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**PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE**

**WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 AUGUST 2021**

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Hon Kiritapu Allan  
Minister of Conservation  
Parliament Buildings  
WELLINGTON

Dear Minister

I have the honour to submit, pursuant to Section 26X of the Conservation Act 1987 and Section 44A of the Public Finance Act 1989, the Performance Report and Financial Statements of the Wellington Fish and Game Council for the year ended 31 August 2021.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul Dewar".

Paul Dewar  
CHAIRMAN  
WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

2 December 2021

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

**Wellington Region**

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## **PURPOSE OF WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL**

The Council is a Reporting Entity, created by Statute (The Conservation Act 1987) to manage, maintain and enhance the sports fish and game bird resources of its region, in the recreational interests of anglers and hunters. Wellington Fish and Game derives its revenue from the sale of fish and game licences, interest, contracts, grants and miscellaneous sales.

## **OPERATION OF WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL**

At balance date the Council had twelve Councillors, who are elected three yearly by the people who purchase fishing or hunting licences within the Council's region. The Council meets at least six times per year, spread around three main towns and cities within the Wellington region, to direct the Council's management and to make its policy decisions.

The Council's office is based in Palmerston North. The Council employs four full-time and two part time staff: a Regional Manager/Chief Executive, four Field/Technical Officers, an Environmental Planning advisor, an Administration Manager, one pro-bono Research Technical advisor. The Taranaki Fish and Game Council in Whanganui, provides services on a part time basis for Wellington Fish and Game Council's financial administration.

## DIRECTORY COUNCILLORS

Name	Locality
Jim Cook	Rongotea
Strato Cotsilinis (Chairman)	Wellington
Malcolm Francis	Te Horo
John Hancock	Martinborough
Andrew McGregor	Palmerston North
Richard McIntyre (NZ Fish and Game Council Appointee – from 23 March 2021)	Levin
Chris O'Meara	Lower Hutt
Aaron Passey	Dannevirke
Don Scott	Palmerston North
Colin Shore	Masterton
Paul Shortis (NZ Fish and Game Council Appointee – until 23 March 2021)	Masterton
Andy Tannock	Palmerston North

## STAFF

Phil Teal	Regional Manager/Chief Executive
Dr Matt Kavermann	Senior Fish and Game Officer
Hamish Carnachan	Fish and Game/Senior Communications Officer
Corinne Deans	Administration Manager
Peter Wilson	Senior Environmental Planning Advisor (until 26 February 2021)
Ami Coughlan	RMA Technical Officer (Part Time)
Nathan Field	Fish and Game Officer (Part Time)
Dr Adam Canning	Research Scientist (pro-bono)

### Palmerston North Office

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## Chairman's Report for the 2020/21 Financial Year

I am pleased to present this 2020/21 Annual report on the operations of Wellington Fish and Game Council.

The Wellington Fish and Game Council continues to manage the fish and game resource in a sustainable way to achieve strategic and long-term outcomes that have a benefit in terms of the resource itself and access to it by licence holders.

### Fish and Game Organisational Governance Review

In June 2020, the Minister of Conservation initiated a review of Fish and Game's governance to undertake *"an organisational health check ... to make sure Fish and Game's governance and organisational arrangements are fit for purpose today."* The Governance Review team completed their review by releasing a report in April 2021 which signalled several significant changes for the wider Fish and Game organisation. The report identified potential improvements to Fish and Game relating to increasing professionalism in governance practices and composition, and streamlining duplication in regional operational practices. The potential ramifications for each of the regional entities could be large in terms of resource allocation, governance structure, and even potentially continued existence through amalgamations. Notably however, the review rejected centralised control of the organisation and reconfirmed the value of continuing with the regional federal system – which focuses on achieving outcomes at the implementation 'coalface' and retaining connection to stakeholders. A set of key recommendations also related to improving the engagement with iwi into the future as the more modern partnership principles are developed and implemented.

A formal Implementation Group was set up to advise the Minister on how to implement the 36 recommendations including proposed regional amalgamations. On face value, the amalgamations of twelve regions to six regions proposed by the Governance Review Team appeared to be rather arbitrary. The Minister of Conservation has subsequently requested that Fish and Game discuss the options for a future regional structure moving forward that is fit for purpose for the next 20 years in terms of: facilitating effective governance representation, efficient and effective management, objectively determining regional boundaries, and having appropriate efficiencies in resource allocation. A separate Structure Review Group is currently working through that process to look at different configurations and opportunities with the initial recommendation due in the first quarter of 2022.

### Response to COVID-19 Restrictions

There was a conservative approach taken to the financial management during the 2020/2021 Financial Year – as there was still considerable social and financial uncertainty that resulted from the COVID-19 global pandemic. The NZ Government response to suppress the disease transmission by continuing with the lockdown of public movements within New Zealand and strict border controls essentially limited access to NZ citizens only. The effects of this approach for Fish and Game on reduced revenue derived from licence sales could have been potentially severe. However, the domestic tourism market responded to the lack of international travel by partaking in local and NZ wide activities. The Fish licence sales were consequently higher than budgeted which alleviated the concern on possible revenue shocks and cash flow pressure. In contrast, the Game licence sales were negatively affected compared to pre-Covid conditions, but overall financial sustainability was maintained. I acknowledge the contributions of staff in adapting to this conservative financial approach and for acting prudently in all aspects of operational management.

## **Fish and Game Resource Allocation Review**

Another major review completed during the year was a review of resource allocations within the organisation. The independent review considered the changes in resourcing requirements for each region - acknowledging that the budget setting process used by Fish and Game had its origins over 30 years ago and material changes had occurred in the resource usage patterns requirements since. The resource allocation model considered parameters such as hunter and angler effort, LEQs for angling and hunting, and other resourcing issues particular for each region (and also assessing resourcing needs of NZ Council) and provided an objective update of each region's minimum resourcing requirements.

## **Resource Management Advocacy Function – Freshwater Management**

### **The Political Landscape for Freshwater Management**

Over the last decade there had been increasing public awareness and concern regarding water management of New Zealand's rivers and lakes which culminated in the 2017 General Election with it being elevated to a key political issue. Numerous technical reports highlighted the challenges in managing New Zealand's water resources for water quality and water quantity and these were reflected in an influential technical assessment<sup>1</sup> by the Chief Science Advisor for the Prime Minister in 2017. This report acknowledged that declines in lowland trout fisheries were associated with land use intensification and water loss.

A number of subsequent political survey polls reaffirmed the Government's mandate for improving the current management of freshwater with over 80 per cent of people surveyed confirming that freshwater pollution was the top concern by New Zealanders - indicating that they were extremely concerned or very concerned about the issue<sup>2</sup>.

In 2018, the Labour/NZ First Coalition Government embarked on some key changes in policy direction at central Government level by establishing a new National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management and a new National Environmental Standard to improve the state of waterways. A substantial public consultation entitled "*Our Action Plan for Healthy Waterways*"<sup>3</sup> was conducted in 2019.

The Minister for the Environment and Minister for Primary Industry released the final versions of the NPSFM 2020 and the NES 2020 in June 2020. They were intended to achieve improved outcomes aimed at stopping the degradation of rivers and lakes, with a goal of achieving a noticeable improvement in five years and restoring the waterways within a generation by:

- strengthening Te Mana o Te Wai as the framework for freshwater management (*a hierarchy of needs that puts environmental requirements first, followed by human requirements, followed by economic needs*)
- better provision for ecosystem health (*water, fish and plant life*)
- better protecting wetlands and estuaries
- better managing stormwater and wastewater, and protect sources of drinking water
- controlling high-risk farming activities and limiting agricultural intensification
- improving farm management practices and farm planning.

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<sup>1</sup> Office of the Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor (OPMCSA). 2017. *New Zealand's fresh waters: Values, state, trends and human impacts* (12 April 2017).

<sup>2</sup> Colmar Brunton Poll – December 2018 – Top Concerns in NZ – Freshwater pollution (82%), Living costs (78%), Health System (72%)

<sup>3</sup> Ministry for the Environment. 2019. *Action for healthy waterways – A discussion document on national direction for our essential freshwater*. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment. Publication reference number: ME 1427

The final outcome of the NPSFM 2020<sup>4</sup> and NES 2020 have some good initiatives but it delayed or deferred confirming nitrogen limits in managing nitrogen (DIN)<sup>5</sup> – due to the advisory group being unable to reach full consensus on numbers for N limits<sup>6</sup> principally influenced by agricultural industry scientists.

While there is still the prospect that central Government will provide leadership and guidance for regional freshwater management that will provide consistency and lessen the tensions between regional stakeholders during regional plan determinations, it appears targeted advocacy by industry is stifling implementation. The raft of proposed freshwater management reforms from the NES and NPSFM 2020 including rules for managing intensive winter grazing, establishing freshwater farm environment plans, and wetland management, are being inevitably modified<sup>7</sup> (in some cases to make them workable and practical) and/or deferred<sup>8</sup>.

In the interim, Fish & Game needs to remain vigilant in their advocacy role to protect the fish and game resource and ensure the next generation of regional plans implement rules and methods that promote practices and solutions that are sustainable.

### **Regional Planning Advocacy**

Wellington Fish & Game Council has continued its involvement in the regional resource management planning processes which is essential to achieve habitat maintenance and enhancement, along with promoting public awareness of the issues to retain public support.

There are several regional planning processes that are continuing to have high priority in the Wellington Fish & Game region:

#### **Horizons Regional Council – Plan Change 2 - One Plan**

In 2017, the Environmental Defence Society (EDS) and Fish and Game sought and won their declaration<sup>9</sup> clarifying how Horizons Regional Council were implementing provisions of the One Plan – which concluded that resource consents were being issued unlawfully. The judgment clearly articulated that the Regional Plan should be implemented as the Plan states and that Horizons Regional Council cannot chose to implement or not to implement certain aspects.

Horizons Regional Council response to that judgement was to formally seek a plan change (Plan Change 2) to: firstly recalibrate Table 14.2 which is derived from OVERSEER<sup>®</sup> used to calculate the nitrogen leaching limits (seen as a necessary step forward in the process) and secondly to define changes in policies and objectives to provide a viable pathway for intensive land users to apply for consent including a discretionary consent if they cannot meet the table values. This has relied on using Good Management Practices (GMPs) as being defined in a discretionary consent.

A Technical Review Panel established by the Ministry for Primary Industries indicated that it had enough concerns about the variability of OVERSEER in certain parameters that the modelled outputs in estimating reductions or increases in losses of nutrients was not reliable enough to use as a

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<sup>4</sup> Essential Freshwater Factsheet - Published in September 2020 by the Ministry for the Environment and Ministry for Primary Industries Publication number: INFO 969

<sup>5</sup> DIN – Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen - the sum of nitrite (NO<sub>2</sub>), nitrate (NO<sub>3</sub>) and ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>6</sup> *Politik*. Swimming together; the coalition agrees on freshwater reforms By Richard Harman -May 29, 2020

<sup>7</sup> Ministry for the Environment August 2021 Managing intensive winter grazing A discussion document on proposed changes to intensive winter grazing regulations pp17.

<sup>8</sup> Press Release – NZ Government – Minister for the Environment and Minister of Agriculture, 26 August 2021. Proposed intensive winter grazing regulations updates are more practical for farmers

<sup>9</sup> Environment Court Decision [2017] NZEnvC 37 ENV-2016-WLG-000038



regulatory tool. The panel did not have enough confidence that it could reliably estimate how changes in farm management would affect those losses<sup>10</sup>.

In order to reflect this advice on how to use Overseer, all parties to the appeal of the Plan Change 2 hearings decision are seeking workable solutions.

There is still a clear expectation that provisions in regional plans will be implemented to maintain the integrity of the operative plan once they have been finalised through the various formal and legal processes. This would not defer to simply including a list of possible GMPs in a Farm Plan but needs to be demonstratable that nutrient losses and nutrient loads entering the river are decreasing.

Horizons Regional Council has concurrently been slowly progressing their preference for a broader catchment review using sub-catchment 'units' and conducting a series of 'collaborative processes'. Additional processes such as considering the principles of Te Mana o te Wai and meaningful consultation with iwi will modify this approach substantially. Fish & Game's goal will be to advocate for environmental limits for water quality and quantity and then allow for discussion on allocation of the remainder for sustainable land use.

#### Proposed GWRC Natural Resources Plan (Regional Plan) – Greater Wellington Region:

The process to define the regional plan for Greater Wellington Region has been long and resource intensive: the formal process started with original submissions in November 2015, with hearings relating to water quantity, water quality, and wetland management stretching from May 2018 to November 2018, and the Hearing Commissioners' decisions released in July 2019. Wellington Fish and Game Council was actively involved in the Appeals mediation process from March 2020 to March 2021. All the outstanding issues were resolved and completed in November 2021 without going to a full court hearing.

#### Proposed Wairarapa Water Irrigation Project:

Wairarapa Water Ltd (formed in 2019) continued to advance the modified dam proposal with an injection \$7 million from the Provincial Growth Fund for preparation work. The Wairarapa Regional Development Group concurrently worked on a Water Resilience Council Strategy to support the dam concept which would be used to garner full support by the district councils. While the group lodged consents in December 2020, the dam project was abandoned in September 2021 citing that "*the environmental planning framework has changed rapidly to render the scheme extremely challenging to consent*"<sup>11</sup>.

#### Greater Wellington Regional Council Whaitua Committees:

Two of the Whaitua (Zone) Committees (Ruamahanga and Porirua catchments) completed their reports after a four-year process using a 'community based' committee appointed by the Regional Council to provide recommendations on how to manage and allocate land and water resources. No progress had been made for over two years on implementing their recommendations although recently GWRC staff were 'optimistic' that the recommendations will be addressed following internal restructuring of the operational aspects of the Regional Council into five units each to focus on managing the broad catchment units.

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<sup>10</sup> MPI Technical Paper no: 2021/12. July 2021. Overseer whole-model review Assessment of the model approach. Prepared for the Ministry for Primary Industries and the Ministry for the Environment by the Science Advisory Panel

<sup>11</sup> 3 September 2021. Stuff. Piers Fuller. Wairarapa water scheme project abandoned

### Regional Consent Processing:

The regional resource management function has continued to be a demanding exercise, but advocacy effort using relevant and credible technical advice has maintained strong representation of the interests of hunters and anglers.

Similarly to the regional planning processes, consenting processes for large scale applications can stretch over multiple years – with several examples of such consent proposals, including: several wastewater treatment plants in both the Horizons and Wellington regions, flood protection and river management consents for the western rivers in the Greater Wellington region (Hutt, Otaki, Wainuiomata, and Waikanae rivers), and Floodplain Management Plans for some of the eastern rivers of the Greater Wellington region. This is the process whereby the interests of anglers and hunters are considered, and strong representation is still required.

### Regional Councils' Planning Consultation

Wellington Fish & Game Council continues to submit to regional councils' planning processes such as Annual Plans and Long-Term Plans – to provide advocacy for different approaches or focus: freshwater quality management, flood control operations activities, incorporating wetlands into a rural landscape, and increasing a focus on fish habitat management.

### **Strategic Overview – Fish and Game Strategic Planning and Policy**

Wellington Fish & Game Council regularly reassesses strategic direction to ensure our long-term priorities align with annual staff and financial resources to be able to achieve expected outcomes. We remain committed to our responsibilities to maintain an effective core monitoring programme to maintain relevance in advocacy forums but also want to focus on opportunities that promote recruitment and education, and contribute to a wider marketing programme. The projects which have taken priority include involvement in the R3 marketing programme, establishing safe urban reservoir fisheries, maintaining access for hunters and anglers, bridging the urban/rural disconnect, and undertaking effective monitoring using technological advances.

Wellington Fish & Game Council has progressed a review of its strategic planning document - Sports Fish and Game Bird Management Plan - and is planning to start the wider public consultation process in late 2021.

### **Species Management**

Dr Kavermann provided leadership in managing and refining the species monitoring programmes to ensure that data is up-to-date, relevant, and robust. The data collected and inferences from analyses of this data are important in maintaining credibility as a science-based management agency, including: the core drift dive programme, specific intensive drift dives sites, spawning surveys, electro-fishing surveys, and specific research projects.

Dr Kavermann and Dr Canning established protocols for a field technique to confirm spawning in a river using environmental DNA (eDNA) primers and assessing  $DNA_{\text{mitochondrial}}:DNA_{\text{nuclear}}$  ratios. This type of technique might become an additional tool in assisting regional councils define trout spawning waters. They may require relatively recent confirmation of trout spawning in streams as a prerequisite to applying restricted rules in regional plans for that stream. The project focused on field trials of sites on the Kahuterawa Stream near Palmerston North (in collaboration with Massey University research scientists).

Dr Kavermann continues to lead the project relating to using the sophisticated technique of otolith microchemistry analysis that enables determination of the contribution of spawning to trout

populations from tributaries within a catchment – which is actively being applied to Ruamahanga, Rangitikei, and Hutt catchments.

Under Dr Canning's supervision, Ami Coughlan has been processing samples and establishing an inventory for oxygen isotope analysis for the native fish – trout interaction project. This allows analysis of predator prey interactions and help define logical food webs.

### **Trout Population Change Monitoring**

The core summer drift diving monitoring programme was again completed by a committed team of divers lead by Dr Kavermann and Hamish Carnachan. They found that the trout population overall in the region is relatively stable, but confirmed numbers in the Western Wellington rivers were on the ebb of a likely seven-year cycle.

### **Mallard Monitoring**

The aerial transects of mallard population monitoring revealed a relatively stable population on both the Manawatu/Rangitikei side and Wairarapa side of the mountain ranges. The initial recommendation was for an eight-week, ten bird bag limit season harvest conditions for mallard.

Wellington Council continues to use email surveys to seek feedback from hunters and get their opinions on potential restrictive approaches and how these might affect hunting opportunity. The survey continues to be well received by hunters and provides a platform to allow them to express their views and preferences as licence holders and be involved in the decision-making process.

### **Mallard Research:**

Wellington region has continued to contribute to the mallard banding programme that will ultimately confirm survival statistics and allow comparison with other sites within a proposed environmental management unit. Thanks go to the assistance from volunteers which is very much appreciated.

### **Upland Game Properties with Special Conditions**

In 2018, an issue arose principally from some Game Preserve Operators who were wishing to augment mallard populations by releasing of captive reared mallard (CRM) as a tool.

At the time, Wellington Fish & Game Council concluded that it did not support the wish to augment wild populations given the principle of adding to an existing population that is limited by habitat and its potential ineffectiveness long term. Wellington Council also considered that, when operated at the existing levels, game preserves provided a good resource for a niche market of hunters by providing a level of guarantee in hunting upland game birds, and there is a certain amount of 'leakage' of pheasants into habitat on public land offering additional hunting opportunity.

The existing 'upland game properties with special conditions' were allowed to continue operation if they were considered under a special Ministerial dispensation under Schedule 3 of the Wildlife Act for a further three-year timeframe which expired in 2020. Recent discussions at NZ Council resolved that they could continue to operate under the above conditions.

### **Licence Sales & Licencing**

#### **Licence Sales:**

Game licence sales for 2020/21 season were significantly up on the previous year's sales (109% of 2019/20 sales – based on LEQs but Covid restrictions affected season) but down (97% of 2018/19 sales based on LEQs). Given the continued uncertainty created by COVID-19 restrictions and the

disconnect created by having a disrupted 2020 game season the decrease in game licence sales (pre COVID) was expected.

Fish licence sales for 2020/2021 were up compared to previous year's sales (~105% of 2019/20 sales – based on LEQs) and slightly exceeded budget (106% budget LEQs). The licence holder purchasing patterns for fishing licences was also of interest with early season purchasing being well above budget. It appeared that the domestic tourism market compensated for any loss in Non-Resident licence sales.

#### **Licence fee recommendation**

Wellington Fish & Game Council considered that the proposed licence fee this year to be limited to CPI was appropriate and that there should be a consistent approach to apply budgeting principles and allocations for all regions.

#### **Effectiveness of New Categories of Fish Licences**

Wellington Fish and Game Council still advocates to NZ Fish & Game Council to commission a formal and comprehensive review of the pricing structure and appropriateness of short-term licence categories for fishing licences as was intended at the end of three years since their introduction. This should include looking at assessing price sensitivities, looking at licence holder switching behaviours, and the appropriateness of retaining a discounted Local Area Licence especially if any proposed amalgamation of regions occurs.

#### **Licence Management System**

The robustness of the software platforms for licence management has resulted in core licence sales channels now being entirely processed electronically by agents or by public online. The contract for running the Licence Management System was formally issued in 2020 via a tender process at the end of the existing contract period and the existing provider retained at a lesser rate. The update of any new platform has not been progressing as fast as anticipated, but the robustness of the current system and business support services has been adequate.

#### **Marketing – R3 – Recruitment, Retention, Reactivation**

Wellington Fish and Game Council has committed to being involved and actively participating in a more structured marketing programme called R3 (recruitment, retention, reactivation). Staff have undertaken some excellent initiatives, but this hasn't been under an umbrella of a structured national marketing plan nor with support from NZ Council. There also appears to be wide scope for recruitment of potential anglers who are new to the sport and not already contained in our database system.

#### **Opportunities for Junior and Novice Anglers**

The key components of the junior and novice recruitment programme have focussed on support of the 'novice', 'junior' or 'family' fishing 'fish out day' programmes and they remain an important component of introducing children to angling. Many thanks to the efforts of fish and game club volunteers that have enabled junior and novice anglers and hunters to become involved in these pursuits. These include:

- Manawatu Freshwater Angling Club continues to support for the family (children's) fishing day at Hokowhitu Lagoon in Palmerston North.
- Wellington Flyfishers Club providing opportunities for hundreds of young anglers from Wellington City catchment at the Capital Trout Centre, Wellington.
- Other initiatives by clubs to recruit more mature novice anglers which is cumulatively very important such as Wellington Flyfishers Club and Wairarapa Fish and Game Club.

- 'Women on Fly' programme initiated by Kapiti Fly Fishing Club – and Leigh Johnson leading the project.
- We are still looking actively to develop new sites or modify existing sites such as Otaki lake, Marton Reservoir, and Carterton pond site.

## **Compliance**

I thank the efforts of our warranted officers who have again done a great job in ensuring licence holders and public adhere to the relevant regulations. This contribution is highly appreciated by Council. Our honorary rangers undertake their role in a voluntary capacity and have made considerable efforts to undertake training to maintain a safe conduct. They provide Fish & Game with a professional image, are often the only interaction a hunter or angler has directly with us, and continue to be an important part of our organisation.

## **Communication**

### **Communication with Licence Holders**

Staff continue to put considerable effort into implementing the communication plan that focuses on highlighting the perceived 'value' of the licence to anglers and hunters. The intent is to use several communications channels (including Pre-season Fish & Game NZ Magazine Special Issues, fishing and hunting newsletters, weekly fishing and hunting reports, and modest contributions to the regular e-zines such as Reel Life and Both Barrels;) to regularly contact existing licence holders with relevant and targeted information. Hamish Carnachan has provided a professional approach to all communications over the year that is well received by licence holders.

### **Communications – Refining the Message**

Council received submissions from several licence holders concerned that there was a degradation of the goodwill for Fish and Game from within the rural community for what appeared to be sustained anti-farming rhetoric. While these national public awareness tactics might have the intent to retain high public awareness of water quality issues or ensuring commitment of government to deliver improvements to water quality, there are tensions created with the rural regional community who feel their licence to operate is under attack.

NZ Council has modified its focus to be 'solutions focused' and express a willingness to work with other stakeholders. This appears to have reduced overt tensions, but the outcomes sought to obtain improving water quality should not deviate - improve water quality and quantity where degraded, and maintain water quality and quantity where not degraded.

Council firmly believes that any advocacy position should be internally consistent and then communicated by the wider organisation in clear and easily understandable way to licence holders and public at a regional level.

### **Communication Strategy**

Wellington Council has proactively developed a positive alternative draft communications strategy to NZ Council that focused on the co-ordination function and ensuring licence holders were seen as a principal stakeholder. The absence of internal communications to governors and staff was a major failing of current NZ Council practice and has been identified as an organisational weakness for transparency and co-operation.

## **Angler and Hunter Access**

### **Maintaining Hunter and Angler Access**

Wellington Fish & Game Council acknowledges the importance of maintaining access to the resource for hunters and anglers. We remain vigilant in ensuring recreational planners of district and regional councils take into account hunter and angling access opportunities, especially in traditional sites.

There are increasing pressures on access to several sites due to changes in recreational use focus (for cycling and walking tracks near urban centres), increased sensitivity of the public to hunting on public land, increased sensitivity of the public to general firearms use, and transfer of title of land to iwi following completion of Treaty settlements – which had previously afforded unencumbered public access.

Wellington Council acknowledges the value of access to the resource across private land and while access across private land to public waterways remains an important tradition in New Zealand, it cannot be taken for granted. Fish and Game must continue to work with the rural community to ensure goodwill is enhanced and that public access is granted as a matter of course.

Staff continue to actively manage hunter access to several sites by permit system to: Pencarrow Lakes, Baring Heads, Otaki River, Waiterere forests, and Pukepuke Lagoon. Additional resources have also been focussed on actively manage maimai allocation and structure authorisation for Lake Wairarapa with the imminent formation of a Statutory Reserve Board (post Treaty settlement) to manage the lake.

Even when these sites that are managed with a highly regulatory approach for hunter access and there are no safety issues, the administering body repeatedly review the continued access. Often the reasons used to restrict access, which have been previously addressed, gain renewed traction in organisations often with changes in their internal culture.

### **Walking Access Commission**

A range of specific access issues continue to be directed onto the Commission staff to consider including sites that require clarification of public access rights and seeking advice for the Overseas Investment Office during potential land procurement by overseas based buyers.

Access for gamebird hunting is increasingly under pressure as urban sprawl and changes in ownership and use of public land occur. In contrast, by using the advocacy result above has opened up some upland game hunting opportunities to three sites in eastern Wairarapa that have become available on a limited basis to hunters. There has been additional input required to establish a more sustainable pheasant population at these sites, and it is encouraging that at least some additional access for hunters is being opened up for hunters.

### **Rangitikei River Fisheries Management**

In recent years Wellington Council had secured improved access on NZ Defence Force land boundaries including helicopter landing sites, to remove the actual or perceived restrictions in the Upper Rangitikei River. This included procuring public liability insurance as part of the backcountry licence endorsement.

However this agreement was suspended in 2020 - due in part to an internal inquiry and review of all operational activities at Waiouru Base, and more fundamentally NZ Defence Forces response to a Waitangi Tribunal process addressing claims resulting from NZ Defence Force procurement of land from 1939 through to 1973. Wellington Fish & Game Council will continue to renegotiate to the

position we had got to in the last decade, but there are now several convenient (but not compelling) reasons to delay progress in making decisions.

### **Biosecurity Threats**

Wellington Council remains vigilant on the promotion of biosecurity protection measures to stop the spread of Didymo to the North Island – in urging water users to undertake “check, clean, dry” procedures. There is still concern at the performance by the Ministry of Primary Industries regarding biosecurity checks of passengers on the interisland ferries to stop the spread of didymo between islands.

### **Biodiversity Management**

Wellington Council remains apprehensive about the strategic direction of the Department of Conservation and Greater Wellington Regional Council to develop proposals to remove exotic fish (including sports fish) that lack scientific rigour and is not being outcome based. The ‘success’ of any management actions are not compelling nor enduring, and we consider that these agencies should consider the ethical principles of killing fish for perception value only.

Wellington Fish & Game Council considers there is need for a wider discussion within the Fish and Game organisation on how to process requests for sports fish research, removal, or control - with a view to NZ Fish & Game Council developing national policy on this issue. We requested this be considered in September 2017 but there has been inadequate progression of this policy discussion internally.

As a consequence, Wellington Council is still forced to consider any applications for removal and research on their merits, and while the staff have developed an excellent decision-making process for individual applications, the wider organisation should be considering the strategic direction forward on how we should deal with applications.

### **Lake Wairarapa Management**

The treaty settlement negotiations between the Crown and iwi negotiators (Kahungunu Wairarapa) continues to be caught up in legal action being undertaken by different factions within the iwi, and this has delayed the progression of the Treaty Settlement into the legislative process.

The Wairarapa Moana Governance collective have been spending considerable efforts in developing transition advisory documentation to the proposed Statutory Reserve Board – to ensure consistency of approach. The change of management of the Lake and surrounds to a Statutory Reserves Board is imminent.

The Central Government initiative *Jobs for Nature* secured an additional \$3.5 million for work around the lake – with the focus on upscaling existing projects run by the Regional Council or Department of Conservation.

Issues around privileges of some hunting structures on and around the lake continue to provide a challenge to hunters in the final legislative settlement process. It was noted in the Agreement in Principle for the Treaty Settlement released in 2017 – that while existing rights would continue (in the foreseeable future) structures were specifically noted as requiring further management consideration. Wellington Council has continued to be proactive in informing hunters that structures on the lakebed and wetlands will come under increased scrutiny and that improvements need to be made urgently to avoid major disruption in the future. Wellington Council has been scrutinising tenure of maimai sites including entitlement to continue tenure (buying a licence) and has established an inventory of hunting sites with GPS co-ordinates and photos of current status.

Recently the Lake and surrounding area was confirmed as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention<sup>12</sup> - one of seven sites in New Zealand. This does not afford any additional legal protections already provided by the Water Conservation Order established in 1989. It may be used as a political tool to provide an overly indigenous species management focus but conversely be used to secure central government funding to ensure international treaty obligations are met.

Another key driver in the determining the long-term health of Lake Wairarapa is determination of water level regime – which is currently determined by GWRC Flood Protection consents for the operation of the barrage gates. It will be interesting to see what leverage will be attained by iwi in changing this when the principles of Te Mana o te Wai are considered – with the consents being renewed in the next five years.

### **Habitat Management - Gamebird Habitat Stamp Applications**

Staff continue to meet high demand for habitat assistance by providing advice on several wetland projects – with a further three projects in the Wellington region gaining assistance for grants from the Gamebird Habitat Trust Board.

Dr Kavermann also liaised with Te Uru Rākau (Forestry New Zealand) managing the One Billion Trees Programme to secure up to \$360,000 (\$120,000 a year for three years) for the Game Bird Habitat Trust to distribute for planting tree habitat around wetlands.

### **Commitment to Health and Safety Culture**

I reiterate Council's commitment to supporting and resourcing health and safety adequately and ensuring that operational actions are actively practiced. The role of governors is to ensure a positive culture to health and safety issues exists and planned actions from a robust Health and Safety Plan are carried out accordingly.

With COVID-19 pandemic there have been a whole suite of safety considerations: where video conferencing meetings are the norm, staff are based from home bases, field operations modified or limited, and interactions with our customers limited.

### **General - Staffing**

On behalf of Council I extend a genuine thanks to our staff, who have continued to contribute to providing the means and actions to achieve gains for the fish and game resource in the Wellington region, and also their wider contributions to national projects. We are extremely fortunate to have staff that are highly competent but always undertake their duties with passion, dedication, and commitment. This year's project reports provide the record of the high level of output and outcomes.

Each has made a significant contribution:

- **Phil Teal** leads the team and provided prudent management in an uncertain financial time. Phil supports the Council to set strategic direction by providing well researched and relevant considerations and advisory papers. He has fostered a culture that demonstrates respect and encourages staff to use their initiative to fulfil their potential. He has also provided leadership in the wider Fish and Game organisation using over thirty years of experience within the system. His expertise is across a wide variety of functional areas including: developing a strategic approach to research opportunities, maintaining capacity for more efficient and effective regional resource management advocacy, contributing to the review

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<sup>12</sup> Ramsar Convention on Wetlands is an intergovernmental treaty for the conservation and wise use of wetlands



of the licence management system, contributing to defining focus for a marketing function and R3 programme, and participation in the Structure Review Group;

- **Hamish Carnachan** has provided expert communications to media and to maintain public awareness of issues relevant to anglers and hunter in the Wellington region, as well as providing support to other regions;
- **Dr Matt Kavermann** provides outstanding advice and contribution to our organisation where he principally oversees the technical monitoring of projects and manages the compliance function. Matt has a customer focused approach and deals with licence holders with great empathy, and is equally comfortable in dealing with regional agencies using robust scientific reasoning;
- **Dr Adam Canning** (although now based in Townsville, Australia) to provide (pro bono) technical advice and mentoring of Fish and Game staff involved in our research programme using innovative approaches into resource monitoring.
- **Nathan Field and Ami Coughlan** have provided much needed enthusiasm, and competence, using complementary skill sets, to make a valued contribution to the team in aspects relating to technical projects, resource management advocacy, and logistical project management.
- **Corinne Deans and Jilli Steadman** provided consistently professional and accurate administrative and financial management input. Their diligence and contribution are widely appreciated.

### **Recognition of Outstanding Contribution to Fish & Game**

Wellington Fish & Game Council have developed a programme to recognise contributions of individuals both internally and externally who have made a significant contribution to management of the fish and game resource in Wellington region including angler and hunter recruitment.

This year we have recognised the efforts of the following:

- **Paul Dewar** - For outstanding contributions as a governor and period as Chairman of Wellington Fish and Game Council (up until 2009).
- **Mike Bourke** - For outstanding contributions to creation and management of waterfowl habitat and recruitment of novice hunters.
- **Colin Shore** – For outstanding contributions as honorary ranger and assistance with banding programme and management of habitat and hunters in the Lake Wairarapa area.
- **Roger Smaile** – For outstanding contributions as a governor and period as Chairman of Wellington Fish and Game Council (up until 2006).
- **Lee Cook** – For contributions to Fish and Game mallard monitoring banding programme for over five years.
- **Jennifer Yanko** – Significant voluntary contributions to the mallard banding programme over the previous five years.
- **Dan Whyman** – Significant voluntary contributions to the mallard banding programme over the previous five years.
- **Elliott Teal** – Significant voluntary contributions to the mallard banding programme over the previous five years.
- **John Callesen** – Significant contributions to the mallard banding programme over the previous five years.

There are a number of other worthy recipients that will be presented with their recognition awards in due course.

### **Governance – Licence Holder Engagement and Representation**

The Fish and Game system in New Zealand is unique in the world - it provides direct input from recreational users as to how the fish and game resource can be managed in their recreational interests. We need to protect and foster the principles that the legislation was developed for. Fish

and Game needs to ensure we do not disconnect with our licence holders , in fact we need to actively engage with them to retain an understanding hunter and angler of their needs and motivations to ensure decision making reflects their interests.

Part of that is retaining the confidence and respect of the licence holders in terms of ensuring our governance practices are modern, appropriate, and fit for purpose. The recent Fish and Governance review provided a health check to provide opportunities for improving governance practices to ensure governance is undertaken with the best interests of hunters and anglers.

In my opinion, Wellington Fish and Game Council remain acutely aware of our responsibilities as governors, which was underlined by our conduct at meetings and by undertaking specialist governance training at the start of this three-year period of representation.

The governance board for Wellington Council have all contributed to bringing to focussing on issues that are important to licence holders, and this helps shape our strategic direction. I acknowledge the contributions that all councillors are making in terms of their time and energy on a voluntary basis, and importantly their perspectives to promote our licence holders' rights and interests.

### **Governance Team – Elections and Changes in Governance Membership**

With the completion of another three-year term of governance representation on Wellington Fish and Game Council, the elections have provided an opportunity to re-emphasise mandates but also renew the membership to reinvigorate representation. There were four long serving councillors that decided not to seek re-election at the 2021 Wellington Fish and Game elections and I acknowledge the special contributions and perspectives that they have provided over the years, including:

**Paul Shortis:** Paul's personal commitment and leadership to the wider organisation in managing a transition of NZ Council's governance and operations was widely respected. He provided the organisation with an improved culture of transparency and co-operation at a critical time of governance and operational review

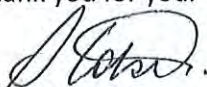
**Andy Tannock:** Always provided a considered view with insightful understandings from active hunters' and anglers' perspectives. His pragmatic business acumen was also highly valued – with conduct clearly driven with a continued passion for the pursuits.

**Chris O'Meara:** Respected for clearly articulating views widely held amongst the hunting fraternity and providing specific insight into the management of key hunting areas such as the margins of Lake Wairarapa.

**Myself (Strato Cotsilinis):** having contributed to various fishing governance entities over many years and as a long serving Fish and Game councillor (the last seven years as Chairman) I feel it appropriate to pass the baton on. I have enjoyed the contributions and insight made by others, and I hope these perspectives have been incorporated with integrity in defining the direction of the organisation.

It has been a challenging year, and it will be continuing to be challenging in the foreseeable future. I stand aside reassured that I see the continued commitment by all in contributing your time, passion, experience, and skills to retain the culture and tradition of these pursuits.

Thank you for your efforts.



**Strato Cotsilinis**  
**Chairman (until 25 October 2021)**  
**Wellington Fish and Game Council**  
**2 December 2021**

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**STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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The Council and management of Wellington Fish and Game Council accepts responsibility for the preparation of the Annual Financial Statements and the judgements used in them.

The Council and management of Wellington Fish and Game Council accepts responsibility for establishing and maintaining a system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the integrity and reliability of financial reporting.

In the Opinion of the Council and management of the Wellington Fish and Game Council, the Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2021, fairly reflect the financial position and operations of Wellington Fish and Game Council



Chairman  
Paul Dewar  
2 December 2021



Manager  
Phil Teal  
2 December 2021

**Statement of Financial Performance**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

	Note	Actual 2021 \$	Unaudited Budget 2021 \$	Actual 2020 \$
<b>REVENUE</b>				
Fish and Game licence sales	1	651,766	570,071	610,599
Grants and Donations	1	159,978	153,820	276,703
Interest	1	4,970	11,644	9,306
Funding from central or local government	1	4,000	4,000	4,000
Other Revenue	1	27,514	11,400	51,926
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>848,228</b>	<b>750,935</b>	<b>952,534</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>Outputs</b>				
Species Management	2	41,778	41,800	57,741
Habitat Protection & Management	2	52,521	5,500	66,298
Angler & Hunter Participation	2	32,145	28,805	34,198
Public Interface	2	83	1,250	1,028
Compliance	2	5,828	7,000	1,018
Licencing	2	26,790	25,653	25,191
Council	2	7,017	6,000	3,763
Planning & Reporting	2	6,220	9,000	15,334
<b>Overheads</b>				
Employee Related Costs	2	464,892	580,511	483,257
Depreciation	4	19,761	20,536	25,214
Other Expenses	2	114,997	125,679	116,899
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>772,030</b>	<b>851,734</b>	<b>829,941</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>		<b>76,198</b>	<b>(100,799)</b>	<b>122,593</b>

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of this performance report. This performance report should be read in conjunction with the audit report.

**Statement of Financial Position**  
**For the year ended 31 August 2021**

	Notes	Actual 2021 \$	Unaudited Budget 2021 \$	Actual 2020 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Bank accounts and cash	3	407,460	252,283	329,474
Debtors and prepayments	3	16,557	90,000	47,427
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>424,017</b>	<b>342,283</b>	<b>376,901</b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>				
Property plant and equipment	4	219,891	223,441	239,654
Investments	3	340,564	360,000	335,727
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>560,455</b>	<b>583,441</b>	<b>575,381</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>984,472</b>	<b>925,724</b>	<b>952,282</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Creditors and accrued expenses	3	62,479	160,000	89,165
Income in advance	3	35,199	-	51,720
Employee costs payable	3	106,797	85,000	107,600
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>204,475</b>	<b>245,000</b>	<b>248,485</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>204,475</b>	<b>245,000</b>	<b>248,485</b>
<b>NET ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)</b>		<b>779,996</b>	<b>680,724</b>	<b>703,798</b>
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>	5	<b>779,996</b>	<b>680,724</b>	<b>703,798</b>

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of this performance report. This performance report should be read in conjunction with the audit report.

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**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

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	Note	Actual 2021 \$	Actual 2020 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Cash was received from:</b>			
Licence Sales		664,684	612,350
Grants, donations and fundraising		159,978	276,706
Interest		4,991	9,379
Funding from central or local government		6,000	6,000
Other Revenue		26,943	48,896
<b>Cash was applied to:</b>			
Payments to Suppliers		294,560	314,575
Payments to Employees		465,695	499,728
GST (net)		19,518	(8,768)
<b>Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		<b>82,823</b>	<b>147,793</b>
<b>CASHFLOWS FROM INVESTING &amp; FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Cash from received from:</b>			
Sale of property, plant and equipment		-	-
Sale of investments/deposits		-	-
<b>Cash was applied to:</b>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		-	-
Purchase of investments/deposits		4,837	9,302
<b>Net Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities</b>		<b>(4,837)</b>	<b>(9,302)</b>
<b>Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash</b>		<b>77,986</b>	<b>138,491</b>
<b>Opening Cash</b>		<b>329,474</b>	<b>190,984</b>
<b>Closing Cash</b>		<b>407,460</b>	<b>329,475</b>
<b>This is Represented by:</b>			
<b>Bank accounts and cash</b>		<b>407,460</b>	<b>329,475</b>

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of this performance report. This performance report should be read in conjunction with the audit report.

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**Statement of Accounting Policies**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

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**ACCOUNTING POLICIES APPLIED**

**Reporting Entity**

Wellington Fish and Game Council is a Public Entity under the Public Finance Act 1989 (Schedule 4). The Council was established on 4 May 1991 with the passing of the Conservation Law Reform Act 1990. This performance report has been prepared in accordance with Section 153-6 of the Crown Entities Act 2004.

**Basis of Preparation**

Wellington Fish and Game Council has elected to apply Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Public Sector) PBE SFR-A (PS) on the basis that it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses of equal to or less than \$2,000,000. All transactions in the Performance Report are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. The Performance Report is prepared under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate in the foreseeable future.

**Goods & Services Tax (GST)**

The Council is registered for GST. All amounts are recorded exclusive of GST, except for Debtors and Creditors which are stated inclusive of GST.

**SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Revenue Recognition**

Wellington Fish and Game Council derives revenue through the sale of fish and game licences, interest, sale of fish product, contracts, rentals, grants and miscellaneous sales. All are recorded as revenue in the period they are earned. However, for any grants, where there are unfulfilled conditions attaching to the grants, the unfulfilled amount is recognised as a liability and released to income as the conditions are fulfilled.

*Licence Revenue*

Licence revenue is recognised in relation to the period covered by the Game Bird or Fish Licence. Any licence money received for a licence in advance will be treated as a liability.

*Grants Received*

Grants are recognised as revenue when they become receivable unless there is an obligation in substance to return the funds if conditions of the grant are not met. If there is such an obligation, the grants are initially recorded as grants received in advance and recognised as revenue when the conditions of the grant is satisfied.

*Grant from NZFGC*

An annual grant was provided from the New Zealand Fish and Game Council, which is recognised as revenue when it is received.

*Interest*

Interest revenue is recorded as it is earned during the year.

**Outputs**

The Council has allocated expenditure based on the 8 output codes – Species management, Habitat Protection & management, Angler & Hunter participation, Public interface, Compliance, Licencing, Council and Planning & reporting. These are expensed when the related service has been received.

### **Employee related costs**

Wages, salaries and annual leave are recorded as an expense as staff provide services and became entitled to wages, salaries.

Performance payments are recorded when the employee is notified.

Superannuation contributions are recorded as an expense as staff provide services.

### **Bank accounts and cash**

Bank Accounts and cash comprise cash on hand, cheque or savings accounts, and deposits held at call with banks.

### **Debtors and Prepayments**

Debtors are initially recorded at the amount owed. When it is likely the amount owed (or some portion) will not be collected, a provision for impairment is recognised and the loss is recorded as a bad debt expense.

### **Investments**

Investments comprise investments in term deposits with banks.

Deposits with banks are initially recorded at the amount paid. If it appears that the carrying amount of the investment will not be recovered, it will be written down to the expected recoverable amount.

### **Property, plant and equipment**

Property, plant and equipment is recorded at cost, less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Donated assets are recognised upon receipt of the asset if the asset has a useful life of 12 months or more, and the current value of the asset is readily obtainable and significant. Significant donated assets for which current values are not readily obtainable are not recognised. For an asset to be sold, the asset is impaired if the market price for the equivalent asset falls below its carrying amount. For an asset to be used by the Council, the asset is impaired if the value to the Council in using the assets falls below the carrying amount of the assets.

Depreciation is provided on a diminishing value basis at rates that will write off the cost of the assets over their useful lives. The useful lives and associated depreciation rates of the

Buildings	40 years (2.5%)
Plant & Equipment	2 – 20 years (11.4% to 50%)
Motor Vehicles	10 Years (10 - 24%)
Office Equipment	3 – 10 years (11.4% to 50%)

### **Creditors and accrued expenses**

Creditors and accrued expenses are measured at the amount owed.

### **Game Bird Habitat Stamp levy**

Levies of \$13,597 have been collected and are paid to New Zealand Fish and Game Council per the New Zealand Game Bird Habitat Stamp Regulations 1993.

### **Employee costs payable**

A liability for employee costs payable is recognised when an employee has earned an entitlement. These include salaries and wages accrued up to balance date and annual leave earned but not yet taken at balance date. A liability and expense for long service leave and retirement gratuities is recognised when the entitlement becomes available to the employee.



### **Dedicated and Restricted Reserves**

Dedicated and restricted reserves are those reserves subject to specific conditions accepted as binding by the Council and which may not be revised by the Council without reference to specific purpose or when certain conditions are met.

#### *Non-Resident Licence Income*

The back country fisheries reserve is for the purpose of management of “back country fisheries”. The reserve was established with the introduction of the Non-Resident Licence Fee in 2014. A portion of this licence fee is transferred to this reserve based on the number of non-resident licence sales in the financial year.

#### *Rangitikei Fish Monitoring Reserve*

This reserve is used for the monitoring of the upper reaches of the Rangitikei River.

#### *JK Donald Block Track*

This reserve is to fund the maintenance and upkeep of the JK Donald Block track at Lake Wairarapa. Income for this fund is derived from the sale of vehicle access stickers.

#### *Kilmore Lodge*

This fund is for the maintenance and upkeep of Kilmore Lodge at Lake Wairarapa. Income for this reserve is derived from hunters paying for accommodation costs.

#### *Reparation*

This reserve is for works and projects that contribute to the Fish and Game resource such as habitat maintenance and compliance management.

#### *Asset Replacement Funding*

For the maintenance and upkeep of the Fixed Assets

#### *Enhancement & Education Programme*

This reserve is for works and projects that contribute to the Fish and Game resource such as enhancement of the Fish and Game resource and education opportunities. Income for this reserve is derived from compliance actions.

#### *Wairarapa Hunter Access*

This reserve is for works to the management of access to hunting around Lake Wairarapa. It was resolved by Council on 10 August 2021 that any surplus revenue from the sale of access permits be allocated to a dedicated reserve.

#### *Hunter Access*

This reserve will be used for projects that increase or maintain hunter opportunity and access. It was resolved by Council at its 10 August 2021 meeting to establish a dedicated reserve to allow for funds to be accumulated from the sale of hunter access permits.

### **Income Tax**

The Council is a Public Benefit Entity and is exempt from the payment of Income Tax in terms of the Income Tax Act 2007.

### **Budget Figures**

The Budget figures are derived from the Council budget that was approved at the Council meeting in 11 August 2020.

### **Tier 2 PBE Accounting Standards applied**

The Council has not applied any Tier 2 Accounting Standards in preparing its financial statements.

**Changes in Accounting Policies**

There have been no specific changes in accounting policies and they have been applied on a consistent basis with those of the previous period.



**Notes to the Performance Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

<b>NOTE 1: ANALYSIS OF REVENUE</b>	<b>Actual 2021 \$</b>	<b>Unaudited Budget 2021 \$</b>	<b>Actual 2020 \$</b>
<b>Licence sales</b>			
Fish Licence	371,868	297,651	347,313
Non-Resident Licence Levy	1,379	-	7,808
Game licence	278,519	272,420	255,478
<b>Total</b>	<b>651,766</b>	<b>570,071</b>	<b>610,599</b>
<b>Grants and donations</b>			
Grant from Genesis	22,105	16,000	21,840
National Fish and Game Grant	137,820	137,820	204,275
COVID-19 Wage Subsidy	-	-	50,578
Donations / Koha from the Public	53	-	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>159,978</b>	<b>153,820</b>	<b>276,703</b>
<b>Interest</b>			
Other interest	4,970	11,644	9,306
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,970</b>	<b>11,644</b>	<b>9,306</b>
<b>Funding from central or local Government</b>			
General funding from central or local government	4,000	4,000	4,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>
<b>Other revenue</b>			
Fines / Prosecutions	-	5,000	-
Reparation	870	-	-
Trout liberations	5,583	2,000	4,000
Junior/Novice Training	5,198	-	8,438
Lake Wairarapa Hunter Access	2,889	1,000	1,174
Hunter Access	3,803	3,000	2,247
Back Country Licence	-	-	2,000
Kilmore Lodge	1,383	-	1,252
Public Awareness	-	-	2,380
Hunter Training	348	400	348
Other RMA Income	6,773	-	21,328
National Projects	667	-	8,759
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,514</b>	<b>11,400</b>	<b>51,926</b>

<b>NOTE 2: ANALYSIS OF EXPENSE</b>	<b>Actual 2021 \$</b>	<b>Unaudited Budget 2021 \$</b>	<b>Actual 2020 \$</b>
<b>Species management</b>			
Population monitoring	25,941	26,500	41,762
Harvest assessment	4,094	3,300	3,792
Liberations	11,718	11,500	12,176
Regulations	-	-	11
Control	26	500	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,778</b>	<b>41,800</b>	<b>57,741</b>
<b>Habitat protection &amp; management</b>			
Resource management	48,002	500	61,654
Works & management	4,518	4,000	2,522
Assisted habitat	-	1,000	2,122
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,521</b>	<b>5,500</b>	<b>66,298</b>
<b>Angler &amp; Hunter participation</b>			
Access	5,627	9,800	3,536
Newsletters	13,087	11,000	11,403
Information to Clients	7,724	3,000	10,072
Training	5,700	5,005	9,036
Club relations	7	-	151
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,145</b>	<b>28,805</b>	<b>34,198</b>
<b>Public interface</b>			
Advocacy	35	250	237
Public promotions	48	1,000	791
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>1,250</b>	<b>1,028</b>
<b>Compliance</b>			
Ranging	271	1,000	203
Ranger training	496	1,000	417
Compliance	5,061	5,000	398
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,828</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>1,018</b>
<b>Licencing</b>			
Licence production & distribution	357	-	140
Commission	26,433	25,653	25,051
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,790</b>	<b>25,653</b>	<b>25,191</b>
<b>Council</b>			
Council meetings	7,017	6,000	3,763
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,017</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>3,763</b>
<b>Planning &amp; reporting</b>			
Reporting	6,180	9,000	5,700
National liaison	40	-	9,634
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,220</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>15,334</b>
<b>Employee related costs</b>			
Salaries and wages	456,632	569,109	475,712
FBT	-	2,090	-
Staff related costs	6,508	5,712	7,545
ACC Levies	1,752	3,600	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>464,892</b>	<b>580,511</b>	<b>483,257</b>

<b>NOTE 2: ANALYSIS OF EXPENSE</b>	<b>Actual 2021 \$</b>	<b>Unaudited Budget 2021 \$</b>	<b>Actual 2020 \$</b>
<b>Other expenses</b>			
Office premises	36,748	43,050	38,059
Office equipment	4,970	2,500	2,933
Communications	16,516	17,479	19,797
General	8,709	10,650	10,486
Field equipment	-	2,000	1,135
Vehicles	47,826	38,356	44,490
Bad debt written off	228	-	-
Asset Replacement Funding	-	11,644	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>114,997</b>	<b>125,679</b>	<b>116,899</b>

<b>NOTE 3: ANALYSIS ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>Actual 2021 \$</b>	<b>Actual 2020 \$</b>
<b>Bank accounts and cash</b>		
ANZ Select	396,658	319,579
ANZ Cheque Account	27	127
Enhancement Program	10,775	9,769
<b>Total</b>	<b>407,460</b>	<b>329,474</b>
<b>Debtors and other receivables</b>		
Accounts receivable	12,737	35,971
Accrued Interest	70	92
Prepayments	3,750	11,365
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,557</b>	<b>47,427</b>
<b>Investments</b>		
Term Deposits	340,564	335,727
<b>Total</b>	<b>340,564</b>	<b>335,727</b>
<b>Creditors and accrued expenses</b>		
Trade and other payables	40,726	48,376
GST Payable	13,522	33,040
Accrued Expenses	8,232	7,749
<b>Total</b>	<b>62,410</b>	<b>89,165</b>
<b>Income in advance</b>		
Income in advance	35,199	51,720
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,199</b>	<b>51,720</b>
<b>Employee costs payable</b>		
Accrued salaries and wages	3,320	15,066
Annual leave	87,904	83,087
PAYE owing	15,573	9,447
<b>Total</b>	<b>106,797</b>	<b>107,600</b>

**NOTE 4: PROPERTY PLANT & EQUIPMENT**

<b>2021</b>					
<b>Asset Class</b>	<b>Opening Carrying Amount</b>	<b>Purchases</b>	<b>Sales / Disposals</b>	<b>Current year Depreciation and Impairment</b>	<b>Closing Carrying Amount</b>
Land	126,552	-	-	-	126,552
Buildings	3,111	-	-	182	2,929
Plant & Equipment	8,977	-	-	1,569	7,408
Vehicles	96,220	-	-	16,658	79,562
Office Equipment	4,795	-	-	1,355	3,440
<b>Total</b>	<b>239,654</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>19,764</b>	<b>219,891</b>

<b>2020</b>					
<b>Asset Class</b>	<b>Opening Carrying Amount</b>	<b>Purchases</b>	<b>Sales / Disposals</b>	<b>Current year Depreciation and Impairment</b>	<b>Closing Carrying Amount</b>
Land	126,552	-	-	-	126,552
Buildings	3,293	-	-	182	3,111
Plant & Equipment	10,994	-	-	2,017	8,977
Vehicles	116,905	-	-	20,685	96,220
Office Equipment	7,125	-	-	2,330	4,795
<b>Total</b>	<b>264,868</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,214</b>	<b>239,655</b>

The combined value of the Council's land at Simmonds Lagoon and at Lake Omanu is disclosed in the Schedule of Fixed Assets at a total value of \$126,552. The Council considers that the fair values of these lands are respectively \$530,000, as determined at 1 September 2020 for South Wairarapa District Council, and \$600,000, as determined at 1 August 2019 for Horowhenua District Council, by Quotable Value New Zealand Ltd. The Council does not consider the cost of formal revaluation that would be required to substantiate any write up of the land values to be warranted at this time.

<b>NOTE 5: ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>	<b>Actual 2021 \$</b>	<b>Actual 2020 \$</b>
<b>Accumulated Surplus / (Deficit)</b>		
Balance as at 1 September	478,318	374,178
Surplus / (Deficit)	76,198	122,593
Transfer to Restricted Reserves	(44,072)	(43,718)
Transfer from Restricted Reserves	3,107	25,266
<b>Balance at 31 August</b>	<b>513,550</b>	<b>478,319</b>
<b>Dedicated Reserves</b>		
<b>Asset Replacement Reserve</b>		
Balance as at 1 September	76,081	64,437
Transfer from Accumulated Surpluses	11,644	11,644
Transfer to Accumulated Surpluses	-	-
<b>Balance at 31 August</b>	<b>87,725</b>	<b>76,081</b>
<b>Non-Resident Licence Levy</b>		
Balance as at 1 September	31,019	23,211
Transfer from Accumulated Surpluses	1,379	7,808
Transfer to Accumulated Surpluses	-	-
<b>Balance at 31 August</b>	<b>32,398</b>	<b>31,019</b>
<b>Rangitikei River Fish Monitoring Reserve</b>		
Balance as at 1 September	67,752	70,455
Transfer from Accumulated Surpluses	22,105	21,840
Transfer to Accumulated Surpluses	(390)	(24,543)
<b>Balance at 31 August</b>	<b>89,467</b>	<b>67,752</b>
<b>Reparation Reserve</b>		
Balance as at 1 September	35,361	35,361
Transfer from Accumulated Surpluses	-	-
Transfer to Accumulated Surpluses	-	-
<b>Balance at 31 August</b>	<b>35,361</b>	<b>35,361</b>
<b>Kilmore Lodge</b>		
Balance as at 1 September	2,435	1,619
Transfer from Accumulated Surpluses	1,383	1,252
Transfer to Accumulated Surpluses	(819)	(436)
<b>Balance at 31 August</b>	<b>2,999</b>	<b>2,435</b>
<b>JK Donald Track</b>		
Balance as at 1 September	3,339	2,452
Transfer from Accumulated Surpluses	1,065	1,174
Transfer to Accumulated Surpluses	(287)	(287)
<b>Balance at 31 August</b>	<b>4,117</b>	<b>3,339</b>
<b>Enhancement &amp; Education Programme</b>		
Balance as at 1 September	9,493	9,493
Transfer from Accumulated Surpluses	870	-
Transfer to Accumulated Surpluses	-	-
<b>Balance at 31 August</b>	<b>10,363</b>	<b>9,493</b>



**Lake Wairarapa Standholders**

Balance as at 1 September	-	-
Transfer from Accumulated Surpluses	1,824	-
Transfer to Accumulated Surpluses	(421)	-
<b>Balance at 31 August</b>	<b>1,403</b>	<b>-</b>

**Hunter Access**

Balance as at 1 September	-	-
Transfer from Accumulated Surpluses	3,803	-
Transfer to Accumulated Surpluses	(1,190)	-
<b>Balance at 31 August</b>	<b>2,613</b>	<b>-</b>

<b>Dedicated Reserves as at 31 August</b>	<b>266,445</b>	<b>225,480</b>
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<b>Total Accumulated Funds as at 31 August</b>	<b>779,996</b>	<b>703,798</b>
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**NOTE 6: COMMITMENTS & CONTINGENCIES****Commitment to: Explanation and Timing**

Office Lease	Lease expiring 28 February 2025
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Operating leases means payments for the Wellington Fish and Game Council premises. Wellington Fish and Game Council has a lease in place for the Council premises, expiring in February 2025 costing \$26,000 per annum. There is one right of renewal in 2022.

**Commitments**

Jeremy McGuire, Lawyer was involved in one prosecution for Wellington Fish & Game. The prosecution is yet to be finalised. There are no funds held by Jeremy McGuire, Lawyer that are due to Wellington Fish and Game Council.

**NOTE 7: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Related Party	Description of the Transaction	2020/21 Value	2019/20 Value	2020/21 Amount Outstanding	2019/20 Amount Outstanding
NZ Fish and Game Council	Grants received	137,820	204,275	-	-
	Reimbursement from NZ Fish and Game Council Legal fund of costs incurred	6,773	15,180	-	-
	Reimbursement from NZ Fish and Game Council for research (eDNA Project and Native / Trout interactions Research)	-	6,635	-	-
Strato Cotsilinis	Trout partly paid for by Wellington Fish and Game Council in respect of children's fishing days	5,583	4,000	2450	3,000
Lee Cook	Councillors son assisted with field work	2,208	1,038	-	-

Wellington Fish and Game Council Performance Report for The Year Ended 31 August 2021

Colin Shore	Councillor, assisted with banding	6,576	9,140
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Paul Shortis held the position of Chairman of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council. He resigned as Chairman on 22 November 2020 and as NZ Council appointee for Wellington region on 23 March 2021.

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council is by statute a related party, with a financial redistribution for regional Fish and Game Councils. In the reporting year, Wellington Fish and Game Council received a grant totaling \$137,820 to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council (2019/20 received grant; \$204,275). There are nil outstanding balances at year end (2020; nil).

Strato Cotsilinis is a Councillor, and a member of the Executive Committee of Wellington Flyfishers Club. The Wellington Flyfishers Club organizes children's fishing days with trout partly paid for by Wellington Fish and Game Council. The total external cost of trout was \$11,718 excl GST (2020; \$12,176). A contribution of \$5,583 (2020; \$4,000) was invoiced to Wellington Flyfishers Club. The outstanding balance at year end is \$2450 (2020; \$3,000). The net cost to Wellington Fish and Game Council was \$6,135

Jim Cook is a Councillor, and Lee Cook is his son. Lee Cook worked for Wellington Fish and Game Council for 96.5 hours assisting with field work and was paid \$2,208.

Colin Shore is Councillor, who was employed to assist with banding and various other field work 263 hours \$6,576.

There were no other related party transactions. There are nil provisions for doubtful debts or expenses for bad debts, and no guarantees given or received for all related parties.

**NOTE 8: EVENTS AFTER BALANCE DATE**

There were no events that have occurred after the balance date that would have a material impact on the Performance Report.

**NOTE 9: ALLOCATION OF OVERHEADS TO OUTPUT AREAS FOR 2021**

In the Statement of performance, overheads are allocated across the 8 output areas based on the hours worked within those Outputs over the year. Below is the calculation for distributing the overheads across the output area.

**ACTUAL 2021**

Output Area	Actual Direct \$	Actual Hours	Allocation of Overheads	Total Costs per Output
Species management	41,778	1,899	149,411	191,189
Habitat protection & management	52,521	1,641	129,106	181,627
Angler & hunter participation	32,145	1,509	118,777	150,922
Public interface	83	641	50,407	50,490
Compliance	5,828	492	38,720	44,548
Licencing	26,790	-	-	26,790
Council	7,017	446	35,080	42,097
Planning & reporting	6,150	993	78,148	84,369
Totals	172,311	7,620	599,650	772,031

**Actual Overheads**

Employee related costs	464,892
Depreciation	19,761
Other expenses	114,997
Total Overheads to allocate	599,650

**BUDGET 2021**

Output Area	Budget Direct \$	Budget Hours	Allocation of Overheads	Total Costs per Output
Species management	41,800	1,926	149,890	191,690
Habitat protection & management	5,500	4,360	339,315	344,815
Angler & hunter participation	28,805	1,474	114,713	143,518
Public interface	1,250	252	19,612	20,862
Compliance	7,000	266	20,701	27,701
Licencing	25,653	124	9,650	35,303
Council	6,000	316	24,593	30,593
Planning & reporting	9,000	620	48,251	57,251
Totals	125,008	9,338	726,726	851,734

**Budget Overheads**

Employee related costs	580,511
Depreciation	20,536
Other expenses	125,679
Total Overheads to allocate	726,726

**NOTE 10: COVID RESPONSE**

Covid-19 has had a financial impact on Wellington Fish and Game Council.

Wellington Fish & Game Council reduced their budget for the 2020-2021 financial year as the projection of licence income was reduced, due to border closures.

Within the budgeting process the Wellington Fish & Game Council agreed to use reserves to cover any shortfalls forecast in the 2020-2021 year.

Licence sales have exceeded forecasts in the 2020-2021 year and the financial position is healthier than budgeted. Any surplus will be utilised in the 2021-2022 year as forecasts for this year require Wellington Fish & Game Council to use reserves.

The New Zealand Fish & Game Council has established a policy to support all Fish & Game Councils to ensure liquidity and to ensure that all Fish & Game Council's remain a going concern.

**NOTE 11: MINISTERIAL REVIEW**

In February 2021 the Minister of Conservation, presented the review for Governance of Fish & Game New Zealand and the Regional Fish & Game Councils. This report sets out 36 recommendations to be implemented for the future of Fish & Game.

A review implementation team has been set up which includes Ray Grub, the New Zealand Fish & Game Council Chair, Brian Anderton and Department of Conservation representatives.

Many of the recommendations require legislative change. One of the recommendations is the amalgamation of Council (reducing the number of Council from 12 to 6). This area is currently being investigated by a project team. This project team will consult with all 13 Fish & Game Councils, and their final report is due in March 2022.

**STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**Introduction**

This section of the Annual Report sets out what was planned to be achieved in each of the projects undertaken, as stated in the Council's Annual Plan, and against this, reports what was actually achieved.

**PROJECT 1111 SPORTS FISH POPULATION MONITORING**

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>Trout populations in all fisheries in the Wellington Fish and Game Region, that are valued by licence holders, will remain stable over time.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.1)</p>	<p>Information gained by drift diving and spawning surveys, as planned in Council's adopted Sports Fish Monitoring Strategy, will result in identifying implications for sports fish management. A report by professional staff on the results of the year's fieldwork will be presented to the Council to 31 August 2021.</p>	<p>Drift dive surveys were undertaken in 54 transects of 19 rivers, and a report on the results of this, by professional staff, was presented to the Council on 11 October 2021.</p> <p>Trout spawning visual surveys were conducted on 3 rivers and streams and eDNA samples were collected from 1 stream, electric fishing machine surveys were completed on 1 stream.</p>

**PROJECT 1112 RANGITIKEI TROUT FISHERY MANAGEMENT**

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>Sports fisheries that exhibit characteristics that are valued by anglers will be identified and safeguarded.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.3.5)</p>	<p>The implementation of a programme of research, monitoring and compliance work, with financial support from, and a report to, Genesis Power Limited, by 31 August 2021.</p> <p>Operate a backcountry licence for the Upper Rangitikei fisheries.</p>	<p>Obtained information on trout abundance, spawning and recruitment.</p> <p>Six drift dives totalling 8km were completed for the Upper Rangitikei in 2021.</p> <p>A backcountry licence has continued to be issued.</p> <p>A report to Genesis Power Ltd was completed in July 2021 and presented to Council 10 August 2021.</p> <p>Receipt of \$22,104.78 was received from Genesis Power Ltd. Some of these funds have been carried forward to 2021/2022.</p>

### PROJECT 1113 RIVER CONTROL FISHERY ASSESSMENT

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The quality and quantity of trout habitat in the Wellington Fish and Game region will remain stable over time.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.3).</p>	<p>Information gained by drift diving will result in assessment of the impacts of river control works on trout habitats and populations in the Hutt and Waikanae Rivers.</p> <p>A progress report by professional staff on the results of the fieldwork will be presented to Greater Wellington Regional Council by 31 August 2021.</p> <p>Income of \$4,000 was budgeted from Greater Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Drift diving in the Hutt, Otaki and Waikanae rivers was undertaken as part of an ongoing programme.</p> <p>A report by professional staff, summarising the results of the field work was presented to Greater Wellington Regional Council in June 2021, and the report was presented to Wellington Fish and Game Council on 8 June 2021.</p> <p>Receipt of \$4,000 from Greater Wellington Regional Council.</p>

### PROJECT 1114 GAMEBIRD POPULATION ASSESSMENTS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The Wellington regional populations of gamebirds are managed to remain relatively stable over time.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref C9.1.1, D9.1.1, E9.1.1, F9.1.1, G9.1.1, H9.1.1).</p>	<p>Information gained by autumn counts of the regional populations of mallard/grey ducks and pukeko; summer trend counts of paradise shelduck and black swan; and late winter counts of shoveler ducks, will result in identifying implications for game bird management.</p> <p>A report by professional staff on the results of the fieldwork will be presented to the Council to 31 August 2021.</p>	<p>A report by professional staff, detailing autumn population assessments and trends for mallard/grey duck hybrids, paradise shelduck, shoveler, black swan and pukeko, with management implications, was received by the Council on 11 October 2021</p>

### PROJECT 1122 NATIONAL HUNTER SURVEY

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>Hunter harvest of gamebirds will be controlled so it is not the cause of any population's demise.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref C9.1.2, D9.1.2, E9.1.2, F9.3.1, G9.1.2, H9.1.2, I9.1.1).</p>	<p>Information gained from game licence holders during the 2021 game season, collected by participation in this externally analysed and nationally coordinated annual survey, will result in identifying implications for game bird management.</p> <p>A report by professional staff on the results of the 2021 survey will be presented to the Council to 31 August 2021.</p>	<p>The 2021 national hunter survey was undertaken during the 2021 game season, and a report by professional staff detailing game bird harvest levels for the 2022 game seasons, comparing these with 29 previous years' harvest assessments and detailing management implications, was received by the Council on 11 October 2021.</p>

### PROJECT 1123 REGIONAL ANGLER SURVEY

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>85% of licensed anglers have a satisfactory angling experience, and will be satisfied with the availability, quality and extent of information available.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.3.2, A9.3.6.)</p>	<p>Information gained by surveying fish licence holders during the 2020/21 financial year will result in identifying implications for fisheries management.</p> <p>A report by professional staff on the results of the survey will be presented to the Council to 31 August 2021.</p>	<p>No surveys were undertaken.</p>

### PROJECT 1124 REGIONAL HUNTER SURVEY

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>90% of dabbling duck hunters have a satisfactory hunting experience, and will be satisfied with the availability, quality and extent of information available.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref C9.3.1 C9.3.6).</p>	<p>Information gained by surveying game licence holders during the 2020/21 financial year will result in identifying implications for game management.</p> <p>A report by professional staff on the results of the survey will be presented to the Council to 31 August 2021.</p>	<p>As part of the National Gamebird Harvest Survey a series of questions relating to Wellington region hunters' satisfaction and participation were undertaken.</p> <p>Analysis of the results was completed, and a report was presented to Wellington Fish and Game Council on 11 October 2021.</p>

### PROJECT 1161 TROUT LIBERATIONS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The maintenance and improvement of trout fisheries by stocking with hatchery-reared fish where this is necessary, achievable and cost effective.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.5).</p>	<p>The provision of 1,500 healthy two-year-old rainbow trout at Capital Trout Centre, Wellington, by 31 August 2021.</p>	<p>1000 rainbow trout from Ngongotaha Hatchery, Rotorua were delivered to Capital Trout Centre (1000 rainbow trout on 12 August 2021) and 900 rainbow trout from Turangi Hatchery, Turangi (900 rainbow trout on February 2021) with transport provided by Eastern Region Fish &amp; Game Council.</p>
	<p>The provision of at least 500 healthy two-year old rainbow trout at Hokowhitu Lagoon with view to supporting a junior novice fishing day promotion.</p>	<p>Total costs for the Capital Trout Centre were \$11,717.98 offset by the invoice of \$5,583.36 from Wellington Flyfishers Club.</p> <p>500 rainbow trout liberated into Hokowhitu Lagoon, Palmerston North for event on 10 October 2020.</p>
	<p>The provision of at least 200 healthy two-year old rainbow trout at Otaki with view to supporting a junior novice fishing day promotion.</p>	<p>Total costs for the Hokowhitu Lagoon, Palmerston North were \$5285.15 offset by the receipt of \$5198.42 from sponsors. (see project 1354)</p> <p>No rainbow trout liberated into Otaki Gravel Lake, Otaki in 2021. There were no costs for the Otaki event.</p>

### PROJECT 1171 SEASON REGULATIONS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The maintenance and improvement of the region's sportsfish and gamebird resources, by the formulation and recommendation to the NZ Fish and Game Council of season conditions for fishing and game hunting seasons, that can be demonstrated to be sustainable.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.2)</p>	<p>The dispatch of the Council's draft recommendations for 2021 game hunting season conditions to New Zealand Fish and Game Council by 6 February 2021.</p>	<p>Council's draft recommendations for the 2021 game hunting season conditions were sent to New Zealand Fish and Game Council on 9 February 2021</p>
	<p>The dispatch of the Council's draft recommendations for the 2021/2022 fishing season conditions to New Zealand Fish and Game Council by 30 June 2021.</p>	<p>Council's draft recommendations for 2020/2021 fishing season conditions were sent to New Zealand Fish and Game Council on 25 June 2021.</p>



### PROJECT 1172 KEEP AND RELEASE APPROVALS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The protection of Wellington Fish and Game region's indigenous biodiversity and trout habitat.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.3, A9.2.2, I9.2.2)</p>	<p>All keepings of gamebirds, and all releases of sports fish, other fish, and gamebirds will be subject to appropriate statutory approvals.</p>	<p>There were no gazetted Game preserves operating under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Act 1953.</p> <p>There were two game preserves operating under Schedule 3 of the Wildlife Act 1953 (ministerial approval) in the Wellington region in 2021.</p>

### PROJECT 1181 GAMEBIRD DISPERSAL

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The dispersal or control of congregations of gamebird, where they cause unacceptable damage to farmers' crops, is undertaken in a timely and cost effective manner.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref C9.2.1, E9.2.1, F9.2.1, F9.2.2, G9.2.1, H9.2.1)</p>	<p>The dispersal or control of gamebirds where they cause unacceptable damage to farmers' crops is undertaken in a timely and cost effective manner.</p> <p>A report by professional staff on the performance of game bird dispersal throughout Wellington Fish and Game region for the reporting year will be presented to the Council to 31 August 2021.</p>	<p>Fish and Game issue permits to disturb game birds in specified areas and in specific circumstances.</p> <p>80 permits were issued, compared to 70 the previous year, with details reported to Council on 11 October 2021.</p>

### PROJECT 1211 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The quality and quantity of trout habitat in the Wellington Fish and Game region will remain stable over time.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.3)</p>	<p>Submissions on resource consent applications and plan proposals will be made as appropriate, seeking to achieve trout habitat protection and wetland conservation.</p>	<p>Council staff responded to resource management issues throughout the year as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>43 Pre-applications liaisons/ site visits</li> <li>8 Section 95 approvals (non-notified)</li> <li>1 Section 96 submissions in opposition</li> <li>1 Submission Regional Council Floodway designation plan</li> <li>1 Submission on EPA accelerated COVID project</li> <li>1 Pre-hearing meetings</li> <li>4 Post Hearing Follow up (appeal prospects to join other parties)</li> <li>7 Review consent compliance or implementation</li> <li>2 Consent Review</li> <li>1 Applications on hold</li> </ul> <p>The Senior Environmental Planner undertook work with other Fish and Game regions undertaking regional planning projects.</p>

**PROJECT 1212 HABITAT ADVOCACY**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Planned Result</b>	<b>Actual Result</b>
The quality and quantity of trout habitat in the Wellington Fish and Game region will remain stable over time.  (Mgt Plan ref A9.1.3)	The promotion of habitat protection and enhancement, outside the Resource Management Act procedures, as opportunities allow.	Fish and Game staff met local government to advocate for habitat protection and enhancement on 1 occasion

**PROJECT 1213 TROUT HABITAT INVENTORY**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Planned Result</b>	<b>Actual Result</b>
The quality and quantity of trout habitat in the Wellington Fish and Game region will remain stable over time.  (Mgt Plan ref A9.1.3)	A report by professional staff on current trout habitat and spawning inventory, will be presented to the Council by 31 August 2021.	Concurrent report on Trout spawning surveys (1111A) submitted to Council on 11 October 2021.

**PROJECT 1222 LAKE WAIRARAPA HABITAT**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Planned Result</b>	<b>Actual Result</b>
To maintain and enhance the gamebird habitat at the north east margin of Lake Wairarapa.  (no Mgt Plan ref, Statutory ref sec 26Q(1)(b)(v).)	The payment of rates on the Council's "Simmonds Lagoon" property.  The management of water levels within the wetlands of the "J K Donald Reserve" at Lake Wairarapa as authorised by Greater Wellington Regional Council.  The management of open water at Boggy Pond and Matthews Lagoon as authorised by the Department of Conservation.  Involvement of Fish and Game in the Wairarapa Moana management organisation or its successor.	Met with Wairarapa Moana governance group and Department of Conservation staff to discuss management issues on Wairarapa Moana project.

### PROJECT 1223 JK DONALD DRAIN CLEAN

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>To maintain and enhance the gamebird habitat at the north east margin of Lake Wairarapa.</p> <p>(no Mgt Plan ref, Statutory ref sec 26Q(1)(b)(v).)</p>	<p>To clean drain in the JK Donald Reserve wetland to comply with arrangements with adjoining landowners.</p>	<p>Drain status compliant with agreement – no work required.</p>

### PROJECT 1231 WETLAND ENHANCEMENT

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The Wellington regional populations of gamebirds are managed to remain relatively stable over time.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref C9.1.1.)</p>	<p>The provision of advice on request, and the promotion of sources of funding, for the construction and enhancement of waterfowl habitat by landholders within the Council's region by 31 August 2021.</p>	<p>Advice on wetland improvement was provided to land holders on request on four occasions, with assistance with four funding applications for land holders (and other projects) with suitable wetland enhancement projects being provided by Gamebird Habitat Stamp Trust with four projects receiving funding.</p>

### PROJECT 1232 HABITAT MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The Wellington regional populations of gamebirds are managed to remain relatively stable over time.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref C9.1.1)</p>	<p>To provide part funding for habitat enhancement projects.</p>	<p>Advice provided to one habitat enhancement project.</p>

### PROJECT 1233 TROUT RESERVOIR FEASIBILITY & MANAGEMENT

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>Not less than 5,000 licenced anglers will undertake not less than 40,000 angling visits per year in the Wellington Fish and Game region.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A 9.3.1)</p> <p>The maintenance and improvement of trout fisheries by stocking with hatchery-reared fish where this is necessary, achievable and cost effective.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.5)</p>	<p>To investigate the feasibility of potential reservoir fisheries in the Wellington Region.</p> <p>A report by professional staff on current state of fisheries in reservoirs will be presented to the Council by 31 August 2021.</p>	<p>Preliminary investigations into the feasibility of establishing, and/or maintaining a reservoir fishery at two potential sites.</p> <p>Professional staff periodically reported to Council on two potential reservoir angling sites on Kapiti Coast and Marton, and in the concurrent report on Project 1354 Junior Angler Training presented to Council on 11 October 2021.</p>

### PROJECT 1311 ANGLER ACCESS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>Not less than 1,000 kilometres of angling water will be accessible to anglers in the Wellington Fish and Game Region.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.3.3.)</p>	<p>The identification and negotiation of angler access as part of an access programme, with access signage and angler access brochures made available to licence holders by 31 August 2021.</p> <p>Liaison with the Walking Access Commission to identify potential improvements in public (and specifically angler) access.</p>	<p>Angler access programme was maintained and angler access signage erected.</p> <p>Liaisons were held with relevant authorities including Greater Wellington Regional Council on particular angler access issues.</p>

### PROJECT 1312 LAKE WAIRARAPA HUNTER ACCESS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The management of hunter access and the allocation of maimai sites shall be undertaken by Council, where a mutually acceptable written agreement to this effect between the council and the landholder or land administering authority can be negotiated.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref C9.3.3.)</p>	<p>Maintenance of Eric Kilmore Lodge, with costs recovered from users.</p> <p>The implementation of Council policy for the management of gamebird hunter access at Lake Wairarapa, in accord with agreements with the Department of Conservation and farmers to this end, with some costs recovered from users.</p>	<p>Eric Kilmore Lodge was used 109 hunting nights including 3 club weekends</p> <p>Kilmore Lodge fees of \$1382.63 exl GST were received.</p> <p>JK Donald Reserve track stickers produced income of \$1065.26 exl.GST.</p>

### PROJECT 1313 HUNTER ACCESS PERMITS AND BALLOTS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The management of hunter access and the allocation of maimai sites shall be undertaken by Council, where a mutually acceptable written agreement to this effect between the Council and the landholder or land administering authority can be negotiated.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref C9.3.3, I9.3.2)</p>	<p>The availability of duly negotiated and agreed access permits, with a small administration charge, to licenced hunters, by 31 March 2021 for the 2021 game season, for all areas publicly available to hunters in the Wellington region.</p> <p>The management of hunter access (including allocation) of available hunting sites in forests and public access wetlands, in time for 2021 game season.</p>	<p>Access for game bird hunters was negotiated and agreed on all "public" areas available last year, and permit booklets for game bird hunter access onto nominated areas were available from 11 March 2021.</p> <p>A report to Council on the 11 October 2021 showed 643 permits were issued on request to Wellington Fish and Game region licence holders. (584) permits last year).</p>

**PROJECT 1331 MAGAZINE & NEWSLETTERS**

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>Not less than 85% of licenced anglers and hunters will be satisfied with the availability, quality, and extent of information available.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.3.6.)</p>	<p>The provision of a two-page regional supplement in each of the two Special Editions of Fish &amp; Game magazine to be published during the reporting year.</p> <p>The preparation and publication of two regional newsletters to licence holders during the reporting year.</p>	<p>Wellington regional supplements of two-four pages were provided in Special Editions 51 and 52 of <i>Fish &amp; Game NZ Magazine</i>.</p> <p>Two regional newsletters for the Wellington region were made available both through licence agents and posted in summer 2020 (pre Fish #20) and autumn (pre-Game #21) 2021.</p>

**PROJECT 1341 INFORMATION TO LICENCE HOLDERS**

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>Not less than 85% of licenced anglers and hunters will be satisfied with the availability, quality and extent of information available.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.3.6, C9.3.6.)</p>	<p>Responses to requests for information will be provided as required.</p> <p>Weekly email reports from October to end of March that provide anglers with information on river levels and angling potential.</p> <p>Weekly email reports from May to June that provide hunters with information on weather and hunting potential.</p> <p>Council's portion of the New Zealand Fish and Games website will be maintained as an important communication means with licence holders by 31 August 2021.</p>	<p>Report on communications prepared for Wellington Fish and Game Council on 11 October 2021.</p> <p>Council staff provided responses to requests for information as required.</p> <p>A monthly e-newsletter (12) <i>Reel life</i> was regularly distributed electronically to anglers.</p> <p><i>Both Barrels</i> e-newsletter was distributed to hunters electronically on (4) occasions throughout the game season.</p> <p>Weekly Fishing Reports (29) sent out from September 2020 – March 2021.</p> <p>Weekly Game Season Reports (12) sent out from March - July 2021.</p> <p>The website has downloads of access pamphlets and also river level information. Other information on Council meetings, organised hunts, and e-newsletters are also available on the website.</p>

### PROJECT 1342 LAPSED PARTICIPANT SURVEY AND PARAMETER ANALYSIS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The participation of hunters and anglers are to be at levels that will sustain effective management of the sport</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.3.1, B9.3.1, C9.3.4)</p>	<p>Assist NZ Fish &amp; Game Council undertake testing of marketing opportunities to lapsed participants and existing participants</p>	<p>Undertook reactivation actions consistent with National R3 (Recruitment, retention and reactivation) strategy.</p>

### PROJECT 1351 HUNTER TRAINING – LAKE OMANU

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>Game licence sales are at a level that will sustain effective management of the sport.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref C9.3.4.)</p>	<p>The Foxton Waterfowl and Wetlands Club will be assisted to run a hunter training programme at Lake Omanu.</p>	<p>The Junior Hunter Trainee Programme was not run in 2021.</p>

### PROJECT 1354 JUNIOR ANGLER PROGRAMME

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>Not less than 5,000 licenced anglers will undertake not less than 40,000 angling visits per year in the Wellington Fish and Game region.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref C9.3.1)</p>	<p>Establish an inventory of equipment that can be used in junior angler promotions.</p> <p>Manage an education module such as “Fish in Schools” and recreation module for use in schools.</p> <p>Assist clubs undertake junior angling training in public fishing open promotions.</p>	<p>Inventory of equipment for junior angler promotions maintained.</p> <p>No schools received support for the Fish in Schools module in 2021 due to COVID 19 restrictions.</p> <p>Activities related to junior angler training undertaken as part of Hokowhitu Lagoon public promotion and Capital Trout Centre youth fishing open days.</p>

### PROJECT 1355 JUNIOR HUNTER PROGRAMME

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The participation of hunters and anglers are to be at levels that will sustain effective management of the sport.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.3.1, B9.3.1, C9.3.4)</p>	<p>Establish an inventory of equipment that can be used in junior hunter promotions and programmes.</p>	<p>No actions taken for the 2021 Game Season.</p>

**PROJECT 1361 CLUB LIAISON**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Planned Result</b>	<b>Actual Result</b>
The maintenance of a positive working relationship with clubs.	Attend meetings on regular basis or as required.	Maintain open communication with 10 active Fish and Game Clubs.  5 club meetings were attended.

**PROJECT 1411 ADVOCACY AND LIAISON**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Planned Result</b>	<b>Actual Result</b>
Not less than 80% of the Wellington regional general public knows and accepts the activities and interests of anglers and hunters.  (Mgt Plan ref A9.2.4, C9.3.5.)	Liaison with Conservation Boards and Regional Councils at a governor level as opportunities permit by 31 August 2021.	Signatory of the Manawatu River Accord which involved intent and commitment from iwi, environmental groups, industry and Territorial Local Authorities to clean up the Manawatu River.  One Conservation Board meeting was attended by governor, and no Conservation Board member attended meetings of the Council during this year.  Attended 2 Wairarapa Moana meetings dealing with management of Lake Wairarapa and surrounding wetlands.  No Department of Conservation staff attended Council meetings during this reporting year.  The regular provision of Council meeting agendas to one Conservation Board.

**PROJECT 1412 IWI LIAISON**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Planned Result</b>	<b>Actual Result</b>
A positive relationship with the Wellington Fish and Game region's Iwi will be sought in respect of the management of trout.  (Mgt Plan ref A9.2.5.)	The establishment of a positive working relationship with Iwi Authorities with a view to defining appropriate contacts by 31 August 2021.	Maintained contacts with Iwi representatives from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ngati Raukawa ki te Tonga</li> <li>• Ngati Kahungunu</li> <li>• Rangitaane o Wairarapa</li> <li>• Te Mauri o Rangitaane o Manawatu</li> <li>• Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust</li> <li>• Te Runanga o Ngati Apa</li> <li>• Te Atiawa ki Whakarongotai</li> </ul>



### PROJECT 1441 PUBLIC AWARENESS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>Not less than 80% of the Wellington regional general public knows and accepts the activities and interests of anglers and hunters.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.2.4, C9.3.5.)</p>	<p>Publicity on angling, hunting, and the work of Fish and Game New Zealand is provided, with the coverage reported to Council to 31 August 2021.</p>	<p>Press releases to newspapers and magazines.</p> <p>Advertising – Regional newspapers.</p> <p>Regular updates to website.</p>

### PROJECT 1443 PROMOTIONS

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The provision of news releases, displays and other forms of public communication as appropriate</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A10.2.10, A9.2.4, A9.3.6.)</p>	<p>To be involved in public promotions which advocate for Fish and Game interests and values.</p>	<p>Recognised volunteer contributions.</p>

### PROJECT 1511 RANGER MANAGEMENT

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>Sufficient ranging resources to enforce fishing and hunting season conditions.</p> <p>(Stat. ref Sec 26Q (1)(b)(iv.) Conservation Act.)</p>	<p>The recruitment and retention of Council's ranger team meets adopted policy, and is reported to Council to 31 August 2021.</p>	<p>At 31 August 2021, Council had 18 warranted honorary rangers, and 6 staff rangers.</p> <p>Council received a report on the year's performance against its adopted Rangers Policy on 11 October 2021.</p>

### PROJECT 1521 RANGER TRAINING

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
<p>The maintenance of an adequate number of properly trained Rangers, an annual ranging programme to check the compliance of ten percent of the region's anglers.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A10.2.7)</p>	<p>Provide safety and compliance training and skill maintenance and is reported to Council to 31 August 2020.</p>	<p>At 31 August 2021, Council had 18 warranted honorary rangers received formal training, and all 6 field staff rangers had received training.</p> <p>A pre-fishing season ranger training day was held in Featherston.</p> <p>A pre-hunting season ranger training day was held at Lake Wairarapa.</p> <p>Council received a report on the year's performance against its adopted Policy on 11 October 2021.</p>

**PROJECT 1531 COMPLIANCE**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Planned Result</b>	<b>Actual Result</b>
<p>The protection and enhancement of the region's sportsfish and game resources by the operation of an enforcement program to deliver not less than 95% compliance of anglers and gamebird hunters with licence and legal requirements and season regulations.</p> <p>(Mgt Plan ref A9.1.4.)</p>	<p>Ranging to check compliance of not less than 350 anglers and hunters throughout the region, throughout the year, in line with adopted policy.</p> <p>The processing of participants found unlicensed or in substantial non-compliance with legal requirements or season regulations without just cause, in line with adopted policy.</p> <p>Fines income of \$5,000 was budgeted.</p>	<p>The Council's 18 active Rangers and 6 Fish and Game staff checked 157 anglers and 199 hunters for compliance.</p> <p>A report to Council on 11 October 2021 noted 7 offences were detected. 1 alleged offender was prosecuted, 4 alleged offenders opted for the diversion policy (2 paid in full with 1 pending, 1 withdrawn,), 0 were to produce, 1 pending, 1 unable to locate. In addition, no warnings for children, 4 warnings for adults.</p> <p>Fines/diversion income of \$870 was received.</p>

**PROJECT 1611 LICENCING**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Planned Result</b>	<b>Actual Result</b>
<p>To issue hunting and fishing licences.</p> <p>(Stat. ref Sec 26Q(1)(f), Conservation Act.)</p>	<p>2021 Game licences will be available to licence agents and participants throughout the region by 31 March 2021.</p> <p>2020/2021 fishing licences will be available to licence agents and participants throughout the region by 31 August 2020.</p> <p>An up to date data base of licence holders will be maintained.</p> <p>Progress reporting on licence sales will be provided to the Council throughout the year.</p>	<p>Licence sales are tabulated in Appendix 1.</p> <p>An up to date licence holder database was regularly maintained throughout the year.</p> <p>Sportsfish and Gamebird licence sales reports were included in each Council agenda throughout the year.</p> <p>Council received a report on the year's performance on 11 October 2021.</p>

**PROJECT 1621 LICENCE AGENTS**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Planned Result</b>	<b>Actual Result</b>
<p>An effective and efficient network of licence resellers.</p> <p>(No Stat. or Mgt Plan ref.)</p>	<p>Council's Licence Agent Network is managed in line with adopted Council policy.</p>	<p>At balance date, Council has a network of 27 licence agents.</p> <p>Council's licence agent network was managed in line with adopted Council policy, as reported to Council on 11 October 2021.</p> <p>A licence management agreement with Eyede Ltd to manage licence sales production, distribution, and invoicing was signed by Council as part of the New Zealand Fish and Game collective.</p>

**PROJECT 1711 COUNCIL ELECTION**

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
(Stat. ref. Sec 26ZD, Conservation Act.)	Maintain electoral roll and assist returning officer	

**PROJECT 1721 COUNCIL**

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
The effective direction of the management of the Council's business.  (Stat. ref. Sec 26ZD, Conservation Act.)	Not less than six meetings of the Council, that comply with all legal and policy requirements to be held before 31 August 2021.	Wellington Fish and Game Council held six meetings during the year; with at least a quorum present.  Meeting attendance is tabulated in Appendix 2.

**PROJECT 1811 MANAGEMENT PLANNING**

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Policies reflect national policies and good governance.  (Mgt Plan refs A9.2.4, C9.3.5, C9.3.4, A9.3.1, A9.3.5)	Policies will be developed and adopted covering a Public Awareness Strategy, a Regional Marketing Strategy, and a Regulation-setting model for the region's sports fisheries and game bird populations, by 31 August 2021.  Council will undertake a review of its approved Management Plan by 31 August 2021.	Policy reviews were undertaken as required.  A formal review of the Sports Fish & Game Bird Management Plan was initiated with draft being prepared. Formal consultation will occur when Draft Plan is finalised.

**PROJECT 1821 ANNUAL PLAN**

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
To formulate and adopt an annual operational work plan.  (Stat. ref. Sec 26Q(3), Conservation Act)	Adoption of a Proposed Annual Plan for 2021/22 that meets National Council requirements by the Council by 31 August 2021.	Council's Annual Plan for 2021/22 was adopted on 10 August 2021.

**PROJECT 1831 ANNUAL REPORTING**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Planned Result</b>	<b>Actual Result</b>
To furnish the Minister of Conservation with an Annual Report on the operations of the Council for the year.  (Stat. ref. Secs 26X, and 26ZD (7), Conservation Act.)	The adoption and presentation by the Council at a public Annual General Meeting of its audited Annual Report for 2019/20 not later than December 2020, and its dispatch to the Minister directly thereafter.	Council's audited Annual Performance Report for 2020 was adopted and presented at a public Annual General Meeting on the 8 December 2020 and was delivered to the Minister and Parliament on 14 December 2020.



**PROJECT 1841 NATIONAL LIAISON**

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Effective liaison with New Zealand Fish and Game Council to meet all statutory requirements.  (Stat. Ref. Sec 26C (1), Conservation Act.)	Representation to New Zealand Fish and Game Council by 31 August 2021 with respect to co-ordination, of the Council's recommendations for licence fees, fund redistribution, research requirements, and national policy development.	The Council Manager attended 1 national Fish and Game Managers' meetings and ten Zoom video meetings.

**PROJECT 1842 NATIONAL PROJECTS**

Objective	Planned Result	Actual Result
Wellington Fish and Game region remains free of Didymo.	Staff assistance or management of research, advice or management of organisational operational requirements, or resource management advice as required.	Staff liaised on measures to prevent the incursion of Didymo and Lindavia into the North Island. Specific assistance was sought from Horizons Regional Council for Didymo and Lindavia monitoring and this was provided at no cost.  Staff co-ordinated defining research requirements for Fish & Game NZ  Staff undertook research programme on two research projects  Manager attended one meeting of the Licence Working Party as part of the regular annual pre-season licence management approvals. and six Zoom video meetings as part of a review of the licence management system.

**Appendix 1****WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL****LICENCE SALES****FISHING LICENCES**

	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21
Family	580	523	593	605	602	539	478	489	472	464	492
Whole Season (Adult)	2,190	2,095	2,214	2,219	2,288	1,798	1,658	1617	1599	1605	1851
Whole Season (Junior)	220	211	217	229	202	188	163	214	231	265	279
Winter Season (Adult)	195	233	225	217	201	135	124	108	142	157	157
Winter Season (Junior)	21	34	23	14	22	0	0				
24 Hour (Adult)	662	677	679	809	718	914	736	508	422	472	579
24 Hour (Junior)	44	60	59	49	64	71	55	74	94	126	119
Non Resident Adult					94	127	162	158	151	159	30
Non Resident Junior						3	2	4	5	4	2
Non Resident Child										3	2
Non Resident Adult Day								337	161	133	13
Non Resident Junior Day								6	4	1	
Non Resident Child Day									8	1	
Short Break						115	100	86	116	89	98
Long Break						13	22	19	7	17	8
Loyal Senior						162	153	186	218	237	264
Local Area						238	203	177	221	206	270
LEQ Total	3,242	3,094	3,293	3,338	3,472	3,272	3,062	2985	3048	3026	3251
Actual Total	3,912	3,833	4,010	4,142	4,191	4,303	3,856	3983	3851	3939	4164

**GAME LICENCES**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Adult Whole Season	3,574	3,585	3,598	3,521	3,560	3,474	3,470	3,480	3,391	3,418	3,047	3,315
Adult Day	179	187	173	149	194	172	175	157	148	142	141	132
Junior Whole Season	345	299	291	320	298	290	296	275	281	278	287	319
Junior Day	17	16	17	9	3	11	5	6	4	16	9	5
Child	137	133	100	118	141	148	133	115	130	146	142	138
LEQ Total	3,693	3,693	3,699	3,610	3,664	3,568	3,575	3,581	3,480	3,508	3,133	3,406
Actual Total	4,252	4,220	4,179	4,117	4,196	4,095	4,079	4,033	3,954	4,000	3,626	3,909

**Appendix 2**

**WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL**  
**MEETINGS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Locality</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Councillors Present</b>
13 October 2020	Wairarapa	Ordinary	10
8 December 2020	Upper Hutt	Ordinary & AGM	11
9 February 2021	Palmerston North	Ordinary	11
23 March 2021	Wairarapa	Ordinary	9
8 June 2021	Upper Hutt	Ordinary	10
11 August 2021	Palmerston North	Ordinary	11

Councillor attendances at these meetings were as follows:

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Meetings Attended</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Strato Cotsilinis Chairman	6	0
Paul Shortis	6	0
Jim Cook	5	1
Malcolm Francis	6	0
Don Scott	6	0
Andy Tannock	0	6
Chris O'Meara	5	1
Richard McIntyre	5	1
Colin Shore	6	0
Aaron Passey	6	0
Andrew McGregor	5	1
John Hancock	6	0

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**TO THE READERS OF WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
AND STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Wellington fish and game council (the Fish and Game Council). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Vivien Cotton, using the staff and resources of Cotton Kelly Smit Limited (CKS Audit), to carry out the audit of the financial statements and statement of performance of the Fish and Game Council on his behalf.

**Opinion on the financial statements and the statement of performance**

We have audited:

- the financial statements of the Fish and Game Council on pages 17 to 33, that comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 August 2021, the statement of financial performance, and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information; and
- the statement of performance of the Fish and Game Council on pages 34 to 52.

In our opinion:

- the financial statements of the Fish and Game Council: on pages 17 to 33:
  - present fairly, in all material respects:
    - its financial position as at 31 August 2021; and
    - its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
  - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with the Public Benefit Entity Simple Formant Reporting – Accrual (Public Sector) framework; and
- the statement of performance of the Fish and Game Council on pages 34 to 52:
  - presents fairly, in all material respects, the Fish and Game Council's performance for the year ended 31 August 2021, including for each class of reportable outputs:
    - its standards of performance achieved as compared with the forecasts included in the annual operational plan for the financial year; and
    - its actual revenue and expenses as compared with the forecasts included in the annual operational plan for the financial year; and
  - complies with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.

Our audit was completed on 3 December 2021. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

The basis for our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Council and our responsibilities relating to the financial statements and the statement of performance, we comment on other information, and we explain our independence.

**Basis for our opinion**

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New



Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Responsibilities of the auditor section of our report.

We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **Responsibilities of the Council for the financial statements and the statement of performance**

The Council is responsible on behalf of the Fish and Game Council for preparing financial statements and a statement of performance that are fairly presented and comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.

The Council is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable it to prepare financial statements and a statement of performance that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements and the statement of performance, the Council is responsible on behalf of the Fish and Game Council for assessing the Fish and Game Council's ability to continue as a going concern. The Council is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless there is an intention to merge or to terminate the activities of the Fish and Game Council, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Council's responsibilities arise from the Public Finance Act 1989, the Crown Entities Act 2004, and the Conservation Act 1987.

### **Responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements and the statement of performance**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and the statement of performance, as a whole, are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures, and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of readers taken on the basis of these financial statements and the statement of performance.

For the budget information reported in the financial statements and the statement of performance, our procedures were limited to checking that the information agreed to the Fish and Game Council's annual operational plan.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the financial statements and the statement of performance.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and the statement of performance, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fish and Game Council's internal control.

- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Council.
- We evaluate the appropriateness of the reported performance information within the Fish and Game Council's framework for reporting performance.
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Council and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fish and Game Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements and the statement of performance or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fishing and Game Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements and the statement of performance, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements and the statement of performance represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

## Other Information

The Council is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included on pages 1 to 16, but does not include the financial statements and the statement of performance, and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements and the statement of performance does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements and the statement of performance, our responsibility is to read the other information. In doing so, we consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and the statement of performance or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on our work, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

## Independence

We are independent of the Fish and Game Council in accordance with the independence requirements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of the Professional and Ethical Standard 1: International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than the audit, we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Fish and Game Council.

Vivien Cotton  
 CKS Audit  
 On behalf of the Auditor-General  
 Palmerston North, New Zealand