and fouling areas of new grass, recovering hay paddocks and fodder crops like chicory. It also provides an additional hunting opportunity for licence holders and land occupiers.

Figure 4 Estimated annual paradise shelduck harvest including Special Season harvest over 2003 – 2018



In the end the decision was made to continue with the two-weekend special season. As figure 4 shows this special season harvest is inevitably small and relatively constant, instead this graph highlights that the variation in annual harvest is very much driven by the harvest over the gamebird season. This suggests that given the advantages of the special season, that when we have concerns regarding the level of paradise shelduck harvest that it is more effective to concentrate on restricting the paradise harvest over the gamebird season than manipulating the special season conditions (assuming any additional summer harvest is appropriate).

Paradise shelduck typically first breed as two-year-old birds and can be long-lived. Therefore the population tends to be more stable than mallard ducks for example. However as a consequence any decline in annual productivity may not be as immediately apparent either. It is only anecdotal comment and observation however it may be that unlike mallards, paradise shelduck do not have high breeding success when it is wet over spring, as it was over the last two years. However this spring has been generally drier and observations to date suggest breeding success may have again improved.

The moult counts will be repeated in January 2019. At this stage the populations appear stable in the Waimarino and Whanganui areas and while they declined in Taranaki this was from a high point. Given the drier spring it is expected numbers will at least remain stable and that the current harvest is sustainable. With the populations in Areas A and B at their lower end any additional harvest from a Special Season is not supported here, and any impacts from aggregations of birds better managed by working directly with the impacted land owner. However on the basis of recent results a Special Season in Area C appears sustainable and is an important tool to disperse birds from areas where they are causing damage to crops or pasture as well as providing a valued hunting opportunity.

Therefore it is recommended that the status quo remain including a;

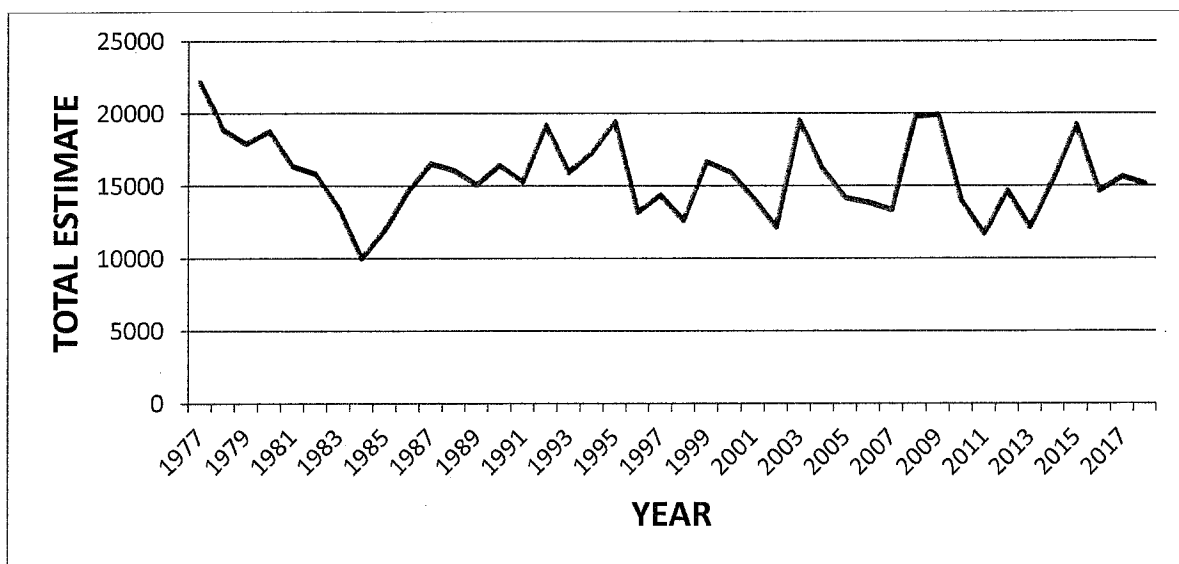
- 10 bird daily limit for Areas A, B & C for a two month season
- A 2-weekend special season in Area C for 2020 covering the first two weekends in March 2020

Black Swan

In 2016 the daily limit was increased to 2 birds. Most Taranaki hunters choose not to harvest swan and this increase allowed those few who do to take an extra one for the table. The increased bag limit coincided with an increased estimated harvest of 80 swan in 2016, 118 in 2017 and 119 this season. Nevertheless the total harvest remains small.

Counts of black swan taken as part of the paradise moult counts over January 2018 were slightly below the long-term average across the Taranaki region. However black swan are relatively mobile and it is thought that a single population extends over central New Zealand and if not further afield. The January 2018 count for Lake Wairarapa, Wellington west, Whanganui coastal and Nelson/Marlborough (including Farewell Spit) came to 15,118 swan. This is also slightly below the long-term average of 15,703 swan but is still a solid estimate (figure 5)

Figure 5: Estimated number of swan across central New Zealand 1977 to 2018



Given that the population estimates are similar to previous years and the harvest estimate very small in comparison to the overall population size it is recommended that the status quo (2 bird daily limit over a 2 month season) remains.

Pukeko

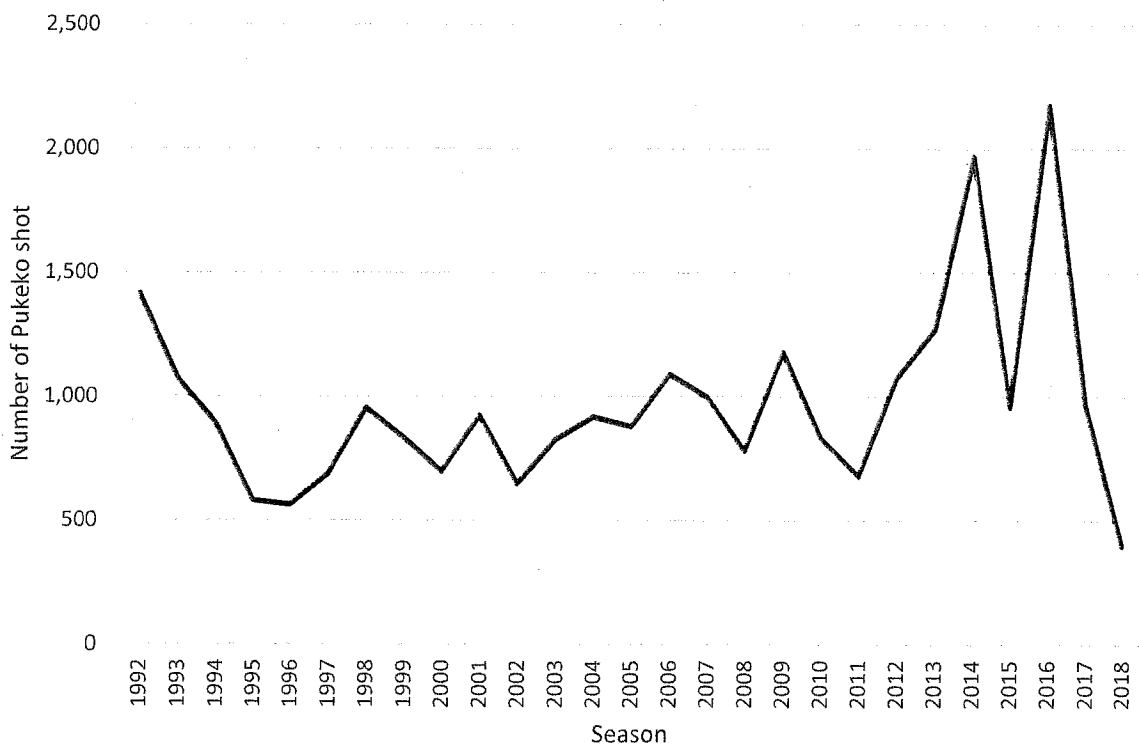
Counts of pukeko have been made along a series of transects around the Taranaki ring-plain since 2005. These counts highlight a significant increase in the pukeko population over this period. However the count this year of 198 pukeko represents a decrease and was well down on recent years when counts have been over 300 birds. Using the total count does mask that the population is very patchy

in its distribution and the main change this year was that the three extreme counts (out of 17) were not as large as in recent years.

In the Whanganui area counts only began in 2015 and were not completed this year. Numbers are generally low to very low, however like Taranaki there are several isolated populations including around Lake Wairua with very high numbers.

This year the hunting harvest was estimated to be only 399 birds which is the lowest estimated pukeko harvest since the gamebird survey began in 1992 (figure 6). It is clear from figure 6 that the harvest fluctuates widely though this may potentially be in part an artefact of the survey. For example if only a few hunters are targeting pukeko but take quite high numbers then depending on whether they are surveyed or not will strongly influence the estimates. Nevertheless it appears the harvest was very low, perhaps linked to the fact that most hunting targets localised high populations which the monitoring indicates may not have been as large as previously.

Figure 6 Estimated annual pukeko harvest in the Taranaki Region 1992 to 2018



Area C currently has a 10 bird daily bag limit along with the 4 month season to allow hunters to target these high populations scattered over the ring-plain, so as to address their localised impacts on agriculture and gardens as well as to create additional hunting opportunity after the main duck season has ended. However our monitoring suggests that other populations might struggle under this level of harvest if it is mis-directed. To date this is not apparent with the more robust Taranaki populations, especially with the low harvest recorded this year. However it is a reason to continue with only a 5 bird limit in Areas A and B where the populations are generally small.

Therefore it is recommended that the status quo continue for 2019.

Pheasant

The harvest of pheasant over the 2018 season was estimated at 190 birds and well down on the 453 birds in 2017 and 469 pheasant in 2016. This harvest over 2016 & 2017 was the highest recorded since 1992. As figure 7 highlights the average harvest rate of 0.21 pheasants/ hour (one bird every 5 hours) is still above the long-term average of 0.18 pheasant/hour and the major influence on the lower total harvest was much less recorded effort (nearly 900 hours of hunting in 2018 compared to over 1500 hours in each of 2016 & 2017 seasons).

Figure 7 Harvest rate (birds shot per hour) of pheasant in the Taranaki Region 1992 to 2018



While we do not have an estimate of the size of the pheasant population they have been very visible around much of the region in recent years and including this spring. Pheasant production appears to be favoured by dry spring and summer periods which has not generally been the case over the last several years. However while last spring was wet the summer that followed was dry and this spring has been dryer than recent years so conditions are likely to be improving rather than deteriorating.

These general indicators along with the reduced effort and harvest suggest there is no need to further restrict the harvest, however nor does there appear any justification to liberalise the regulations. The recent gamebird hunter survey reported in this agenda indicates very strong support for the status quo of a 2 bird daily limit and four month season and it is therefore recommended that these conditions be retained.

California Quail

California quail are very restricted in distribution with few substantial coveys remaining, though there has been quite a bit of comment about where they are now being seen. With such low numbers

hunters generally perceive hunting them as difficult and/ or inappropriate and so no longer target quail. This is reflected in the estimated harvest of no quail in 2018 compared to only 20 birds in 2017, 10 birds in 2016 and 20 birds in 2015.

Such levels of harvest indicate that the daily bag limit of 5 is therefore for the most part irrelevant, however it does allow hunters to make use of the opportunity provided by large coveys where these still exist. As such it is recommended that the status quo remain.

Other Regulations

Special Conditions

At the 24 March 2018 Council meeting a discussion regarding Special Season Conditions noted that schedule 2 condition 5.1 makes it necessary that *"All hunters, including land occupiers, must hold a valid Taranaki Special Season Hunting Permit to participate"*. However this discussion identified that what comprises a *"valid Taranaki Special Season Hunting Permit"* is not actually defined. Therefore it is recommended to clarify this by inserting the sub-clause *"a Taranaki Special Season Hunting Permit is a permit issued by Taranaki Fish & Game Council to a named holder to participate in the Taranaki Special Season as defined on the permit"*.

Hunting Game with Australasian Harriers

Council has received a request to allow the hunting of gamebirds with trained harriers for the purposes of falconry (see attached paper). All falconers would need to hold a current gamebird licence and would be bound by the gamebird regulations other than they could use a harrier to take gamebirds.

It is envisaged that there would only ever be a few practitioners at any one time and that the harvest and impact on the resource would be insignificant. As an aside, if there was a falconer available within the region then potentially this might offer another option for Council with respect to controlling problem pukeko in settings where the use of firearms is not appropriate? Eastern, Hawkes Bay and Auckland/ Waikato F&G regions already allow for this practice and Northland has also received a similar application for their consideration.

It is recommended that this Council approve the use of falconry with Australasian harriers to take gamebirds.

RECOMMENDATION

That Taranaki Fish & Game Council agree;

1. that the same bag limits and season conditions as for the 2018 game season be retained as laid out in the following draft 2019 Game Gazette Notice.
2. the use of falconry with Australasian harrier to take gamebirds
3. that a Taranaki Special Season Hunting Permit be defined

Glenn Maclean and Allen Stancliff

20 November 2018

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME REGION¹

1 Game That May be Hunted or Killed—Duration of 2019/2020 Season

Species	Season Duration (dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit	Hunting Area
Grey/mallard duck	4 May to 30 Jun 2019	10	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	4 May to 3 Jun 2019	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	4 May to 30 Jun 2019	10	All areas
	29 Feb and 1 March 2020	10	Area C
	7 and 8 March 2020	10	Area C
Black swan	4 May to 30 Jun 2019	2	All areas
Pukeko	4 May to 25 Aug 2019	5	Areas A&B
	4 May to 25 Aug 2019	10	Areas C
California quail	4 May to 25 Aug 2019	5	All areas
Cock pheasant	4 May to 25 Aug 2019	2	All areas

2 Definition of Areas

- 2.1 Area A:** That area within the following boundary commencing at Waiaruhe Road; then by that road, Owakura Road, Whangaehu Valley Road and Fields Track to Kakatahi; then by straight lines to Pipiriki and Tawhata; then by Tawhata Road to the boundary; then by the generally eastern boundary of the region to Waiaruhe Road.
- 2.2 Area B:** That area within the following boundary commencing at Waiaruhe Road; then by that road, Owakura Road, Whangaehu Valley Road and Fields Track to Kakatahi; then by straight lines to Pipiriki and Makakaho Junction down the eastern bank of the Waitotara River to the sea; then by the sea coast and generally eastern boundary of the region to Waiaruhe Road.
- 2.3 Area C:** The balance of the region contained by the westerly boundaries of Area A and B and the sea coast between the Mokau River and Waitotara River mouths.

3 Shooting Hours

6.30am to 6.15pm.

¹Reference to Description: *Gazette*, No. 83, of 22 May 1990, at page 1861

4 Decoy Limit

No limit.

5 Special Conditions

5.1 Special Paradise Shelduck Season

Area C only: 29 February and 1 March and 7 March and 8 March 2020, 6.30am to 8.00pm. All hunters, including land occupiers, must hold a valid Taranaki Special Season Hunting Permit to participate. Permits are available from the Taranaki Fish and Game office and selected licence agents.

A Taranaki Special Season Hunting Permit is a permit issued by Taranaki Fish & Game Council to a named holder to participate in the Taranaki Special Season as defined on the permit.

5.2 No person shall hunt, as specified, within 200m of any urban sewage oxidation pond.

5.3 No person may wilfully leave on the hunting ground any game bird(s) shot or parts of any game birds shot.

5.4 Any licensed game bird hunter who has a Department of Conservation permit to take or kill wildlife for the purpose of hawking may hunt with an Australasian Harrier (*Circus approximans*) to take game birds. This is subject to the season length and bag limit for game birds specified in clause 1 of this notice for this Region and subject to any conditions imposed by the Director-General of Conservation under such a permit.



NZFA
New Zealand Falconers Association

August 30, 2018

To: Taranaki Region Fish & Game Council

Attn: Glenn Maclean

From: Laurence Barea – New Zealand Falconers Association

Email: bareacanada@yahoo.ca 07 858 1049 (business) 07 827 7605 (A/H)

RE: Hunting game with trained Australasian harriers

Dear Glenn,

Over the past few years the New Zealand Falconers Association (NZFA) has worked with both the Eastern, Hawkes Bay and Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game Regions to enable the hunting of gamebirds with trained Australasian harriers held under permit from the Department of Conservation for the purposes of falconry. Our approach has been to contact the relevant Fish & Game Regions based on the location of our members who hold a permit from DOC to hold harriers for falconry. This has been successful and we are very grateful to Fish & Game for their support of this ancient form of hunting.

The NZFA now has an experienced and permitted falconer in New Plymouth and this letter requests that the Taranaki Region Fish & Game Council submit to the Minister, under the process detailed in section 15 of the Wildlife Act (1953), a notice to publish in the Gazette that:

varies the method of take prescribed in section 18(1)a of the Wildlife Act (1953) to allow the take of wildlife declared to be game under Schedule 1 of the Act during the 2018 and subsequent gamebird seasons with Australasian harriers (*Circus approximans*) (harrier) trained for falconry.

As with the Eastern, Hawkes Bay and Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game Regions, NZFA anticipates that this would continue beyond the 2019 game season to subsequent game seasons and would require publishing a notice to that effect or additional notices at those times.

The only change the NZFA seeks is to the method of take, which is currently restricted to a shotgun. The NZFA seeks no change to game seasons or bag limits. All falconers holding an appropriate permit from the Department of Conservation to hold harriers for falconry that wish to hunt game with harriers would also need to purchase a current gamebird licence and habitat stamp and be bound by gamebird regulations in the same manner as other hunters.

What is falconry?

The New Zealand Falconers Association adopts the global definition of falconry as 'the hunting of wild quarry in its natural state with the aid of a trained bird of prey'.

Falconry in New Zealand

After the Department of Conservation 'Review of the Level of Protection for Some New Zealand Wildlife' in 2006, the harrier was moved to Schedule 3 of the Wildlife Act (1953) (the Act). On the back of this we made a case to the Department of Conservation to issue permits under the Act allowing the holding of harriers for falconry. We have worked collaboratively with DOC to develop a workable permit system for falconry with harriers. This system is now in operation. Thus, falconry is a permitted activity in New Zealand with harriers and with the appropriate permit from DOC.

The NZFA was formed in 2011 to advocate for the future of falconry as a legitimate hunting sport in New Zealand and for its contribution to our cultural heritage. Currently there are approximately 10 people holding permits for falconry with harriers, 1 of which are in the Taranaki Region and there is slow growing interest from others across New Zealand to take up the sport. Based on population and the proportion of national populations practicing falconry overseas, it is plausible that New Zealand could contain about 40-50 falconers as the sport develops over the next 5-10 years. It is expected that the Taranaki Region could contain up to 8-10 falconers over the next 5-10 years.

Bag Limit and Harvest

The NZFA proposes no change to current or future bag limits allowed over the hunting season. It is internationally recognised that the number of game taken by falconers is substantially less than that taken by gun hunters. This is because falconry is an inherently difficult sport and the flush and subsequent chase of game often ends unsuccessfully, as it does in nature where success rates are often less than 10%. On an individual hunter basis, the number of game taken by falconers will be substantially less than the potential number taken by a gun hunter on a daily basis and over an entire season. Over the past 4 seasons the number of gamebirds taken by falconers has varied between about 12 and 24 annually per hunter (all pukeko). It is expected that due to the difficulty of capturing other game due to their superior flight abilities relative to pukeko, the number of other gamebirds taken would be significantly lower. During the 2017 and 2018 seasons, despite efforts, no gamebirds other than pukeko were taken with trained harriers. Because there are substantially fewer falconers than gun hunters in the region, the number of game taken by trained harriers would be inconsequential to their population and sustainable management.

Legal Context and Proposed Mechanism

Section 4 of the Act refers to Schedule 1 which lists the game that can be hunted as provided for in notices issued by the Minister. The method of take is restricted to shooting with a shotgun under section 18(1)a of the Act.

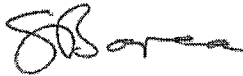
Section 18(1) of the Act provides for the Minister to modify the method of take when it states:

“Save as otherwise expressly provided in this Act or except in such circumstances and at such times, areas, and places and subject to such conditions as may from time to time be authorised pursuant to a notification given by the Minister.....”

This provides a legal context for the Minister to publish a notice that varies the method of take prescribed in section 18(1)a of the Act and that this could allow the take of game during the game season with harriers trained for falconry.

The NZFA requests the Taranaki Region Fish & Game Council submit to the Minister a notice providing for the take of game with harriers under the process detailed in section 15 of the Act.

Thank you for considering this request and I look forward to hearing from you.



Dr Laurence Barea: New Zealand Falconers Association

www.nzfalconersassociation.com

Taranaki Fish & Game Council
Budget Report to 31 October 2018

And

Project Progress to 16 November 2018

OUTPUT	Budget external costs	YTD external costs (31/10/18)	Comments on significant variations	Budget Hours	YTD hours
Population Monitoring	10,400	440		470	23.25
Harvest Assessment	3,050			50	
Hatchery	7,000	1,892	Tawhiti Stream consent monitoring costs	85	10.5
Liberations	15,800	79		110	46.75
Season Regulations				30	6.75
Gamebird Dispersal	1,500			120	11.5
RMA	100	180		500	64.25
Habitat Management & Enhancement	18,600	2,480		400	20
Hunter / Angler Access	2,200	109		100	9.75
Satisfaction Survey	300			10	10.25
Magazine / Newsletter / Ezine	10,300	75		140	5.75
Other Publications				30	11.5
Clubs	300			10	4
Statutory Liaison				30	2.5
Iwi Liaison				40	15.75
General Advocacy		27		250	27
Hunting & Angling Promotions	2,000	956		100	61.75
Ranger Management	1,500	33		112	26.25
Compliance	1,000			170	40
Licensing & Commission	8,868	1,757		80	1.5
Council Meetings & Administration	9,500	609		280	16.25
Management, Strategic & Policy				40	
Business Planning				40	21.25
OSH & Other Reporting	7,200	80		55	4.5
National Liaison	100			160	9.5
Total Expenditure	99,718	8,717		3,412	450.5

Project Income	Budget Income	YTD Income
Harvest Assessment	500	-
Liberations	12,000	-
Gamebird Dispersal	500	-
Compliance	-	-
Total Income	13,000	-
Net Expenditure	86,718	8,717

Overheads	Budget	YTD
1910 Salaries & Management Contract	243,563	36,753
1920 Staff Expenses	1,900	313
1940 Office Premises	35,562	5,295
1950 Office Equipment	2,000	168
1960 Communications / Consumables	8,575	1,506
1970 General	2,650	1,250
1980 General Equipment	800	-
1990 Vehicles	14,200	6,268
Total Overheads	309,250	51,553

Other Income & Expenses	Budget	YTD
Interest	13,442	97
Wellington Fish & Game Admin Donation	7,000	2,334
Total Other Income & Expenses	20,442	2,531

Nett Project, Overhead and Other Expenditure/Income	Budget	YTD
	375,526	57,739 (15%)

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

2018/2019 Annual Plan – Planned Result	Progress to date
<p><u>Fish Population assessment</u></p> <p>1. Report to Council detailing the status of the sports fish population and implications for management by 31 August 2019.</p> <p>2. Baseline trout population information obtained and reported for the Waiwhakaiho River system (year 1 of 2).</p> <p>3. Opportunities to enhance the Timaru Stream fishery investigated and reported to Council</p>	<p><i>Prepared report for 2017/18 period for 3 November 2018 Council meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Reviewed DOC report on the status and threats to whitebait populations.</i></p> <p><i>Reviewed information on perch/ native fish interactions</i></p>
<p><u>Gamebird population Assessment</u></p> <p>1. Presentation to the Council detailing population status and implications for management of the region's black swan and paradise shelduck populations. The report to be presented to Council at its first planned meeting in 2019.</p> <p>2. Complete initial study into the movement of mallards between the Taranaki high country and coastal regions and the implications for long-term monitoring programme.</p> <p>3. Mallard monitoring protocol based around banding in the Waimarino and Whanganui regions and aerial counts on the Taranaki ring plain implemented and the results reported to Council</p> <p>4. Pukeko Counts conducted in April and shoveler duck counts in August. Analysis presented to Council as part of the Draft Game Gazette notice.</p>	<p><i>Banding report summarising results for first two years prepared for December 2018 Council meeting</i></p> <p><i>Analysis of 2018 counts prepared for December 2018 Council meeting</i></p>
<p><u>National Hunter Survey</u></p> <p>1. Full participation in Fish & Game New Zealand's national hunter harvest survey during the 2019 game season, and including recording of banded birds shot.</p> <p>2. Hunter survey results for 2018 game season included in analysis presented to Council by 31st December 2018 as part of draft Game Gazette Notice.</p>	<p><i>Results and analysis included in draft Game Gazette Notice prepared for December 2018 Council meeting</i></p>
<p><u>Special Gamebird Season</u></p> <p>1. The co-ordination of a 2-weekend special game bird hunting season for paradise shelduck in Area C if appropriate based on January 2019 monitoring.</p> <p>2. Presentation to Council of the results of the 2019 Special Game Bird Season.</p>	

<p>3. When appropriate promote the use of recreational hunter to landowners with paradise duck problems.</p>	
<p>Hatchery</p> <p>1. To have reared 3,000 healthy trout (fingerling, yearling and two year old) consistent with identified needs at the Hawera hatchery</p> <p>2. Rear 300 quality 2-year old trout for Stratford Fishing Day.</p> <p>3. Complete review of hatchery requirements and options to meet these and report to Council. Implement outcomes.</p>	<p><i>Rainbow trout held at the Hawera hatchery were sorted for size on 09.10.2018. 200kg of trout feed went missing from a shipment between Littleton & Rotorua which meant obtaining replacement feed from the Eastern F&G Region.</i></p> <p><i>On track for release on 14.12.2018.</i></p>
<p>Trout Liberations</p> <p>1. Release of up to 3,000 healthy trout into lakes and rivers consistent with the planned release schedule.</p> <p>2. Release of up to 900 healthy two year old rainbow trout into suitable waters to provide immediate angling opportunity.</p> <p>3. Implement agreed outcomes of 3 year study into the value of stocking specific streams.</p>	<p><i>Rainbow trout yearlings from the Hawera hatchery were released into Lake Mangamahoe (100) & Lake Ratapiko (100) on 17.09.2018, and into Lake Mangamahoe (100) and Lake Ratapiko (55) on 04.10.2018. Rainbow trout yearlings were released into Lake Tokaora (250) on 17.10.2018. A Trustpower funded release of 1,000 tagged brown trout yearlings and 500 tagged rainbow trout yearlings was made to the lower Patea River on 31.10.2018.</i></p> <p><i>2-year rainbow trout from the Eastern F&G region were released into Lake Ngangana (250) & Opunake Lake (250) on 26.10.2018.</i></p> <p><i>Report on 3-year stocking trial accepted by Council at November 2018 meeting.</i></p>
<p>Keep & Release Approvals</p> <p>1. Provision of advice as required on proposals to keep, rear or release game birds and to keep or release sports fish. Recommendations made to DOC on the issue of such permits.</p> <p>2. Liaison with F&G National Office regarding streamlining the process for application and approval to rear and release gamebirds.</p>	<p><i>A query about stocking a private pond with trout was received (03.10.2018), but the habitat was unsuitable. A query about a permit to hold upland game was responded to (12.10.2018).</i></p>
<p>Season Regulations</p> <p>1. Draft recommendations and supporting information regarding the 2019 gamebird hunting conditions and 2020 Special Season conditions provided to Council for the December 2018 meeting.</p>	<p><i>Draft report and recommendations prepared for December 2018 meeting.</i></p>

<p>2. Council's recommendations for 2019 game bird hunting season conditions are accurately incorporated into the 2019 Game Gazette Notice and supporting information.</p> <p>3. Recommendations and supporting information regarding the 2019/20 sports fishing conditions provided to Council for the June 2019 meeting.</p> <p>4. Council's recommendations for 2019/2020 sports fishing conditions are accurately incorporated into the 2019 Anglers' Notice and supporting information</p>	
<p><u>Gamebird Dispersal</u></p> <p>1. Proactively assist with the dispersal of unwanted congregations of game birds that are notified to the Council throughout the year.</p> <p>2. Liaise with F&G national office regarding streamlining the process to issue permits to disturb and implement any agreed national approach.</p>	<p><i>11 permits to disturb gamebirds were issued during the reporting period, of which 6 were rural & 5 urban. 9 included pukeko, 2 included paradise shelduck and 1 included mallard duck. 9 mallard ducklings were picked up from an Egmont Village property and re-homed (04.09.2018)</i></p>

HABITAT PROTECTION & MANAGEMENT

<p><u>Resource Management Act</u></p> <p>1. Make effective submissions on resource consent applications and statutory plan proposals to best achieve sports fish and game bird habitat protection and enhancement and / or to maintain or enhance hunting or angling access and opportunity.</p>	<p><i>Council's request to be heard was withdrawn in relation to the following limited notified consent applications:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>STDC (10.09.2018) to take water from Otakeho Stream for the Waimate West water supply scheme. A 5-year consent was granted to bring the expiry into line with the other Waimate West water take consents. There is an \$8,000 annual financial contribution to fund environmental enhancement projects in the Otakeho and Mangawhero Stream catchments, including fencing, planting, creation and enhancement of wetlands; and riparian planting with first and second order streams a priority;</i> • <i>NZTA SH45 road culvert in Otakeho Stream (10.09.2018). Conditions include fish monitoring to determine if the structure is adversely affecting fish passage, with modifications to be completed by 31 August 2022 and further monitoring at 1,3,5&9 years;</i>
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- Croftwest Trust (18.09.2018) to take water from Inaha Stream for pastoral irrigation. The applicant accepted a MALF cut-off.

Submissions were made on the following limited notified consent applications:

- KiwiRail: To use a weir and to install a fish passage structure on the Manganui River & the Waipuku Stream (05.11.2018).
- Department of Corrections: To discharge treated stormwater into a tributary of Lake Wairitoa

Discussions continued regarding 3 limited-notified applications to take water from the Taungatara, Punehu & Ouri Streams for pastoral irrigation. Comments on the draft TRC Officer reports were provided on 16.10.2018.

Comments were provided on the NPDC's draft green spaces management plan (30.10.2018) and Trustpower's Patea HEPS Interim dissolved oxygen report (01.11.2018).

Verbal approval was given for Fonterra to delay installation of new screens on its Tawhiti Stream water intake from November 2019 until April 2020 (18.09.2018).

Pre-application discussions were held with the following applicants:

- Mara Trust & Goodin regarding renewal of consents to take water from Kaihihi Stream for pastoral irrigation (01.10.2018 & 05.11.2018);
- SDC Stratford subdivision with 3 watercourses (23.10.2018);
- South Taranaki Quarries Ltd. regarding a proposed extension to an existing quarry at Whenuku Road adjacent to the Waingongoro River. A site meeting was attended on 05.09.2018;
- SDC (RedJacket Engineers) To maintain a culvert in the Mangatoki Stream at Opunake Road to allow for the provision of fish passage (04.09.2018);

<p>2. Engage in and actively advocate for protection and/or enhancement of sports fish and gamebird habitat in the Taranaki Freshwater Plan Review process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDC (RedJacket Engineers) To replace a culvert in an unnamed tributary of the Mangawhero-iti Stream at Opunake Road (01.10.2018); • NPDC to take water from Mangatete Stream for Okato water supply (15.11.2018); • Taranaki By-Products (Mitchelldaysh) Inaha Stream and land irrigation consents. A meeting was attended on 02.11.2018; • STDC regarding a supplementary water take from Mangawhero-iti Stream when the Otakeho take is compromised during high flows (01.11.2018); • Fonterra Kapuni Kaupokonui Stream consents. Comments on technical reports were provided on 18.09.2018; • STDC Rahoitu water supply backwash discharge to Pungaereere Stream (30.10.2018). <p><i>There was discussion with the TRC rivers engineer about sediment control and fish passage in relation to reinstatement of the SH3 Kent Road Stream washout with a 20m concrete culvert pipe (10.09.2018).</i></p> <p><i>There was liaison with Forest & Bird regarding the FW Plan review timeline. Reviewed report on possible flow allocation limits along with recent Environment Court evidence on suitable minimum flow limits</i></p>
<p>Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement</p> <p>1. Provision of advice and promotion of effective management of riparian land margins throughout the region.</p> <p>2. Take opportunities to advocate for maintenance of flows to protect fishery values in recognized trout streams.</p> <p>3. Provide technical and administrative support and assistance to Manganuioteao River Riparian Project as required.</p> <p>4. Undertake and assist with efforts to keep Didymo and other aquatic threats out of the Taranaki Fish & Game Region.</p>	<p><i>Checked out concern over cows impacting on water quality in the Retaruke Stream</i></p> <p><i>Liaised with the owner of the Opunake hydro scheme & the TRC inflows to maintain water quality in Opunake Lake while the scheme was shut down.</i></p>

<p><u>Gamebird Habitat Enhancement</u></p> <p>1. Provision of advice to licence holders and landholders regarding the enhancement of game bird habitat and predator control.</p> <p>2. Provision of information and advice to applicants for GBHTB grants. Act where necessary as referees for projects and monitor the implementation of successful applicants to ensure works are carried out to the agreed standard.</p> <p>3. Promote the need for and provide advice and examples regarding predator control programmes and any other outcomes from the Mallard Research project.</p> <p>4. Explore options for a wider Nukumarū conservation area involving the respective landowners and agencies.</p>	<p><i>Met with a Whanganui and a Turakina landowner in association with Horizons RC re wetland development opportunities</i></p> <p><i>Met with adjacent landowner at Lake Kohata re. possible control of grey willow at the south west end</i></p> <p><i>Two of 4 2018 Taranaki applications to the GBHTB (Takahuri & Cotebrook) were successful with a total of \$7,000 in grant funding approved.</i></p>
<p><u>Hunting & Habitat Scheme</u></p> <p>1. Actively promote the Hunting & Habitat Scheme to regional licence holders and landowners including through site visits, regional newspapers, newsletters and other media.</p> <p>2. Provide support for applications to H&HS including advice on design and construction and on-site assistance to create high quality wetlands and hunting opportunities.</p> <p>3. Identify and actively pursue suitable opportunities for development of council owned wetlands.</p>	<p><i>A site visit was made to sign-off H&HS funding for the Eltaunto wetland development (09.10.2018). Four applications were presented to Council at their November 2018 meeting and three approved for \$13,495 (GST incl).</i></p>

PARTICIPATION AND SATISFACTION OF ANGLERS AND HUNTERS

<p><u>Angler Access</u></p> <p>1. Resolution of how best to provide access information to licence holders.</p> <p>2. Explore opportunity and if practical develop a 'put and take' trout fishery in Hawera irrigation pond.</p> <p>3. Production of updated Taranaki Ringplain information on Taranaki F&G website.</p> <p>4. Implement identified opportunities for increased angling access around Lake Mangamahoe.</p>	<p><i>Addressed on case by case basis as part of developing fishing and access information for the website</i></p> <p><i>Agreement negotiated with lessee and a trial release of 250 rainbow trout yearlings made.</i></p> <p><i>Draft angling access information including a new map prepared.</i></p> <p><i>Whanganui City Council advised they could no longer store the old Virginia Lake platform. This required extensive</i></p>
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<p>5. Replace / erect new signs consistent with priorities and needs identified in 2018.</p> <p>6. Liaison with the Walking Access Commission to identify potential improvements in public access.</p>	<p><i>maintenance to use again and co-incidentally was approached whether it could be used on a private wetland and agreed to this.</i></p> <p><i>A new angler information sign was erected at Lake Ngangana (25.10.2018) and a new sign and track marker poles prepared for Lake Namunamu.</i></p>
<p><u>Hunter Access / Opportunities</u></p> <p>1. Negotiate, allocate and issue access permits to publicly available hunting areas for the 2019 game bird season.</p> <p>2. Actively seek and develop opportunities for gamebird hunter access.</p> <p>3. Explore mentoring / information sharing opportunities for hunters including public instruction / information days.</p>	
<p><u>Licence Holder satisfaction Survey</u></p> <p>1. Refine angler diary scheme to measure angler success and satisfaction for key fisheries in the region.</p> <p>2. Survey and report to Council on the aspirations of waterfowl hunters</p>	<p><i>Spreadsheet developed and 2017/18 results entered, analysed and included in Fishery Monitoring Report to Council at their November meeting.</i></p> <p><i>2018/2019 angler diaries were distributed to 44 anglers.</i></p> <p><i>Survey of pheasant hunters completed by Survey Monkey and report prepared for December 2018 Council meeting.</i></p>
<p><u>Fish & Game Magazine</u></p> <p>1. Provide a regional supplement in each of the two special editions of Fish & Game Magazine to be published during the reporting year.</p>	
<p><u>Regional Newsletter</u></p> <p>1. Publication of a Hunting and a Fishing Newsletters for regional licence holders and hunting landowners. Hunting newsletter distributed to all rural box holders in the region.</p>	<p><i>Articles prepared for the 2018 regional fishing newsletter.</i></p>
<p><u>Regional Fish & Game Web Site</u></p> <p>1. Publication of information, material and articles of interest to hunters and anglers on the regional pages of the Fish & Game web site. Update of existing pages when new platform is available and thereafter information is regularly updated and easy to find and read.</p>	<p><i>Information on kids' trout fishing days published on the website (20.09.2018 & 08.10.2018).</i></p> <p><i>Introduction and angling information re-written ready to be published.</i></p> <p><i>Draft pheasant hunting information written.</i></p>

<p>2. Develop local facebook page.</p> <p>2. The production of at least 6 Reel Life articles and 2 Both Barrels articles.</p>	<p><i>Reel Life articles prepared on 19.09.2018 & 19.10.2018.</i></p>
<p>Club Visits</p> <p>1. Council representation at recreational hunting and fishing club meetings across the region.</p>	<p><i>The Inglewood Rod, Gun & Recreation Club's opening weekend trout season weigh-in was attended (07.10.2018), along with the club's "big-four" weigh-in (22.10.2018)</i></p>

PUBLIC INTERFACE

<p>Liaison</p> <p>1. Liaison with Department of Conservation and Conservation Boards and where appropriate attend Conservation Board meetings within the Taranaki Fish & Game Region.</p> <p>2. Where possible proactively engage and work co-operatively with Regional and District Councils, other organisations and groups and the rural community.</p>	<p><i>There was liaison with DOC regarding Opunake Lake water quality (24.09.2018), a kids' trout fishing promotion of Lake Ngangana in the Waipapa Conservation Area (02.10.2018) and Department of Corrections consent application to discharge stormwater into Lake Wiritoa.</i></p> <p><i>Took part in two governance meetings for Whangaehu River Freshwater Improvement Fund including assessment of community fund applications</i></p>
<p>Iwi Liaison</p> <p>1. Proactively engage and work with Iwi within the region on matters of mutual interest, concern and benefit.</p>	<p><i>There was liaison with the Te Korowai o Ngaruahine Trust (TKONT) regarding 4 consent applications to take water from streams for pastoral irrigation, SDC culverts (2), a STDC supplementary water take from Mangawhero-iti Stream & fish passage at 2 KiwiRail weirs. A staff whakatau (welcome) was attended at TKONT (17.09.2018). Support was provided to a TKONT Curious Minds application for funding to investigate restoration of habitats along the Kaupokonui River to a standard fit for a blue duck.</i></p> <p><i>There was liaison with Te Kāhui o Taranaki Iwi regarding water quality in Opunake Lake (24.09.2018) and the STDC Rahotu water supply backwash discharge to Pungaereere Stream (05.11.2018).</i></p> <p><i>There was liaison with Te Kāhui o Rauru Iwi regarding Trustpower's Patea HEPS - Interim Dissolved Oxygen and Temperature Report (01.11.2018).</i></p>

<p>2. Take any opportunities to be involved in and contribute on water related matters through the Taranaki Maunga Settlement process.</p> <p>3. Take an active and constructive role in the Te Kōpuka nā Te Awa Tupua (awa Tupua Strategy Group) set up under the Te Awa Tupua (Whanganui Claims Settlement) Act 2017.</p>	<p><i>Prepared article on Te Kōpuka for angling newsletter</i></p>
<p>Advocacy</p> <p>1. Promote the protection of freshwater, wetland and upland game habitats and the wider benefits of this.</p> <p>2. Represent the interests of anglers and hunters, and promote the validity of fishing and gamebird hunting.</p>	<p><i>A Wild for Taranaki (WfT) Conservation Week event was attended at Pukeariki (22.09.2018). The annual TRC environmental awards presentation was attended (25.10.2018). The SFO cast the Council's vote for 2 candidates standing for the Board of WfT (08.10.2018). The successful candidates were Jake Goonan & Sam Mortensen.</i></p> <p><i>A NZ Geographic article on "Litter Legends" (shotgun wads) was fact checked (18.10.2018).</i></p>
<p><u>Information to licence holders including hunting & angling promotions</u></p> <p>1. Where appropriate support trout fishing events and opportunities using liberations of 2 year old rainbow trout, to encourage participation and family involvement.</p> <p>2. Production of Regional Stillwater Sports Fisheries information on Taranaki F&G website, with an emphasis on perch fishing opportunities and methods.</p>	<p><i>A kids' trout fishing promotion was held at Lake Ngangana, attended by 110 children (27.10.2018). A funding application was made to the Taranaki Electricity Trust to cover costs of the December 2018 Stratford kids trout fishing promotion (05.10.2018).</i></p>
<p>1. Develop web based information package "Introduction to duck hunting opportunities in the Taranaki Region".</p> <p>2. Provide timely and useful information to licence holders when requested. Proactively utilise opportunities such as newspapers, website and public events to make information available.</p> <p>3. Opportunities for publicity on angling and hunting are taken and copies of coverage reported to Council.</p>	<p><i>Written & verbal information provided to licence holders on request.</i></p> <p><i>2018/19 fish season articles were provided to the Opunake & Coastal News & Stratford Press (19.09.2018), North Taranaki Midweek & Taranaki Star (20.09.2018), Taranaki Daily News (24.09.2018), Ruapehu Bulletin & Whanganui Chronicle. Articles promoting kids' trout fishing events were provided to 4 Taranaki newspapers, with adverts placed in the Midweek, Coastal News and Taranaki</i></p>

<p>4. Develop and agree long-term strategy to achieve appropriate hunter behaviour.</p>	<p><i>Star. The Lake Ngangana kids' trout fishing event was promoted on the Taranaki Hunting & Fishing Facebook page (18.10.2018).</i></p>
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COMPLIANCE

<p><u>Ranger Management and Training</u></p> <p>1. The recruitment, training and skill maintenance of Council's Honorary ranger team is consistent with the Compliance Policy and Strategy.</p> <p>2. Provision of safety and compliance training and maintenance of compliance skills is provided on at least two occasions during the year.</p> <p>3. Comprehensive report detailing compliance activities including ranger management and results over the year presented to Council by 31 August 2019.</p>	<p><i>Ranger warrant renewal applications completed for 12 of 13 current rangers</i></p> <p><i>A 1-day Ranger training was held at Whanganui on 08.09.2018, attended by 6 Rangers & 2 staff.</i></p> <p><i>Compliance report for 2017/18 season presented to Council at their November 2018 meeting</i></p>
<p><u>Compliance</u></p> <p>1. Compliance checks and any prosecutions are completed consistent with the Compliance Policy and strategy and also the Reparation Policy.</p>	<p><i>Compliance checks were carried out following the opening of the 2018 fishing season. The diversion process was followed for a case of Fishing Without a Licence.</i></p>

LICENCING AND AGENTS

<p><u>Licences</u></p> <p>1. Hunters and anglers are aware of and can quickly and easily buy their licences on line.</p> <p>2. Progress reporting on licence sales provided to Council throughout the year.</p>	
<p><u>Licence Agents</u></p> <p>1. Provision of ready and valued support and assistance to agents such that they are kept up to date, resourced and operate as effective licence agents.</p> <p>2. Agents are fully aware of and are familiar with the new licence categories and able to appropriately advise the buyer.</p>	

COUNCIL

<p>1. Not less than six meetings of the Council that comply with all legal requirements to be held before 31 August 2019.</p>	<p><i>Staff attended a Council meeting on 3.11.2018, which was followed by a field trip to the Mangatotara wetland development.</i></p>
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<p>2. Council Elections are conducted in an effective, appropriate and timely manner and the new Council provided with familiarisation and governance training as required.</p>	<p><i>A more formal conflict of interest register was implemented at November 2018 meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Council elections were completed and a new Council inducted on 3rd November 2018.</i></p>
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PLANNING AND REPORTING

<p><u>Management Planning</u></p> <p>1. Regional policies are developed and adopted when required.</p> <p>2. The 5 year strategic plan is reviewed and agreed by Council by March 2019.</p>	
<p><u>Staff Management</u></p> <p>1. Effective management of staff and administration of Council.</p>	
<p><u>Administrative Support</u></p> <p>1. Implement review outcomes re computing requirements including file storage sharing.</p> <p>2. Implement any outcomes of National Council financial review.</p>	<p>Signed up to collective liability insurance organised by National Office</p>
<p><u>Annual Planning</u></p> <p>1. Adoption of a proposed Annual Budget and Operational Work Plan for 2019/2020 by the Council by 31 August 2019.</p>	
<p><u>Annual Reporting</u></p> <p>The adoption and presentation by the Council at a public annual general meeting of its audited annual report for 2017/2018 not later than 31 December 2018, and dispatched to the Minister directly thereafter.</p>	<p><i>Finalised 2017/18 accounts and completed draft Annual Report. Manager met with Auditor and awaiting final report.</i></p>
<p><u>Regional and National Liaison</u></p> <p>1. Effective communication with other regional managers and input and valued comment on issues affecting Fish & Game and sports fish and game bird management.</p>	<p><i>Contributed to discussion over meeting needs and contestable fund process.</i></p>

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Representation to New Zealand Fish and Game Council by 31 August 2019, of the Council's recommendations for licence fees, fund redistribution, research requirements, and national policy development. 2. Representation at the Fish & Game New Zealand Regional Managers meetings. 3. Effective communications with NZC staff and comment provided on Fish & Game issues when requested. 	<p>Provided comment on guides licence paper, Communication Strategy, MfE at risk catchments. Circulated NZC information on Indigenous Fish Bill.</p>
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STAFF CO-ORDINATION AND TRAINING

<p><u>Staff Communication</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regular staff meetings and/or phone conferences to share information such that all staff are aware of what is generally occurring, and where appropriate have ready opportunity for input into decisions and management direction. 2. Performance reviews are completed for the past year and new objectives agreed for all staff. 	<p>Phone conference held on 10 October and 27 November 2018.</p>
<p><u>Staff Training</u></p> <p>Staff training identified in performance review process is planned and undertaken.</p>	<p><i>The SFO attended a 2-day WfT GPS training course (6-7.09.2018) and a wetland symposium in Napier (25-28.09.2018).</i></p>
<p><u>Accommodation</u></p> <p>Complete setup of New Plymouth Office and update Whanganui Office signage and layout.</p>	
<p><u>OSH</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All processes and activities are consistent with Council Health & Safety Policy and hazard control plans, reviews and audits occur as scheduled, all necessary equipment and training is provided and new hazards are identified and addressed appropriately. 2. All accidents are reported and recorded in the accident register, investigations completed and any identified actions implemented and reported to Council at the next meeting 3. Hazard Control Plans are identified and developed / amended for any new activity. 4. An annual review of Health and Safety Management is completed in September 2018 and reported to Council. 	<p>Reported in attached agenda item</p>

<p>5. Compliance with HSAW requirements and policy and any issues identified are reported to each meeting of Council.</p> <p>6. Two monthly staff meetings which include a specific agenda item to discuss HSAW are held.</p> <p>7. Staff are actively involved in implementing HSAW policy and ensuring safe workplace.</p>	<p><i>Meetings held in October and November 2018</i></p>
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Recommendation

That the Budget Report to 31 October 2018 and Project Progress Report to 16 November 2018 be received.

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Taranaki Fish and Game Council

Financial Reports to 31st October 2018

Please find attached the following reports YTD Balance Sheet and YTD Profit & Loss

1. Profit & Loss 1 September 2018 to 31st October 2018
2. Balance Sheet 1 September 2018 to 31st October 2018
3. BNZ Statement of Accounts as at 31st October 2018

RECOMMENDATION

That Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet to 31st October 2018, be received.

Jilli Steedman
SECRETARY
27 November 2018

Profit and Loss

Taranaki Fish and Game Council For the 2 months ended 31 October 2018

SEP-OCT 2018

Trading Income

Contracts	2,334.45
Fish Licence Sales 2018-2019 Agent	27,356.05
Fish Licence Sales 2018-2019 POL	22,444.44
Interest Income	196.64
Non-Resident Licence Revenue	409.11
Total Trading Income	52,740.69

Gross Profit 52,740.69

Operating Expenses

ACC Levy	222.34
Advocacy	26.79
Audit	(5,670.00)
Bank Charges	52.50
Commission on Sales	1,237.13
Council Catering	382.61
Council Travel	172.50
Council Venue hire	53.91
Equipment Maintenance	167.77
Eyede Charges - Inc GST	62.51
Eyede Charges No GST	457.73
Gamebird Population Monitoring	440.00
Hatchery	1,809.90
Hatchery Power	82.20
Hunting & Angling Promotions	956.10
Insurance - General	1,059.66
Kids Fishing Days	79.27
Management Contract	16,833.34
Office General (was Petty cash)	39.47
Office Premises Rent	5,294.78
Other Reporting / OSH	79.90
Polaris side x side	170.13
Postage	432.44
Ranger Management	32.95
Regional Newsletter	75.00
Resource Consents	180.00
Salaries	(4,653.16)
Signage	108.85
Staff Expenses	45.07
Staff Training	46.00
Stationery	247.54

Profit and Loss

SEP-OCT 2018

Subscriptions	98.83
Taranaki Hunting & Habitat Project	2,480.00
Telephone/fax	825.64
Trailer - Hatchery	279.53
Trailer - Side X Side	171.73
Vehicle Fuel & RUC	2,782.89
Vehicle Insurance	2,171.51
Vehicle Maintenance	532.96
Vehicle Registration (1995)	159.40
Total Operating Expenses	30,027.72
Net Profit	22,712.97

Balance Sheet

Taranaki Fish and Game Council As at 31 October 2018

31 OCT 2018

Assets

Bank

BNZ Current Account	21,819.88
BNZ Term 3031	373,971.12
MRP	2,094.60
Total Bank	397,885.60

Current Assets

Accounts Receivable	44,081.87
Total Current Assets	44,081.87

Fixed Assets

Accum Dep Vehicles	(56,076.17)
Accum Dep Buildings	(26,883.60)
Accum Dep Office Equipment	(17,771.34)
Accum Dep Plant & Equipment	(12,889.14)
Buildings	30,681.00
Office Equipment	24,675.83
Plant & Equipment	25,014.26
Vehicles	144,926.79
Total Fixed Assets	111,677.63

Total Assets	553,645.10
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Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	18,670.57
Accruals and Prepaid Licences	7,679.00
BNZ Credit Card - Allen	160.59
BNZ Credit Card - Glenn M	45.94
GST	(112.81)
PAYE Clearing	(6,198.30)
Total Current Liabilities	20,244.99

Total Liabilities	20,244.99
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Net Assets	533,400.11
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Equity

Accumulated Funds	154,324.78
Asset Replacement Funding	97.00
Back Country Fisheries Reserve	5,911.67
Current Year Earnings	22,712.97
Fisheries Project	15,886.30
Hunting & Habitat Scheme	373,182.74

Balance Sheet

31 OCT 2018



Manganuioteao River Riparian Project	7,027.29
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(45,742.64)
Total Equity	533,400.11

THE SECRETARY
TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL
PO BOX 4152
WHANGANUI 4541


Bank of New Zealand
Wanganui Store
124 Victoria Avenue
Wanganui
Telephone 0800 800 468
Facsimile 06 345 5439
WWW www.bnz.co.nz

Statement of Accounts as at 31 October 2018

Your Accounts at a Glance

Account	Account Number	Maturity Date	Balance
 Non Profit Org A/C	02-0792-0332133-000		21,819.88
 MRP	02-0792-0332133-001		2,094.60

Your Other Accounts at a Glance

Account	Account Number	Maturity Date	Balance
 Term Deposit	36332133-03031	06 Mar 2019	373,971.12

Our investment statements and current disclosure statement may be obtained free of charge from any Bank of New Zealand store, or viewed at www.bnz.co.nz.

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Taranaki Fish and Game Council

Correspondence Schedules

Please find attached Inwards and Outwards correspondence schedules to 27 November 2018.

RECOMMENDATION

That Inwards and Outwards correspondence schedules to, 27 November 2018 as shown on pages 68 & 69 , be received.

Jilli Steedman
SECRETARY
27 November 2018

Corr No.	Date	Meeting	FROM	FILE NO	Staff/Councillor	SUBJECT
1	17.10.18	Dec-18	Haidie Burchell-Burger TRC	1.1.7	Allen Glenn	Draft Tawhiti Catchment Monitoring Programme Annual Report
2	24.10.18	Dec-18	David Taylor NPDC	2.3.7	Allen	Mangateke abstraction consent
3	24.10.18	Dec-18	Darlene Ladbrook TRC	2.3.5	Allen	Limited notification of consent - Kiwirail Holdings Ltd
4	30.10.18	Dec-18	Howard Wilkinson STDC	2.3.7	Allen	Mangawhero-ti abstraction analysis
5	30.10.18	Dec-18	Allan Cheswass Renaissance consulting	2.3.7	Allen	Application to renew discharge permit (Rahotu water supply)
6	6.11.18	Dec-18	Lisa Mead - Trustpower	2.3.1	Allen	Mangorei and Motukawa site visits
7	9.11.18	Dec-18	Grant Thornton Auditor	4.6.2	Jilli Glenn	Eyede Audit - Independent Assurance Practitioner's Report
8	12.11.18	Dec-18	Whanganui Insurance Brokers	4.6.3	Glenn	Insurance renewals
9	15.11.18	Dec-18	Robert Sowman	4.6.2	Jilli Glenn	Clarification to independent Practitioner's Report - Eyede
10	15.11.18	Dec-18	NZ Fish & Game	4.6.3	Jilli Glenn	Liability Insurance cover
11	19.11.18	Dec-18	Lisa Mead Trustpower	2.3.1	Allen	Mangorei and Motukawa Site visits
12	20.11.18	Dec-18	AON Insurance	4.6.3	Jilli	Hatchery Insurance
13	20.11.18	Dec-18	Robert Sowman	4.5.1	Glenn	NZC Council chair and appointees
14	20.11.18	Dec-18	Christine Bromell STDC	2.3.7	Allen	Resource consent applications
15	20.11.18	Dec-18	Janette Harper TRC	2.3.5	Allen	copy of consent granted to Croftwest Trust
16	21.11.18	Dec-18	Haidie Burchell-Burger TRC	2.3.5	Allen	Technical reports
17	21.11.18	Dec-18	Haidie Burchell-Burger TRC	2.3.5	Allen	Tawhiti Catchment Monitoring Programme Annual Report 17/18
18	21.11.18	Dec-18	Janette Harper TRC	2.3.5	Allen	Acknowledgement of submission - Kiwirail - Waipuku Stream and Manganui Stream
19	22.11.18	Dec-18	Anglea Lane	2.3.5	Allen	Dorn Campbell and Julian consents
20	22.11.18	Dec-18	Robert Sowman	4.6.2	Jilli	Performance reports for Parliament

OUTWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

Corr No	Date	Meeting	TO	FILE NO	Staff Councillor	SUBJECT
1	23.10.18	Dec-18	Reel Life e-zine	3.1.1	Allen Glenn	Reel Life Taranaki October 2018
2	29.10.18	Dec-18	Matt Landrigan	1.2.11	Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
3	29.10.18	Dec-18	Hynds Pipe Systems Ltd	1.1.8	Allen Glenn	Novacoil for kid's trout fishing events
4	30.10.18	Dec-18	New Plymouth District Council	2.3.7	Allen	F&G reedback on NPDC Draft Green Spaces Mgt Plan
5	31.10.18	Dec-18	Paddy Walsh	1.2.11	Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
6	1.11.18	Dec-18	Lindsay Horrocks	1.2.11	Glenn	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
7	1.11.18	Dec-18	Chris Fern - Trustpower	Patea HEPS	Allen Glenn	Interim dissolved oxygen and temperature report
8	5.11.18	Dec-18	Darlene Ladbrook TRC	2.3.5	Allen	F&G submission - Kiwirail Manganui & Waipuku fish passes
9	5.11.18	Dec-18	Rangers	3.7.1	Glenn	CERT ranger training day 14 September 2019
10	5.11.18	Dec-18	Robert Sowman	4.5.1	Glenn	Q & Farmlands cards for licence purchases
11	9.11.18	Dec-18	Monty & Paula Good	1.2.11	Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
12	12.11.18	Dec-18	Tony Flynn	2.2.5	Glenn	Application to Hunting & Habitat Fund - Cote Brook
13	12.11.18	Dec-18	Trevor & Diane Gooch	2.2.5	Glenn	Application to Hunting & Habitat Fund - Gooch Project
14	12.11.18	Dec-18	Michael Johnston	2.2.5	Glenn	Application to Hunting & Habitat Fund - Annandale Waters
15	12.11.18	Dec-18	Ian Moore	2.2.5	Glenn	Application to Hunting & Habitat Fund - Takahuri Native Restoration
16	13.11.18	Dec-18	Martin Taylor	2.1.3	Glenn Allen	At risk catchments
17	14.11.18	Dec-18	Craig Rowe	1.2.11	Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
18	14.11.18	Dec-18	David Knowles	1.2.11	Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
19	14.11.18	Dec-18	Steven Fever	1.2.11	Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
20	19.11.18	Dec-18	Kingsley Young	1.2.11	Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
21	20.11.18	Dec-18	Reel Life e-zine	3.1.1	Allen	Reel Life Taranaki November 2018
22	20.11.18	Dec-18	Allan Chesswas	2.3.5	Allen	Non-notified approval - Pungaereere Stream
23	20.11.18	Dec-18	Ruapehu Bulletin	3.1.1	Glenn	Editorial - "A summer for trout fishing"
24	20.11.18	Dec-18	Gloria Kelly	1.2.11	Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
25	21.11.18	Dec-18	Kavanah Farm	1.2.11	Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
26	21.11.18	Dec-18	Jacob Prankerd	1.2.11	Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
27	23.11.18	Dec-18	Lonza NZ Ltd	1.2.11	Allen	Authority to Disturb Gamebirds
28	23.11.18	Dec-18	Cotton Kelly	4.6.2	Glenn Paul	Letter of Representation for year ends 31 August 2018
29	26.11.18	Dec-18	Anna Johnston TRC	2.3.5	Allen	Dorn Campbell and Julian consents - comments of Officer Reports
30	27.11.18	Dec-18	NZME	3.1.1	Allen	Stratford Kids fishing day publicity
31	27.11.18	Dec-18	Freshwatersolutions.co.nz	2.3.7	Allen	Mangatete Stream trout population