

WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
MEETING AGENDA

WEDNESDAY 22nd AUGUST 2012



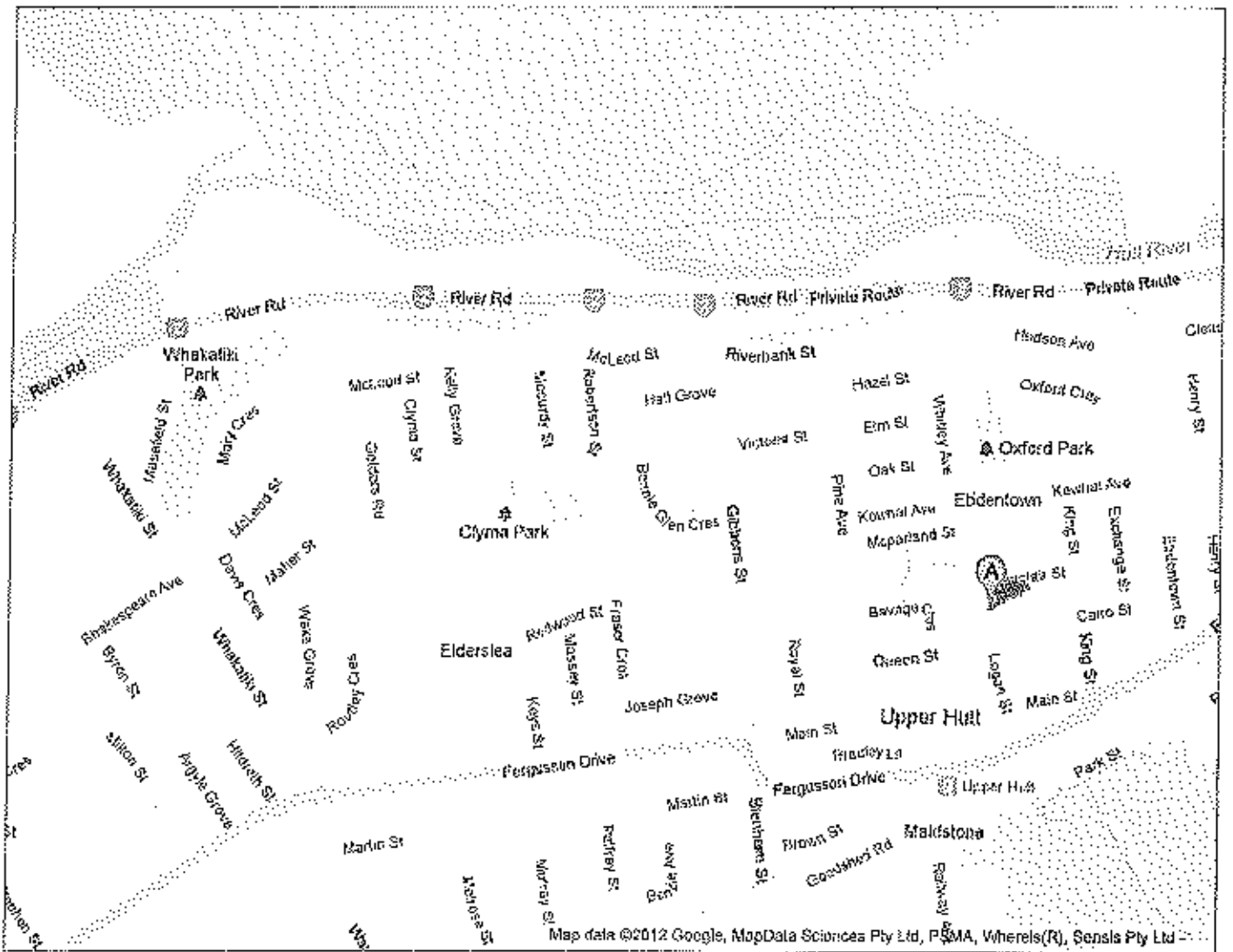
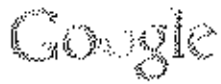
AGENDA

Location: Wednesday 22nd August 2012, Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Club, 11 Logan Street Upper Hutt, at 3.00pm.

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WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Wellington Fish and Game Council

AGENDA MANAGEMENT

Council should do the following things;

- **Review the Annual Program for Meeting Agendas**, and decide what items should be added to it.
- **Review the Current Agenda**, and decide on the order of items, the timing requirements for items, any items to be deferred, or any new business to be tabled.
- **Review Next Two Meeting Agendas**, to see what's coming, and decide on anything that needs to be included or changed.

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

Meeting Dates & Venues Wellington Fish & Game Council 2012

DATE	DAY	VENUE
<i>7th February 2012</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Palmerston North RSA</i>
<i>18th April 2012</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Upper Hutt, Cossie Club</i>
<i>13th June 2012</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Masterton, Cossie Club</i>
<i>22nd August 2012</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Upper Hutt, Cossie Club</i>
<i>10th October 2012</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Masterton</i>
<i>4th December 2012 & AGM</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Palmerston North</i>

WELLINGTON FISH & GAME COUNCIL

ANNUAL PROGRAM for MEETING AGENDAS.

Meeting	Board	Operational	Statutory	Strategic and Policy
Tuesday 7th February 2012	All Board Items.	All Operational Items, to be Received.	Game Season regulations	
Wednesday 18 th April 2012	All Board Items.	All Operational Items, to be Received	Draft Annual Plan	
Wednesday 13 th June 2012	All Board Items.	All Operational Items, to be Received	Draft Anglers Notice	
Wednesday 22 nd August 2012	All Board Items.	All Operational Items, to be Received	Adopt Annual Plan	
Wednesday 10 th October 2012	All Board Items.	All Operational Items, to be Received		
Tuesday 4 th December 2012	All Board Items.	All Operational Items, to be Received Annual Reports, to be Received	Annual General Meeting, Annual Report to Adopt and Present. Game season regulations	

Board Items are as follows.

- Present and in Attendance.
- Apologies.
- Minutes of Previous Meeting to be Approved.
- Matters Arising from the Minutes.
- Agenda Management, including review of Action List, review of Annual Program for Meeting Agendas, and review of current and next two meeting agendas.
- Chairman's Business.
- New Zealand Fish & Game Council Business.

Operational Items are as follows.

- Management Report, to be Received.
- Schedules of Financial Transactions, Bank Balances, and Correspondence, to be Received.
- Project Expenditure Report, to be Received.
- Licence Sales Reports, to be Received.

Process to Get Items on Agenda is as follows.

- Raise the matter in General Business at the end of the meeting, to get it resolved there and then, or
- Raise the matter under Agenda Management near the beginning of the meeting, to seek Council's agreement for a Council for and/or management to prepare and present a paper on the subject for formal inclusion in a subsequent meeting agenda, or
- Present a paper as a Notice of Motion, following the procedure of 2.16 on page 24 of the Fish and Game Rules in Part 4 of the big blue Policy Manual.

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WELLINGTON FISH & GAME COUNCIL
UNCONFIRMED

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE WELLINGTON FISH & GAME COUNCIL,
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13 JUNE 2012 AT 3.05PM AT THE MASTERTON
COSMOPOLITAN CLUB, 398 QUEEN STREET, MASTERTON.

1. **Present:**
Councillors Andrew Morris, Strato Cotsilinis, Richard Moore, Jim Cook, Tim Allen, Andy Tannock,

2. **In Attendance:**
Staff: Phil Teal (Manager), Steve Pilkington, Nic Cuddy

John Hancock (Wellington/Hawke's Bay Conservation Board)

Licenceholders: Paul Browne (part), Ian Denton (part), Kevin Crawford, John Pansters (part)

3. **Apologies:**
Chairman Martin Taylor, Councillors Duncan Thomas, Brad Johnson, Mark Grace, Eric Neumann, Chris O'Meara

Staff: Corina Jordan
Other: Ric Cullinane (Walking Access Commission)

Mr Teal informed that Chairman Martin Taylor had tendered an apology and confirmed that a quorum was present.

Mr Teal called for nominations for an interim acting Chairman to conduct meeting business:

Councillor Strato Cotsilinis

Andy Tannock/Richard Moore

There being no further nominations Councillor Cotsilinis was declared interim Chair for the meeting.

It was then moved that:
the apologies be accepted.

Andy Tannock/Richard Moore
Carried

4. **Conflicts of Interest**

A list was available for viewing of the existing declarations of Conflicts of Interest. There was no additional declaration of Conflicts of interests declared.

5. **Minutes of Previous Meeting of 18 April 2012:**

After brief discussion it was moved that:

the Minutes of the meeting of the Wellington Fish & Game Council of 18 April 2012 be approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Jim Cook/Richard Moore
Carried

6. **Matters Arising:**

Mr Teal informed Council that contestable funding application for a junior fishing and hunting programme that established a dedicated staff position was not successful in the Managers/CF recommendations in the budget considerations.

Mr Pilkington advised that circumstances for the individual who had made a request for stocking of private pond may have changed, and that he was not aware that he still wished to pursue the project. Councillor Morris indicated that local anglers had expressed their view on this concept with a preference for these types of sites to be open to the public at all times.

7. **Operational Process for Confirming Minutes**

Mr Teal confirmed that the draft unconfirmed minutes would be sent to all Councillors within five working days of the meeting, and then Councillors present at the meeting were afforded an opportunity to ask for clarification, request minor changes, or note a significant disagreement with the accuracy of the draft unconfirmed minutes. He reiterated that comments should be focused on the accuracy of the draft minutes. If, after minor changes, general agreement of all Councillors is confirmed, the draft unconfirmed minutes can then be posted on the website as unconfirmed minutes.

Mr Teal also suggested the possibility of a "newsbrief" which could be sent to clubs which gave a summary of Council decisions, and a summary of management activities. He indicated he would provide a draft Newsbrief to Councillors prior to distribution for confirmation.

8. **National Council Business:**

Councillor Morris gave a brief overview of the NZ Council meeting held on 25 May 2012. He briefly discussed the Mallard Research Programme that was endorsed by NZ Council and indicated agreement to use an independent

external co-ordinator. NZ Council also indicated its appreciation of Southland F&GC's offer to contribute funding from its reserves to the Research Fund.

The Licence Fee Recommendation was discussed by NZ Council with concern expressed to keep any fee increase to a minimum when considering contestable fund applications and legal funding. The proposed recommendation is the subject of a later agenda item as part of the regional consultation.

Eastern F&GC had produced a report on fish licence sales review including potential changes to licences available and potential concern of price inelasticity in short term licence category (eg. 24 hour licence % AWS vs fixed price) and its effect on boat-based fisheries.

The non-resident fish licence was discussed at NZ Council meeting and a letter from the Minister provides the basis for discussion in a later agenda item.

Councillor Morris was seeking feedback regarding Eastern F&GC request to review mileage rates. It was agreed that mileage rates should be tagged against a Government Index and that Councillors were satisfied with how this was currently conducted.

Councillor Morris noted that NZ Council had timetabled a Remuneration Committee Meeting and sought clarification as to Wellington F&GC's regular review.

Mr Kevin Crawford arrived at 3.25pm

Councillor Morris confirmed that the legal advice from Mai Chen (Chen Palmer) on conflicts of interest had not been released but indicated that policy may result out of considerations of conflicts of interest as they apply to F&G governors.

Councillor Morris indicated that the NZ Council CE is investigating the interpretation of 'navigability' in terms of the Coals Mine Act and its application in terms of considering river bed ownership under the *ad medium flum* presumption.

The acting President of Federation of Freshwater Anglers Doug Stevens gave a talk about common interests and goals.

It was then moved that

That the report from Councillor Morris on NZ Council Meeting held on 25 May 2012 be received

Richard Moore/Andy Tanaock

Carried

9. **Dedicated Reserves For Reparation**

Mr Teal gave a brief overview of the reparation policy and the use of dedicated reserves by other regional F&GCs to ensure funds are targeted at the resource and/or compliance.

It was then moved that

A dedicated reserve be formed for funds derived from compliance reparation and that those funds be focused on habitat and compliance items.

Andrew Morris/Andy Tannoek

Carried

10. **National Licencing Service Agreement Proposal**

Agenda item deferred until later in meeting

11. **Open Public Forum**

Acting Chairman Cotsilinis then afforded public licenceholder attendees an opportunity to speak to Council.

Mr Crawford indicated that as Matthews Lagoon standholder he had concerns regarding raupo encroachment. Mr Teal explained the situation regarding restrictions on preferred control methods and the continued willingness of Fish & Game to pursue beneficial wetland management outcome.

Mr Browne sought information on where the funds for goose management had been reallocated. Acting Chairman Cotsilinis noted that it had been allocated to projects involving mallard research, habitat works and resource consents.

Mr Browne sought information on the possibility of an over 65yr licence as there had been some interest from licenceholders – even for a token discount. Mr Teal explained that there was currently a licence category options review being undertaken and that this option is under consideration.

Mr Browne reiterated concerns made by Mr Crawford about raupo encroachment which had made access to some sites on Boggy Pond difficult especially for older hunters. Councillor Tannoek noted that occupancy requirements were under review, and there could be consideration of occupants to be given a period of time to clear raupo from around their hunting positions.

Mr Browne sought clarification of the arrangements of DoC concession fees for Kilmore Lodge. Acting Chairman Cotsilinis brought to the attention of Mr Browne that Wairarapa Moana governance group had proposed to establish a

walking/cycle track out to the lake edge and around Boggy Pond. Mr Teal confirmed that funding had been sought but only partially funded (~\$20,000) for the bridge allowing access to the lake edge.

12. **Licence Fee Recommendation 2012/13**

The paper prepared by Jenny Norris (NZ Council Finance and Administration Manager) provided the basis for discussion on a licence fee recommendation for 2012/13. Acting Chairman Cotsilinis outlined the key points for discussion to either support the recommendation or provide an alternative licence fee with appropriate justifications. Councillor Morris noted that increases above CPI will be progressively more difficult to get approval by the Minister, and it may be prudent to be aligned with CPI increases. Councillor Moore also expressed that regular increases were becoming increasingly difficult to persuade fish licenceholders of the value of the licence increases unless there were some special projects. Councillor Allen reiterated these sentiments regarding gamebird hunters. Acting Chairman Cotsilinis noted that the operating costs continue to increase and licence fees were the principal income base.

Councillor Tannock considered that while the average licenceholders could afford the proposed modest increases, he suggested it needed to be better justified – e.g. an increase in licence fee for funds for mallard research is addressing concerns relating to perceived lack of numbers. He further considered that the average angler could be accepting of a licence fee increase if it were targeted at the legal fund to achieve significant gains to protect trout habitat. It was generally agreed that Fish & Game needed to convey the reasons for increases to the licence fee and explain where the money goes.

After further discussion it was moved that

Wellington Fish & Game Council would support the proposed licence fee recommendation of \$120 Wholeseason Adult Fishing and \$90 Wholeseason Adult Gamebird Hunting, with the increase in gamebird fee be tagged to gamebird research and that adequate publicity is undertaken to explain the fee increases

Richard Moore/Andy Tannock
Carried

13. **Non Resident Fishing Licence**

The letter from the Minister of Conservation to NZ Council Chairman (28 May 2012) and the Departmental submission paper (24 April 2012) provided basis for discussion

After discussion it was moved that

Wellington Fish & Game Council would reaffirm their general support for the initiative to introduce a non-resident fishing licence as outlined in the Departmental submission paper DOCDM933284

Andrew Morris/Andy Tannock
Carried

14. Draft Anglers Notice 2012/13

Mr Pilkington outlined the two changes – the limit being requested by anglers on the Mangatoro River, and protection of all spawning streams of the Pohangina River.

After discussion it was moved that

A one fish limit be applied to the Mangatoro River for the 2012/13 season

Andy Tannock/Jim Cook
Carried

It was also moved that

all tributaries to the Pohangina River be open from 1 October to 30 April for the 2012/13 season

Richard Moore/Andy Tannock
Carried

It was further moved that

The draft anglers notice (including the changes above) be affirmed for the 2012/13 season

Tim Allen/Andrew Morris
Carried

Councillor Tannock sought clarification on the use of soft baits which contained some chemical preparation within – for use where (natural) bait fishing is allowed. Mr Teal was requested to seek clarification on any specific rulings from other regions and NZ F&GC but it appeared that chemical preparations could not be used in areas that were open to fly and/or lure and bait – with no specific bait only areas.

Acting Chairman Cotsilinis sought clarification on the Anglers Notice regarding the ability to use one rod while fishing and have one rod assembled on the bank - which was particularly relevant for fishing competitions. NZF&GC had given an interpretation that an angler could have more than one rod assembled but only be fishing with not more than one rod.

15. Sports Fish Population Monitoring – Project Report 1111

Mr Pilkington gave an overview of the drift dive counts undertaken over summer noting an increase in numbers for the regularly monitored “core river sections”. Acting Chairman Cotsilinis commended the efforts of staff to conduct the drift dives considering the often adverse weather and river conditions.

It was then moved

That the Sports Fish Population Monitoring Project Report 1111 be received

Richard Moore/Andrew Morris
Carried

16. Rangitikei River Trout Fishery Management – Project Report 1112

Mr Pilkington gave a brief overview of the issues and work that had been conducted on the Rangitikei River including:

- Backcountry licence summary
- Electric fishing survey curtailed as weather in January not conducive
- Compliance work not completed due to weather and co-ordination of team
- Tagging guns procured -- with some fishing clubs getting some practice on local waters (Wellington Flyfishing Club indicated willingness to assist)

It was then moved

That the Rangitikei River Trout Fishery Management Project Report 1112 be received

Richard Moore/Jim Cook
Carried

17. River Control Fishery Assessment – Project Report 1113

Mr Pilkington gave a brief overview of the drift dive results and noted an increase in the Hutt River numbers after five years of relatively low numbers. Acting Chairman Cotsillinis noted that there had not been forestry activities affecting spawning in the Pakuratahi Forest area, and there had not been large floods in the last few years.

It was then moved

That the River Control Fishery Assessment Project Report 1113 be received

Tim Allen/Jim Cook
Carried

Mr Pansters arrived at 5pm

18. One Plan Update

Mr Teal gave a brief overview of the One Plan proceedings confirming that the hearings for Surface Water Quality had concluded on 7 June 2012, and that final legal submissions would be made in writing only by 15 June 2012. He explained that Fish & Game had put up a very good case with the available

experts and legal counsel - with the Regional Council aligning with Fish & Game on factual basis on many issues.

Messrs Browne and Denton left the meeting at 5.15pm

19. **PCE Report – Hydroelectricity or Wild Rivers**

The report by the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment provided basis for discussion. The importance of Water Conservation Orders was noted and acknowledged that their status has been questioned in other situations around New Zealand. Mr Teal indicated that Wellington Fish & Game would take an active role in promoting WCOs in the Wellington region – including magazine supplement articles, and signage

20. **Mallard Research Proposals**

Mr Teal gave an overview of each of the proposed projects and endorsed by NZ Council. These include four main projects:

1. **Standardising Monitoring Techniques of Population Change**

A paired treatment of monitoring techniques will be undertaken in six regions to determine variation in population change estimate and determine a technique(s) fit for purpose.

2. **Defining Mallard Habitat Characteristics For Recruitment – “Research by Management”**

An experimental design is proposed that tests the key habitat parameters for mallard population recruitment with a ‘research by management’ approach.

3. **Determining Mallard Productivity Using GPS Telemetry**

An observational project using GPS telemetry tags is proposed to assess productivity and the effect of zero hens (unsuccessful at producing young) with a view to informing on a universal monitoring approach.

4. **Modeling Regulation Effectiveness**

Formal peer review is required of recent analyses of banding data from one region and, if robust, is required to be replicated in other regions.

Mr Teal explained the principles used in establishing costings which involved internalising some of these to regions as their contribution. This would require regions to allocation resources, mainly in terms of staff time.

After discussion it was moved that

Wellington Fish & Game Council confirm support for the projects proposed to NZ Council

Andy Tancock/Tim Allen
Carried

It was then moved that

Wellington Fish & Game Council will commit to undertaking research as part of the proposed research programme - with associated internal staff costs and potential modest external costs

Richard Moore/Andrew Morris
Carried

Mr Teal gave an overview of how potentially the projects would be co-ordinated. After discussion it was moved that

Wellington Fish & Game Council would commit staff time for NZ Council co-ordination of projects as internal co-ordination is required – particularly until an external co-ordinator is appointed.

Andrew Morris/Andy Tannock
Carried

Further discussion ensued on how others could be involved – such as club members and volunteers.

Councillor Tannock noted that the Waterfowl Enhancement Trust would most likely be interested in contributing to predator control aspects of this research. He noted that the Trust has already committed to projects in Auckland/Waikato (Biythen block), Hawke's Bay (Peka Peka swamp), and Nelson Marlborough (Para swamp) and this could help confirm that the management activity of predator control is robust in achieving meaningful results.

Further discussion was held on potential funding options for the GPS equipment including individual sponsorship of each tracker or corporate sponsorship of several tracking units. The potential educational value of having tracking results on a website was also discussed.

21. Management Report 1 April – 31 May 2012:

Mr Teal indicated that Ric Cullinane (Walking Access Commission) was intending to attend the meeting but will now attend the next meeting in Wellington in August. He did however update progress on some issues :

- Upper Rangitikei – no further progress with NZ Defence
- Wardells Bridge- report from WAC claiming partial success in developing relationships and ensuring unencumbered access occurs, but John Pansters reports that the physical outcome of stile construction etc had not eventuated.
- Potaka Road – while F&G had indicated that it would not oppose stopping of the road, WAC may have other interested parties that may oppose based on strategic position of the sites.

Mr Pansters also noted that the gate was still locked at the Hautapu site, which had been reported to WAC some time ago as an "access issue".

Mr Teal informed Council that DOC had shown some interest in maimai structures on Pukepuke Lagoon that required building consents as DOC had constructed them. Very minor additions to the structures to allow camouflage net placement had rendered them non-complying to the engineers plans.

These structures would not normally require a building consent but as DOC has built them their operational policy is to have all structures with building consent. Mr Teal highlighted this as an issue that Fish & Game should be proactive on for the Wairarapa sites to ensure there was an element of F&G (hunter driven) control and education initiatives. It was agreed that the Lake Wairarapa subcommittee would look into these issues and define a timeframe for this to progress.

Acting Chairman Cottilinis indicated that the Wellington Fly-fishing Club had been pledged funds from a benefactor to assist with Happy Valley Fish Out Days and that Manic Tackle had recently provided 12 rods and reels to upgrade existing stock.

Councillor Morris noted the relatively high number of compliance incidents and briefly discussed the merits of prosecutions and reparation.

Acting Chairman Cottilinis noted the recent passing of Dennis Hanson – a long time duck hunter (known to many) who passed away while hunting on opening weekend.

It was then moved that

The management report for 1 April – 31 May 2012 be received.

Tim Allen/Andrew Morris
Carried

22. Licence Sales Report as at 31 May 2012

It was noted that the fish licence sales were tracking down on budget but game licence sales were similar to last year's at the same time. After brief discussion it was moved that

The Fish Licence Sales report as at 31 May 2012 be received.

Richard Moore/Andrew Morris
Carried

It was then moved

The Game Licence Sales report as at 31 May 2012 be received.

Richard Moore/Andrew Morris
Carried

23. Expenditure Report/Financial Transactions

There was brief discussion on the details of expenditure and sales figures provided.

After brief discussion it was moved

the Expenditure Report for 30 April 2012 and Financial Transactions for March and April 2012 be approved

Tim Allen/Andrew Morris

Mr Teal advised that under project 1232 Habitat Management Opportunities there could be up to \$480 spent on a project near Shannon to clear away fallen willows from a site.

Mr Teal advised Council that a replacement vehicle was due for the Mitsubishi Triton and that a purchase was likely in the near future. Options for sponsorship were discussed.

24. **Correspondence/Media**

Nic Cudby gave an overview of the consultation that had taken place since his letter and that a committee meeting to consider the Baring Head Management Plan was meeting on the 14 June 2012 – which he was attending and noted that Acting Chairman Cottilinis was also appearing on behalf of Wellington Fly fishers Club. Councillor Allen considered that a general submission/comments that advocated for all hunters (rabbit etc) should be made for this site.

The meeting adjourned at 6.00pm and Mr Pansters left the meeting. The meeting was reconvened at 6.45pm.

A letter from Mr A Long requesting clarification on regulations relating to the use of floss line for “dapping fishing” was considered. It was agreed that the use of the line did not breach regulations but the length of the rod may be an issue in Taupo Fishing District and he would need to contact DOC Turangi to get confirmation on legality.

A letter from Mr D West requesting Fish & Game to promote grey teal for change in status to gamebird as a priority. Mr Teal explained some background that showed the population could sustain at least locally based limited season. He also noted that others including Councillor Mark Grace had requested for this issue to be considered with more urgency.. It was agreed that Wellington Fish & Game Council would write to other regional Fish & Game Councils seeking support and consensus for promoting the change of status of grey teal to gamebird via NZ F&GC in the first instance.

A letter was received by Mr R Ellison expressing the view that there were several liberal hunting conditions that were potentially having a detrimental effect on hunting ethics and mallard population numbers. It was agreed that these issues may be valid – particularly the liberalisation of hunting conditions and increased efficiency of techniques and equipment, and access to remote areas using 4WD vehicles and quad bikes. This would be discussed in detail at the Game Regulation Setting meeting later in the year.

25. **General Business**

Mr Teal gave an overview of Wairarapa Water Use Project (primarily focused on irrigation potential) where the consultants had reviewed the previous options identified and widened the scope to assess over 400 sites which had been narrowed down to 30 sites of 'high potential'. This differs from the original concept of having one or two large reservoirs and potentially having many smaller water containment sites. Mr Teal also confirmed that land use intensification and its potential effects was a key consideration for a science working party to consider.

Mr Teal confirmed that the wind-farm at Castlehill proposed by Genesis Energy had just been granted consent – although they have indicated that electricity demand will dictate when construction will occur.

Mr Teal referred to a letter from Mr John Petrie regarding a request for exemption for two Stephen Grant 12 gauge firearms of high value but not proofed for using steel. Mr Teal noted that Hawke's Bay F&GC region was the only region that considered exemptions on a limited basis (a couple per year). It was agreed that exemptions wouldn't be considered as there are alternative non-toxic shot available (bismuth, tungsten matrix) and that there would be a potential influx of possible exemption requests if made available.

Mr Teal had been made aware that members of the Rangitikei Fish & Game Club that use Kilmore lodge had the understanding that firewood would be provided as part of their fee. For several years there have been difficulties in maintaining a stock of firewood, and it was considered users provide their own firewood. It was agreed that firewood would not be supplied by Fish & Game and this be clearly stated to all those using the lodge and also provide an updated explanation of what the costs are in maintaining the lodge.

Councillor Jim Cook requested that Council consider acquiring (either by purchase or request) 300-400 pheasants to be released into western Manawatu forests. Banding recoveries of the birds released nearly two years ago confirm survival, and are adding value to the upland game hunters in the area. Mr Cook was requested to present an options paper for a subsequent meeting.

Mr Hancock left the meeting at 7.25pm

26. **Fish & Game Licence Management System Review**

Item 10 differed from previously in meeting.

The Council agreed *to move into Public Excluded session* (at 7.25pm)

Richard Moore/Andrew Morris

Carried

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting namely the agenda item:

Fish & Game Licence Management System Review

The withholding of information is necessary to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by councillors or officers and to maintain legal professional privilege and potentially commercially sensitive information.

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a)(ii) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 which would be prejudiced by the holding of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public

Wellington F&GC move out of committee (at 7.55pm) and that the public be invited to return to the meeting.

Richard Moore/Tim Allen

Carried

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.55pm.

Next Meeting to be held: to be confirmed, Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Club, Upper Hutt Wellington, Wednesday 22 August 2012, at 3.00pm

Chairman _____

Date _____

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Staff / Agenda 2X

Meeting of the
New Zealand Fish and Game Council
 Wellington Airport Conference Centre
 Friday 25 May 2012
 Commencing at 9.25 am

1. Present

Matthew Hall (Chairman), Chris Lynch, Dan Madsen, Bruce Bates, Alan Flynn, Andrew Morris, Jean Willis, Peter Robinson, Dave Witherow and Peter Sutton.

2. In Attendance

Catherine Tudhope (D-G Conservation's representative), Barry Roderick (in Lindsay Lyons' absence), Bryce Johnson (Chief Executive) (arrived 1.00pm), Jenny Norris (Finance & Administration Manager), Harish Carnahan (Communications Manager) and Robert Sowman (Policy & Planning Manager).

Others in attendance:

Phil Teal (Manager, Wellington Fish and Game Council) and Dr Murray Williams (Wildlife consultant) attended from 9.45 am to 11.00 am, and Doug Stevens (acting President, NZ Federation of Freshwater Anglers) attended from 9.45 to 3.50 pm.

INTRODUCTION

3. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed Barry Roderick, Catherine Tudhope and fellow councillors.

4. Apologies

Apologies were received from Lindsay Lyons and Robin Blackmore.

Resolved (Peter Robinson/Jean Willis)

That the apologies be accepted.

MEETING REVIEW

5 Identification of other Urgent Business

Items raised for inclusion in the agenda:

- South Island High Country Federated Farmers
- Remuneration Committee
- Conflicts of Interest

It was agreed that these items, along with the public-excluded minutes from the previous meeting be held over towards the end of the meeting and considered in a public-excluded session of the meeting.

6 Annual Agenda

Agenda noted but no action required.

7 Conflicts of Interest Register

The conflicts of interest register was made available at the start of the meeting to record any conflicts that might arise with items to be discussed at this meeting.

8 Confirmation of minutes from the previous meeting

The meeting considered the public session minutes of the New Zealand Council meeting held at Lake Okataina, Rotorua on 16 & 18 March 2012.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Peter Sutton)

That the minutes of the New Zealand Council meeting held on 16 & 18 March 2012 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

9 Matters arising from the March 2012 minutes

It was agreed that any change to expenses and mileage costs of councillors to attend meetings is a governance question that would need to be reviewed by councils before changes could be considered as these costs have been set through national policy.

Resolved (Dave Withcrow/Bruce Bates)

That a letter be sent to regions requesting feedback on the current levels of expenses and mileage for councillors to attend Fish and Game meetings.

10 Research opportunities for Mallard Duck Management in NZ

This item was taken earlier in the agenda due to the time availability of Dr Murray Williams to assist Phil Teal (project coordinator) present this project to the Council.

It was agreed there should be provision to review the budget in 12 months to ensure the amounts included are realistic. The Council wished to record its appreciation of Southland Fish and Game Council's offer to support this project up to \$100,000 from its excess general reserves. There was also agreement to the use of an independent coordinator to facilitate this project.

Resolved (Dave Withcrow/Andrew Morris)

That NZ Fish & Game Council make a commitment to fund this programme for five years and approve funding for the projects defined in the mallard research programme to the sum of \$115,000 for the first year.

At the end of this item Phil Teal and Murray Williams left the meeting.

11 Review of accumulative Action List from previous meetings

A question arose as to whether a reply had been received from the Department of Labour to a request for a simple definition of OSH requirements for recreation on private land. A reply has recently arrived and would be sent out to Councillors. It was also noted that a fact sheet - "If visitors to my farm are injured, am I liable" - is available on the departments website <http://www.osh.govt.nz/publications/factsheets/farm-visitors.html>

NZ COUNCIL BUSINESS

Finances

12.1 NZ Council Bi-Monthly Financial Report

Councillors requested a written or white board session to more fully interpret the financial reports. This will be provided at a future meeting. Noting the amount of the accumulated leave liability, there was also a request for a report on the holiday status of staff to be provided at the next meeting.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Dan Madsen)

That the Financial Report to 30 April 2012 be adopted.

12.2 Specific Proposals for Capital Expenditure

Resolved (Peter Robinson/Peter Sutton)

That the Specific Proposals for Capital Expenditure be received.

12.3 Research Programme for 2012/13

The question was raised as to whether the Southland offer to help fund this project was a one year offer or to be available in subsequent years? Robert Spowman would clarify this point and advise the Council.

Discussion took place on the merits of raising the level of research fund from the existing \$100,000. It was agreed that this should be considered under the recommendation of next season licence fees. However, Councillors felt that although a \$100,000 figure is used, this should not prevent managers making a future case for research in excess of this amount where a clear need is established.

Resolved (Andrew Morris/Bruce Bates)

- 1 Agree that the six research proposals (listed in the table below) accepted by Managers on 30 April - 1 May 2012 be included in the Fish & Game Research Programme for 2012.

2012 Research Projects accepted by Managers	
Mallard research	Funded by Stid reserves
Characterising NZ river fisheries	40,000
Integrated catchment management	15,000
Intragravel nitrate study	18,616
Game Harvest Survey	2,000
Provision to pay for NAS over extended time period	25,000
Total	\$100,616

Resolved (Dave Withcrow/Peter Robinson)

- 2 Agree to accept the Southland Fish and Game Council offer to use up to \$100,000 from its excess general reserve to support the 2012 mallard research programme. In doing so, the NZ Council records its appreciation of this offer.

12.4 Legal Update Report

The information provided in this report continues to provide a valued update of F&G activity in this area.

Resolved (Peter Robinson/Andrew Morris)

That the Legal Update Report be received.

12.5 Application for RMA Pool Funding

Hawke's Bay is confronted with a range of issues – waste water, storage dams, plan changes, WCO application and water consents – beyond the current staff's capability to manage without additional support. Managers recommended the proposed provision of external advice as neighbouring Councils with such capability are also stretched work-wise and unable to assist.

Resolved (Peter Sutton/Dan Madsen)

That an additional Hawke's Bay RMA Advice project be approved for funding from the RMA/Legal Fund, to a total of \$30,000.

12.6 National Budget and Licence Fee Recommendations

Concern to keep any fee increase to a minimum resulted in considerable discussion on contestable fund items, research and legal funding.

Resolved (Bruce Bates/Andrew Morris)

That NZ Council confirm the 2012/13 Contestable Funding allocations as recommended by Managers, excluding funding to provide Didson services.

Resolved (Bruce Bates/Andrew Morris)

That for the purposes of consultation with regional Fish and Game Councils, the NZ Council recommend a 2012/13 adult whole season sports fish licence of \$120 and an adult whole season game licence of \$90 (inclusive of a \$2 fee for the Game Bird Habitat Stamp) inclusive of GST.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Allan Flynn)

That following consultation with regional Fish and Game Councils, the NZ Council hold a telephone conference at 7pm on Wednesday 20 June to set licence fees for 2012/13.

The Council then discussed advice from the Northland and Taranaki Councils wishing to purchase land for habitat development from long hold and dedicated land purchase reserves.

Resolved (Jean Willis/Bruce Bates)

The New Zealand Council supports the:

1. Northland Fish and Game Council intention to investigate the purchase of land to provide hunter opportunity.
2. Taranaki Fish and Game Council intention to set up a scheme to grant funds to local landowners from its dedicated fund.

The afternoon session of the meeting commenced at 1.30 pm with participation by the Chief Executive who had returned at 1.00 pm from speaking at the Young Farmer of the Year Awards in Dunedin.

NZ COUNCIL BUSINESS AND NATIONAL FISH & GAME ITEMS

13.1 Operational Report

The Operational Report was considered on a page by page basis.

The meeting paused in its consideration of the Operational Report under **Project 1140 - Commercial users of the resource** to agree with the recommendations of the memorandum contained in Item 4.7 of the May 2012 Agenda on a non-residents licence.

Non-Resident Fishing Licence

At the time of this meeting the NZ Council was still to receive a letter from the Minister of Conservation about a proposed method of introducing a non-resident fishing licence. It is understood this proposal is to use the Anglers Notice (on an annual basis) rather than formalise it through any Cabinet decision.

Resolved (Andrew Morris/Peter Robinson)

That the NZ Council:

1. Agree to circulate to regions the letter from the Minister of Conservation, inviting comment on the proposal to introduce a non-resident fishing licence at 1.3 times the adult whole season licence fee through the Anglers Notice.
2. Agree to invite regions to comment on making the fish family and winter licences restricted to New Zealand residents only.
3. Agree to further consider the Minister's proposal at a future meeting once feedback from regions has been received.

The meeting then returned to the Operational Report.

Project 1450 Website

It was agreed to investigate the need to have policy on advertising to ensure it is in-tune with Fish and Game's purpose.

Project 1815 Elections

The first meeting of each newly elected Council is too close to Christmas to make it easy to comply with. This should be investigated to see if it can be set earlier or whether the first meeting date can be carried over until after the statutory holidays.

Resolved (Peter Sutton/Alan Flynn)

That the Operational Report for May 2012 be adopted.

13.2 Desired Outcomes Achievable by 2025

It was agreed councillors should rank, as priority 1, 2, or 3, the list of desirable achievables and convey these results to the NZ Council office for compilation and reporting at the following meeting.

It was also noted that the list should continue to be included in future agendas both as a reminder and a measure of NZ Council direction and priorities.

13.3 National Finance Report 4

Concern was expressed about North Canterbury's financial report of expenditure against budget to date and it was agreed that the Finance & Administration Manager would raise these concerns with North Canterbury.

Resolved (Bruce Bates/Dan Madsen)

That the National Financial Report to 30 April 2012 be received.

13.4 National Licence Sales Trends

Positive trends were reported overall. Councillors discussed the changing pattern in sales channels and the growing importance of AOL.

13.5 National Licensing Service Agreement Renewal

Regions are to be invited to copy the memorandum for their own agenda to provide information, discussion and generate any feedback councils may wish to provide.

Resolved (Bruce Bates/Peter Robinson)

That the Council agree in principle to proceed in accordance with the steps outlined in the May 2012 memorandum.

13.6 Eastern's Fish Licence Sales Review

The NZ Council had the benefit of the Eastern Fish and Game Council Chairman being present and able to highlight aspects in the report and reinforce the region's wish to participate in future licence category testing.

Resolved (Peter Sutton/Dave Wilkerson)

That the NZ Council acknowledge Eastern Fish and Game Council's:

1. View that the expense of short-term licence prices is having an impact on boat-based fisheries in its region.
2. Wish to participate in licence category testing
3. Fish licence sales review report and compliment the Council on its undertaking.

13.7 Report ex Federation of Freshwater Anglers AGM

Chairman reported on his attendance at the annual conference of the Federation of Freshwater Anglers. Council agreed that the Chief Executive liaise with the Federation to develop a proposal for consideration between the two agencies.

Doug Stevens (acting NZFFA President) spoke to the Council before leaving the meeting at 3.50 pm.

GENERAL

14 NZ Council Correspondence

It was agreed that the following letters be received.

14.1 Maurice Rodway (Southland Fish and Game Council)

Southland had written again expressing its concern that 20 gauge shot was not captured by the ban on lead shot and in their view should be.

Resolved (Peter Robinson/Chris Lynch)

Acknowledge the letter from Southland and circulate to regions for feedback.

The need for a further survey of gun users was also proposed.

14.2 Tom O'Connor

It was agreed that the NZ Council Chairman would reply to Tom O'Connor on behalf of the Council.

At this point in the meeting it was decided to go into public-excluded (with staff present) to consider the remaining items on the agenda. This included:

- Confirmation of the public-excluded minutes from the previous meeting
- Meeting of the Chief Executive's Remuneration Committee
- South Island High Country Federated Farmers
- Conflicts of interest legal advice

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Time 4.15 pm

Resolved (Dave Witherow/Andrew Morris)

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

1. Confirmation of the public-excluded minutes from the previous meeting and items identified at the beginning of the meeting as other urgent business
2. Meeting of the Remuneration Committee
3. South Island High Country Federated Farmers, and
4. Legal advice on conflicts of interest.

Before consideration of item 4, Bruce Bates, Barry Roderick and Peter Sutton left the meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED	REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER	GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION
Confirmation of public excluded minutes - council meeting of (date of meeting)) Good reason to withhold exists) under section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982	Section 48(1)(a)(ii)
Information provided in confidence		
Consideration of independent external advice		

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

ITEM	REASON UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982	SECTION	PLAIN ENGLISH REASON	WHEN REPORT CAN BE RELEASED
1, 2 & 4.	Protect the privacy of natural persons.	Sec. 9(2)(e)	Information provided identifies a particular person or one easily be connected with a particular person.	Once the person to whom the information relates consents to its disclosure.
3.	Protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence ... where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied	Sec 9(2)(ba)(i)	Disclosing the information would jeopardise the relationship with the supplier because the supplier may no longer trust the Council to hold its information in confidence.	Not unless there is a public interest in disclosure of the specific information.
4.	Maintain legal professional privilege	Sec. 9(2)(h)	To enable the Council to discuss legal advice.	Once the matter is completed and the legal advisor agrees to its release.

Note

Section 48(4) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides as follows:

"(4) Every resolution to exclude the public shall be put at a time when the meeting is open to the public, and the text of that resolution (or copies thereof):

- (a) Shall be available to any member of the public who is present; and
- (b) Shall form part of the minutes of the Council.

Time: 4.35 pm

Resolved

(Matthew Hall/Jean Willis)

That the open meeting of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council resumes.

15 Urgent General Business

There being no urgent general business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 4.37 pm Friday 25 May 2012, noting also that a number of councillors had to catch flights out of Wellington.

Confirmed: _____

Date: ____/____/12

Meeting of the
New Zealand Fish and Game Council

Wellington Airport

Friday 20 July 2012

Commencing at 9.30 am

1. Present

Matthew Hall (Chairman), Chris Lynch, Dan Madsen, Lindsay Lyons, Bruce Bates, Alan Flynn, Andrew Morris, Robin Blackmore, Jean Willis, Peter Robinson, Dave Witherow and Peter Sutton.

2. In Attendance

Catherine Tudhope (D-G Conservation's representative), Jenny Norris (Finance & Administration Manager), Hanish Carnochan (Communications Manager) and Robert Sowman (Policy & Planning Manager).

INTRODUCTION

3. Welcome

The Chairman called the meeting to order and welcomed Catherine and fellow councillors.

4. Apologies

Apologies were received from Bryce Johnson. Lindsay Lyons, delayed by air travel, arrived at 12.05 pm.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Peter Robinson)
That the apologies be accepted.

MEETING REVIEW

5 Identification of other Urgent Business

Items raised for inclusion in the agenda:

- Wellington RMA expertise
- One-day NZ Council meetings

It was agreed that the public-excluded minutes from the previous meeting be held over and considered in a public-excluded session of the meeting.

6 Annual Agenda

Agenda noted but no action required. However, it was accepted that the NZ Council Business Plan set for approval at this July meeting remained dependent on the proposed licence fees being approved as this would determine whether contestable fund items would become projects for the year or not. The Business Plan would therefore be submitted to the September meeting for final consideration and approval.

7 Conflicts of Interest Register

The conflicts of interest register was made available at the start of the meeting to record any conflicts that might arise with items to be discussed at this meeting.

8 Confirmation of minutes from the previous meeting

The meeting considered the public session minutes of the New Zealand Council meeting held in Wellington on 25 May 2012.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Dan Madsen)

That the minutes of the New Zealand Council meeting held on 25 May 2012 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

9 Confirmation of the notes of discussion from the telephone conference of 20 June 2012

The meeting considered the notes of discussion by telephone conference of members of the New Zealand Council on Wednesday 20 June 2012.

Resolved (Robin Blackmore/Chris Lynch)

That the notes of discussion by telephone conference held on Wednesday 20 June 2012 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

The recommendation contained in those notes was then presented and adopted in open forum by the full NZ Council.

Resolved (Andrew Morris/Aian Flynn)

That following consultation with regional Fish and Game Councils and strong support for the proposal, the New Zealand Council seeks approval from the Minister of Conservation for the 2012/13 sports fish licence to be based on an adult whole season fee of \$120 and the game licence to be based on an adult whole season licence fee of \$88 plus \$2 for the game Bird Habitat Stamp (GST inclusive).

10 Matters arising from the May 2012 minutes

Southland has confirmed that the funding from its reserves for mallard research is per year for three years. The NZ Council would like a report on milestones and dates for reporting from the mallard research programme so that this can be provided to councils on a regular basis. Reporting on milestones should also be considered for placement on the F&G NZ website.

The Chairman noted that a meeting is to be organised by Ecan on 29 July 2012 to discuss South Island Canada goose management, especially as it relates to Christchurch Airport. It is believed that Fish and Game councillors and staff from the relevant regions were expected to attend the meeting.

Regional feedback on expenses and mileage costs of councillors was discussed. It was established that no wide dissatisfaction was highlighted in a survey of councils and that no further action was required at this time.

11 Review of accumulative Action List from previous meetings

Nothing was raised from the list of accumulated action.

12 Matters arising from outstanding issues

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Time 9.45 am

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Andrew Morris)

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

1. Confirmation of the public-excluded minutes from the previous meeting
2. Legal advice on conflicts of interest
3. Issues arising on NZ Council's dealings with a Fish and Game Council.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED	REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER	GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION
Information provided in confidence) Good reason to withhold exists) under section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982	Section 48(1)(a)(ii)
Consideration of independent external advice		

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

ITEM	REASON UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982	SECTION	PLAIN ENGLISH REASON	WHEN REPORT CAN BE RELEASED
1, 2 & 4.	Protect the privacy of natural persons.	Sec. 9(2)(a)	Information provided identifies a particular person or can easily be connected with a particular person.	Once the person to whom the information relates consents to its disclosure.
3.	Protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence ... where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied	Sec 9(2)(ba)(i)	Disclosing the information would jeopardise the relationship with the supplier because the supplier may no longer trust the Council to hold its information in confidence.	Not unless there is a public interest in disclosure of the specific information.
4.	Maintain legal professional privilege	Sec. 9(2)(h)	To enable the Council to discuss legal advice.	Once the matter is completed and the legal advisor agrees to its release.

Note

Section 48(4) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides as follows:

"(4) Every resolution to exclude the public shall be put at a time when the meeting is open to the public, and the text of that resolution (or copies thereof):

(a) Shall be available to any member of the public who is present; and

(b) Shall form part of the minutes of the Council."

Time: 1.00 pm

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Peter Robinson)

That the open meeting of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council resumes,

During the public excluded session, Councillor Blackmore left the meeting at 11.25 am for a prior arranged appointment.

Meeting paused for lunch at 1.00 pm

Meeting recommenced at 1.30 pm.

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

1.30 pm.

Resolved (Dave Witherow/Andrew Morris)

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

1. Complaint procedure

Councillor Sutton expressed his opposition to continued debate on this matter and for returning to a public-excluded session and left the meeting at 1.30 pm.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED	REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER	GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION
Information provided in confidence) Good reason to withhold exists) under section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982	Section 48(1)(a)(ii)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

ITEM	REASON UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982	SECTION	PLAIN ENGLISH REASON	WHEN REPORT CAN BE RELEASED
1, 2 & 4.	Protect the privacy of natural persons.	Sec. 9(2)(a)	Information provided identifies a particular person or can easily be	Once the person to whom the information relates

			connected with a particular person.	consents to its disclosure.
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Note

Section 48(4) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides as follows:
 "(4) Every resolution to exclude the public shall be put at a time when the meeting is open to the public, and the text of that resolution (or copies thereof):

- (a) Shall be available to any member of the public who is present; and
- (b) Shall form part of the minutes of the Council."

2.43 pm.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Alan Flynn)

That the open meeting of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council resumes.

Peter Sutton returned to the meeting at 2.43pm.

NZ COUNCIL BUSINESS

13.1 Operational Report

The Operational Report was considered on a page by page basis.

Project 1210: Habitat Advocacy

The letter from Otago Fish and Game Council on the need for an energy plan was discussed. It was agreed the NZ Council receive the letter and that Otago be informed that the draft paper will be updated and discussed by NZ Council at its next meeting.

Resolved (Jean Willis/Dave Witherow)

That the draft energy policy proposed by Otago Fish and Game Council be updated for discussion at the next meeting.

Councillor Willis, with some background in the subject, expressed a wish to be consulted in drafting this paper.

Output 1510 Ranger Coordination

The NZ Council was advised that the appointment and oversight of warranted rangers was a function of the NZ Council Chief Executive (referred to in legislation as the Director), not the NZ Council. Draft criteria for handling warranted rangers in the new 2012/15 warrant period had been circulated to regions, feedback noted and final criteria established by the Director. These criteria included recommendations that each region should endeavour to retain a minimum of 10, with a maximum of 30 honorary rangers. Numbers either side of these will need to be justified, and considered, on their merits. It also called for applicants to be under 70 years of age at 30 September 2015 (with individual cases over this age needing to be justified, and considered on their merits). Ranging is increasingly a potential area of risk that must be properly managed with a duty on Fish and Game to ensure adequate health and safety and other necessary compliance training is provided and maintained for those involved.

Another tier of Fish and Game volunteers is suggested to lessen the demand for overly large numbers of warranted rangers. This would be a group of less active and less trained individuals who do not need to be warranted. Time at this July meeting did not permit this

suggestion to be debated but it was proposed a paper be prepared outlining what is proposed for consideration at a later date.

Project 1815 Elections

Under the 2012 schedule of election dates, it is proposed that elected members taking office on 19 December. This means that the first meeting should be held by 9 January 2013. The NZ Council asked that this be looked into and a question had been put to Crown Law but there were questions around Fish and Game's eligibility to seek Crown Law advice. The DC-Conservation's representative offered to ask for DOC Legal's consideration on when the first meeting could be held.

Resolved (Jean Willis/Alan Flynn)

That the Operational Report for July 2012 be received.

13.2 Introduction to NZ Council budgets

The NZ Council had previously indicated that it wanted an opportunity to discuss and better understand the budget system. The Finance and Administration Manager provided the meeting with folders which contained the timetable and details of the process for the annual budget and reporting cycle, along with samples of the spread sheets used in the process and the budget national policies. It was intended to select the budget and bi-monthly reporting process to take councillors through, but it was apparent that meeting time was not available to extend the item to cover that process at this meeting. However, it was suggested that councillors bring the Budget folder to future meetings to consider this material further, with a dedicated session to be included within the Council agenda at the next opportunity.

13.3 NZ Council Bi-Monthly Financial Report

The Financial Report was considered on a page by page basis.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Matthew Hall)

That the Financial Report to 30 June 2012 be adopted.

13.4 Specific Proposals for Capital Expenditure

There were no specific proposals.

Resolved (Peter Robinson/Peter Sutton)

That the Specific Proposals for Capital Expenditure be received.

13.5 CE Performance Committee

The Chairman informed the Council he had a draft report from the Committee's last meeting. However there had not been enough time to prepare copies and with the Chief Executive away it was best that this be advanced at a later stage.

NATIONAL FISH & GAME ITEMS

14.1 Desired Outcomes Achievable by 2025 – Report back from NZ Councillors

It was recognised that although this item had been reported to regions before, there remained some uncertainty and lack of awareness about what was wanted to be achieved. Therefore it was agreed to provide the paper again for regions to consider, explaining what feedback is

being requested and why. Regions are to be asked for each aspiration to be rated as a priority 1, 2, or 3.

14.2 Legal Update Report

The NZ Council recognised that the information provides a good record of what has happened and further work pending. However, one of the NZ Council's strategic sessions needs to look at its legal requirements and the options open to it in delivering these. One option worthy of further discussion is the appointment of its own legal staff.

Resolved (Peter Sutton/Lindsay Lyons)

That the Legal Update Report be received.

Robin Blackmore returned to the meeting at 3.25 pm.

14.3 National Financial Report 5

To the year to date (30 June) it was recognised that overall not expenditure was tracking just under the budgeted total for this time. However, some concern was expressed with the level of expenditure shown for North Canterbury, and to a lesser extent Otago councils, but the Finance & Administration Manager advised that assurance had been received that both councils anticipated year end expenditure to be in line with budget.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Andrew Morris)

That the National Financial Report to 30 June 2012 be received.

14.4 National Licence Sales Trends

Positive trends were reported overall. Councillors discussed the changing pattern in sales channels and the growing importance of AOL.

14.5 National Licensing Service Agreement Renewal

Regions are to be provided information and invited to discuss and generate any feedback councils may wish to provide. The NZ Council recorded its general acceptance of the process and professional approach being undertaken and expressed its confidence in the Licence Working Party with input from Dr Marks.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Peter Robinson)

That the NZ Council:

1. Note the proposed process and milestones
2. Agree it is comfortable with that process.

14.6 Non-resident Fishing Licence

Consideration of this item had been prompted by the letter of 29 May 2012 from the Minister of Conservation seeking NZ Council and regional Fish and Game council support for a non-resident fishing licence. The Minister's letter had been sent to regions for comment and resulted in the NZ Council's support for the proposal.

Resolved (Dave Witherow/Lindsay Lyons)

That the NZ Council:

1. Note the strong support from Fish and Game regions for a non-resident fishing licence
2. Agree, that a non-resident fishing licence be introduced at a cost of 1.3 times the adult whole season fishing licence.
3. Agree that with the introduction of a non-resident fishing licence, family and winter fishing licences be restricted to resident anglers only.
4. Agree that any increased revenue from a non-resident fishing licence be ring-fenced for specific management purposes for the improvement of back country fisheries management.
5. Agree that the Minister of Conservation be asked to approve the establishment of a non-resident sports fishing licence for the 2013 fishing season.

14.7 Review of National Office

Time did not allow for a full debate on this item. The Chairman had earlier asked for points to be considered in such a review and had a limited response. Therefore it was:

Resolved (Dave Witherow/Bruce Bates)

That within 10 days, councillors with a concern of this matter, will provide points for consideration for the Chairman to seek advice about.

Peter Sutton, Lindsay Lyons, Jean Willis asked for their opposition to the motion be recorded.

15 GENERAL

The Chairman acknowledged that time had not permitted discussion on a number of items and that these should be carried over to the next meeting. These included:

1. Wellington Fish and Game Council's RMA expertise – a paper was distributed by Councillor Morris.
2. Conflict of interest policy
3. Oath of office
4. Correspondence on captured access from Eastern Fish and Game Council.

16 Urgent General Business

There being no urgent general business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 4.37 pm Friday 20 July 2012.

Continued: _____

Date: ____/____/____12

7. Consideration of Efforts to Increase Junior Hunter/Angler Participation

At the April Council meeting there was discussion on having a more co-ordinated approach to increasing junior participation in hunting and angling.

Options for undertaking activities are outlined as well as potential resourcing implications on the draft Annual Plan for 2012/13

Recommendation: Agree to establish a 0.25 FTE staff time (position) to increase junior fishing and hunting participation as set out in the paper.

Consideration of Efforts to Increase Junior Hunter and Angler Participation

Background

Wellington Fish & Game has been involved in initiatives to provide opportunities for children and novice to experience catching a trout or bagging a bird. This is undertaken with the long term goal of maintaining and increasing participation by providing an opportunity of introduction to these pursuits or up-skilling novice participants to increase satisfaction.

The current programme has a large reliance on local fishing or hunting clubs providing time resources for tuition and preparation in order to make them a success. These include:

		Fish & Game Involvement
Angler Novice Tuition Days	• Hutt Valley Anglers Club (2 advertised introductory days),	Low
	• Kapiti Fly Fishing Club (2 advertised introductory days)	Low
Angler Casting Tuition (regular)	• Wellington Fly Fishers Club,	Nil
	• Hutt Valley Anglers Club	Nil
Children's Fishing Days	• Wellington Fly Fishers Club (500+ per year)	Medium (Cost of Fish)
	• Manawatu Anglers Club (350+ per year)	Medium (Fish and organising)
School/Scout Groups Novice Hunting Training	• As requested	Low
	• Foxton Waterfowlers Club – Lake Omana	Medium Sponsor incidentals
Hunts Courses	• Participation in Fish & Game module in the Deerstalkers run HUNTS course (2 per year)	Low – Resources developed
Secondary School Target Shooting	• Sponsor of Secondary School Championships	Low – NZ Council sponsor
Junior Hunter Day at Game Preserve	• Participation of novice hunters (juniors) in one organised day at Railmoy (1 day per year) – no input	Nil – requirement of agreement
Hunting and Fishing Competitions	• Ohingaiti School	Low

Purpose of Junior Angler and Hunter Participation Programme

The main purpose of any programme aimed at encouraging children to participate in hunting and fishing

Other organisations such as NZRU have community plans that are well resourced to “*get them – coach them – keep them*”. This translates to the Fish & Game context of identifying potential young hunters and anglers, mentoring them, and providing them the skills to stay in the pursuits.

This may involve identifying schools and clubs that need assistance and developing strategies for each of them.

An objective in the Wellington Sports Fish & Game Management Plan states “*having not less than 5,000 licenced anglers will undertake not less than 40,000 angling visits per year in the Wellington Fish & Game region (C9.3.1.)*. The Plan further states that *Game licence sales are at a level that will sustain effective management of the sport (C9.3.4)*. Neither objective reflects the ageing demographic patterns, nor the active recruitment required to sustain licence sales in the long term.

What do other F&G regions do? Is it region specific? –

Examples of what other initiatives regions undertake are listed below:

- Fish-out days (Eastern, North Canterbury)
- Reservoir Fishing Days (Otago)
- Hunter seminars (Eastern)
- School resources (NZ Council focused)
- Junior Hunting days on Game Preserves (Hawke's Bay)
- Hunts Course (Nelson/Marlborough)
- Take A Mate Hunting - \$2 opening weekend licence – (Auck/Waik)

Challenges for Wellington F&G Region

There are some unique challenges for Fish & Game in the Wellington region. There are two main urban population bases in Wellington and Palmerston North. A large population base does not translate into high participation rates as there are several social dynamics occurring that may create a “disconnect” with the rural and natural environment.

In rural areas there is a regular interaction with natural environment and a peer support network interested in hunting and fishing. Taking part in pursuits is seen more of being part of the rural culture – and taking advantage of being in the “great outdoors”.

CO-ORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES

The GET THEM Phase

Each of the current activities will assist in recruitment, albeit that it is often hard to measure the reasons for uptake and retention. Each activity has a different purpose which may involve giving young anglers a taste of fishing that might spark interest through to specific up skilling tutorials.

The COACH (TEACH) THEM Phase - Follow-Up & Up skilling

We have discussed the Manawatu Fish Out Day event with the Manawatu FW Anglers Club and how to capitalise on the interest created at the one day event. Rather than being 'an event' per se, there is an opportunity to teach the keen participants (perhaps 20% or less) the next level of skill, potentially followed by focused on-river tuition.

The KEEP THEM phase

This might evolve over time to create a junior section of the Anglers Club – but these options are for the club to decide. Making sure the young anglers have the tools, skills, and peer support to continue angling is the result that we are seeking. Even if participants cease to continue to purchase a licence in the short to mid term – there is a possibility of recruitment later as they re-engage these pursuits.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

To make a material difference to recruitment there needs to be sustained, co-ordinated, and well resourced approach.

Internal Resources (Staff Time):

School Liaison
Event Organisation
Club Liaison
Securing funding
Site Selection and Management
Post Event Follow-up

External Resources

Purchase of Fish
Fish Cages
Equipment for fishing
Incidentals for Clubs
Clay targets
Ammunition

OPPORTUNITIES

Reservoir Fishing Opportunities – what is required to make into reality?

HUNTS Style course on smaller scale – say 4 sessions (firearms, practice, bird ID, food preparation)

POTENTIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR 2012/13

There was no additional staff time allocated through the contestable funding process – so progressing this project depends on reallocating staff time and some external funding.

~0.25 FTE 500 hours

Anticipated Outputs

1. Two events during summer months (NOV –JAN) – fish-out day fishing event opportunity
2. Investigate interest from schools and club involvement
3. Determine requirements for HUNTS style course
4. Determine funding opportunities

POTENTIAL OUTPUTS FOR 2012 / 2013

		hours
School Liaison Programme	Liaison with schools – what level of engagement (age groups) and interest	40
	Developing resources/ connections with schools Package 1/2hour talk/Discount vouchers/Where to go/Environmental messages	40
	School visits	40
Reservoir Fisheries	Continue to investigate reservoir fisheries	20
	Implement reservoir fisheries establishment	40
	Organise logistics	40
Club Liaison	Liaison with Clubs to assess interest & capabilities	20
Funding Opportunities	Investigate Income/Grant/Sponsorship Potential	40
Fish Out Day Events	20 hours per event - Wellington 2 events Palmerston North 1 event Wairarapa 1 event	80
Junior Fishing Activities	After event follow up	20
	After school programmes	0
F&G HUNTS Course	Liaison with Clubs to assess capabilities	40
	Novice Hunting Approach in 4 centres – Wairarapa Wellington, Manawatu, Rangitikei	60
Junior Hunting Days	Pheasant Releases	20
	Game Preserve Days	0
Mentor Assistance	Encouraging the Buddy System	0

Resource Implications

To allocate a 0.25 FTE funded position and achieve the potential outputs, there will need to be some reprioritization of internal resources (staff time) and some projects. The projects to be affected would be:

,It also needs to be understood, there may be a possibility of some outputs not being achieved if external funding cannot be secured.

In this first year, it is sensible to be realistic about what outcomes can be achieved but there will need to be a long term commitment and sustained effort to make a meaningful difference.

This should be re-evaluated on an annual basis to ensure focus and appropriate resources allocated.

Recommendation: Agree to establish a 0.25 FTE staff time (position) to increase junior fishing and hunting participation as set out above.

DRAFT

Diversion of staff time from current projection

	Nic		Steve		Bill	
	Current	Diverted	Current	Diverted	Current	Diverted
1311 Angler Access	210	150				
1123 Regional Angler Survey	24	18				
1181 Game bird Dispersal			46	12		
1313 Hunter Access Permits	116	36	20	10		
1531 Compliance			132	12		
1312 Wairarapa Hunter Access	174	54				
1341 Information to Clients	204	54				
1112 Rangitikei Fishery			96	12	36	6
1331 Magazine & Newsletter	26	20	13	12		
1342 Lapsed Participant Survey					20	10
1811 Management Planning					188	92
1111 Sports Fish Monitoring	250	10				
Total		342		68		108

8. RMA In-house Expertise – Effectiveness and Efficiency

Wellington F&G region recently completed a substantial RMA legal case on determining the framework and rules for Horizons' Regional Plan (the "One Plan"). It is clear the case law developed here will be applicable throughout the country and used as a precedent by other councils.

F&G needs to consider how best to maintain, use and grow this in-house expertise for the benefit of all regions within the current F&G structure.

Examining ways to better utilise these skills would also allow F&G to achieve an:

- improved and consistent outcome for F&G in all RMA cases.
- improved transfer of lessons learned to all regions;
- increased job satisfaction for RM staff (retention focused);
- effective use of internal staff running cases c.f. external consultants.

A range of options are presented here to promote discussion.

Recommendation:

To prepare a paper exploring potential options to increase efficiency and effectiveness of RM functions within Fish and Game for next NZ Council meeting

Getting Value From Our In-house RMA Expertise

Wellington F&G region recently completed a substantial RMA legal case on determining the framework and rules for Horizons' Regional Plan (the "One Plan"). The One Plan dealt with sedimentation from land use, land use intensification, and biodiversity issues.

It is clear the case law developed here will be applicable throughout the country and used as a precedent by other councils.

During the case, F&G Wellington and F&G nationally have created substantial in-house expertise regarding the issues and how best to resolve these issues to protect Fish & Game interests. Overall, it is arguable that in excess of \$500,000 has been spent on developing this in-house expertise.

F&G needs to consider how best to maintain, use and grow this in-house expertise for the benefit of all regions. If we don't effectively use the existing expertise we have created then we risk inconsistent approaches (and results), risk losing staff with this expertise, and face recurring costs "reinventing the wheel" each time a region is faced with similar challenges.

Six F&G regions currently employ RM focused staff. Each of these individuals have been associated with varying levels of legal RM case work and resource consent and hearing processes all contributing to enhancing their expertise.

F&G needs to discuss how best to utilise these staff and their knowledge within the current F&G structure, for the benefit of the whole F&G movement.

Collectively these staff have the potential to reduce F&G's reliance on external advisors/consultants and provide input for regions where this RM capability is not available

Examining ways to better utilise these skills would also allow F&G to achieve an:

- improved and consistent outcome for F&G in all RMA cases.
- improved transfer of lessons learned to all regions;
- increased job satisfaction for RM staff (retention focused);
- effective use of internal staff running cases c.f. external consultants;

Wellington Fish & Game is prepared to put forward a paper to explore potential options (see attached) to increase efficiency and effectiveness of RM function for major projects.

Recommendation:

To support Wellington F&G prepare a paper exploring potential options to increase efficiency and effectiveness of RM functions within Fish and Game for next NZ Council meeting

OPTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Option 1: Workshop Of All RMA Staff

Each year there has been a gathering of RMA focused staff from each region – with cost centre being managed by NZF&GC. Some of the staff involved have RMA as a part component of their duties rather than the principal component. Topics for the one day meeting are defined in an agenda – with discussions and presentations being of a high standard.

- occurs annually
- can't get into level of detail in time allocated
- team work improved but not sustained
- strategic issues noted but not developed
- varying level of expertise, training, and experience
- useful for networking and awareness raising

Option 2: Portion Of Staff Time Contributed By Region

A portion of staff time (say 20-25%) of current regional specialist RMA expertise could be allocated to a pool of nationally available expertise. This would assist with large projects or for consistent application of Fish & Game operational strategy in regional planning.

- Sponsor Regions would have to agree to contribute staff time
- Improved variation of work type for staff
- Increased challenge of work type
- Better use of experience and expertise
- Potentially some additional costs for travel and incidentals
- Focused time management required
- Clear priorities need to be set between regional responsibilities and external projects.
- Requires buy-in from staff
- FTE – 5 x 20% gives 1 FTE available

Option 3: Secondment of Staff to Other Regions for Major Projects

Specialist regional RMA staff would be made available for secondment for major projects to lead projects in other regions. This would be on a cost recovery basis to sponsor regions from either the region requiring assistance or potentially the RMA legal fund for small regions.

- Expertise better utilised
- Increase challenge of work type for RMA staff
- Potentially some additional costs for travel and incidentals
- Focused time management required
- Clear priorities need to be set between regional responsibilities and external projects.
- Requires buy-in from staff
- Initial work based on advise and assistance then region to "contribute" for staff time to sponsor region.

Option 4: Specialist regional RMA staff work together as a team

Specialist regional RMA staff work as a team on large projects and conveying Fish& Game's operational strategy into regional planning. This could require more time input than the 20% portion of time and essentially be an up to 3 to 5 FTE pool of expertise. Staff would remain in their regional bases but contribute to and lead on RMA matters. Processes such as WCO applications could potentially be managed through this same pool. Need to determine how to allocate costs – nationally funded, or regional contributions more significant on case by case basis.

Option 5: Establish two dedicated groups of specialist RMA staff available to both Islands

There is potential to establish a group of specialist staff to form a pool of expertise available to each Island. This would be most likely in the form of centralized or hub (four sites – 2 in North Island and 2 in South Island). While they could be based in regions for logistical purposes, the work programme would be determined by collectively by regions.

There would be a need to determine how to allocate costs – nationally funded, or regional contributions for more significant input on case by case basis.

This significantly extends the current Fish & Game structure, but total staff numbers remain similar.

Option 6: Planning Services – for regions for operational RMA Issues

Currently the planning function is undertaken by RMA staff or generalist staff when considering interpretation of regional plans. Expertise is available (internally and externally) to assist regions in either assessing plan provisions, and or assisting in submissions. Regions would "buy" the time of this group and on a cost recovery basis. The service would effectively be run as F&Gs internal consultancy.

Consistent Standardised Approach: In the regional planning processes there needs to be consistent approach to provide an awareness of strong planning provisions that result in desirable outcomes. This could be undertaken by internal RMA planning experience but in addition an external peer review would be valuable.

Such a planning service could be augmented or replaced by an:

1. In-house senior planner
Most likely centrally based to provide expert advice to all regions on a 'as needed' basis, potentially provide training, provide advice on update case law and approaches to operational RMA issues;
2. Retainer
Obtain services from a reputable Planning Consultant(s) on a retainer based on outcomes required for each region. This would put a cap on cost of advice, but would require planning and action to ensure it was efficiently utilised. Any planning advice would be given first choice to Fish & Game would be secure.
3. Preferred supplier
Obtain services from a (or group of) reputable Planning Consultant(s) based on a "as needed" basis but those consultants that already know the key issues for

Fish & Game. Potentially more costly per hour, and no assurance Fish & Game only client

Option 7: Legal Services

Concurrently F&G engages external legal expertise for a number of larger RM projects on a case by case basis. This is funded through a national RM legal budget. This involves peer review from Managers/CEs prior to consideration by NZ Council. The legal cases are getting more expensive especially if a credible case is put forward.

Consideration of RM expertise should also be mindful of growing legal costs and other options for satisfying this need. Options for addressing growing legal costs need to be discussed also.

9. Adopt Annual Plan

A draft Annual Plan was presented to Council in April and can now be confirmed after confirmation of the licence fee, contestable funding budgeting process, and further deliberations.

A copy of the draft Annual Plan has been provided separately (attached) to provide a basis for discussion and confirmation.

Recommendation:

Subject to discussions and any amendments, confirm the draft Annual Plan for 2012/13

WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

2012/13 ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN

Reviewed 10 August 2012

1. Introduction
2. Purpose of Wellington Fish and Game Council
3. Operation of Wellington Fish and Game Council
4. Directory
5. Statement of Operational Service Performance
6. Budgeted Statement of Comprehensive Income
7. Budgeted Statement of Financial Position
8. Budgeted Depreciation
9. Budgeted Statement of Project Expenditure, Overheads and Time Allocation

1. Introduction

The Annual Operational Plan is required by Section 26Q(1) (e) (ii) of the Conservation Act 1987 to be prepared by each Fish and Game Council. It is in effect the Council's contract with its stakeholders, defining the cost of the work to be done, and the results intended to be achieved, by the operation of the Council over the coming financial year.

2. Purpose of Wellington Fish and Game Council

The Council is a publicly accountable entity, created by Statute (the Conservation Act 1987) to manage, maintain and enhance the sportfish and gamebird resources of its region, in the recreational interests of anglers and hunters.

3. Operation of Wellington Fish and Game Council

The Council currently has twelve Councillors and is elected three-yearly by the people who purchase fishing and/or hunting licences. The present Council was elected in November 2009. The Council meets at least six times per year, in the principal regional centres of Masterton, Palmerston North, and Wellington, to direct the Council's operations and to make its policy decisions.

The Council's office is in Palmerston North. The Council employs five staff: an Administration Officer, three Fish & Game Officers and a Manager in Palmerston North.

Financial administration is provided on a contract basis by Taranaki Fish & Game Council.

4. Directory

Councillors:

Name	Locality	
Martin Taylor (Chairman)	Wellington	
Tim Allen	Masterton	
Jim Cook	Rongotea	
Strato Coisilinis	Wellington	
Mark Grace	Hunternville	
Brad Johnson	Upper Hutt	
Richard Moore	Upper Hutt	
Andrew Morris (NZ Fish & Game Council Appointee)	Masterton	
Eric Neumann	Palmerston North	
Chris O'Meara	Wainuiomata	
Andy Tannock	Palmerston North	
Duncan Thomas	Marion	

Staff:

Name	Position	
Phil Teal	Regional Manager	
Susan Wray	Office Manager	
Fiona Death	Administration Assistant (part time)	
Corina Jordan	Environmental Officer	
Nic Cudby	Fish and Game Officer	
Stephen Pilkington	Senior Fish and Game Officer	
Jilli Steedman	Financial Administrator (part time)	

Palmerston North Office:

292 Featherston Street
P O Box 1325, Palmerston North
Telephone 06 359 0409
FAX 06 356 2780
email wellington@fishandgame.org.nz

Bank: ANZ, Cnr The Square & Broadway Ave, Palmerston North
Audit: Gunn & Cotton, Palmerston North
Insurance: Crombie Lockwood, Palmerston North

5. Budgeted Statement of Service Performance for the Year to 31 August 2012

5.1 SPECIES MANAGEMENT

The Council's role is to manage the region's populations of sports fish and game bird species by assessing populations and harvest levels, augmenting or dispersing local populations as required, and formulating season conditions that will best provide for the long term requirements of anglers and hunters.

PROJECT	OBJECTIVE	PLANNED RESULT
1111 Sportsfish Population Monitoring	Trout populations in all fisheries in the Wellington Fish & Game region, that are valued by licence holders, will remain stable over time. (Mgt Plan ref A9.1.1)	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 by 31 August 2013. An overview to investigate the environmental drivers for trout fisheries in the Wellington region using existing drift dive data and externally sourced (Regional Councils) water quality and flow data.
1112 Rangitikei Trout Fishery Management	Sports fisheries that exhibit characteristics that are valued by anglers will be identified and safeguarded. (Mgt Plan ref A9.3.5)	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 2013. Operate a backcountry licence for the Upper Rangitikei fisheries.
1113 River Control Fishery Assessment	The quality and quantity of trout habitat in the Wellington Fish & Game region will remain stable over time. (Mgt Plan ref A9.1.3)	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. A progress report by professional staff on the results of the fieldwork will be presented to Wellington Regional Council by 31 August 2013.
PROJECT	OBJECTIVE	PLANNED RESULT
1114 Gamebird Population Assessments	The Wellington regional populations of gamebirds are managed to remain relatively stable over time. (Mgt Plan ref C9.1.1, D9.1.1, E9.1.1, F9.1.1, G9.1.1, H9.1.1.)	Information gained by autumn counts of the regional populations of mallard/grey ducks and pukeko; summer trend counts of paradise sheiduck and black swan; and late winter counts of shoveler ducks, will result in identifying implications for game bird management.

		A report by professional staff on the results of the fieldwork will be presented to the Council by 31 August 2013.
1122 National Hunter Survey	Hunter harvest of gamebirds will be controlled so it is not the cause of any population's demise. (Mgt Plan ref C9.1.2, D9.1.2, E9.1.2, F9.3.1, G9.1.2, H9.1.2, I9.1.1.)	Information gained from game licence holders during the 2013 game season, collected by participation in this externally analysed and nationally coordinated annual survey, will result in identifying implications for game bird management. A report by professional staff on the results of the 2012 survey will be presented to the Council by 31 August 2013.
1123 Regional Angler Survey	85% of licensed anglers have a satisfactory angling experience, and will be satisfied with the availability, quality and extent of information available. (Mgt Plan ref A9.3.2, A9.3.6.)	Information gained by surveying fish licence holders during the 2012/13 financial year will result in identifying implications for fisheries management. A report by professional staff on the results of the survey will be presented to the Council by 31 August 2013.
1124 Regional Hunter Survey	90% of dabbling duck hunters have a satisfactory hunting experience, and will be satisfied with the availability, quality and extent of information available. (Mgt Plan ref C9.3.1, C9.3.6.)	Information gained by surveying game licence holders during the 2012/13 financial year will result in identifying implications for game management. A report by professional staff on the results of the survey will be presented to the Council by 31 August 2013.
1161 Trout Liberations	The maintenance and improvement of trout fisheries by stocking with hatchery-reared fish where this is necessary, achievable and cost effective. (Mgt Plan ref A9.1.5)	The provision of 2,000 healthy two-year-old rainbow trout at Capital Trout Centre, Wellington, by 31 January 2013. The provision of at least 500 healthy two-year old rainbow trout at Centennial Lagoon, Palmerston North with view to supporting a junior novice fishing day promotion.

PROJECT	OBJECTIVE	PLANNED RESULT
1171 Season Regulations	The maintenance and improvement of the region's sportsfish and gamebird resources, by the formulation and recommendation to the NZ Fish & Game Council of season conditions for fishing and game hunting seasons, that can be demonstrated to be sustainable. (Mgt Plan ref A9.1.2.)	The dispatch of the Council's draft recommendations for 2013 game hunting season conditions to New Zealand Fish and Game Council by 31 December 2012. The dispatch of the Council's draft recommendations for the 2013/2014 fishing season conditions to New Zealand Fish and Game Council by 30 June 2013.
1172 Keep and Release Approvals	The protection of Wellington Fish & Game region's indigenous biodiversity and trout habitat. (Mgt Plan ref A9.1.3, A9.2.2, I9.2.2.)	All keepings of gamebirds, and all releases of sportsfish, other fish, and gamebirds will be subject to appropriate statutory approvals.
1181 Gamebird Dispersal	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. (Mgt Plan ref C9.2.1, E9.2.1, F9.2.1, F9.2.2, G9.2.1, H9.2.1.)	The dispersal or control of gamebirds where they cause unacceptable damage to farmers' crops is undertaken in a timely and cost effective manner. 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 by 31 August 2013.
1182 Canada Goose.	The management of the region's Canada Goose resource to meet approved management plan requirements. (Mgt Plan ref F9.1.1 to F9.3.1)	With the change of status in the Wildlife Act from Schedule 1 Gamebird to Schedule 6 No protection – there is no longer a mandate to expend resources on such.

5.2 HABITAT MANAGEMENT

The Council's role is to protect and improve the habitat of sportfish and gamebird species where methods are cost effectively available to achieve this.

PROJECT	OBJECTIVE	PLANNED RESULT
1211 Resource Management Act	The quality and quantity of trout habitat in the Wellington Fish & Game region will remain stable over time. (Mgt Plan ref A9.1.3.)	Submissions on resource consent applications and plan proposals will be made as appropriate, seeking to achieve trout habitat protection and wetland conservation.
1212 Habitat Advocacy	The quality and quantity of trout habitat in the Wellington Fish & 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.
1222 Lake Wairarapa Habitat	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, with some costs to be recovered from users. The management of raupo at Boggy Pond and Matthews Lagoon as authorised by the Department of Conservation. Involvement of Fish & Game in the Wairarapa Moana management organisation
1223 JK Donald Drain Clean	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).)	To clean drain in the JK Donald Reserve wetland to comply with arrangements with adjoining landowners.
1231 Wetland Enhancement	The Wellington regional populations of gamebirds are managed to remain relatively stable over time. (Mgt Plan ref C9.1.1.)	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 2013.

PROJECT	OBJECTIVE	PLANNED RESULT
1232 Habitat Management Opportunities	The Wellington regional populations of gamebirds are managed to remain relatively stable over time. (Mgt Plan ref C9.1.1.)	To provide part funding for habitat enhancement projects.
1233 Trout Reservoir Feasibility	Not less than 5,000 licenced anglers will undertake not less than 40,000 angling visits per year in the Wellington Fish & Game region. (Mgt Plan ref A9.3.1.)	To investigate the feasibility of potential reservoir fisheries in the Hutt Valley area and Wainuiomata River systems A report by professional staff on potential fisheries will be presented to the Council by 31 August 2013.
1234 Trout Reservoir Management	The maintenance and improvement of trout fisheries by stocking with hatchery-reared fish where this is necessary, achievable and cost effective. (Mgt Plan ref A9.1.5)	Report by professional staff on current state of fisheries in reservoirs will be presented to the Council by 31 August 2013.

5.3 PARTICIPATION AND SATISFACTION OF ANGLERS AND HUNTERS

The Council's role is to assess the requirements of anglers and hunters, to provide them with information on their sport and its administration, and to manage access to publicly available hunting land where appropriate.

PROJECT	OBJECTIVE	PLANNED RESULT
1311 Angler Access	Not less than 1,000 kilometres of angling water will be accessible to anglers in the Wellington Fish & Game region. (Mgt Plan ref A9.3.3.)	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 2013. Liaison with the Walking Access Commission to identify potential improvements in public (and specifically angler) access.
1312 Lake Wairarapa Hunter Access	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. (Mgt Plan ref C9.3.3.)	Maintenance of Eric Kilmore Lodge, with costs recovered from users. 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.

PROJECT	OBJECTIVE	PLANNED RESULT
1313 Hunter Access Permits and Ballots	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. (Mgt Plan ref C9.3.3, I9.3.2.)	The availability of duly negotiated and agreed access permits, with a small administration charge, to licenced hunters, by 31 March 2013 for the 2013 game season, for all areas publicly available to hunters in the Wellington region. The management of the allocation by ballot of available hunting sites at Pukepuke,, Koitiata and Lake Wairarapa Wetlands, in time for 2013 game season.
1331 Magazine and Newsletters	Not less than 85% of licenced anglers and hunters will be satisfied with the availability, quality, and extent of information available. (Mgt Plan ref A9.3.6.)	The provision of a two page regional supplement in each of the two Special Editions of Fish & Game magazine to be published during the reporting year. The preparation and publication of two regional newsletters to licence holders during the reporting year.
1341 Information to Licence Holders.	Not less than 85% of licenced anglers and hunters will be satisfied with the availability, quality and extent of information available. (Mgt Plan ref A9.3.6, C9.3.6.)	Responses to requests for information will be provided as required. Weekly email reports from October to end of March that provide anglers with information on river levels and angling potential. Weekly email reports from May to June that provide hunters with information on weather and hunting potential. Council's portion of the NZF&G website will be maintained as an important communication means with licence holders by 31 August 2013.
1342 Lapsed Participant Survey and Parameter Analysis	The participation of hunters and anglers are to be at levels that will sustain effective management of the sport (Mgt Plan ref A9.3.1, B9.3.1, C9.3.4)	Assist NZ Fish & Game Council undertake testing of marketing opportunities to lapsed participants and existing participants.

1351 Hunter Training, Lake Omana	Game licence sales are at a level that will sustain effective management of the sport. (Mgt Plan ref C9.3.4.)	The Foxton Waterfowl and Wetlands Club will be assisted to run a hunter training programme at Lake Omana.
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PROJECT	OBJECTIVE	PLANNED RESULT
1354 Junior Angler Training	Not less than 5,000 licenced anglers will undertake not less than 40,000 angling visits per year in the Wellington Fish & Game region. (Mgt Plan ref C9.3.1.)	Establish an inventory of equipment that can be used in junior angler promotions.
1361 Club Liaison	The maintenance of a positive working relationship with clubs	Attend meetings on regular basis or as required

6.4 PUBLIC INTERFACE

The Council's role is to promote public understanding and acceptance of angling and gamebird hunting issues and values.

PROJECT	OBJECTIVE	PLANNED RESULT
1411 Advocacy and Liaison	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 2013.
1412 Iwi Liaison	A positive relationship with the Wellington Fish & 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 2013.
1441 Public Awareness	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.)	Publicity on angling, hunting, and the work of Fish & Game New Zealand is provided, with the coverage reported to Council by 31 August 2013.
1443 Promotions	The provision of news releases, displays and other forms of public communication as appropriate (Mgt Plan ref A10.2.10, A9.2.4, A9.3.6)	To be involved in public promotions which advocate for Fish & Game interests and values.

5.5 COMPLIANCE

The Council's role is to seek to ensure that all anglers and gamebird hunters are licenced, and that they are operating in compliance with the law and the season regulations.

PROJECT	OBJECTIVE	PLANNED RESULT
1511 Ranger Management	Sufficient ranging resources to enforce fishing and hunting season conditions. (Stat. ref Sec 26Q(1)(b)(iv.) Conservation Act.)	The recruitment of Council's ranger team meets adopted policy, and is reported to Council by 31 August 2013.
1521 Ranger Training	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; (Mgt Plan ref A10.2.7)	Provide safety and compliance training and skill maintenance and is reported to Council by 31 August 2013.
1531 Compliance	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. (Mgt Plan ref A9.1.4.)	Ranging to check compliance of not less than 750 anglers and hunters throughout the region, throughout the year, in line with adopted policy. The prosecution of participants found unlicensed or in substantial non-compliance with legal requirements or season regulations without just cause, in line with adopted policy.

5.6 LICENCING

The role of the Council is to issue hunting and fishing licences as the main source of income to fund the performance of its functions.

PROJECT	OBJECTIVE	PLANNED RESULT
1611 Licencing	To issue hunting and fishing licences. (Stat. ref Sec 26Q(1)(f), Conservation Act.)	2013 Game licences will be available to licence agents and participants throughout the region by 31 March 2013. 2013/2014 fishing licences will be available to licence agents and participants throughout the region by 31 August 2013. An up to date data base of licence holders will be maintained. Progress reporting on licence sales will be provided to the Council throughout the year.
1621 Licence Agents	An effective and efficient network of licence resellers. (No Stat. or Mgt Plan ref.)	Council's Licence Agent Network is managed in line with adopted Council policy.

5.7 GOVERNANCE

The role of the Council is to represent the interests of all Wellington regional licenceholders effectively in directing the management of the region's sportfish and gamebird resources.

PROJECT	OBJECTIVE	PLANNED RESULT
1721 Council	The effective direction of the management of the Council's business. (Stat. ref. Sec 26 ZD, Conservation Act.)	Not less than six meetings of the Council, that comply with all legal and policy requirements to be held before 31 August 2013.

6.8 PLANNING AND REPORTING

The role of the Council is to prepare such plans as will assist the cost effective performance of its functions, and to prepare and make available such reports as will provide transparent accountability for its activities and expenditure.

PROJECT	OBJECTIVE	PLANNED RESULT
1811 Management Planning	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 2013. Council will undertake a review of its approved Management Plan by 31 August 2013.
1821 Annual Plan	To formulate and adopt an annual operational work plan. (Stat. ref. Sec 26Q(3), Conservation Act.)	Adoption of a Proposed Annual Plan for 2013/14 that meets National Council requirements by the Council, by 31 August 2013.
1831 Annual Reporting	To furnish the Minister of Conservation with an annual report on the operations of the Council for the year. (Stat. ref. Secs 26X, and 26 ZD(7), Conservation Act.)	The adoption and presentation by the Council at a public Annual General Meeting of its audited Annual Report for 2011/12 not later than 30 November 2012, and its dispatch to the Minister directly thereafter.
1841 National Liaison	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 2013 with respect to coordination, of the Council's recommendations for licence fees, fund redistribution, research requirements, and national policy development.
1842 National Projects	Wellington Fish & Game region remains free of Didymo.	Staff assistance with Didymo surveys will be provided at cost to Biosecurity NZ as required.

9.

WELLINGTON FISH & GAME COUNCIL

BUDGET 2012 / 2013 (GST EXCLUSIVE)						
Code	Project/Category Item	External Costs	Hours	Internal Costs	Income	Net Cost
1111	Sports Fish Population Monitoring	2,500	900	63,872		68,372
1112	Rangitikei Trout Fishery	11,500	140	9,938	16,000	5,436
1113	River Control Fishery		76	5,394	4,000	1,394
1114	Gamebird Population Assessment	12,500	482	34,207		46,707
1122	National Hunter Survey	2,300	50	3,548		5,848
1123	Regional Angler Survey	500	84	5,961		6,461
1124	Regional Hunter Survey	500	40	2,839		3,339
1161	Trout Liberations	11,500	20	1,419	2,000	10,919
1171	Season Regulations		76	5,394		5,394
1172	Keep & Release Approval		8	568		568
1181	Gamebird Dispersal	1,000	92	6,529		7,529
1211	Resource Management Act	1,200	1440	102,195		103,395
1212	Habitat Advocacy		228	16,181		16,181
1222	Lake Waikarepa Habitat	6,000	330	23,420		29,420
1223	JK Donald Drain Clean	2,000				2,000
1231	Wetland Enhancement	500	202	14,338		14,838
1232	Habitat Management Opportunities	2,000				2,000
1233	Trout Reservoir Feasibility	2,200				2,200
1234	Trout Reservoir Management	550				550
1311	Angler Access	3,790	320	22,710		26,500
1312	Lake Waikarepa Hunter Access	2,000	174	12,349	1,000	13,349
1313	Hunter Access Permits	6,500	236	16,749	3,000	19,249
1331	Magazine & Newsletters	13,500	180	12,774		26,274
1341	Information to Clients	1,000	290	20,581		21,581
1342	Lapsed Participants Newsletter	1,500	20	1,419		2,919
1351	Hunter Training, Lake Omana	505	8	568	400	673
1354	Junior Angler Training	500				500
1361	Club Liaison		80	5,677		5,677
1411	Advocacy & Liaison		62	3,590		3,590
1412	Law Liaison	500	40	2,839		3,339
1441	Public Awareness	1,000	150	11,355		12,355
1442	Public Promotions Centennial Lagoon	3,000	20	1,419		4,419
1443	Promotions	1,000				1,000
1511	Ranger Management	1,000	126	8,942		9,942
1521	Ranger Training	1,000				1,000
1531	Compliance	5,000	132	9,368	5,000	9,368
1611	Licensing	7,200	40	2,839		10,039
1621	Licence Agents		54	5,961		5,961
1721	Council Meetings	6,000	316	22,426		28,426
1811	Management Planning		188	13,342		13,342
1821	Annual Planning		50	3,548		3,548
1831	Annual & Other Reporting	8,500	90	6,387		14,887
1841	National Liaison		120	8,516		8,516
1842	National Projects		70	4,968		4,968
Total Output Costs		119,245	6964	494,224	31,400	562,069

WELLINGTON FISH & GAME COUNCIL

2011 / 2012 Overheads		
1911	Salaries	333,914
1914	Allowances	1,996
1915	Financial Salary	8,750
1921	ACC Levy	3,600
1922	Fringe Benefit Tax	3,100
1923	Staff Training	4,000
1925	Staff Expenses	3,500
1926	Uniforms	1,000
1941	Office Rent	35,250
1942	Office Rates	4,000
1943	Office Maintenance	2,200
1945	Office Power	1,600
1951	Office Equipment Purchases(under \$2,000)	500
1952	Asset replacement reserve	2,000
1953	Office Equipment Maintenance	2,500
1961	Telephone	11,200
1962	Postage	1,800
1964	Stationery	2,500
1965	Photocopying	979
1966	Staff Telecoms	1,000
1971	Advertising	3,000
1972	Subscriptions	150
1974	Bank Charges	500
1975	Office Consumables	500
1976	Insurance General	6,500
1977	Interest	-12,662
1981	Field Equipment Purchases	2,000
1983	Field Equipment Maintenance	500
1991	DQA202 Mitsubishi Vehicle Running	8,500
1992	FHA920 Mazda BT50 Vehicle Running	8,500
1993	FMF666 Mazda BT50 Vehicle Running	8,500
1994	FYG593 Subaru Putback Wagon Vehicle Running	13,500
1996	General Vehicle Expenses	500
1997	JS Vehicle Running	3,000
1998	Vehicle Replacement Funding	10,662
Total Overheads Cost		479,539

Total Overhead Net Costs 479,539

Total Project Staff Hours 6964

Internal Cost per hour 68.86

Project	External Costs	Hours	Internal Costs	Income	Net Cost
Species Management	42,300	1968	136,516	22,000	155,816
Habitat Protection & Management	14,450	2200	151,491		165,941
Angler / Hunter Participation	28,295	1308	90,068	4,400	113,983
Public Interface	5,500	272	18,730		24,230
Compliance	7,000	258	17,765	5,000	19,765
Licencing	7,200	124	8,539		15,739
Councils	6,000	316	21,760		27,760
Planning / Reporting	8,500	518	35,669		44,169
Total Budget 2011/2012	119,245	6964	479,539	31,400	567,384

10. NZF&GC – Desired Outcomes by 2025

Following a previous strategic directions discussion paper and responses, there remained some uncertainty as to what was wanted and why with those responses varied and incomparable. NZ Council agreed to provide the paper again inviting regions to reconsider.

Councillor Morris (NZ Council appointee) may want to speak further to this.

What is required is to rate each 'desired outcome' a priority 1, 2 or 3 (1 being the highest) to establish some consensus as to which are considered more important and worthy of being addressed first.

NZ Council request that Wellington Council provide a single summary (presume summary of 12 Councillor's responses) or collective response (an average rank for the "Council").

Recommendation:

Undertake the ranking individually as Councillors and/or analyse the results after discussion and provide a collective response for NZ Council.

Phil Teal

From: Bryce Johnson [bjohnson@fishandgame.org.nz]
Sent: Friday, 3 August 2012 5:53 p.m.
To: Daren Smith; Dean Kelly; Doug Emmett; Jay Graybill; Maurice Rodway ; Neil Deans; Niall Watson; Pete McIntosh ; Phil Teal; Rob Pitkethley ; Rod Cullinane; Rudi Hoetjes
Cc: rsowman@fishandgame.org.nz; Hamish Carnachan; Alan Flynn; Andrew Morris; Bruce Bates; Chris Lynch; Dan Madsen; Dave Witherow; Jean Willis; Lindsay Lyons; Matthew Hall; Peter Robinson; Peter Sutton; Robin Blackmore
Subject: Operationalisation of 'desired outcomes'
Attachments: Desired Outcomes_20120727102405.pdf

Got back from annual leave on Tuesday night and now endeavouring to catch up on happenings in my absence.

You will have received the attached memorandum from Robert requesting your council's prioritisation of the 12 desired outcomes the NZC came up with during its facilitated strategic planning session earlier in the year.

As you will have quickly recognised many of them are very general (almost too general) in content and don't define what their ultimate achievement would actually look like in practical terms on the ground.

To be able to know if/when we have actually achieved them will therefore require a clearer enunciation of what 'success' will actually look like. What needs to be F&GNZ's measure of 'success' in terms of their achievement?..... How will we now when we have arrived?

In addition to their prioritisation, what would therefore also be particularly helpful to the NZC (and probably cause a more stimulating and useful debate around your council table) would be for your Council to also provide a brief description (two lines max) of what 'success' for each of them would actually look like in practical terms, on the ground – in other words, what future state of affairs would signal to us that the desired outcome had actually been achieved. I think this would help the NZC (and especially the managers group) to design and implement the most appropriate 'means' for their achievement.

In this same regard it would also be helpful if your council has any suggestions on any limitations on the "means" by which their achievement was sought.

Finally, while the achievement of these desired outcomes will in many respects probably be NZC lead, it would also be useful if your Council had any similarly brief thoughts on what it might be able or prepared to do towards their achievement.

We will then collate your responses across all four elements – prioritisation, description of what 'success' in practice would look like, suggested limitations to the 'means' of achievement, and regional council contribution to that achievement – into a final report to the NZC for its next meeting.

Bryce

Bryce Johnson
 Chief Executive
 New Zealand Fish & Game Council
 P O Box 13-141
 Wellington 6440
 Tel: 04 499 4767 Cell: 021 307297 Fax: 04 499 4768
www.fishandgame.org.nz

DESIRED OUTCOMES ACHIEVABLE BY 2025

July 2012

Prepared by: Robert Sowman, Policy & Planning Manager, NZ Fish and Game Council

Purpose

1. The New Zealand Fish and Game Council (NZ Council) in November 2011 and February 2012 held strategic planning sessions that examined the functions of Fish and Game as defined by Section 26C of the Conservation Act. The outcome of the sessions, independently facilitated by Richard Thompson, was to reach agreement on core Fish and Game values and high level principles that underpin the organisation's statutory functions. In having someone assist the NZ Council look at what the law requires mostly of it, but also of regional F&G councils and the Minister of Conservation, the NZ Council was able to identify the various connections and how these should be planned and improved.
2. The NZ Council started with a clean sheet of paper and developed a list of desired outcomes that it felt could be achieved by 2025. The Council's premise was to take its efforts from where it is now to a 2025 horizon and what it would wish to achieve by then. This makes the goals aspirational and causes the Council to think about some of the changes that would be needed to make them happen.

Comment

3. It was recognised that the NZ Council cannot make everything happen at once. Knowing that it is working from a base that has evolved over 20 years of activity, it recognises that any change will only happen after rigorous examination and consultation because this is the way the process works. Our stakeholders would expect the organisation to progress and it seems sensible to set priorities and try to do justice to two or three agreed outcomes before moving on to the others.
4. To assist in this process, the NZ Council would like regional Fish and Game councils to indicate their priority or preference by assessing each of the desired outcomes by allocating a 1, 2 or 3 to each according to priority - 1 being high priority to be considered ahead of others and 3 being lowest priority to be considered later.
5. An exercise similar to this was carried out by regions in the June 2012 round of meetings under the guidance of NZ Council appointees. However, there were mixed results due to a misunderstanding of what was being sought and why. Therefore the NZ Council decided to repeat the process and ask that regions reconsider the way they would rank the outcomes. In doing so, the NZ Council asks regions for tolerance and to excuse it for not making the intention clear in the first place. To assist, an example column has been added to the attached table for councils to follow.

Recommendation:

That regional Fish and Game councils consider the list of desired outcomes defined by the NZ Council and accord each a priority 1, 2 or 3 with 1 being the highest priority and advise the NZ Council of its findings.

Desired Outcomes – Regional Evaluation chart

	example	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
• Fish & Game NZ is well recognised and well regarded as fish and game resource managers based on a user says/user pays	3												
• Fish and Game's values and aspirations are reflected in statute.	3												
• Sports fish and game birds are recognised as valued public resources with right of access	2												
• There is general recognition that wildlife habitat is a finite resource that must be protected	2												
• Completion and defence of Water Conservation Orders	1												
• The New Zealand public is sympathetic to Fish & Game NZ's goals	2												
• There is a high level of licence holder awareness of and support for Fish & Game NZ	1												
• Participation by anglers and hunters continues to grow in number	1												
• A consistent approach is applied to compliance across the country with low rates of offending	2												
• Fish & Game income is enhanced through multiple funding streams	3												
• The distinction in roles and responsibilities between the NZ Fish and Game Council and regional Fish and Game councils is accepted and respected.	1												
• Unified Fish and Game councils operate effectively and efficiently	1												

Regions: 1 = Northland, 2 = Auckland/Waikato, 3 = Eastern, 4 = Hawke's Bay, 5 = Taranaki, 6 = Wellington, 7 = Nelson/Marlborough, 8 = West Coast, 9 = North Canterbury, 10 = Central South Island, 11 = Otago, 12 = Southland

12. Lead Shot Exemption for Sub-Gauges

In 2009 there was concern from Southland region that 20 gauge shot guns were being used to circumvent the non-toxic requirements. The subsequent survey indicated an average of 4% of hunters using 20 gauge shotgun.

In August 2009 regional managers recommended that the exemption from non-toxic shot for sub 20 gauge shotguns be retained and that this not be regularly visited. NZ Council endorsed this recommendation and resolved this position.

In May 2012 Southland region requested that the exemption be reviewed.

Auckland/Waikato Council has responded (see Correspondence)

Recommendation:

Council to consider issue. After consideration either endorse current position or resolve to support further investigation into 20gauge exemption

LEAD SHOT EXEMPTION FOR SUB-GAUGES

July 2012

Prepared by: Robert Sowman, Policy & Planning Manager, NZ Fish and Game Council

Purpose

1. Southland Fish and Game Council wrote to the NZ Council on 27 April 2012 stating that in its view there is no defensible argument to allow the use of lead in 20 gauge shotguns. Southland made a similar request to the NZ Council in 25 August 2005. A copy of Southland's April 2012 letter is attached.
2. The NZ Council is considering the Southland letter at its May 2012 meeting resolved:
To acknowledge the letter from Southland of 27 April 2012 and that it be circulated to regions for feedback.

Background

3. The decision to ban the use of lead shot in New Zealand was made in 1998 by the then Ministers of Conservation and for the Environment, and followed an international trend to phase out the use of lead shot for game bird hunting. The reasons were two fold – to reduce the addition of lead into the ecosystem and to lessen the mortality that occurs when waterfowl ingest lead pellets as a substitute for gizzard grit.
4. The ban applies to the hunting or killing of waterfowl within 200 meters of open water. It does not apply to the use of lead shot for other purposes, including clay target shooting, pest control, Canada goose and other wildlife hunting. Since the ban was introduced in 1998, government has shown little desire to widen its coverage or enshrine it in actual legislation.
5. All game bird hunting in New Zealand is subject to the Open Season for Game Notice approved each year by the Minister of Conservation and published in the NZ Gazette. The ban on the use of lead shot and exemptions is contained in that Notice as follows:

5 Use of Lead Shot Prohibited
5.1 No person may possess lead shot, or use lead shot, while hunting or killing waterfowl within 200 metres of open water, with any gun using a 10 or 12 gauge cartridge. Non-toxic alternative shot may be used, including steel.

6 Guns of a Calibre Less Than 12 Gauge and Muzzle Loaders Exempt in Relation to Use of Lead Shot
Hunters may use lead shot in guns of a calibre less than 12 gauge or muzzle loaders for the 2012 season. No exemptions for any breach loading 12 gauge (or greater) firearm is to be provided for waterfowl hunting.
6. Sub-gauge non-lead (commonly called non-toxic) ammunition has been hard to come by in New Zealand and what is available works out to be expensive and with low demand most retailers do not carry large stocks.
7. Sub-gauge shotguns were not considered "common" or widely used, they offer an entry opportunity into the sport for young hunters or those of slighter build or with shoulder

disorders (by producing lesser recoil on discharge) and this should not be curtailed by requiring more expensive ammunition to be used.

Comment

8. At the August 2008 meeting of managers it was agreed that there was a need to get better information about the number of sub-gauge shotgun users. This was undertaken as a question in the 2009 game hunter surveys. The use of different shotgun gauges during that game bird season is as follows:

Percentage use of different gauge shotguns during the 2009 game bird season						
Region	12 ga	20ga	16 ga	410	other	unknown
Northland	85	3	1	0	0	11
Auckland Waikato	93	6	1	0	0	0
Eastern	80	8	0	2	0	11
Hawkes Bay	88	3	2	1	0	8
Taranaki	No data received					
Wellington	83	6	2	0	0	9
Nelson Marlborough	95	5	0	0	0	0
North Canterbury	87	3	0	0	0	11
West Coast	85	2	0	0	0	13
Central South Island	97	3	0	0	0	0
Otago	90	7	1	0	0	2
Southland	95	3	0	0	0	2
Overall mean	89%	4%	0	0	0	6%

9. In August 2009 Regional Managers agreed with the sub gauge exemption in the use of lead shot being retained and that the NZ Council be asked to endorse this agreement.
10. As a consequence, the NZ Council at its 19 September 2009 meeting resolved:

That the NZ Council endorse the regional managers' recommendation that the sub gauge exemption in the use of lead shot be retained and not regularly reviewed.
11. There continues to be a band of hunters who refuse to accept any shotgun load other than lead. Some of these "lead-loyalists" have gone as far as no longer shooting waterfowl over water. Instead they now hunt grain-feeding birds over pasture, or shoot birds along flight paths to or away from ponds. Moving to include sub-gauges may reignite the whole non-toxic shot debate, particularly by such sceptics.
12. Conversely, it could be argued that it is time to extend the ban across all game bird hunting (i.e. not just near open water) with a one rule for all policy to remove any ambiguity.
13. The NZ Council in May 2012, when considering the letter from Southland, proposed that a more up-to-date survey of gun users may need to be carried out to establish any significant changes since 2009. Ideally this should coincided with surveying ammunition importers to establish whether the volume involved would enable cost-effective alternatives – sub-gauge ammunition costs more than the more popular 12 gauge equivalent and the likelihood is that this difference will be widened, not narrowed if any exemptions are removed.

Recommendation:

That the regional Fish and Game Council consider the letter from Southland Fish and Game Council about removing the sub gauge exemption to use lead shot and advise the NZ Council as to its views.



F.O.Z.
2 MAY 2012

27 April 2012

Bryce Johnson

Chief Executive

Fish and Game New Zealand

P O Box 13-141

Wellington 6440

Dear Bryce

Sub gauge exemption to the use of non-toxic shot

At its meeting of 26 April the Southland Council resolved that "The NZ Fish and Game Council be asked to look at the sub gauge exemption to use lead shot and that they consider whether or not it should be changed to allow only non-toxic shot to be used while hunting waterfowl over water as per the current 12 gauge regulations".

The rationale for this request is that there is evidence that there has been a significant increase in the sales of 20 gauge shotguns in recent times apparently caused by hunters unwilling to use non-toxic shot in 12 gauge shotguns. We are concerned that the purpose for the transition to non-toxic shot is being undermined and that levels of lead shot in the country's waterways could be increasing to the detriment of all waterfowl and potentially to the detriment of the organisation's image as a protector of the environment.

We believe there is no defensible argument to allow the use of lead in 20 gauge shotguns as 20 ga. shells are readily available and that steel shot in either 20 or 12 ga. is effective for the hunting of waterfowl.

We believe a transition period would be appropriate, similar to the one used to introduce non-toxic ammunition for 12 ga. shotguns and this would allow hunters, and retailers in particular time to make the transition.

Yours faithfully

Fish and Game New Zealand

Southland Region

Maurice Rodway

Manager

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

Southland Region

PO Box 159, Invercargill 9840, New Zealand. Telephone (03) 215 9117 Facsimile (03) 215 9118 Email southland@fishandgame.org.nz
www.fishandgame.org.nz



10 AUG 2012

1171

Ref: 13/1

7 August 2012

Fish & Game NZ
P.O. Box 13 141
Wellington 6440

Sub gauges exemption to the use of non toxic shot.

At its meeting of 4 August the above issue was discussed with Council resolving that it did not support Southland's request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Doug Emmett'.

Doug Emmett
Chief Executive

CC: Regional Managers/CF's
Regional Chairmen

13. Game Preserve Renewal

There has been an application from Rathmoy Game Preserve (Mark Grace) to renew its agreement and permits to operate as a Game Preserve.

The Manager has reviewed the Management Plan 2012-17 presented and is satisfied with the content.

The draft Operational Plan for 2012/13 has been viewed but requires further details to be completed before presentation to Council. It is anticipated that this will be completed and tabled at the Meeting.

Recommendation:

Council receive the Application from Rathmoy Game Preserve. After discussion consider approval or request further information if required.

15. Potential Reservoir/Pond Fishery Opportunities for Junior Anglers

Investigations into potential reservoir sites for fishing opportunities has been undertaken by Wellington F&G staff for the last three years.

The draft report indicates the following for a number of sites :

- potential capacity,
- physical attributes,
- servicing requirements,
- requirements to progress.

Some sites can be discounted in terms of pursuing – permissions for access unlikely, resource expensive, physical characteristic not favourable.

Recommendation:

Council receive the draft report and provide direction to staff on whether to continue progressing some or any priority sites.

DRAFT

**An investigation into potential reservoir/
pond fisheries that provide opportunities for
children in the Wellington Fish & Game
region.**

**Fish & Game NZ
Wellington Region**

Background:

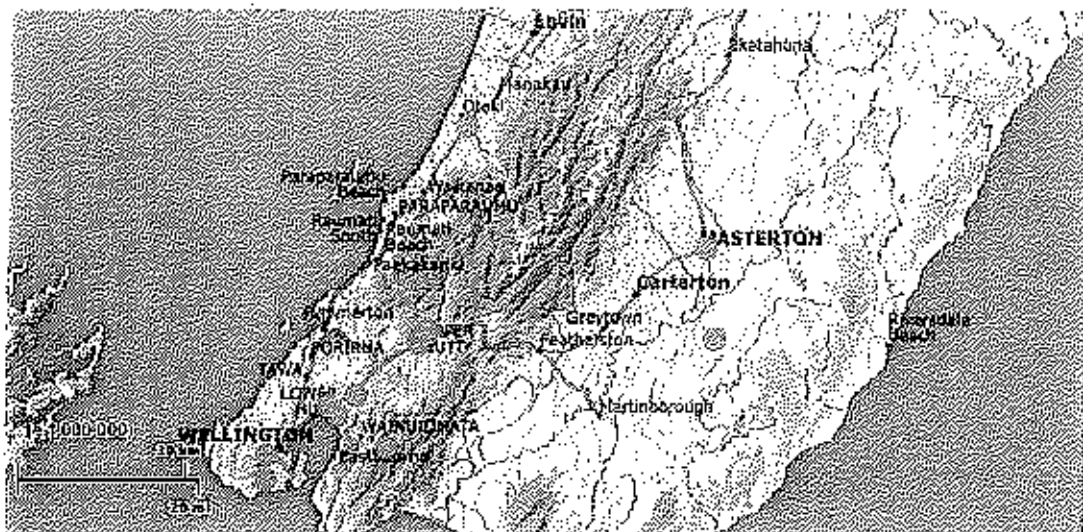
Wellington Fish & Game Council recognises the importance of increasing opportunities for young or novice anglers to experience trout fishing. This may also have a positive long term effect on recruitment potential of anglers once the children have experienced catching a fish. There is recognition that the traditional recruitment patterns based on social norms (primarily within family introduction) need to be proactively supplemented with additional opportunities.

The Wellington Fish and Game Council seek to investigate potential sites within the region that may provide improved opportunities for children to fish under supervision for trout, within a controlled area.

Currently there are two events where children have the opportunity to experience catching a trout in a small controlled area that has been proactively stocked with trout. These are the Happy Valley Kids Fish Out Pond located at Happy Valley, Wellington, and organised by the Wellington Flyfishers Club. The other event is held at Hokowhitu Lagoon (also known as Centennial Lagoon) in Palmerston North, principally organised by Manawatu Freshwater Angling Club and held in conjunction with Wellington Fish & Game Council and other sponsors including Hunting & Fishing Manawatu. Both events are extremely popular for young children and are a great way to promote the pursuit of trout fishing.

Several sites have been identified that provide for potential opportunities within the Wellington Fish and Game region. These have been evaluated for suitability and probable information and practical requirements to progress and actively pursue event management at these sites.

This would not preclude other sites being considered provided the principal purpose is for novice fishing opportunity.



Bracken Street Reserve



Bracken Street Reserve – Petone, beside the Hutt River



Potential Capacity

The Bracken Street site offers good potential due to its open space for participants, caregivers and spectators. It also has easy foot access to the waterway where the trout would be held in an enclosure. There is a park adjacent to the site which provides alternative activities and entertainment for those not directly involved in the fishing and for those waiting for their turn.

Physical Attributes

The water area is a back water to the main stem of the Hutt River and still connected to the Hutt River. The depth of the water is approximately 0.5m-2m but is affected by the tidal fluctuations.

There needs to be a contour map produced to provide certainty of depth for a range of tidal conditions.

Temperatures are not likely to exceed 20°C but this needs to be monitored over a summer period when temperatures may peak and flushing flows may be reduced.

The temperatures in the inlet need to be related to temperatures in the Hutt River in the lower reaches – this data may be available from Greater Wellington Regional Council.

Salinity levels also need to be investigated to ensure saltwater intrusion is not excessive under various tidal conditions and rainfall events.

Servicing Requirements

This site would need to be a controlled area which is supervised by volunteers along the edge of the water in particular. Depending on the number of children fishing at one time would determine the number of assistants – but it would be anticipated that 10-15 children per session would be appropriate. Others would be required to organise the event – registration, setting up gear, safety officer.

There is a requirement to stock trout from hatchery – with numbers determined by extent of event – suggest 300-500.

Enclosure Requirements

An enclosure would be required to contain numbers of trout initially, as the waterway is directly connected to the Hutt River. The area is shallow enough to require only side netting as edges - netting of area that is 2m deep and chained to the bottom of the netting to keep it down, with steel standards to provide stability on corner and edges.

Potential Funding & Potential Sponsors

There are a number of potential grant applications available for Hutt City area:

- Pub Charity NZ
- Local Hunting and Fishing stores
- Local Supermarkets

General Access

Currently there is unencumbered access but there have been recent applications to change the designation to tertiary education that might alter the access arrangements should buildings be constructed have access restrictions.

Presently there is good public access for getting to the site along formed roads/streets and there is plenty of public grass surrounding the waterway.

Notes;

It is low enough in the Hutt River catchment to be effected by the tides. This would have to be considered if this site was to be further developed into a kid's fish out pond.

The water is fresh. But reasonably shallow.

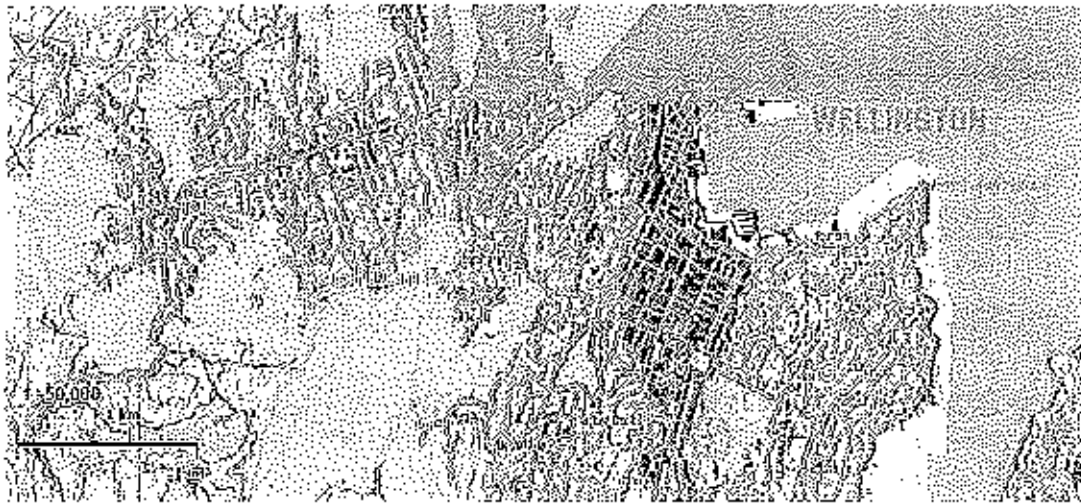
REQUIREMENTS TO PROGRESS

Access status

Water Quality, temperature, and salinity suitability

OVERALL ASSESSMENT: High potential

Karori Lower Dam Reservoir



Karori Lower Dam – Centred in Karori



Potential Capacity

The capacity is restricted at this site as there is very little opportunity to fish from the bank edge, most if not all fishing would be best done by boat with the exception of the edge of the dam closest to the main car park. Given this is the case, you would be restricted to the number of boats available and then the number of kids would be restricted to the size of the boats. Each boat would require at least 2 adults for safety reasons, and fishing would be restricted to a caged net area that was floating or attached to the side of the dam.

Physical Attributes

The depth of this site is greater than the normal depth at which you would hold a fishout event. The water depth exceeds 10m so the trout would need to be contained in a cage type net.

Temperatures would not be an issue as the volume of water contained in this dam would be less susceptible to warming from the sun and evaporation etc.

Salinity is not an issue as it all supplied by fresh water tributaries and some rainfall.

Servicing Requirements

This would need a great level of adult supervision especially at the times when fishing was occurring. The boats would need a pair of adults, and the edge area or launching pad would need to be manned to ensure no-one falls in. Additional volunteers/assistants would be required to run the event that weren't directly involved in the fishing.

Enclosure Requirements

A caged net that has four sides plus a bottom that could sit in the existing dam either by floating or being fixed to an existing structure would be required. The edges would need to exceed the surface so fish could not jump out.

Potential Funding

- Department of Conservation may wish to be involved in someway
- Greater Wellington Regional Council
- Local Supermarkets

General Access

There are formed roads that will get you to a big car park at the Wildlife Sanctuary. Access is restricted via the Wildlife Sanctuary in order to reach the small amount of grass area along the wall in which you may be able to participate from.

Notes:

At present this site is a tourist attraction to Wellington. It portrays a 'native' environment and Department of Conservation and Wellington City Council are against the idea of a fish out pond here.

The Lower Dam contains perch; the Upper Dam contains a small Brown Trout fishery which it is intended to be poisoned out by DOC.

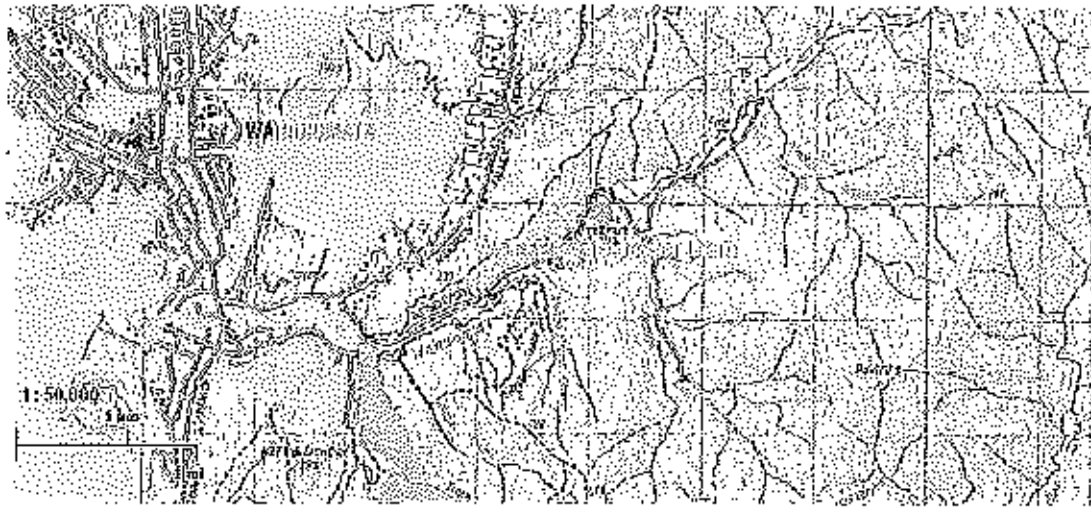
The dam is deep

Access to the site is good; however most of the edges of this dam would be not accessible due to extensive bush.

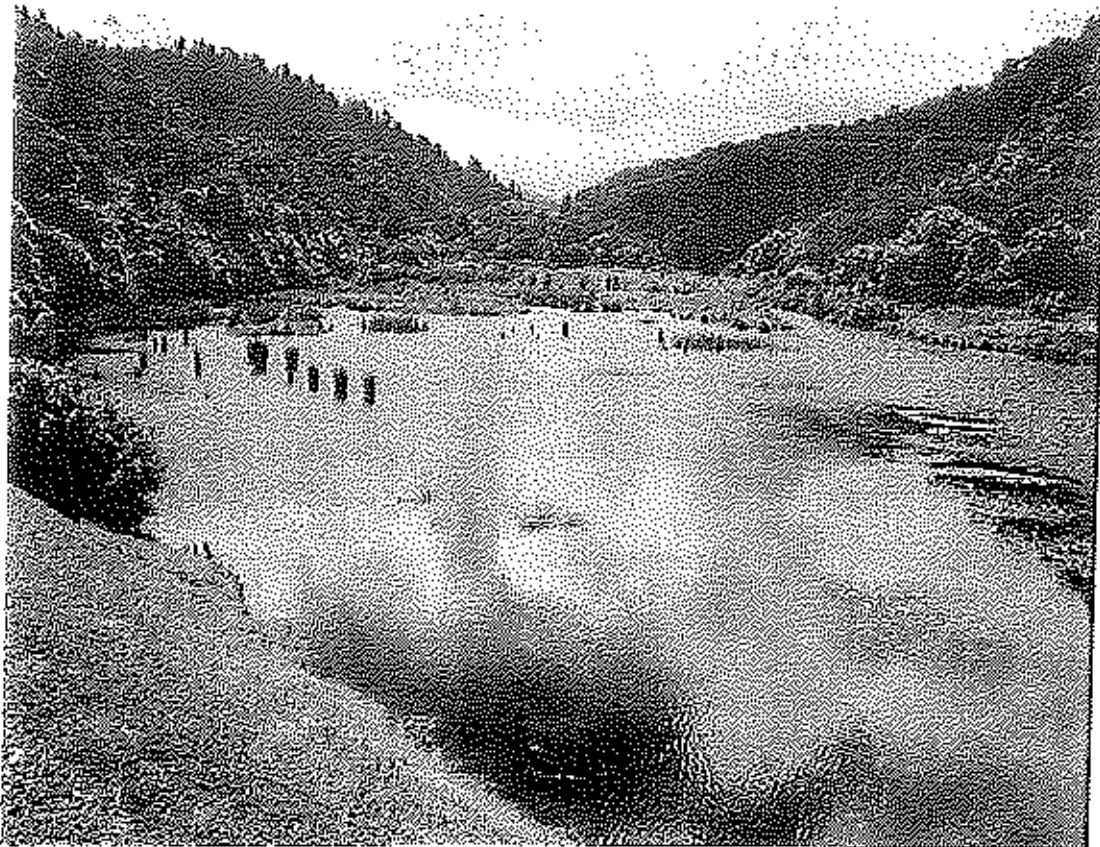
It would be good for fishing by boat or from selected areas around the edge where access was possible

Pursuing this site may not enhance any working relationships that Fish and Game have with other parties involved.

Wainuiomata Reservoir – Lower Dam



Wainuiomata Lower Dam Reservoir – Located near the Wainuiomata Sewage Treatment Plant



Potential Capacity

This site has potential to be a big fishout opportunity. Depending on whether you made the whole Lower Dam a fishout area or restricted a certain area within it to become a fishout pond. Either way it still has the potential to allow several participants to fish at the same time. There is room if you could somehow block the spillway off to make it a self sustaining population as there is the confirmed presence of trout immediately above the Lower Dam using electric fishing equipment.

Physical Attributes

The Lower Dam offers a good opportunity for a fishout pond. The water quality is high and there is a bank along one edge of the dam which offers a good fishing platform for participants. During the summer months it holds much less water and these times would be most critical if trout were to establish. We need to obtain data from Regional Council on depth and Temperatures during the summer period. Salinity is not an issue here, it is all fresh water.

Enclosure Requirements

This would depend on whether you made it a fishout area (the whole Lower Dam) or a fishout pond by sectioning off a small area. If you made the whole dam a fishery, you would need to somehow prevent fish from getting below the weir, while still allowing water to flow past and not collect debris that is passing through. If you went for a section of the dam, you would be able to find an area that could be fenced only requiring 3 sides and using the edge of the dam as the fourth side.

Servicing Requirements

This site would need to be a controlled area which is supervised by volunteers along the edge of the water in particular. Depending on the number of children fishing at one time would determine the number of assistants – but it would be anticipated that 10-15 children per session would be appropriate. Others would be required to organise the event – registration, setting up gear, safety officer.

There is a requirement to stock trout from hatchery – with numbers determined by extent of event – suggest 300-500.

Potential Funding

- Department of Conservation may wish to be involved in some way
- Greater Wellington Regional Council
- Local trust funds may be available.

- Local Supermarkets

General Access

Access is quite good here as it is along a formed road to the treatment plant for water storage. The main gates are open during normal hours which are 7am till 6pm. Around the edge of the pond there is plenty of space to stand and walk and run this event.

Notes:

The Lower Dam was built in 1884 due to water shortages for the growing city of Wellington. This was additional to the Karori Dams water supply.

The Wainuiomata River holds a regionally significant Brown Trout fishery for the Wellington Fish and Game region. There are historical reports that indicate that Trout were present above this site, also above the Morton Dam (upper dam) which is further upstream. Also a recent electric fishing survey in 2010 proved that juvenile trout are present between the lower and upper dams. There is a weir at the downstream end of the lower dam which prevents trout from the mid and lower sections of the Wainuiomata River getting up. Trout above the weir can get downstream however.

The presence of juvenile trout above the lower dam indicates that trout have spawned in the last year or two somewhere near or above this lower dam site.

Department of Conservation would most likely be against the idea of a fish out pond here due to the fact that the catchments above this site contain native fish.

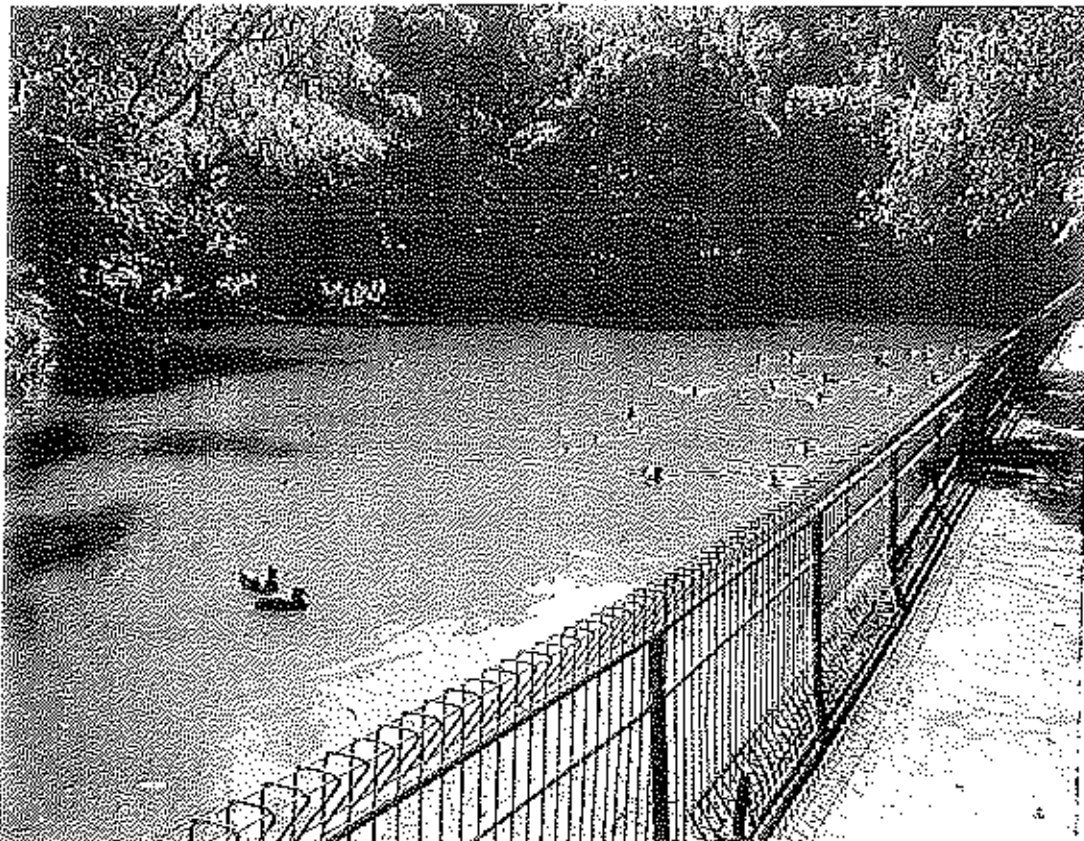
Access to the site is good. However negotiating the body of water for the purpose of fishing could be difficult.

Also during the summer months the water levels drop in this area and will appear more like the image shown at the top.

Percy's Bush reserve – Petone



Percy's Bush -- Located in Petone on the western side of the motorway



Physical Capacity

The capacity is good for trout but the number of participants is limited to the space around the edge of the pond which is fenced off from the pond. It is a great pond but restricting poachers during times the event is not being held would be an issue.

Physical Attributes

The depth here is between 0.5m to 1m and the water is often turbid as it is shallow and the waterfowl stir up a bit as they are constantly swimming around on it. Temperatures are likely to get warm during the summer however there is plenty of cover from surrounding trees and vegetation. The water is fresh so salinity is not an issue.

Servicing Requirements

This site would need to be a controlled area which is supervised by volunteers along the edge of the water in particular. Depending on the number of children fishing at one time would determine the number of assistants – but it would be anticipated that 10-15 children per session would be appropriate. Others would be required to organise the event – registration, setting up gear, safety officer.

There is a requirement to stock trout from hatchery – with numbers determined by extent of event – suggest 300-500.

Enclosure Requirements

You could use the pond as it is now and not require any netting or make a section of it smaller by netting off an area using 3 sides and the edge of the pond. The net would not be greater than 1m deep and have a chain along the bottom.

Potential Funding

- Department of Conservation
- Greater Wellington Regional Council
- Local Supermarkets

General Access

The access here is good and easy and all public. There is a carpark just off the motorway and a short 5min walk to the actual pond along paved tracks. Access around the pond itself is limited to one side only which is where the fishing would have to take place.

Notes:

Percy's Reserve is managed by Hutt City council.

It is a big bush lined picnic area that has open grass areas, toilets, seating, covered picnic tables and free parking space for 45 cars and two coaches.

Access is just off State Highway 2 at Petone and the reserve is well maintained with clear paths and tracks throughout the bush and shrubs.

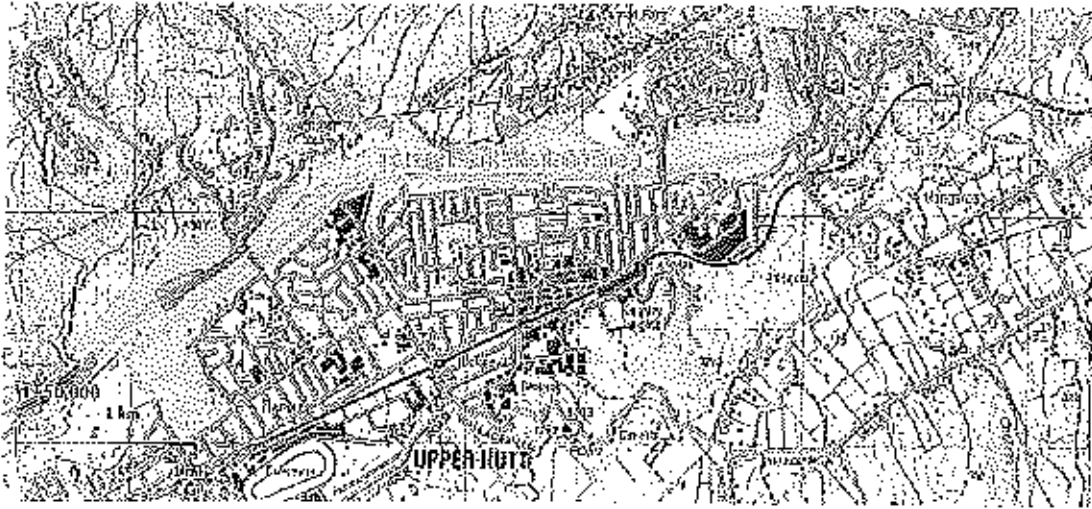
The pond is a perfect size for a kid's fish out pond; however the water quality in the pond could be better.

If this site was to be established as a kid's fish out pond, the security around the pond when fish were present would need to be increased. It is open to the public all day and all year round so measures would need to be taken to ensure no poaching takes place.

The pond is fed by a small creek which flows out and makes its way to the Wellington harbour.

The on site facilities could accommodate a kids fish out day and would provide good scenery for a picnic lunch etc.

Wetted Low Lying Area – Totara Park



Totara Park Low lying wetland area – Located just south of the Totara Park Bridge



Potential Capacity

The area within the farmland shown by the photo has a large capacity. The fishout area is open pasture, and number of trout and anglers would be limited by the size of the pond that is established. The pond would need developing using heavy machinery.

Physical Attributes

The area would range from 0m to 0.6m and is exposed to evaporation during the summer and under the present circumstances would most likely dry up completely. There is no bank edge, the farmland tapers down and into a wetland type area so safety is of less an issue here compared to some other sites.

Summer periods would result in extremely high water temperatures unless the pond could be circulated or have some shade over it.

The water quality is low due to algal and weed growth, high water temperatures and no water movement.

Servicing Requirements

This site would be less demanding on volunteer anglers as the kids are safer standing around the edge of the water here.

This site would still need to be a controlled area which is supervised by volunteers along the edge of the water in particular. Depending on the number of children fishing at one time would determine the number of assistants – but it would be anticipated that 10-15 children per session would be appropriate. Others would be required to organise the event – registration, setting up gear, safety officer.

There is a requirement to stock trout from hatchery – with numbers determined by extent of event – suggest 300-500.

Enclosure Requirements

This site would need a machine to scallop out the existing wetland area to create a bit more depth in order to provide conditions in which trout would be able to live in. The creation of a bund maybe required to build the water up to a certain height in order to create a 'pond' rather than a shallow wetland. There would not be any need to enclose the trout into a specific area, the current situation would be ok.

It is possible that some form of fencing may be required to prevent any stock from accessing the fishing area.

Potential Funding

- Department of Conservation

- Greater Wellington Regional Council
- Local Supermarkets

General Access

The access to this site is off a formed track near the Totara Park Bridge that crosses the Hutt River. It is a logging road so at the times of fishing events there would need to be some assurance that logging trucks would not be in operation.

From the track it is simply a 2-3min walk across a paddock to the site.

Notes:

Ownership is being investigated

This site is a small wetland area in a paddock beside the Hutt River near Totara Park. It looks as though in dry summer it will dry out completely.

The lower end eventually flows into the Hutt River.

Access is down a road that is used for forestry and logging trucks but is easy accessible. Some work would need to be done to increase the depth and maybe the area, it would be exposed to some high water temperatures and there is no shade relief.

There is also the possibility that stock may use the paddock.

There are better options for a fish out pond.

REQUIREMENTS TO PROGRESS

Ownership

Water quality and temperature data over a summer period

Winstones Quarry – Otaki



Winstones Quarry – Located in the Gravel Extraction area immediately north of the Otaki Bridge

Potential Capacity

This site would be limited to the size of the pond that is established. There is the possibility that a section of the quarry maybe able to sectioned off and therefore remove the need to erect a net or cage for the fishout area. There is opportunity for parking also.

Physical Attributes

Depending on any arrangements this site could be maintained to a high standard. Water quality is high, temperatures are within the range that trout can tolerate and survive in without being stressed.

The depth could be maintained to a level that is agreed on, it is possible that this site is connected to the Otaki River through groundwater.

The site is rock lined and the water is well filtered through this rock.

The site is within walking distance to the Otaki township.

Servicing Requirements

Once the site was stocked with trout, it would require little ongoing maintenance. The fish may need to be food on a weekly schedule. The only threats appear to be the possibility of shags attacking the trout and the fish not having enough food naturally to survive on.

This site would need to be a controlled area which is supervised by volunteers along the edge of the water in particular. Depending on the number of children fishing at one time would determine the number of assistants – but it would be anticipated that 10-15 children per session would be appropriate. Others would be required to organise the event – registration, setting up gear, safety officer.

There is a requirement to stock trout from hatchery – with numbers determined by extent of event – suggest 300-500.

Enclosure Requirements

An area would need to be agreed on that a machine can construct a wall or form an area that is separated to the rest of the quarry. This is a big pond so isolating a corner would be most beneficial and easier to stock and maintain for a fishout event. If the pond could be isolated from the rest of the quarry there would be no need for a net or under water fencing.

Potential Funding

- Greater Wellington Regional Council
- Local Pubs
- Local supermarkets and cafes

General Access

The site is located immediately north of the Otaki bridge. There is a gravel road which Winstones Aggregates use for their trucks and machinery. The quarry itself is fenced off, and access for a fishout event would need to be organized so that there is no machinery operating at the same time.

Notes

Currently owned by a government department but is a strong chance Greater Wellington Regional Council will become the new owners in the near future who will then lease the site to Winstones.

Access is through the Winstones Quarry but with their permission there are well formed roads that can be used.

Regional Council (Otaki Flood Protection) indicated that they would be in favor of a fish out pond as it would benefit the whole community.

Water is good, and if Winstones area's doing work in there it is very clear. It doesn't take long to settle if it is dirty from gravel activity.

Staff from Greater Wellington indicates there are some trout present in this water body already.

If the plant is in operation which is almost every day, there is a large number of heavy machinery using the roads etc and could be a hurdle if a fish out pond was to go ahead.

This potential site has a lot going for it, not much needs to be done to develop a kids fish out area, GW staff said it would be easy to use some machinery and design an area that would be ideal for a fish out pond, although there maybe a small cost involved to do this im not sure.

REQUIREMENTS TO PROGRESS

Investigate the new ownership of the land

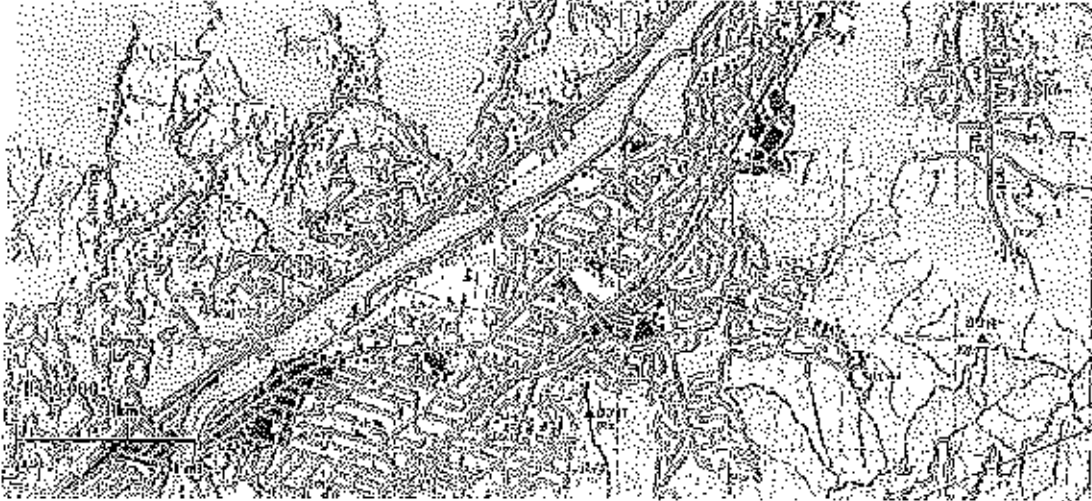
Determine if trout are present

Establish the nature of water connectivity between the Otaki River and the Quarry

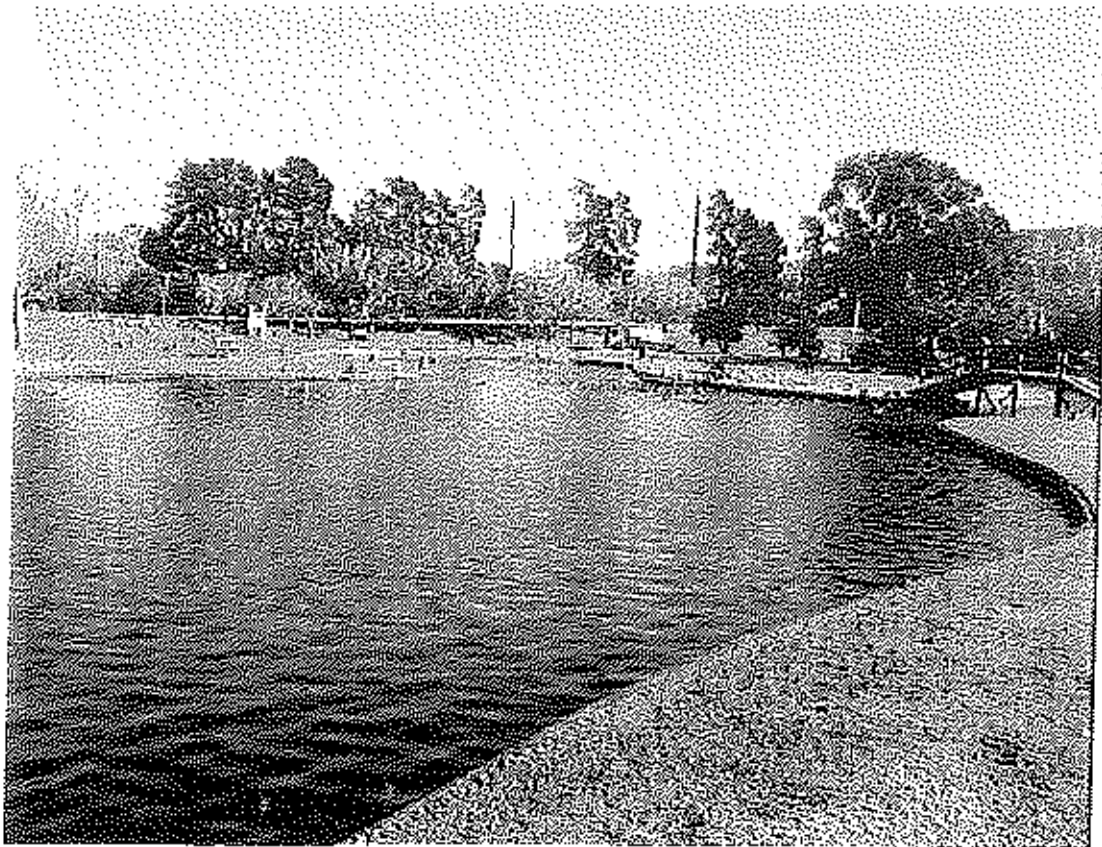
Locate the photo

OVERALL ASSESSMENT: Moderate/High Potential

Avalon Boat Pond



Avalon Boat Pond – This site is located just off the Hutt motorway at the Avalon turn off.



Potential Capacity

This site offers great potential as the pond already exists in a state that would support a fishout day. The bottom and sides are concrete lined and the depth ranges from 0.2m near the edges to 0.7m in the deeper areas. This site is surrounded by open park and picnic areas with swings which would provide alternative activities and entertainment for those not directly involved with fishing. There is a car park beside the pond which could accommodate a large number of participants and it also provides easy access if a truck needed to supply the pond with trout. There is also a toilet block nearby for the public.

Physical Attributes

The water quality would need to be tested although the clarity and temperatures are suitable and well within the tolerance levels of trout. At present the pond is sometimes used for model boat enthusiasts and also supports a large number of waterfowl. There are areas within the pond where specific areas could be blocked off with little effort to increase fish density however the whole pond could be used but catch rates would most likely reduce if this was the case.

There is a small pedestrian bridge over part of the pond which would offer little value from a fishing perspective but may provide good opportunities to spectate from a slightly elevated position. The water supply would need to be investigated as at the moment it seems to be coming from a hose at one end.

Servicing Requirements

Due to the shape of the pond it would be easier to maintain safety if a section of the pond was isolated and the fishing done from this area. Depending on how many children were actively fishing at one time would determine the number of volunteers. It would be normal to have 10-15 children fishing at one time. There would also need to be other assistants required to organize registration, session times, and the issuing of any gear required.

The pond would require the stocking of trout from the hatchery for a fishout event - between 500-800 trout would be suggested. At the end of the event the fish could be released to the rest of the pond and opened to the public to fish provided they hold a current fishing licence.

Enclosure Requirements

It would be possible to hold a fishout event with no enclosure requirements; this would allow the trout to roam the whole pond and would result in a relatively low catch rate. By applying a small net across a specific area would isolate a piece of the pond which would be ideal for a fishout event. The net would need to be no longer than 5m and would need to be 1m deep. The rest of the pond is fully enclosed.

Potential Funding

- Greater Wellington Regional Council
- Local supermarkets and pubs
- Local building outfits

General Access

The access to this site is all public and free of charge and is accessible at all times during the day. There are formed roads leading to a car park beside the pond and formed walking tracks and grass areas that surround the pond.

Notes;

This site offers great opportunity for little input apart from having enough funding and volunteer assistance to run a kids fishout day.

The water quality would need be checked to determine if it is suitable for trout, however water clarity and temperature do not appear to be an issue.

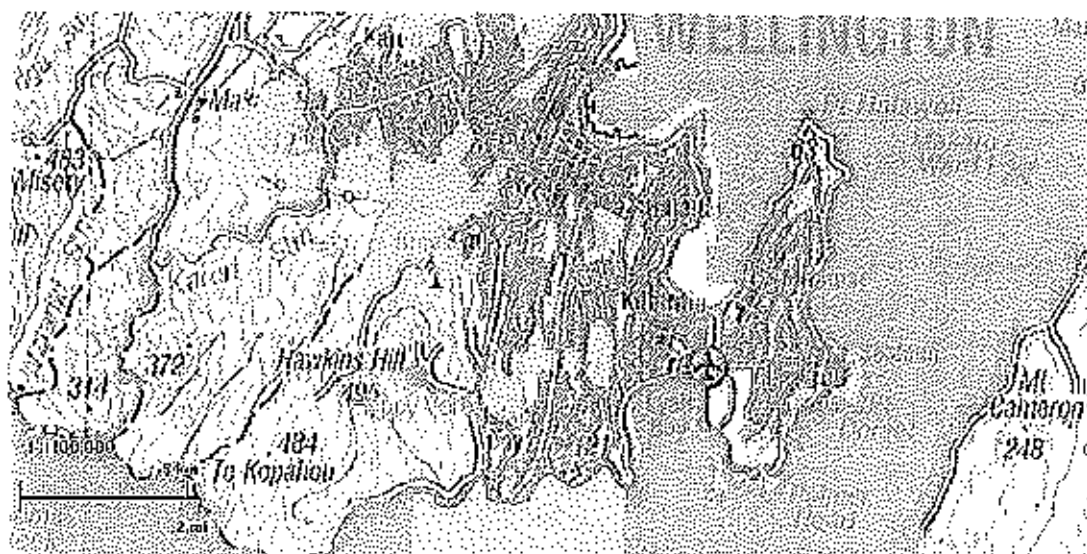
REQUIREMENTS TO PROGRESS

Determine the nature of the water supply

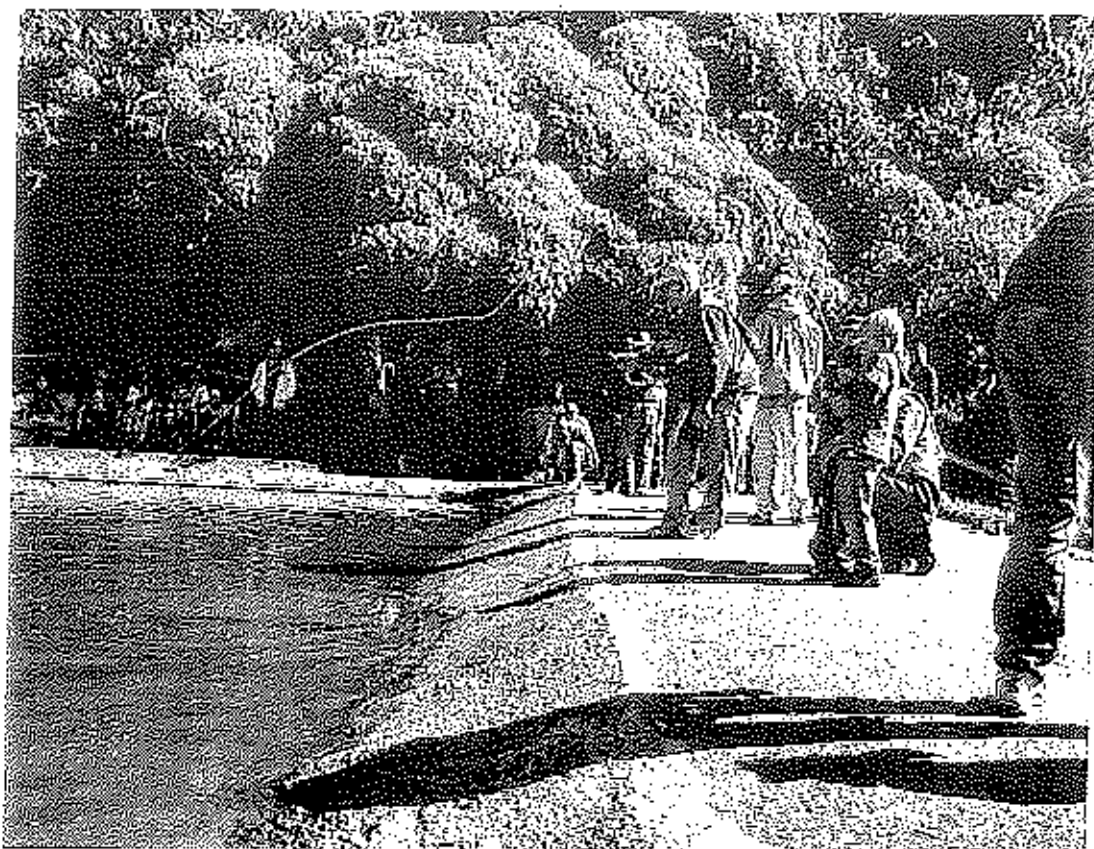
Water sample

OVERALL ASSESSMENT: Very High Potential

Happy Vally – Wellington Flyfishers Club



Happy Valley – Located near the Wellington Rubish Disposal Centre in Brooklyn



Potential Capacity

This site is currently maintained by the Wellington Flyfishers Club. During fishout events the pond is stocked with Rainbow Trout which are transported down from the Rotorua Trout Hatchery. The sessions run all day and each session can have 3-5 children fishing comfortably at one time. Any remaining trout after the event are maintained in a slightly deeper part of the pond which is isolated during the fishout event.

Physical Attributes

The pond was created by the Wellington Flyfishers Club and is concrete lined and shallow at one end and deeper at the other. The deeper end has a small creek flowing into it that supplies freshwater from the neighbouring hill country.

During times when there is no fishout event, the pond is covered with a big net which prevents Shags from attacking the Trout. The site also has a small shed in which registration is done from and there is also a BBQ on the day.

Servicing Requirements

This requires the voluntary services of members from the Wellington Flyfishers Club. Each event requires the stocking of additional Trout from the hatchery to increase the numbers to 800-1000 fish.

Each fishing session requires the services of 3-5 adult anglers, and an appropriate number of assistants that are needed for organizing and running the event which are not directly involved with the fishing.

Enclosure Requirements

The pond is self sustaining in water supply, and in its current state requires little ongoing maintenance. During a fishout event a net is constructed across the middle of the pond which makes the fish denser therefore resulting in higher catch rates. Occasionally the trout are fed with small pellets to maintain a suitable diet. A net is required to cover the pond and provide protection against Shags.

Potential Funding

The facility was created with funding from the Wellington City Council, local businesses and organisations, individual and group donations, and the voluntary work of professionals and club members. The ongoing maintenance of the site is managed by the Wellington Flyfishers Club.

Wellington Fish and Game provide assistance with stocking the trout.

General Access

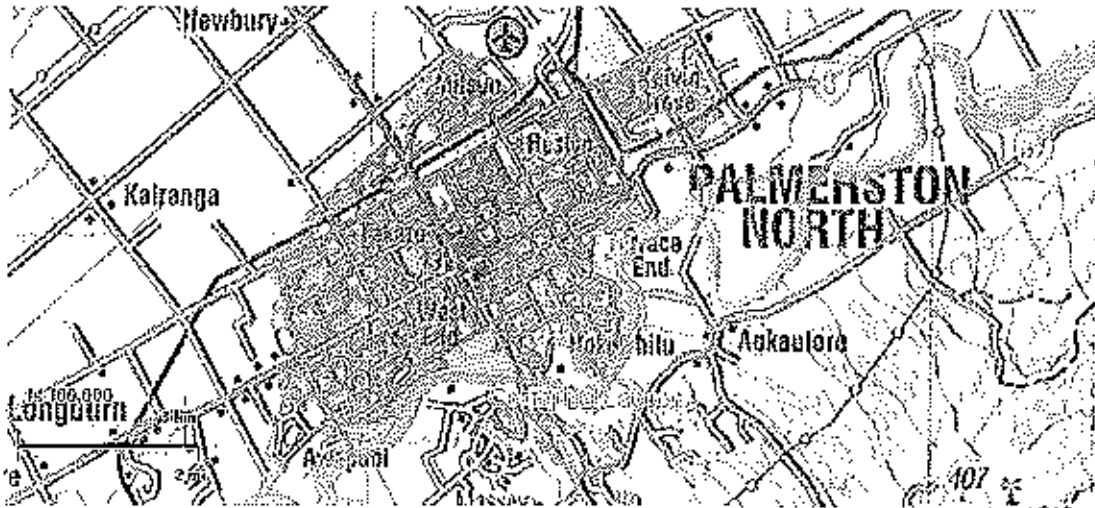
Access to this site is via the road leading up to the Wellington Rubbish Disposal Centre in Happy Valley. There is a car park beside the fishout pond area however access to the pond is only open to the public during the times of a fishout event. Permission is required if entering outside these times.

Notes;

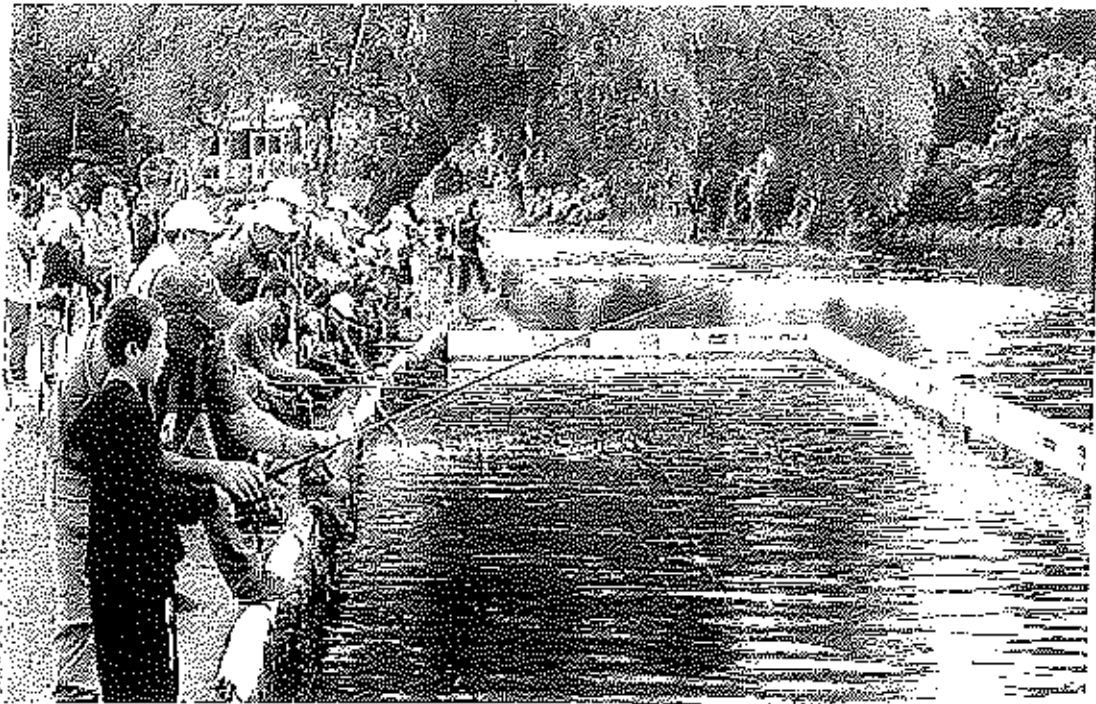
This event is extremely popular and fills up quickly. It provides a great opportunity to offer the experience to children and is a great way of promoting the sport to younger children. After the fishout event, the wider public also benefit from the released fish provided they hold a current fishing licence.

OVERALL ASSESSMENT: Very successful

Centennial Lagoon



Centennial Lagoon -- Located in Hokowhitu which is at the southeastern end of Palmerston North



Potential Capacity

Centennial Lagoon is already used as a site for kid's fishout days. It is currently run by the Manawatu Freshwater Anglers Club and Manawatu Hunting & Fishing. It has minor sponsorship from local organizations such as New World and Mitre10 Mega. It is set up to allow 8-10 kids to fish each session, each participant is guided and assisted by a local angler. The event is also reliant upon several other assistants/volunteers to help organise and run the event – mostly from the local angling club.

Physical Attributes

Centennial Lagoon is has long and relatively narrow shape, it has freshwater that is of a quality high enough to support trout. It has free public access that is accessible at all times of the day via formed roads. The majority of one side of the lagoon is lined with houses and the other side where the fishout event is held is a public grass and picnic area. There is a toilet block which is a small walk away.

Servicing Requirements

The site requires onsite supervision if the trout are stocked prior to the fishout event. On the day, this event has 8-10 experienced adult anglers who assist the children in catching a fish and provide supervision for safety reasons while near the water edge. Up to 3-5 other volunteers are required to organize and run the event on the day.

Enclosure Requirements

To maintain high catch rates the trout need to be held in a small area. Therefore an area is constructed using weed mat type netting which is held on the bottom with a chain and is held up by steel standards around the perimeter. The net is 30-40m in length and is 1.2m deep. This is applied to the lagoon leading up to the point of when the trout are stocked. Upon completion of the fishout event the net is removed and the trout are free to move and use the rest of the lagoon. The public have the opportunity to fish this lagoon provided they have a fishing licence.

Potential Funding

Sponsorship is from many local organizations. Some of these include;

- Manawatu Hunting & Fishing
- New World
- Mitre10 Mega
- Palmers Garden World

General Access

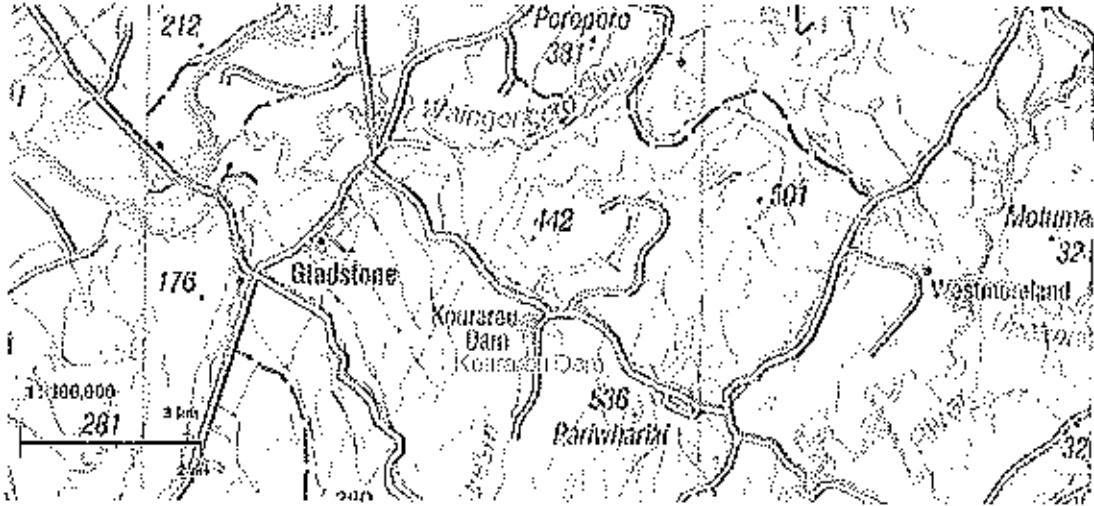
Access to this site is free public access at all times of the day. It is beside a formed road and series of nearby streets. There is however a locked gate at one end which prevents vehicle access to the edge of the lagoon but pedestrian access remains open at all times and the gate is only required to be open at the time of stocking the trout. The public grass area that borders the lagoon offers great opportunities for those not directly involved watching the event.

Notes;

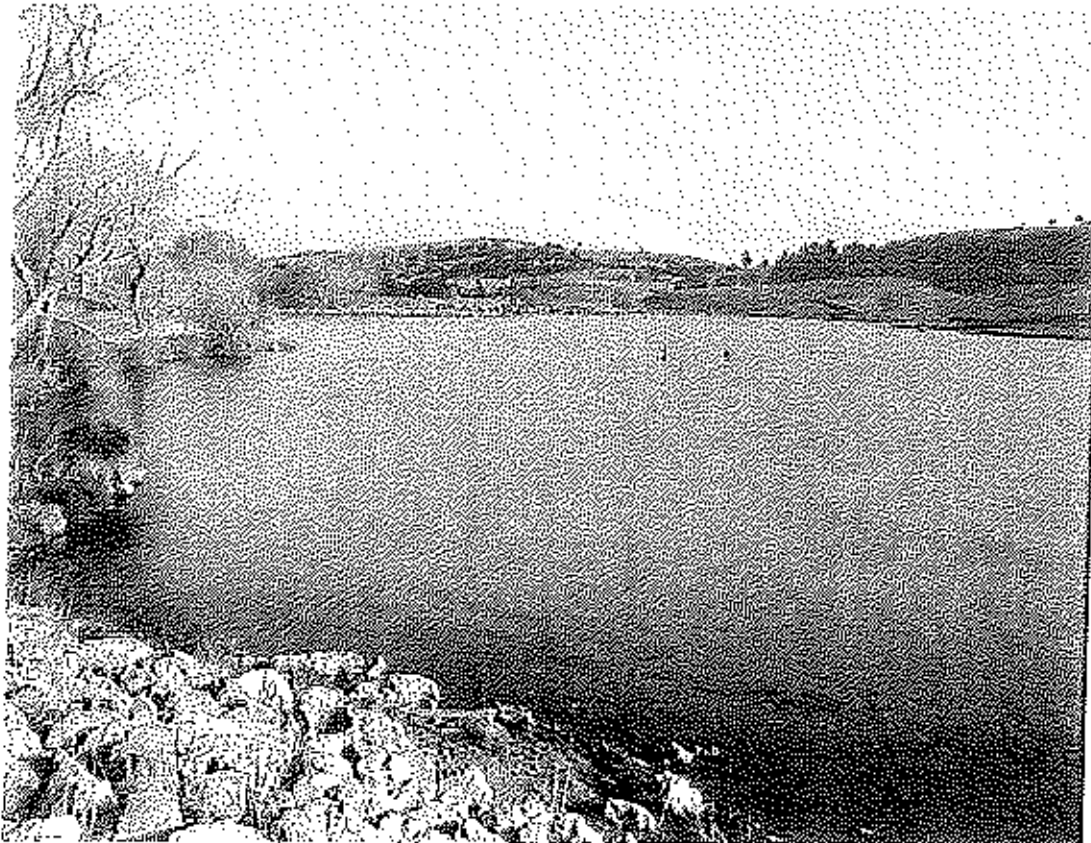
This event is extremely popular and fills up quickly. It provides a great opportunity to offer the experience to children and is a great way of promoting the sport to younger children. After the fishout event, the wider public also benefit from the released fish provided they hold a current fishing licence.

OVERALL ASSESSMENT: Very successful

Kourarau Dam



Kourarau Dam – Located near Gladstone which is southeast of Masterton.



Potential Capacity

The Kourarau Dam currently holds Perch and Rainbow Trout. The depth varies throughout the dam but it is deepest at the northern end where the spillway is located. The depth at this end would require a full cage as it is unfavorable to have a fishout event in deep water. The concrete spillway would provide a good platform to fish from, however having a net area that is fully sealed may prove hard to establish due to the 'rock lined' edge.

Physical Attributes

The Kourarau Dam is supplied with freshwater from the surround hill country via small streams that flow through farmland. Being a shallow water body it is often turbid from the re-suspension of sediment. The dam has a mostly mud and silt bottom with some sandy areas throughout. During summer periods the water levels drop and temperatures are likely to increase although the fish are likely to move into the deeper areas at those times. It would be beneficial to get water temperatures during the summer period.

Servicing Requirements

This site would need to be a controlled area which is supervised by volunteers along the edge of the water in particular. Depending on the number of children fishing at one time would determine the number of assistants – but it would be anticipated that 10-15 children per session would be appropriate. Others would be required to organise the event – registration, setting up gear, safety officer.

If it was decided to hold a fishout event at this site, trout would need to be stocked into an area that resulted in high catch rates – suggest 300-500.

If the event was run as a fishing competition using the whole dam, the stocking of trout and the construction of a net or cage may not be required. It would be possible to allow the kids accompanied with an adult to fish the whole dam and would add a different dimension to a fishout event.

Enclosure Requirements

An enclosure would be required to contain numbers of trout initially, as the dam is of great size. A cage consisting of four walls and a bottom would be needed for the deepest end; however there are areas where a more simple approach may be taken. The depth of water would determine whether a caged approach is required or a fenced off area using a net would be sufficient.

Potential Funding & Potential Sponsors

- Gladstone Pub

- Local supermarkets and pubs in Masterton
- Greater Wellington Regional Council
- Trust Power Ltd

General Access

Access to the Kourarau Dam is along formed roads. There is restricted public access around the dam. There is public access from the car park at the northern end of the dam and access along the western side of the dam should be obtained from the landowner but is normally granted.

Notes;

This site may prove less favorable due to its location and the effort that would need to be applied to hold a supervised fishout event. There may better gains from enhancing the current situation or promoting a childrens fishing competition on the whole dam.

REQUIREMENTS TO PROGRESS

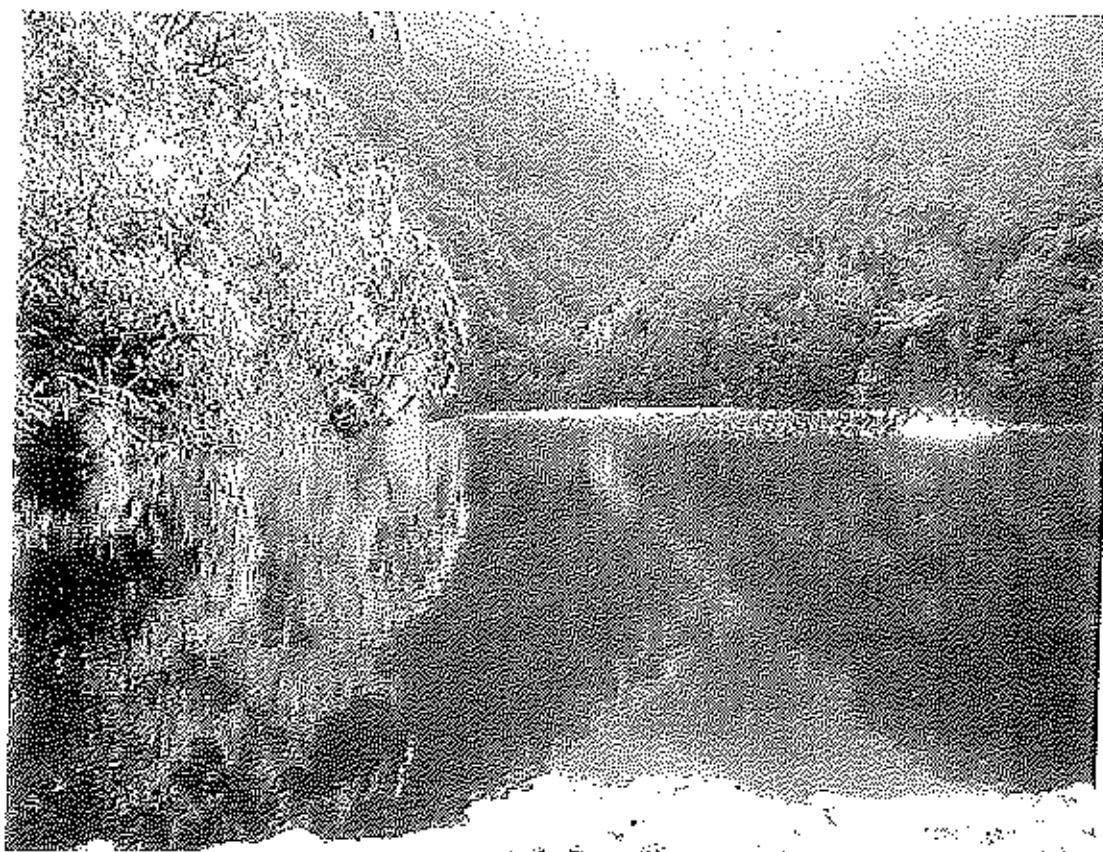
Water temperatures during the summer period

OVERALL ASSESSMENT: Moderate potential as a fishout event, but high potential for a fishing competition.

Birchville Dam



Birchville Dam -- Located over the Akatarawa Bridge near the confluence with the Hutt River



Potential Capacity

This site has good water quality but poor access. The dam is full with oxygen weed and the majority of this is unsuitable due to the depth and the extent of the weed cover. One end of the dam may be suitable but would require a full cage approach and even then there is little to no opportunity for angling from the edge. The potential capacity is very limited.

Physical Attributes

Water quality is high.

Water levels and temperatures would be well within the tolerance levels of trout.

There is a large amount of aquatic weed growth through 80% of the dam.

The dam is fed from small freshwater streams in the catchment area.

Servicing Requirements

There are no trout existing at present so it would require the stocking of trout if a fishout event went ahead.

Enclosure Requirements

The only suitable area to hold a fishout event is at the deepest end which is directly above the overflow point. This would require a full cage approach. It is unlikely that this site is suitable as there is no room for participants to fish from the edge.

Potential Funding & Potential Sponsors

There are a number of potential grant applications available for Hutt City area:

- Pub Charity NZ
- Local Supermarkets
- Rimutaka Pub
- Greater Wellington Regional Council

General Access

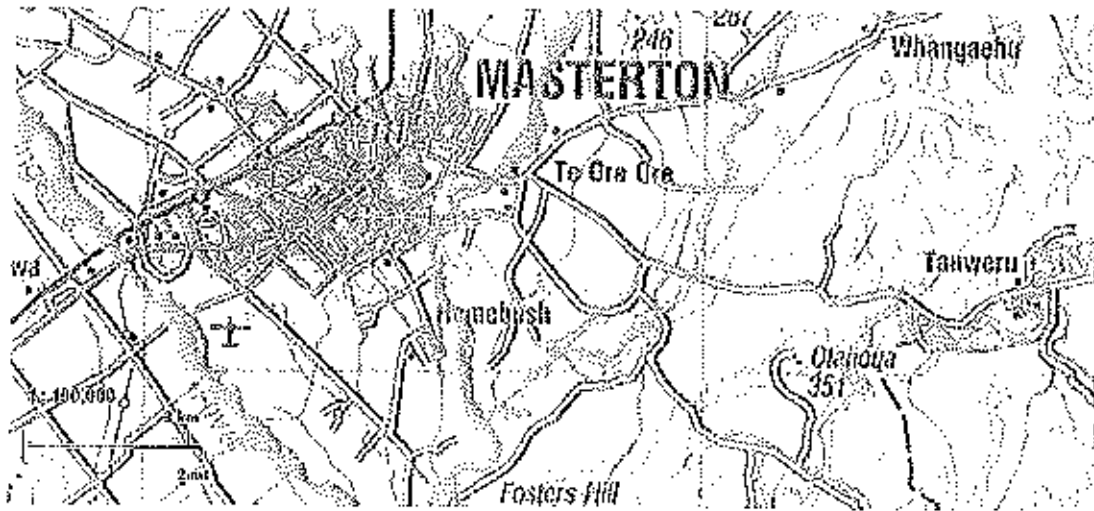
Access to the car park is via a formed road. From the car park there is unrestricted public access along a walking track surrounded by native bush. It takes 15-20 minutes from the car park until you reach the dam.

Notes;

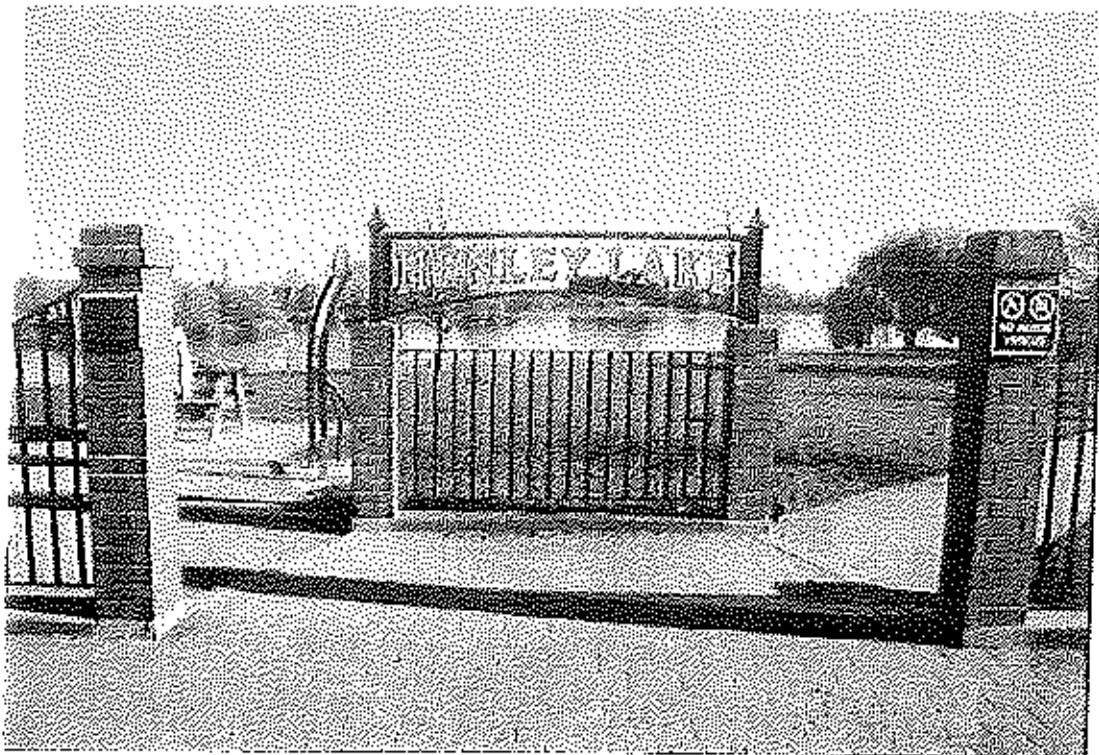
In order to achieve a fishout event here would require a large amount of effort. The quality of the water is high, however the nature of the surrounding environment almost rules out any possibility to make this site into a fishout opportunity.

OVERALL ASSESSMENT: Low potential – Too much effort is needed

Henley Lake



Henley Lake - Masterton



Potential Capacity

Henley Lake has a large capacity. There is currently a Perch population and there are also historical records of the release of Rainbow Trout. A section of the Lake would need to be isolated in order to increase catch rates.

Physical Attributes

This is a large Lake with two islands in the middle. The water quality would need investigating to determine if there are any health issues for humans and to determine if it is suitable for trout.

The surrounding land is public grass area which provides great picnic opportunities for those not directly involved with the fishing. There are toilet facilities nearby.

Servicing Requirements

This site would need to be a controlled area which is supervised by volunteers along the edge of the water in particular. Depending on the number of children fishing at one time would determine the number of assistants – but it would be anticipated that 10-15 children per session would be appropriate. Others would be required to organise the event – registration, setting up gear, safety officer.

There is a requirement to stock trout from hatchery – with numbers determined by extent of event – suggest 300-500.

Enclosure Requirements

An enclosure would be required to contain numbers of trout initially to improve catch rates but could be released once the event has finished. The area is shallow enough to require only side netting as edges - netting of area that is 2m deep and chained to the bottom of the netting to keep it down, with steel standards to provide stability on corner and edges.

Potential Funding & Potential Sponsors

There are a number of potential sponsors for this site:

- King and Henry
- Wairarapa Hunting and Fishing
- Local sports shops
- Local supermarkets

- Local pubs

General Access

Presently there is good public access for getting to the site along various formed roads/streets and there is plenty of public grass and picnic spots surrounding the Lake.

Notes;

This site is popular for many species of waterfowl; water quality would need to be tested before a fishout event went ahead. Not only to determine if trout can survive but also for human safety reasons.

Henley Lake is within a close proximity to Masterton and is well used by the public, access is excellent and there are a large number of potential sponsors.

REQUIREMENTS TO PROGRESS

Water Quality samples

OVERALL ASSESSMENT: High potential

Prepared by Nic Cudby
Field Officer
Wellington Fish and Game

16. Regional Hunter Survey - Summary

As part of the National Game Bird Hunter Survey, a regional hunter survey is conducted.

A number of questions on topics of interest to hunters and F&G were asked:

1. Overall, how would you rate the opening weekend of the 2012 duck season?
2. Are you planning to mentor a new hunter this season?
3. What size shotgun shell do you typically hunt with?
4. Did you hunt opening weekend?
How many days hunting will you do this season - other than Opening Weekend
5. Did you get any banded birds this year?
Have you reported the bands or sent them in to Fish & Game
6. What is the biggest issue facing waterfowl hunting in the Wellington Region

Recommendation:

Council receive the summary of the Survey -

NB> Formal report to be included in the project reports to be presented to Council at later meeting

17. Status of Australasian Harrier

A recent Wildlife Notice clarifies the current status after the review of Wildlife Schedules completed a few years back

Other recent discussion on how to deal with harrier issues was also requested to be put on the agenda for discussion.

Discussion – no action required



Wildlife (Australasian Harrier) Notice 2012

Pursuant to section 6 of the Wildlife Act 1953, the Minister of Conservation gives the following notice.

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Notice

- 1 **Title**
This notice is the Wildlife (Australasian Harrier) Notice 2012.

- 2 **Commencement**
This notice comes into force on the 28th day after the date of its notification in the *Gazette*.

3 Interpretation

- (1) In this notice, unless the context otherwise requires,—
- absolutely protected wildlife** means wildlife that is not specified in Schedules 1 to 5 of the Wildlife Act 1953
- game bird** means a bird of a species listed in Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Act 1953.
- (2) Unless the context otherwise requires, terms used in this notice have the same meaning as in the Wildlife Act 1953.

*Circumstances in which Australasian harrier
may be hunted, killed, or possessed*

4 Circumstances in which occupier of land may hunt, kill, or possess Australasian harrier

- (1) The occupier of land may hunt or kill an Australasian harrier on the land—
- (a) if—
- (i) the occupier is undertaking activities on the land to protect, monitor, rehabilitate, feed, or support the breeding of absolutely protected wildlife; and
- (ii) the Australasian harrier injures or kills any of the absolutely protected wildlife; or
- (b) if the Australasian harrier injures or kills a domestic bird, a bird that is held in captivity, or a domestic animal on the land; or
- (c) if the presence of the Australasian harrier on the land is a risk to aircraft, or to any wildlife described in paragraph (a), or to a bird or an animal described in paragraph (b).
- (2) The occupier of the land may possess an Australasian harrier killed in accordance with subclause (1).
- (3) The occupier of the land may authorise another person to—
- (a) hunt or kill an Australasian harrier on the land in accordance with subclause (1); and
- (b) possess the Australasian harrier killed in accordance with paragraph (a).

5 Fish and Game Council may hunt, kill, or possess Australasian harrier to protect game birds

- (1) This clause applies if, on any land, a Fish and Game Council—

- (a) traps or attempts to trap a game bird; or
 - (b) holds a game bird in a cage or pen; or
 - (c) releases a game bird.
- (2) The Fish and Game Council may hunt or kill an Australasian harrier on the land if—
- (a) the Australasian harrier kills or injures the game bird; or
 - (b) the presence of the Australasian harrier on the land is a risk to the game bird.
- (3) The Fish and Game Council may possess the Australasian harrier killed in accordance with subclause (2).

Obligations of person who hunts, kills, or possesses Australasian harrier

- 6 Duty to minimise risk to non-target wildlife**
A person who is authorised by this notice to hunt or kill an Australasian harrier must take all reasonable steps to minimise the risk of harm to other wildlife.
- 7 Australasian harrier not to be sold**
A person who possesses an Australasian harrier killed in accordance with this notice must not sell the harrier or any part of the harrier (including its feathers).
- 8 Disposal of dead Australasian harrier**
- (1) A person who kills an Australasian harrier must—
- (a) retrieve the harrier; and
 - (b) as soon as practicable after killing the harrier, notify the Director-General at the office of the Department of Conservation closest to the place where the harrier was killed; and
 - (c) if required by the Director-General to do so, freeze the harrier and send it to the office as soon as practicable.
- (2) This clause does not apply if the Australasian harrier is killed—
- (a) under clause 4(1)(b); or
 - (b) because its presence on land is a risk to a bird or an animal described in clause 4(1)(b); or

- (c) because its presence on land is a risk to aircraft.

Dated at Wellington this 17th day of July 2012.

Hon Kate Wilkinson,
Minister of Conservation.

Explanatory note

This note is not part of the notice, but is intended to indicate its general effect.

This notice comes into force on the 28th day after the date of its notification in the *Gazette*.

Schedule 3 of the Wildlife Act 1953 lists wildlife that is protected unless the Minister of Conservation declares in a notice that specified wildlife may be hunted, killed, or possessed and the conditions on which it may be hunted, killed, or possessed. This notice specifies the only circumstances in which an Australasian harrier may be hunted, killed, or possessed and the persons who may hunt, kill, or possess it.

Clause 4 permits the hunting or killing of an Australasian harrier on land, and the possession of the Australasian harrier killed on the land, by—

- the occupier of the land if the harrier has injured or killed any absolutely protected wildlife that is the subject of work aimed at protecting, monitoring, rehabilitating, or providing feeding or breeding support;
- the occupier of the land if the harrier has injured or killed a domestic bird, a bird held in captivity, or a domestic animal;
- the occupier of the land if the harrier is a risk to the wildlife, birds, or animals described above, or a risk to aircraft;
- a person authorised by the occupier of land if the circumstances described above apply.

Clause 5 permits a Fish and Game Council to hunt or kill an Australasian harrier on land, and to possess the Australasian harrier, if the

harrier has injured or killed a game bird that the council has trapped, is attempting to trap, is holding in a pen or cage, or has released on land, or if the harrier is a risk to the game bird.

Clause 6 requires a person who is authorised to hunt, kill, or possess an Australasian harrier to take reasonable steps to minimise the risk of harm to other wildlife.

Clause 7 prohibits the sale of an Australasian harrier, or any part of the harrier, killed in accordance with this notice.

Clause 8 requires a person who kills an Australasian harrier in specified circumstances to retrieve it, notify the Director-General of Conservation and, if required by the Director-General, to freeze the bird and send it to the Director-General.

Activities provided for in this notice are subject to any other legal requirements such as those in the Animal Welfare Act 1999.

Issued under the authority of the Acts and Regulations Publication Act 1989.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 26 July 2012.

This notice is administered by the Department of Conservation.

20. Election Timetable

Included for your information only

ELECTION TIMETABLE – FISH & GAME NZ

February 2012	Proposal provided to F&G by Returning Officer
March 2012	Ratification of election timetable and appointment of Returning Officer by NZ Council
April – August 2012	Returning Officer to prepare nomination documents, setup communication systems and procedures with regional managers, confirm service providers Costs finalised and contract drawn up
Friday 14 September	Interim electoral rolls via Eyodo sent to Returning Officer
Saturday 15 September	Public Notice of Election - Call for candidacy and registration for electoral roll
Thursday 11 October	Nominations Close at 5pm
Friday 19 October	Electoral Roll closes at 5pm
Monday 22 October	Final electoral rolls for contested regions sent to Returning Officer
Tuesday 30 October	Lodgement of Voter Packs with NZ Post
30 Oct – 4 Nov	Delivery of voter packs by NZ Post
5 Nov - 20 Nov	Progressive Processing of returned voting papers
Tuesday 20 November	Election Day - Voting closes 6pm
Thursday 22 November	Postal votes close Official Results produced – Returning Officer signs certificate candidates advised of Final Results
Saturday 1 December	Official Declaration - Public Notice of Results in regional dailies (for contested & uncontested) Voting papers sealed up and kept at RO's office
Wednesday 12 Dec	Closure for application to NZ Council for recount
Wednesday 19 December	Elected members to take office
Monday 24 December	Last day for new councils to have met and appointed one nominee as member of the NZ Council
Monday 25 Feb 2013	Voting papers securely destroyed by <i>electionz.com</i>

21. Management Report

Items of Note:

- 1211 GWRC RPS appeals signed off in mediation
Proposed Uplifting of Speed Restrictions in Middle/Upper Rangitikei
Wairarapa Water Use Stakeholders Group progressing
Greater Wellington RC start consultation or collaborative process for Regional Plan review. Potential of zone catchment management approach.
- 1222 Clean Up fund for Lake Wairarapa focus on weed control and DOC wetlands
- 1311 WAMS (Walking Access Mapping System Mark II) to incorporate Wellington F&G's access points
- 1842 Licence Management Review progressing -- but resource intensive for this process stage

Recommendation:

Council receive the Management Report – June to July

MANAGEMENT REPORT

For the Period 1 June – 31 July 2012

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

1111 Sportsfish Population Monitoring

Staff have been undertaking spawning surveys in rivers as part of the monitoring plan.

1112 Rangitikei Trout Fishery Management

Contacted Walking Access Commission who indicated no material progress made from communications to NZ Defence regarding access covenants. NZ Council has contacted NZ Defence to assist with progress and defining any issues.

1113 River Control Fishery Assessment

Fish & Game staff have been attending river 'walk-overs' with Greater Wellington Regional Council staff and scheme representatives in the Ruamahanga catchment.

Report on Hutt and Waikanae rivers completed and sent to GWRC.

1114 Gamebird Population Assessment

Mallard transect counts conducted – appears that counts for the overall ponds were down which was unexpected – and concentrations on rivers up – but there had been a dry settled weather which had affected distribution.

1121 National Game Harvest Survey

Undertaken all of the game harvest surveys.

Regional hunter survey conducted in conjunction and separate report in preparation

1161 Trout Liberations

Liaised with Eastern region F&G regarding fish orders for 2012/13 and additional opportunities.

1171 Season Regulations

Trout conditions sent to NZ Council staff for collation as part of Anglers Notice approval by Minister.

1172 Keep and Release Approvals (Game Preserves)

The application for Upland Game Property with Special Conditions renewal at Hunterville being processed – no significant issues presented to date but working through final details for Operational Plan. Working with DoC Area Office to get Section 54 permit rather than Conservancy (or DoC hub).

1181 Bird Dispersal

Several permits to disturb/kill pukeko received post season.

HABITAT PROTECTION / MAINTENANCE

1211 Resource Management General

ONE PLAN - Update of Current Position:

Update of Current Position

The Environment Court hearing has concluded on all issues including biodiversity, land use, and water quality.

We are awaiting the decision from the Environment Court judges/commissioners which normally takes a period of three months, but is anticipating a shorter turn around of six to eight weeks.

Greater Wellington Regional Council RPS

Completed sign-off of RPS Policy relating to Biodiversity - defining habitat such as wetland as significant. There was potential of the RPS giving direction to defining these as significant then ranking them - the latter process leading to discretionary resource consent processes each time.

- Submitted on Rangitikei District Plan change relating to uplifting the speed restriction on craft for the Upper Rangitikei River – with the local jet boat users strongly advocating for this. DC Staff report were supportive of this – would be key issue for protection of wilderness values and experience. Made submissions also on zoning, outstanding natural landscape, and access. Awaiting decisions.
- Section 96 submission in opposition relating to Wainuiomata Pump Station storm tank overflow – final conditions negotiated and determined prior to hearing.
- Section 96 Submission in opposition – Taratahi & Carrington Water Race Schemes – draft conditions defined and currently in discussions prior to pre-hearing.
- Section 96 approval sought for global consent for NZTA to do works on bridges and culverts in Wellington State Highway network – draft conditions reviewed and NZTA is modifying their application to include dry abrasive blasting.
- Levin Sewage Treatment Plant application to discharge on hold until Shannon consent finalised. Hearing decision made but appeals have already been lodged by other parties.
- Martinborough Waste Water Treatment Plant discharge consent draft AEE received and comments made
- Section 96 submission in opposition to Mount Munro Wind Farm in Taranaki district – focused on construction effects relating to increased sedimentation.
- Section 95 approval given to Rayonier to undertake forest harvesting and construction of ford across Horokiri Stream following receipt of the draft AEE
- Declined a request from NZ Defence to undertake work during the spawning period specified in the Regional Plan as a no go time on the Kahuterawa River which is a major spawning tributary of the Manawatu. It was not considered of emergency status and was more due to timing issues from NZ Defence seeking an exemption. Their modified request to do work outside spawning period will receive Section 95 approval. Minor works to remove fallen tree was given approval.
- Section 96 submission in opposition to the Feilding Wastewater Treatment Plant consent application. Continuing
- Section 96 submission in opposition to the Carterton Wastewater Treatment Plant consent application. Hearing adjourned seeking additional information.
- Section 96 submission in opposition to the Shannon Wastewater Treatment Plant consent application. Decision recently released but both applicant and submitters in opposition have lodged appeals
- Seeking further information on acidity and effects of alum at guideline concentrations for an application to discharge filter backwash sediment to Waingawa River
- District Plan change by Hutt City Council lodged submission in opposition as it may impinge on access to DoC site for fishing lower Hutt River backwater.
- Staff met with consultant for a global consent on Wainuiomata River for 8 landowners to do minor works.

- o Attended two meetings of Wairarapa Water Use Stakeholders Group – continuing with narrowing down of options. Provided consultants with comments on value of rivers and streams which form their initial analysis.
- o Attended stakeholders meetings organised by Greater Wellington RC to discuss aspects of the Regional Plan review. The first on land use/land intensification was not overly productive as several parties were well versed with the options available (One Plan submitters). The second meeting on water allocation issues was easier as regulation of water take is already taken as a given. An issue of approach has arisen from the Land & Water Forum focusing on the ECan approach of zone/catchment management – which allows the community stakeholders (normally bereft of technical understanding and overtly advocates of commercial interests) can determine water values and limits. This has stretched the resources of Canterbury based F&GC's RMA capacity, and has the potential to be unduly influenced by an unbalanced "collaborative approach".
- o Submitted on Baring Head management plan which was seeking to remove duck hunting from the area which includes the lower Wainuiomata River. A permitting system was suggested and will hopefully be progressed under Fish & Game's overview.

1213 Trout Habitat (Didymo, Pest Fish etc)

Nothing to report

1222 Lake Wairarapa Habitat

Clean Up fund allocation to Lake Wairarapa of \$1million will require urgent action and planning of all parties to ensure funds are used in the timeframe. The Regional Council have indicated that funding will be focused on DOC wetlands. Initial spending will be on weed control – which is probably a core function of both Regional Council and DoC. A strategy document in the short term will not be released "until the treaty settlement" has been completed.

Attended a meeting on Hornwort and other weed control options.

1231 Wetland Habitat

Liaised with site managers that had received funding from Gamebird Habitat stamp.

Received over 20 expressions of interest for Gamebird Habitat Trust grant applications, eight applications followed up.

Approach from Landcare Trust to undertake habitat work around Lake Omanu as part of the Manawatu River Accord Clean Up funds.

LICENCE HOLDER PARTICIPATION

1123 Angler Opinions & Participation

Nothing to report.

1124 Hunter Opinions & Participation

Conducted as part of the Gamebird Harvest Survey

1311 Angler Access

Replaced a small number of angler access signs. Additional work is continuing on access signage and further access pamphlet – potentially Hutt River.

Took photos and GPS co-ordinates for the Walking Access Mapping System layer. Have contributed the Rangitikei data to Walking Access Commission and are a formal party to incorporate Fish & Game data on their mapping system. This will be used as a 'model' for other Fish & Game regions to pursue.

1312 Lake Wairarapa Hunter Access

Started documenting structures including mairmais as they are coming under increasing scrutiny.

1313 Hunter Access

Confirmed access for late season hunters at Waiterere Forest

1331 Magazine & Newsletter

- Material for Pre –fish magazine completed – 2 pages for Wellington region
- A4 Information Sheet Fishing Season – prepared and distributed with regulation guide
- Newsletter in preparation.

1341 Information to Clients

- Completed Reel Life articles on a monthly basis.
- Completed Both Barrels articles final June edition.
- Sent out weekly Fish & Game hunting report on weekly basis for the duration of the waterfowl season.
- Discussed website and content with NZ Council's Communication Manager.

1351 Hunter Training

1361 Club Liaison

Attended meetings in Horowhenua Anglers Club .

LICENCE DISTRIBUTION / SALES

1311 Licencing

There were three agents that had an overdue payments totaling \$18816.30 at the end of July.

COMMUNITY ADVOCACY / LIAISON

1411 Advocacy and Liaison

Have had numerous meetings with regional councils, and other groups regarding a range of issues such as access, funding, wetlands, planting.

1412 Iwi Liaison

1441 Public Awareness

1442 Public Promotions Centennial Lagoon

Liaised with Manawatu Anglers who were seeking funding from Dudding Trust, and discussed how this year's event could progress and be undertaken differently post-event to retain interest.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

1511 Compliance

Completed all compliance issues from Game Season and fishing offences.

1521 Ranger Management

- Organised CERT Systems ranger training for remaining rangers who have not undertaken the course.
- Renewal of warrants in progress for September renewal deadline.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE / CLUB SERVICING

1711 Council General

Completed requirements for Council meeting.

PLANNING, REPORTING,

1811 Management Plan & Policy

Nothing to report.

1821 Annual Plan & Budget

Undertook more detailed project planning to assist in detailed planning for staff and will also allow specific information of expenditure to Council.

1831 Annual Report & Audit

Nothing to Report – following up on items noted by Auditor.

NATIONAL ISSUES

1841 National Liaison

Convened meeting of key personnel for mallard research priorities and defining next stage of project design. Prepared report for NZ Council.

Reported back financial information to NZ F&G Council.

Attended NZF&G Managers' Meeting

1842 National Projects (Guides Licence etc)

Licensing System – involved in the licence system review as part of the Licence Working Party. Workload on this quite high due to confirmation of RFP Request for Proposal requirements, assessment of RFI Request for Information shortlisting, and responding to potential suppliers on RFP clarifications.

1843 Fish & Game Research

1845 New Zealand Fish & Game Council (Minutes etc)

REGULATORY

Anglers Notice confirmed

Confirmed acceptability of final copy of Angling Regulation Guide.

WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Wellington Fish and Game Council

FISHING & GAME LICENCE SALES TO 27th JULY 2012

1. Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to advise Council of this seasons fishing licence sales figures as of the 27th July 2012; no decision other than to receive the paper is required

Sue Wray
Office Manager

27th July 2012

SCHEDULE B									
FISH LICENCE SALES AS AT 27 JULY 2012									
Agents Using Access-Online			06/07 Fish	07/08 Fish	08/09 Fish	09/10 Fish	10/11 Fish	11/12 Fish	% Total
NORTHERN MANAWATU - Tolhage, Marton, Hunterville		LEQ	263.1	276.3	290.2	227.7	268.4	124.3	48
Rangitikei Rods & Rifles	Marton		42.9	42.0	43.0	42.4	30.7	0.0	0
Farmlands Marton	Marton		0.0	4.2	4.9	1.0	3.0	0.0	0
Tolhage Sports	Tolhage		102.3	170.1	188.7	185.2	172.3	122.1	68
Torata Fishway	Tararua		17.6	14.8	18.8	9.3	11.4	2.2	19
Keytons 1998 Limited	Hunterville		9.0	11.0	16.4	13.1	19.3	0.0	0
Up The Creek River Centre	Mangaweka		23.3	22.8	25.8	11.2	14.7	0.0	0
FEILDING		LEQ	162.8	156.5	133.5	162.4	129.7	127.1	98
DJ's Sports Power	Feilding		0.4	8.0	5.7	8.1	4.8	8.0	0
Farmers Sportsware	Feilding		143.5	147.6	127.8	134.3	126.6	127.1	102
PALMERSTON NORTH		LEQ	782.7	568.4	947.1	913.1	881.0	728.5	63
Adventure Hunting and Fishing	Palmerston North		672.6	759.4	732.8	763.8	758.9	600.3	63
Home's Palmerston North	Palmerston North		110.1	157.8	154.0	105.3	130.2	63.4	59
Whanganui Fish and Game Council	Palmerston North		14.0	20.9	31.0	32.3	33.5	48.6	145
Rebel Sport	Palmerston North		44.9	41.5	28.5	11.9	0.0	0.0	
Smith City Southern Ltd	Palmerston North		0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Adventure Sports	Palmerston North						0.0	0.0	
Weatherall's Oak & Trade	Palmerston North					1.4	8.8		471
LEVIN		LEQ	63.8	42.7	42.9	32.9	22.5	10.2	35
Farmlands Levin	Levin		0.0	1.0	0.0	2.0	1.0	0.8	0
Speckward's Levin	Levin		63.8	41.7	42.9	30.9	21.5	19.2	69
KAPITI COAST		LEQ	67.9	180.1	145.7	147.3	128.2	65.1	23
Crash Hunting & Fishing	Otaki		25.9	130.0	121.0	120.8	115.1	65.1	77
Sliding Sports Kapiti	Paraparaumu		42.0	50.1	24.7	17.5	13.1	0.0	0
WELLINGTON		LEQ	646.5	477.8	581.2	688.3	627.4	511.0	81
Half Valley Hunting and Fishing NZ	Lower Hill		415.2	325.4	428.2	486.4	476.5	320.2	89
The Sports Den	Upper Hill		55.7	58.1	29.1	20.7	13.5	0.0	0
Middleton Sports Limited	Upper Hill		69.4	67.0	45.5	42.1	38.1	15.9	49
Upper Hill Gun Shop	Upper Hill		17.6	13.2	13.1	5.4	0.6	0.0	8
New Zealand Fish & Game Council	Wellington		4.0	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Maplets	Wellington				87.7	169.8	131.7	159.2	83
Mainly Hunting	Wellington				1.8	11.8	8.0	0.0	
NORTHERN WAIRARAPA - Dannevirke, Eketahuna, Pahiatua, Woodville		LEQ	194.6	104.7	86.7	79.0	83.8	47.9	57
Farmlands Dannevirke	Dannevirke		98.4	65.8	54.3	41.2	49.8	13.7	28
Sportsland Dannevirke	Dannevirke						2.4	14.0	593
Eketahuna Information Centre	Eketahuna		1.0	6.8	2.0	1.9	4.3	0.8	0
Farmlands Pahiatua	Pahiatua		33.2	20.0	15.0	13.4	15.8	11.8	87
Zeigler's Site	Woodville		12.0	8.2	8.8	8.6	10.0	8.6	82
Telford Timber & Hardware	Woodville				11.5	8.8		0.0	
MASTERTON		LEQ	341.7	364.3	283.3	309.1	297.9	226.6	74
King and Henry Limited	Masterton		61.0	48.3	30.6	48.8	48.2	56.8	111
Wairarapa Hunting and Fishing	Masterton		280.7	316.0	252.7	260.3	249.7	169.8	63
SOUTHERN WAIRARAPA		LEQ	39.9	48.1	38.6	38.6	27.0	1.6	6
Adams's Sports Station	Featherston		19.7	12.4	9.8	15.4	6.7	0.0	0
Farmlands Greytown	Greytown		5.2	14.5	6.9	5.2	2.8	2.0	6
Palmerston North Sports & Leisure Limited	Marshborough		22.9	21.2	22.4	18.0	18.3	1.8	10
Outdoor Supplies	Canterbury						0.2	0.0	0
FOXTON		LEQ				0.8	1.9	0.9	3
Pioneer Outfitters	Foxton					0.9	1.9	0.0	0
DIRECT		LEQ	552.8	884.3	730.3	704.1	783.6	914.6	117
Internet Sales			425.4	476.6	501.6	644.3	738.3	605.9	127
Mail Order			116.1	123.8	120.7	73.2	43.4	18.3	44
Phone Order			11.4	4.5	8.0	6.5	1.9	5.6	265

SCHEDULE C								
Fish Licence Sales 27 July 2012								
		06/07 Fish	07/08 Fish	08/09 Fish	Fish 09/10	Fish 2011	Fish 11/12	% Total
NORTHERN MANAWATU - Taihape, Merton, Hunterville	LEQ	253.1	279.3	280.2	227.7	258.4	124.3	48.1
FEILDING	LEQ	152.8	185.5	133.5	142.4	129.7	127.1	56.9
PALMERSTON NORTH	LEQ	752.7	850.4	947.1	913.1	881.0	728.9	83.9
LEVIN	LEQ	63.8	42.7	41.9	32.5	22.5	19.2	8.5
KAPITI COAST	LEQ	87.9	150.2	165.7	147.3	128.2	95.1	56.9
WELLINGTON	LEQ	515.5	477.8	587.4	580.3	527.4	511.5	91.5
NORTHERN WAIRARAPA - Dannevirke, Eketahuna, Pahiatua, Woodville	LEQ	104.8	104.7	88.7	79.0	63.3	47.8	27.1
MASTERTON	LEQ	341.7	384.3	283.3	308.1	287.6	210.5	74.1
SOUTHERN WAIRARAPA	LEQ	38.9	48.1	38.8	36.6	27.8	1.8	9.1
FOXTON	LEQ				0.8	1.9	0.8	0.4
DIRECT	LEQ	562.9	604.3	730.3	784.1	783.0	874.5	117.1
		2894.9	3210.4	5267.7	5336.2	5541.5	2760.4	716.7
FISH LICENCE SALES BUDGET COMPARISON			Budget FISH 11/12 LEQ	3304	Actual FISH 11/12 LEQ to date	2760		84

SCHEMULE B

GAME LICENCE SALES AS AT 27 JULY 2012

© Agents Using Agency Codes

NORTHERN MANAWATU - Tairāpapa, Marton, Hunterville

		07 Game	08 Game	09 Game	10 Game	11 Game	12 Game	% Total
LEQ		197.2	206.0	192.7	195.5	185.0	188.4	102
Taylor's (1988) Limited	Hunterville	84.2	58.1	48.7	53.8	54.5	56.6	108
Farmlands Marton	Marton	69.1	84.9	49.2	53.8	33.4	25.5	78
Tairāpapa Sports	Tairāpapa	74.8	83.8	83.8	79.4	62.1	84.0	123
Rangitikei Rous & Rifles (New 09 Season)	Marton			5.5	28.5	29.9	20.1	68

FEILDING

		07 Game	08 Game	09 Game	10 Game	11 Game	12 Game	% Total
LEQ		272.2	332.2	353.3	327.3	297.1	313.9	106
DJ's Sports Lower	Feilding	25.5	19.8	18.2	13.7	6.2	0.0	0
Farmlands Feilding	Feilding	8.9	76.7	22.0	16.2	11.2	26.0	128
Turners Sportsworld	Feilding	238.3	235.9	317.1	297.4	289.7	287.0	107

FOXTON/RONGOTEA

		07 Game	08 Game	09 Game	10 Game	11 Game	12 Game	% Total
LEQ		45.1	62.4	36.2	58.9	41.1	12.0	29
Foxton Millie 10	Foxton	22.6	27.0	20.3	20.0	18.7	0.0	0
Finlay's Outfitters	Foxton					1.2	0.0	0
W. Amey and Co Limited	Rongotea	22.5	35.4	15.9	27.2	21.4	12.0	68

PALMERSTON NORTH

		07 Game	08 Game	09 Game	10 Game	11 Game	12 Game	% Total
LEQ		1284.8	1206.5	1281.7	1224.8	1310.8	1227.4	94
Farmlands Palmerston North	Palmerston North	6.2	7.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0
Manawatu Hunting and Fishing	Palmerston North	1914.4	988.5	921.2	348.0	1148.7	887.7	89
Hampis Palmerston North	Palmerston North	238.2	257.9	328.2	336.4	157.4	221.7	151
Advanced Services	Palmerston North					2.9	0.0	0
W.H. Tidells Ltd CLOSED	Palmerston North	22.5	0.0				0.0	0
Wellington Fish and Game Council	Palmerston North	25.8	55.1	44.4	40.4	24.9	18.0	73

LEVIN

		07 Game	08 Game	09 Game	10 Game	11 Game	12 Game	% Total
LEQ		192.8	104.3	80.7	102.7	64.9	61.8	60
Deady's Dicks	Levin	56.5	43.7	23.2	53.2	27.7	28.7	95
Farmlands Levin	Levin	14.5	18.0	20.7	12.9	14.9	8.4	57
Sportsworld Levin	Levin	31.8	44.7	36.9	26.7	21.9	26.7	124

KAPITI COAST

		07 Game	08 Game	09 Game	10 Game	11 Game	12 Game	% Total
LEQ		169.4	221.8	205.9	241.5	278.9	240.0	87
Farmlands Otaki	Otaki	80.9	13.5	20.1	6.2	6.0	6.0	76
Otaki Hunting & Fishing	Otaki	177.5	208.1	234.8	332.1	267.7	214.0	97
Spring Sports Kapiti	Palmerston North	1.0	7.0	4.0	1.5	1.2	0.0	0

WELLINGTON

		07 Game	08 Game	09 Game	10 Game	11 Game	12 Game	% Total
LEQ		611.2	671.2	587.5	493.3	562.4	485.2	86
Just Valley Hunting and Fishing Ltd	Lower Hutt	349.0	361.9	293.7	204.0	338.4	300.2	88
Wellington Sporting Arms	Palmerston North	18.2	10.5	17.2	11.5	8.0	0.0	0
Maidstone Sports Limited	Upper Hutt	3.0	1.5	7.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	50
Upper Hutt Gun Shop	Upper Hutt	39.8	34.9	31.4	39.1	32.4	25.1	78
Motely Hunting Limited	Wellington	132.1	136.4	122.4	138.9	81.1	77.7	85
New Zealand Fish & Game Council	Wellington	0.2	2.3	3.9	0.0	0.0		
Spring Sports Wills Street CLOSED	Wellington	0.0	22.4	0.0				
W.H. Tidells Ltd CLOSED	Wellington	60.8	0.0	0.0				
Hampis Wellington	Wellington			81.9	0.0	92.6	81.2	88

NORTHERN WAIRARAPA - Dannevirke, Eketahuna, Pahiatua, Woodville

		07 Game	08 Game	09 Game	10 Game	11 Game	12 Game	% Total
LEQ		169.8	149.0	173.9	173.5	196.9	263.3	134
Farmlands Dannevirke	Dannevirke	67.4	78.7	91.4	111.8	47.7	21.3	46
Sportsworld Dannevirke (New 11)	Dannevirke					88.7	89.7	73
Dannevirke Hunting & Fishing (New)	Dannevirke						119.2	
PGG Wrightson (Closed)	Eketahuna	12.5	16.3	22.2				
Eketahuna Information Centre (New 11)	Eketahuna					19.5	9.7	82
Farmlands Pahiatua	Pahiatua	48.3	51.2	48.3	49.9	52.0	47.4	91
Woodville Information Centre	Woodville	1.0	3.0	7.0	2.1	0.0	2.0	
Tellards Timber & Hardware (Closed)	Woodville			5.1	5.0	0.0	6.0	

MASTERTON

		07 Game	08 Game	09 Game	10 Game	11 Game	12 Game	% Total
LEQ		465.8	443.5	514.4	409.7	488.6	437.9	90
Farmlands Masterton	Masterton	4.2	6.2	12.7	17.0	13.2	9.2	71
King and Henry Limited	Masterton	180.9	98.0	180.2	148.2	135.0	84.1	65
Wairarapa Hunting and Fishing	Masterton	560.7	339.5	332.5	324.5	329.9	334.5	98

SOUTHERN WAIRARAPA

		07 Game	08 Game	09 Game	10 Game	11 Game	12 Game	% Total
LEQ		69.7	67.3	66.4	93.0	73.9	62.1	85
Advanced Service Station	Featherston	10.2	6.0	7.5	8.2	1.2	0.0	0
Plains Country Store	Featherston	2.9	2.0	3.0	5.9	3.0	0.0	0
Farmlands Greytown	Greytown	15.0	12.2	12.6	11.7	12.2	8.0	8
Fox and Kershaw Millie 10 Limited	Nairnborough	38.5	45.1	33.9	51.4	28.9	26.4	80
Outdoor Supplies	Carterton				35.7	26.7	35.7	134

DIRECT

		07 Game	08 Game	09 Game	10 Game	11 Game	12 Game	% Total
LEQ		164.5	130.4	184.0	332.3	197.3	188.8	101
Internet Sales		78.9	80.7	125.3	303.0	197.3	188.0	101
Mail Order		85.8	52.0	58.7	28.2	0.0		
Phone Order		0.1	3.7	8.0	1.3	0.0	0.0	

SCHEDULE C								
GAME LICENCE SALES AS AT 27 July 2012								
		07 Game	08 Game	09 Game	10 Game	11 Game	12 Game	% Total
NORTHERN MANAWATU - Taihape, Marton, Havelockville	LEQ	197.2	206.0	190.1	305.5	185.0	188.4	102
FEILDING	LEQ	272.2	332.2	352.2	327.3	297.1	343.6	103
FOXTON/WONGOTEA	LEQ	45.1	52.4	35.4	59.0	41.1	42.0	20
PALMERSTON NORTH	LEQ	1284.8	1296.5	1291.7	1224.6	1310.6	1227.4	94
LEVIN	LEQ	102.8	104.3	80.7	102.7	84.8	81.0	96
KAPITI COAST	LEQ	188.4	221.8	255.0	247.5	273.2	245.8	87
WELLINGTON	LEQ	811.2	571.2	557.5	453.3	552.4	485.2	60
NORTHERN WAIRARAPA - Dannevirke, Eketāhuna, Pākatua, Woodville	LEQ	159.8	149.8	173.0	173.5	190.9	253.5	134
MASTERTON	LEQ	425.8	443.5	534.4	480.7	438.8	457.9	90
SOUTHERN WAIRARAPA	LEQ	63.7	67.3	50.4	93.0	73.8	62.1	35
DIRECT	LEQ	184.5	190.4	181.8	332.3	197.3	189.8	50
	LEQ	3583.5	3540.2	3702.2	3653.4	3683.1	3490.2	1000
GAME LICENCE SALES BUDGET COMPARISON			Budget GAME 12 LEQ	Actual GAME 12 LEQ to date				%
			3675	3490				95

WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Wellington Fish and Game Council

EXPENDITURE REPORT/FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

Recommendations

1. Expenditure Report for 30 June 2012
2. That Financial Transactions for May and June 2012 be approved.

Sue Wray & Jill Steedman
Office Manager
8 August 2012

FISH & GAME NZ - WELLINGTON REGION

Statement of Income & Expenditure for Period ended 30/6/2012

	May - June ACTUAL	May - June BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	VARIANCE (%)	ANNUAL BUDGET
INCOME						
License Sales (LEQ's sold not income received)						
Game Licence Sales	\$ 21,880.32	\$ 7,743.36	\$ 247,361.26	\$ 234,929.26		\$ 251,049
LEQ	366	109	3482	3307		
Fish Licence Sales	\$ 9,102.90	\$ 3,182.03	\$ 294,655	\$ 313,427.22		\$ 316,600
LEQ	95	33	2762	3271		
Other						
Interest	-\$ 07.24	-\$ 2,662.60	-\$ 5,593	-\$ 10,770		\$ 18,355
Other (Isss Levy)	-\$ 583.05	-\$ 893.00	-\$ 2,021	-\$ 2,031		-\$ 2,775
Total Income	\$ 30,193	\$ 7,520	\$ 504,432	\$ 535,505		\$ 551,038

PROJECT EXPENDITURE

Species Management								
Sports Fish Monitoring	0,414	8,482	34,441	67,224	-	43	77,883	
Gamboid Population Monitoring	8,279	5,105	62,852	40,873	6	6	50,053	
Angler & Hunter Surveys	377	2,651	2,353	13,360	-	82	18,990	
Trout Liberations	3,307		7,072	2,375	196		10,959	
Season Regulations	1,221	1,756	4,732	4,522	5	5	5,543	
Keep & Release Approvals			407	583	-	30	553	
Gamboid Dispersal	1,688	1,188	2,944	6,378	-	54	7,710	
Habitat Protection								
Resource Management	37,682	21,350	151,438	101,930	40	40	122,852	
Lake Wairarapa Habitat & Access	3,049	5,376	32,108	32,057	-	62	32,058	
Wetland Enhancement	2,351	4,792	6,458	10,978	-	41	17,232	
Trout Reservoirs		367	5,000	7,385	-	52	7,755	
Participation								
Angler Access	102	4,653	4,810	17,432	-	74	20,335	
Hunter Access	-	583	5,356	23,503	-	74	26,109	
Information to Clients	9,101	5,220	38,244	47,528	-	20	59,737	
Hunter & Angler Training	180	83	689	582	30	30	1,067	
Chitli Jalisco		1,403	6,393	4,813	12	12	5,835	
Kilmora Lodge	-	330	544				-	
Public Interface								
Liaison & Advocacy	2,798	1,250	10,332	6,543	150	150	7,209	
Public Awareness	1,105	1,025	7,458	12,977	-	42	12,665	
Public Promotions	508	157	11,208	836	1,248		5,459	
Compliance								
Ranger Management	2,188	1,334	8,532	9,357	-	11	11,169	
Compliance	220	1,751	3,331	8,431	-	81	9,027	
Licensing								
Licensing and Agents	3,781	583	6,554	13,809	-	53	18,243	
Council								
Council	2,505	5,230	15,703	24,522	-	58	29,047	
Planning & Reporting								
Planning & Reporting		2,334	12,465	29,214	-	57	32,422	
National Liaison	4,528	2,552	15,056	11,791	34	34	13,857	
Project Total	62,966	21,344	0	421,350	495,260	594	0	691,038

OVERHEADS

Salaries	16662	55784	262376	287122	-29		344060	
Staff Expenses	927	4434	5535	13300	-83		14700	
Office Premises	10245	7309	34739	35761	-22		45050	
Office Equipment	3785	600	11342	2499	-10		3000	
Communications/consumables	3339	2564	13523	13415	-30		18100	
General	523	1082	7582	12853	-75		13150	
Vehicles	5180	9777	51285	48994	-52		58655	
	77951	82579	0	306540	412591	-311	0	493315

Current Period
May / June 2012

Species Management	External Costs	Hours	Internal Costs	Income	Nett Costs
1111 Sports Fish Population Assessment	54	111	5,848	-	5,792
1112 Rangitikei Trout Fishery	-	14	752	-	712
1113 River Control Fishery	-	-	-	-	-
1114 Gambird Population Assessment	2,644	97	4,935	-	6,979
1122 National Hunter Survey	-	11	560	-	560
1123 Regional Angler Survey	317	-	-	-	317
1124 Regional Hunter Survey	-	-	-	-	-
1161 Trout Liberations	-	85	3,307	-	3,307
1171 Season Regulations	-	24	1,221	-	1,221
1172 Keep & Release Approvals	-	-	-	-	-
1181 Gambird Dispersal	-	21	1,068	-	1,068
1182 Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	-
1183 Canada Goose (Contestable Funding)	-	-	-	-	-
Habitat Protection					
1211 Resource Management Act	6,112	599	30,477	-	36,589
1212 Habitat Advocacy	-	26	1,323	-	1,323
1222 Lake Wairarapa Habitat	363	41	2,086	-	2,469
1223 JK Donald Drain Clean	580	-	-	-	580
1224 JK Donald Access	-	-	-	-	-
1231 Wetland Enhancement	-	58	2,951	-	2,951
1232 Habitat Management Opportunities	-	-	-	-	-
1233 Trout Reservoir Feasibility & Mgt	-	-	-	-	-
Participation					
1311 Angler Access	-	2	102	-	102
1312 Lake Wairarapa Hunter Access	-	2	102	348	246
1313 Hunter Access Permits	-	-	-	317	317
1314 Contestable Funding Access	-	-	-	-	-
1331 Magazine & Newsletters	4,217	50	1,526	-	5,743
1341 Information to Licenseholders	407	58	2,951	-	3,358
1342 Lapsed participants' Newsletter	-	-	-	-	-
1351 Hunter Training, Lake Oruanu	180	-	-	-	180
1354 Junior Fish Training	-	-	-	-	-
1361 Club Liaison	-	-	-	-	-
1371 Kilmoro Lodge	-	-	-	330	330
Public Interface					
1411 Advocacy & Liaison	-	65	2,798	-	2,798
1412 Iwi Liaison	-	-	-	-	-
1441 Public Awareness	87	20	1,018	-	1,105
1442 Public Promotions Centennial Lagoon	-	10	509	-	509
1443 Promotions	-	-	-	-	-
Compliance					
1511 Ranger Management	397	36	1,832	-	2,188
1521 Ranger Training	-	-	-	-	-
1531 Compliance	-	88	4,477	4,257	220
Licensing					
1611 Licensing	3,733	-	-	-	3,733
1621 Licence Agents	-	1	51	-	51
Council					
1721 Council	-	51	2,595	-	2,595
Planning / Reporting					
1811 Management Planning	-	-	-	-	-
1821 Annual Plan	-	-	-	-	-
1831 Annual & Other Reporting	-	-	-	-	-
1841 National Liaison	-	29	1,476	-	1,476
1842 National Projects	-	80	3,053	-	3,053
	18,471	1,509	76,778	5,253	89,995

Year to Date
May / June 2012

Species Management	YTD External Costs	YTD Hours	YTD Internal Costs	YTD Income	YTD Nett Costs
1111 Sports Fish Population Assessment	937	491	24,982	-	25,949
1112 Rangitikei Trout Fishery	3,841	75	3,616	-	7,657
1113 River Control Fishery	174	13	681	-	835
1114 Gamebird Population Assessment	10,442	637	32,411	-	42,852
1122 National Hunter Survey	-	37	1,883	-	1,883
1123 Regional Angler Survey	317	3	153	-	470
1124 Regional Hunter Survey	-	0	-	-	-
1161 Trout Liberations	-	139	7,072	-	7,072
1171 Season Regulations	-	93	4,732	-	4,732
1172 Keep & Release Approvals	-	8	407	-	407
1181 Gamebird Dispersal	43	57	2,900	-	2,944
1182 Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	-
1183 Canada Goose (Contestable Funding)	-	-	-	-	-
Habitat Protection					
1211 Resource Management Act	1,303	2522	148,671	-	147,368
1212 Habitat Advocacy	-	80	4,070	-	4,070
1222 Lake Wairarapa Habitat	1,148	204	10,380	-	11,528
1223 JK Donald Drain Clean	580	0	-	-	580
1224 JK Donald Access	-	0	-	-	-
1231 Wetland Enhancement	-	126	6,411	-	6,411
1232 Habitat Management Opportunities	52	0	-	-	52
1233 Trout Reservoir Feasibility & Mgt	5,000	0	-	-	5,000
Participation					
1311 Angler Access	133	66	4,477	-	4,610
1312 Lake Wairarapa Hunter Access	236	84.5	4,299	1,261	3,274
1313 Hunter Access Permits	1,968	15	763	647	2,682
1314 Contestable Funding Access	-	0	-	-	-
1331 Magazine & Newsletters	14,166	220	11,194	-	25,360
1341 Information to Licenceholders	1,029	230	11,702	-	12,731
1342 Lapsed participants * Newsletter	-	3	153	-	153
1351 Hunter Training, Lake Omana	180	10	500	-	689
1354 Junior Fish Training	-	0	-	-	-
1361 Club Liaison	-	105	5,383	-	5,383
1371 Kilmore Lodge	1,222	0	-	678	544
Public Interface					
1411 Advocacy & Liaison	-	313	15,925	-	15,925
1412 Mtl Liaison	-	9	407	-	407
1441 Public Awareness	213	142	7,225	-	7,438
1442 Public Promotions Centennial Lagoon	2,974	163	8,293	-	11,268
1443 Promotions	-	0	-	-	-
Compliance					
1511 Ranger Management	1,339	135	6,889	-	8,209
1521 Ranger Training	124	0	-	-	124
1531 Compliance	-	177	9,006	5,675	3,331
Licensing					
1611 Licensing	6,305	0	-	-	6,305
1621 Licence Agents	-	5	254	-	254
Council					
1721 Council	2,887	252	12,822	-	15,709
Planning / Reporting					
1811 Management Planning	-	6	305	-	305
1821 Annual Plan	-	23	1,170	-	1,170
1831 Annual & Other Reporting	8,832	43	2,188	-	11,020
1841 National Liaison	-	143	7,276	-	7,276
1842 National Projects	6	153	7,785	-	7,779
	62,857	7204.5	368,565	8,261	421,160

Wellington Fish & Game Project Expenditure Report

Project Expenditure Report to 30 June 2012

Code	Project	EXTERNAL COSTS		HOURS		INTERNAL COST		NETABLE INCOME		INCOME	
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
		\$	\$			\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Operational Output in Detail											
1111	Sports Fish Population Monitoring	2,500	966	900	491.00	65,639	24,863	-	-	55,139	-
1112	Rangitikei Trout Fishery	14,000	3,341	140	75.00	10,211	3,816	16,000	-	8,211	26,849
1113	River Control Fishery	-	174	76	13.00	5,543	651	4,000	-	1,543	7,657
1114	Gamabird Population Assessment	15,500	10,442	482	637.00	35,153	32,412	-	-	50,653	835
1122	National Hunter Survey	2,300	317	90	37.00	3,947	1,883	-	-	5,947	42,853
1123	Regional Angler Survey	500	317	84	3.00	6,126	133	-	-	6,626	1,893
1124	Regional Hunter Survey	500	2,328	40	2.817	2,817	-	-	-	3,417	470
1161	Trout Liberations	11,500	-	20	138.00	1,459	7,073	2,000	2,328	10,959	7,073
1171	Season Regulations	-	-	76	93.00	6,943	4,732	-	-	5,543	4,732
1172	Keep & Release Approval	-	-	8	8.00	583	407	-	-	583	407
1181	Gamabird Dispersal	1,000	43	92	57.00	6,710	2,900	-	-	7,710	2,944
1182	Canada Goose	-	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL - SPECIES MANAGEMENT		47,800	18,114	1,960	1,553.00	143,531	79,019	22,000	2,328	169,331	94,002
1210	RESOURCE MAIN ACT	-	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
1211	Resource Management Act	1,200	212,517	1,440	2,822.00	105,023	148,677	-	213,821	106,223	147,373
1212	Habitat Advocacy	-	-	226	80.00	16,829	4,071	-	-	16,829	4,071
1213	Trout Habitat Inventory	-	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
1222	Lake Weirarapa Habitat	6,000	1,149	330	204.00	24,068	10,393	-	-	30,068	11,528
1223	JK Donald Drain Clean	2,000	580	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	2,000	580
1224	JK Donald Access Stickers	-	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
1231	Wetland Enhancement	500	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
1232	Habitat Management Opportunities	2,000	52	0	0.00	-	8,411	-	-	15,232	6,411
1253	Trout Reservoir Feasibility & Management	2,200	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	2,200	52
1294	Trout Liberations - Reservoir Feasibility - Hut City/Wai	5,560	5,000	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	5,560	5,000
1241	External Contracts	-	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL - HABITAT PROTECTION & MANAGEMENT		19,460	219,293	2,200	3,332.00	160,451	169,538	-	213,821	179,901	175,015
1311	Angler Access	4,250	133	220	68.00	16,045	4,478	-	-	20,335	4,610
1312	Lake Weirarapa Hunter Access	2,000	236	174	84.50	12,690	4,500	1,000	1,281	13,690	3,275
1313	Hunter Access Permits	5,000	1,966	136	15.00	9,819	768	3,000	647	12,419	2,082
1331	Magazine & Newsletter	13,500	14,186	180	220.00	13,126	11,194	-	-	28,628	25,360
1341	Information to clients	-	1,029	290	230.00	21,150	11,703	-	-	21,150	12,732
1342	Lapsed Participants Newsletter	1,500	-	20	3.00	1,459	153	-	-	2,959	153
1361	Hunter Training, Lake Omana	505	180	8	10.00	583	508	521	-	567	689
1362	Hunter Training Lake Omana Platforms	-	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
1363	ROW course	-	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
1354	Junior Fish Training	500	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	500	-
1355	Junior Hunter Training	-	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
1361	Club Liaison	-	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
1371	Kilmore Lodge	-	1,222	80	106.00	5,835	5,393	-	-	5,835	5,393
TOTAL - ANGLER & HUNTER PARTICIPATION		27,795	15,932	1,108	755.50	80,309	38,432	4,521	2,888	104,083	54,838
1411	Advocacy & Liaison	-	-	52	313.00	3,752	15,926	-	-	3,752	15,926
1412	W/L Liaison	500	-	40	8.00	2,817	407	-	-	3,417	407
1441	Public Awareness	1,000	213	160	142.00	11,669	7,225	-	-	12,669	7,430
1442	Public Promotions Centennial Lagoon	3,000	2,974	20	163.00	1,459	8,284	-	-	4,459	11,268
1443	Promotions	1,000	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	1,000	-
TOTAL - PUBLIC INTERFACE		5,500	3,187	272	626.00	19,638	31,852	-	-	25,338	35,039
1511	Ranger Management	1,000	1,339	126	135.00	9,168	6,869	-	-	10,169	8,208
1521	Ranger Training	1,000	124	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	1,000	124
1551	Compliance	5,000	-	192	177.00	9,527	9,063	5,000	-	9,827	3,931
TOTAL - COMPLIANCE		7,000	1,464	238	312.00	18,697	15,875	5,000	-	20,817	11,664

Schedule B

Code	Project	EXTERNAL COSTS		HOURS		INTERNAL COST		NETTABLE INCOME		NET COST	
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
1811	Licencing	\$ 7,200	\$ 6,300	40	0.00	\$ 2,017	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,117	\$ 6,300
1821	Licence Agents	-	-	84	5.00	\$ 3,126	\$ 254	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,128	\$ 254
	Eyede Fees	-	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL - LICENCING	\$ 7,200	\$ 6,300	124	5.00	\$ 5,041	\$ 254	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,244	\$ 6,554
1711	Council Election	-	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
1721	Council Meetings	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,887	318	252.00	\$ 23,047	\$ 12,822	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,047	\$ 15,709
	TOTAL - COUNCILS	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,887	318	252.00	\$ 23,047	\$ 12,822	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,047	\$ 15,709
1811	Management Planning	-	-	188	6.00	\$ 13,711	\$ 303	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,711	\$ 303
1821	Annual Planning	-	-	50	23.00	\$ 3,647	\$ 1,170	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,647	\$ 1,170
1831	Annual & Other Reporting	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,832	90	43.00	\$ 6,864	\$ 2,188	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,064	\$ 11,020
	Duck Stamp	-	-	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
1841	National Liaison	-	-	120	143.00	\$ 8,752	\$ 7,276	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,752	\$ 7,276
1842	National Projects	-	-	70	153.00	\$ 5,105	\$ 7,725	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,105	\$ 7,725
	TOTAL - PLANNING/REPORTING	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,826	518	398.00	\$ 37,779	\$ 18,725	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 46,279	\$ 27,551
	OVERHEADS	\$ 129,245	\$ 279,005	6,764	7,204.50	\$ 493,315	\$ 366,578	\$ 31,521	\$ 224,410	\$ 591,039	\$ 421,173
	EXTERNAL COSTS	Budget	Actual								
1910	Salaries	\$ 344,660	\$ 262,376							\$ 344,660	\$ 262,376
1920	Staff Expenses	\$ 14,700	\$ 5,535							\$ 14,700	\$ 5,535
1930	Staff Houses	-	-							-	-
1940	Office Premises	\$ 43,050	\$ 34,795							\$ 43,050	\$ 34,795
1950	Office Equipment	\$ 3,000	\$ 11,342							\$ 3,000	\$ 11,342
1960	Communications/Consumables	\$ 16,100	\$ 13,523							\$ 16,100	\$ 13,523
1970	General	\$ 10,850	\$ 6,485							\$ 10,850	\$ 6,485
1980	General Equipment	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,216							\$ 2,500	\$ 1,216
1990	Vehicles	\$ 58,555	\$ 31,324							\$ 58,555	\$ 31,324
	Administration	\$ 493,315	\$ 366,578							\$ 493,315	\$ 366,578
	Total Overhead Net Cost	\$ 493,315	\$ 366,578							\$ 493,315	\$ 366,578
	Total Outputs Staff Hours									\$ 6,764	\$ 7,205
	Internal Cost Per Hour									\$ 72.83	\$ 90.86

Region: WELLINGTON

Operational Outputs Summary

Code	Output	EXTERNAL COSTS		HOURS		INTERNAL COST		NETTABLE INCOME		NET COST	
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
1	Species Management	\$ 47,900	\$ 18,111	1,968	1,353	\$ 143,551	\$ 79,079	\$ 22,000	\$ 2,328	\$ 169,331	\$ 94,802
2	Habitat Protection & Management	\$ 19,450	\$ 219,298	2,203	3,352	\$ 160,451	\$ 169,538	\$ -	\$ 213,821	\$ 179,901	\$ 179,015
3	Angler & Hunter Participation	\$ 27,795	\$ 12,932	1,108	757	\$ 80,809	\$ 38,492	\$ 4,521	\$ 2,586	\$ 104,083	\$ 54,838
4	Public Interface	\$ 5,500	\$ 3,187	272	626	\$ 19,838	\$ 31,852	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,238	\$ 29,039
5	Compliance	\$ 7,000	\$ 1,454	253	312	\$ 18,817	\$ 15,875	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,675	\$ 20,817	\$ 11,064
6	Licensing	\$ 7,200	\$ 6,300	124	5	\$ 9,044	\$ 254	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,244	\$ 6,554
7	Councils	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,887	316	262	\$ 23,047	\$ 12,822	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,047	\$ 15,709
8	Planning, Reporting	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,826	518	358	\$ 37,779	\$ 18,725	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 46,279	\$ 27,551
9	Administration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total Overhead Staff Hours										
	TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 129,245	\$ 279,005	10,535	10,095	\$ 493,315	\$ 366,578	\$ 31,521	\$ 224,410	\$ 591,039	\$ 421,173
	Adjustments:									\$ (16,155)	\$ (15,504)
	Less Interest									\$ -	\$ -
	Plus AP/F/Depreciation									\$ -	\$ -
	Plus Loss/Less Profit on sale									\$ -	\$ -
	Plus Levy/Less Grant									\$ 2,775	\$ (2,081)
	Less Licence revenue									\$ (577,658)	\$ (317,157)
	Net of Commission expense	\$ 577,658	\$ 317,157							\$ 1	\$ 96,430

WELLINGTON FISH AND GAME COUNCIL			
May/June 2012			
1100 : SPECIES MANAGEMENT			
May:2011/12	This Period: 53.91		
	17/05/2012 Steve Pilkington	GST	Debit Credit
		1.57	10.43 0
	17/05/2012 Steve Pilkington	6.52	43.48 0
		\$ 8.09	\$ 53.91 \$
1114 : Gamebird Population Assessment			
May:2011/12	This Period: 2,043.83		
	17/05/2012 Steve Pilkington	GST	Debit Credit
		3.13	20.87 0
	17/05/2012 Steve Pilkington	2.6	17.3 0
	17/05/2012 Steve Pilkington	3.49	23.29 0
	17/05/2012 Steve Pilkington	3.33	22.17 0
	17/05/2012 Air Manawatu	294.03	1,960.20 0
		\$ 306.58	\$ 2,043.83 \$
1122 : National Hunter Survey			
May:2011/12	This Period: 378.71		
	31/05/2012 Noelene Allen	GST	Debit Credit
		0	378.71 0
		\$ -	\$ 378.71 \$
Jun:2011/12	This Period: 438.27		
	27/06/2012 Noelene Allen	GST	Debit Credit
		0	371.28 0
	27/06/2012 Noelene Allen (Tolls)	10.05	66.99 0
		\$ 10.05	\$ 438.27 \$
1161 : Trout Liberations			
May:2011/12	This Period: 0.00		
		GST	Debit Credit

	17/05/2012	Eastern Region Fish & Game (Capital Trout Centre)	349.25	2,328.36	0
	25/05/2012	Wellington Flyfishers (Capital Trout Centre INV 626877)	349.25	0	2,328.36
			\$ -	\$ 2,328.36	\$ 2,328.36
1211 : Resource Management Act					
May:2011/12					
This Period: 1,556.25					
	11/05/2012	Fitzherbert Castle Motel (One Plan - INV 626878)	GST 220.43	Debit 1,469.57	Credit 0
	17/05/2012	Phil Teal (Expenses)	2.82	18.78	0
	17/05/2012	Phil Teal (Expenses)	5.1	34	0
	22/05/2012	Fish & Game New Zealand (One Plan INV 626878)	373.7	0	2,491.32
	30/05/2012	Fitzherbert Castle Motel (One Plan - INV 626887)	378.78	2,525.22	0
			\$ 233.43	\$ 4,047.57	\$ 2,491.32
Jun:2011/12					
This Period: 4,555.48					
	1/06/2012	Conna Jordan (One Plan - INV New Fish & Game (One Plan - INV 626887)	GST 52.69	Debit 351.3	Credit 0
	20/06/2012		431.48	0	2,876.51
	21/06/2012	Phil Teal (Expenses)	6.69	45.91	0
	21/06/2012	WairResearch Ltd (One Plan)	913.04	6,086.96	0
	21/06/2012	Palmerston North City Council	5.22	34.78	0
	21/06/2012	WairResearch Ltd (Reverse no INV 626889)	-913.04	-6,086.96	0
	21/06/2012	WairResearch Ltd (One Plan - INV 626889)	0	7,000.00	0
			-\$ 366.68	\$ 7,431.99	\$ 2,876.51
1222 : Lake Wairarapa Habitat					
May:2011/12					
This Period: 382.87					
	17/05/2012	South Wairarapa District	GST 57.43	Debit 382.87	Credit 0
			\$ 57.43	\$ 382.87	\$ -
1223 : JK Donald Drain Clean					

May:2011/12	This Period: 580.00	GST	Debit	Credit
	17/05/2012 Amalgamated Helicopters	87.00	580.00	0
		\$ 87.00	\$ 580.00	\$ -
1312 : Lake Wairarapa Hunter Access (stickers)				
May:2011/12	This Period: (304.35)			
	1/05/2012 Spackman	3.26	0	21.74
	4/05/2012 Office Sales	22.83	0	152.17
	10/05/2012 Marcus & Peter Adlam	6.52	0	43.48
	10/05/2012 Richard Kearney-Mitchell	3.26	0	21.74
	25/05/2012 Office Sales	9.78	0	66.22
		\$ 45.65	\$ -	\$ 304.35
Jun:2011/12	This Period: (43.48)			
	15/06/2012 Jonathan Morrow	3.26	0	21.74
	22/08/2012 Brad Turner	3.26	0	21.74
		\$ 6.52	\$ -	\$ 43.48
1313 : Hunter Access Permits (Income)				
May:2011/12	This Period: (217.40)			
	4/05/2012 Office Sales (Permits 189-190/996-1000/106-1010/1046-1059/1067-1072)	10.43	0	69.57
	11/05/2012 Office Sales (Permits 1050-1059/1067-1072)	10.43	0	69.57
	17/05/2012 Office Sales (Permits 1082-1086)	6.52	0	43.48
	25/05/2012 Office Sales (Permits 1082-1086)	2.61	0	17.39
	31/05/2012 Office Sales (Permits 1086-1089)	2.61	0	17.39
		\$ 32.60	\$ -	\$ 217.40
Jun:2011/12	This Period: (100.00)			
	15/06/2012 Office Sales (Permits 1090-1094)	14.36	0	95.65
	22/06/2012 Ken Roundtree (Permit 1112)	0.65	0	4.35

1331 : Magazine & Newsletters May:2011/12		\$ 15.00	\$	-	\$ 100.00
	This Period: 4,216.58				
	17/05/2012 Graphic Press (Newsletter)	GST	399.3	Debit	2,862.00
	17/05/2012 New Zealand Post (Newsletter)		233.19		0
					0
1341 : Information to Clients May:2011/12		\$ 632.49	\$ 4,216.58	\$	
	This Period: 247.00				
	17/05/2012 InBox (E-Newsletters 29/2)	GST	37.05	Debit	247
					0
Jun:2011/12	This Period: 160.14	\$ 37.05	\$ 247.00	\$	
	21/06/2012 INBox (E-Newsletters Fishing)	GST	24.02	Debit	160.14
					0
1351 : Hunter Training, Lake Omana May:2011/12		\$ 24.02	\$ 160.14	\$	
	This Period: 180.00				
	16/05/2012 Foxton Waterfowl & Wetland	GST	0	Debit	180
					0
1372 : Kilmore Lodge Fees May:2011/12		\$	\$ 180.00	\$	
	This Period: (260.38)				
	8/05/2012 Ces Hall	GST	10.43	Debit	69.57
	15/05/2012 Andrew McGregor		15.65		104.35
	15/05/2012 Alan Kirker		2.61		17.39
	29/05/2012 Brad Turner		10.43		69.57
Jun:2011/12	This Period: (69.57)	\$ 39.12	\$	-	\$ 260.88
	12/06/2012 Robbe McGill	GST	10.43	Debit	69.57
					0
		\$ 10.43	\$	-	\$ 69.57

	14/05/2012	Trent Lett (Reparation Hunting No Licence)	45.65	0	304.35
	21/05/2012	Paul Lytle (Reparation Hunting No Licence)	45.65	0	304.35
	25/05/2012	David Law (Reparation)	45.65	0	304.35
	26/05/2012	Rupert Bunny/Dan Batten (Reparation Hunting No Licence)	91.3	0	608.7
	29/05/2012	Jason Le Grove (Reparation Hunting No Licence)	45.65	0	304.35
	29/05/2012	Michael McCarthy (Reparation Hunting No Licence)	45.65	0	304.35
		This Period: (909.57)	\$ 456.50	\$ -	\$ 3,043.50
			GST	Debit	Credit
	8/08/2012	Jason Menzies (Fishing)	45.39	0	302.61
	15/06/2012	Duncan Fell (Fishing Without)	45.39	0	302.61
	22/06/2012	Stuart Busoke (Hunting)	45.65	0	304.35
		This Period: (909.57)	\$ 136.43	\$ -	\$ 909.57
			GST	Debit	Credit
		This Period: 3,732.94			
	17/05/2012	Fish & Game New Zealand (INV 237 2012 Game)	310.2	2,068.00	0
	17/05/2012	Fish & Game New Zealand (INV 255 2012 Game Licence)	249.74	1,684.94	0
		This Period: 693.75	\$ 559.94	\$ 3,732.94	\$ -
			GST	Debit	Credit
	17/05/2012	Fish & Game New Zealand	104.06	693.75	0
		This Period: 500.50	\$ 104.06	\$ 693.75	\$ -
			GST	Debit	Credit
	17/05/2012	Magnum NZ Ltd	75.06	500.5	0
		This Period: 500.50	\$ 75.06	\$ 500.5	\$ 0
			GST	Debit	Credit

Jun:2011/12	This Period: 426.09		\$	75.08	\$	500.50	\$		
	21/06/2012	Sue Wray (Expenses)		GST		Debit		Credit	
				63.91		426.09		0	
1941 : Office Rent	This Period: 2,816.66		\$	63.91	\$	426.09	\$		
May:2011/12	1/05/2012	Carson Family Trust (Palmerston North Office)		GST		Debit		Credit	
	1/05/2012	Marinoto (Wellington Office)		312.5		2,083.33		0	
				110		733.33		0	
Jun:2011/12	This Period: 2,816.66		\$	422.50	\$	2,816.66	\$		
	1/06/2012	Carson Family Trust (Palmerston North Office)		GST		Debit		Credit	
	1/06/2012	Marinoto (Wellington Office)		312.5		2,083.33		0	
				110		733.33		0	
1942 : Office Rates	This Period: 571.87		\$	422.50	\$	2,816.66	\$		
May:2011/12	17/05/2012	Carson Family Trust (Rates)		GST		Debit		Credit	
				85.78		571.87		0	
1943 : Office Maintenance	This Period: 1,657.59		\$	85.78	\$	571.87	\$		
Jun:2011/12	21/05/2012	D/ISL		GST		Debit		Credit	
	21/05/2012	RICOH		148.63		977.5		0	
	29/06/2012	Brian Law (PowerApr11- Mar12/Alarm Monitoring)		73.84		482.26		0	
				28.17		187.83		0	
1945 : Office Power	This Period: 2,382.66		\$	248.64	\$	1,657.59	\$		
Jun:2011/12									

			GST	Debit	Credit
	29/06/2012	Brian Law (PowerApr11-Mar12/Alarm Monitoring)	357.4	2,382.66	0
			\$ 357.40	\$ 2,382.66	\$ -
1951 : Office Equip Purchases (Under \$2,000)					
May:2011/12		This Period: 113.09			
	17/05/2012	Phil Teal (Expenses)	2.35	15.65	0
	17/05/2012	Phil Teal (Expenses)	3.14	20.94	0
	17/05/2012	Phil Teal (Expenses)	11.48	76.5	0
			\$ 16.97	\$ 113.09	\$ -
1952 : Office Equip Asset Replacement Reserve					
May:2011/12		This Period: 2,513.10			
	17/05/2012	DTSL (Laptops (2))	332.25	2,215.00	0
	17/05/2012	DTSL (Docking Stations (2))	44.72	288.1	0
			\$ 376.97	\$ 2,513.10	\$ -
1953 : Office Equip Maintenance					
May:2011/12		This Period: 1,158.58			
	17/05/2012	DTSL (Business Security)	36	240	0
	17/05/2012	Ricoh	137.79	918.58	0
			\$ 173.79	\$ 1,158.58	\$ -
1961 : Telephone / Fax					
May:2011/12		This Period: 1,396.93			
	16/05/2012	Vodafone	51.14	340.94	0
	17/05/2012	Telecom (Palmerston North)	34.23	228.18	0
	17/05/2012	Telecom (Wellington Office)	26.22	174.79	0
	17/05/2012	Yellow (Wairarapa Directory)	85.5	570	0
	21/05/2012	TestraClear	12.45	83.02	0
			\$ 209.54	\$ 1,396.93	\$ -

Jun:2011/12	This Period: 1,483.73		GST	Debit	Credit
	14/06/2012	Vodafone	57.39	362.58	0
	21/06/2012	Yellow (Manawatu Directory)	85.5	570	0
	21/06/2012	Telecom	34.02	226.78	0
	21/06/2012	Telecom	26.23	174.86	0
	21/06/2012	TelestraClear	19.43	129.51	0
1962 : Postage			222.57 \$	1,483.73 \$	-
Jun:2011/12	This Period: 52.17				
	21/06/2012	OfficeMax	7.83	52.17	0
1963 : Courier			7.83 \$	52.17 \$	-
May:2011/12	This Period: 163.57				
	17/05/2012	New Zealand Couriers	24.54	163.57	0
Jun:2011/12	This Period: 28.45				
	21/06/2012	New Zealand Couriers	4.27	28.45	0
1964 : Stationery			4.27 \$	28.45 \$	-
May:2011/12	This Period: 103.00				
	17/05/2012	OfficeMax	15.45	103	0
Jun:2011/12	This Period: 111.32				
	21/06/2012	OfficeMax	16.7	111.32	0
1972 : Subscriptions			16.70 \$	111.32 \$	-
May:2011/12	This Period: 139.12				

			GST	Debit	Credit
	17/05/2012	NZ Freshwater Sciences Society (Nic Cudby)	5.22	34.78	0
	17/05/2012	NZ Freshwater Sciences Society (Corina Jordan)	5.22	34.78	0
	17/05/2012	NZ Freshwater Sciences Society (Phil Teal)	5.22	34.78	0
	17/05/2012	NZ Freshwater Sciences Society (Steve Pilkington)	5.22	34.78	0
	This Period: 4.35		\$ 20.88	\$ 139.12	\$ -
	21/06/2012	Lakes Water Quality Society	GST 0.65	Debit 4.35	Credit 0
			\$ 0.65	\$ 4.35	\$ -
1973 : Donations					
Jun:2011/12	This Period: 15.00				
	21/06/2012	Lakes Water Quality Society	GST 0	Debit 15	Credit 0
			\$ -	\$ 15.00	\$ -
1974 : Bank Charges					
May:2011/12	This Period: 68.16				
	10/05/2012	Eftpos New Zealand Ltd	GST 0	Debit 53.66	Credit 0
	21/05/2012	ANZ (ANZ Direct Software	0	2	0
	21/05/2012	ANZ (ANZ Direct Transaction	0	12.5	0
	This Period: 155.13		\$ -	\$ 68.16	\$ -
Jun:2011/12			GST	Debit	Credit
	10/06/2012	Eftpos NZ Ltd	0	165.13	0
	18/06/2012	ANZ (Reversal of Bank Fee)	0	0	12.5
	18/06/2012	ANZ (Reversal of Bank Fee)	0	0	2
	18/06/2012	ANZ (Reversal of Bank Fee)	0	0	7.5
	18/06/2012	ANZ (Reversal of Bank Fee)	0	0	2

	20/06/2012	ANZ (Bank Fee Direct Online Software Fee)	0	2	0
	20/06/2012	ANZ (Bank Fee Direct Online Transaction Fee)	0	2	0
	21/06/2012	ANZ (Unarranged Overdraft)	0	10	0
			\$ -	\$ 179.13	\$ 24.00
1975 : Office Consumables					
Jun:2011/12	This Period: 30.47				
	21/06/2012	Phil Teal (Expenses)	4.57	30.47	0
			\$ 4.57	\$ 30.47	\$ -
1979 : Eyede Fees					
May:2011/12	This Period: 310.86				
	9/05/2012	Eyede (Internet Settlement)	-2.9	0	-19.33
	9/05/2012	Eyede (Internet Settlement)	0	0	-291.55
			\$ 2.90	\$ -	\$ 310.86
Jun:2011/12	This Period: 187.29				
	11/06/2012	Eyede (Internet Settlement)	-4.4	0	-29.31
	11/06/2012	Eyede (Internet Settlement)	0	0	-157.98
			\$ 4.40	\$ -	\$ 187.29
1983 : General Equip Maintenance					
May:2011/12	This Period: (86.96)				
	9/05/2012	Alan Ridd (Gas Gun Hireage)	13.04	0	86.96
			\$ -	\$ 13.04	\$ -
1993 : Vehicle Running DQA:202					
May:2011/12	This Period: 613.47				
	10/05/2012	Automobile Association	20.21	134.72	0
	10/05/2012	BP New Zealand	64.24	428.25	0
	25/05/2012	D Mortimer Ltd (WOF/Service)	7.58	50.5	0

Jun:2011/12	This Period: 1,136.10	\$	92.03	\$	613.47	\$	
			GST		Debit	Credit	
	1/06/2012 Corina Jordan		2.7		18	0	
	10/06/2012 BP New Zealand Ltd		45.46		303.03	0	
	12/06/2012 NZ Transport Agency (RUC)		122.26		815.07	0	
1994 : Vehicle Running FMF666		\$	170.42	\$	1,136.10	\$	
May:2011/12	This Period: 642.72						
	10/05/2012 BP New Zealand		96.41		642.72	0	
Jun:2011/12	This Period: 2,056.32	\$	96.41	\$	642.72	\$	
			GST		Debit	Credit	
	10/06/2012 BP New Zealand Ltd		113.45		756.34	0	
	12/06/2012 NZ Transport Agency (RUC)		122.26		815.07	0	
	21/06/2012 Palmfield Motors (Service)		72.74		484.91	0	
1996 : Vehicle Running JS		\$	308.45	\$	2,056.32	\$	
May:2011/12	This Period: 292.50						
	17/05/2012 Jill Steadman (Travel)		0		292.5	0	
1999 : Vehicle Running FHA920		\$		\$	292.50	\$	
May:2011/12	This Period: 368.38						
			GST		Debit	Credit	
	10/06/2012 BP New Zealand		55.26		368.38	0	
Jun:2011/12	This Period: 1,685.69	\$	55.26	\$	368.38	\$	
			GST		Debit	Credit	
	10/06/2012 BP New Zealand Ltd		40.92		272.79	0	
	12/06/2012 NZ Transport Agency (RUC)		122.26		815.07	0	
	21/06/2012 Capital City Motors (Service)		89.67		597.83	0	

16/05/2012	Bayley (Child Hunting Licences 12GB27431/32)	0.52	0	3.48
25/05/2012	Taylor Ltd (INV 14146)	74.84	0	498.96
28/06/2012	Eyede (INV 14081)	91.83	612.17	0
Jun:2011/12	This Period:	\$ 1,316.96	\$ 612.17	\$ 9,392.01
11/06/2012	Eyede (Retail Settlement)	6,638.90	0	44,259.30
11/06/2012	Eyede (Internet Settlement)	590.72	0	3,934.78
21/06/2012	Taylor's Ltd (Overpayment Inv)	74.84	498.96	0
22/06/2012	Eyede (INV 14420)	432.13	2,880.87	0
2205 : Game Licence Income - Previous Year		\$ 6,722.45	\$ 3,379.83	\$ 48,194.08
Jun:2011/12	This Period: (3.48)			
11/06/2012	Eyede (Retail Settlement)	0.52	0	3.48
2900 : Interest Received		\$ 0.52	\$ -	\$ 3.48
May:2011/12	This Period: (59.45)			
15/05/2012	ANZ (Credit Interest Paid)	0	0	59.45
Jun:2011/12	This Period: (37.79)			
15/06/2012	ANZ (Credit Interest Paid)	0	0	37.78
18/06/2012	ANZ (Credit Interest Paid Adj)	0	0	0.01
BANK1 : Cheque Account 00		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37.79
May:2011/12	Open: 1,832.35			
Jun:2011/12	Open: 1,683.80			
	This Period: (148.55)	Close: 1,683.80		
	This Period: (450.23)	Close: 1,233.57		

24. Correspondence, Media, Press Releases

Items Noted:

WCO campaign launched – local WCO rivers and wetlands highlighted

Auckland/Waikato F&G – Honorary Ranger Appointments

NZ Council – OIA Request – COI Opinion – withhold

Dom Post – Troubled Waters

Recommendation

Receive correspondence

Fish & Game rates Rangitikei River 'a stunner'

Embargo: for use from 10am, Thursday August 9, 2012

One of the North Island's most iconic wild and scenic rivers, the Rangitikei River, is in the spotlight this week.

Fish & Game have just launched a campaign to raise awareness of the country's most outstanding rivers, and the Water Conservation Orders (WCOs) which give them protection.

"Thousands of people travel on State Highway One from Wellington to Taupo and overlook the water treasure alongside that is the Rangitikei River," says Phil Teal, Wellington Region Fish & Game Regional Manager. "People come from all over the world to come and experience the river's trout fishing, many visiting year after year."

And it's not all about trout. "Anglers rate this site for its spectacular scenic wilderness experience, not just for the fishing," he says. "This important wilderness river has a role which goes far beyond sport fishing, to include all sorts of adventure tourism and recreation from white water rafting to mountain biking."

The middle and upper reaches of the Rangitikei River were protected in 1993 by a Water Conservation Order (WCO) – the highest level of protection afforded to any water body in New Zealand. Around 15 rivers and some lakes are protected by WCOs – and for the Rangitikei River, that means no damming and protection of its water quality.

Mr Teal says while there's wide recognition of New Zealand's network of National Parks, too few Kiwis are aware that WCOs provide similar high-level protection for some of the country's most precious, pristine rivers.

The WCO campaign this week includes the launch of the www.OutstandingRivers.org.nz WCO website, erecting WCO signage and unveiling ceremonies at key locations around the country to identify these waterways of national significance, and raft and kayak flotillas down WCO protected rivers.

Former All Blacks captain Anton Oliver is fronting the campaign in his role as WCO ambassador.

MORE INFORMATION:

Fish & Game Wellington Manager Phil Teal,

Tel 06-3590409 or 021-859120

PRESS RELEASE

Fish & Game focus on Wairarapa wetlands

One of the lower North Island's iconic wetland areas – Lake Wairarapa – has just been highlighted, as part of a new Fish & Game campaign launched to raise awareness of some of the country's most outstanding waterways.

"Hundreds of duck hunters have flocked to Lake Wairarapa for decades, returning year after year to harvest their ducks," says Phil Teal, Wellington Region Fish & Game Regional Manager. "Many others who travel over the Wairarapa probably overlook this local water treasure, and sadly, may be unaware that such special places exist."

The wetlands surrounding Lake Wairarapa were protected in 1989 by a Water Conservation Order (WCO) – the highest level of protection afforded to any water body in New Zealand. Around 15 rivers and some lakes are protected by WCOs – and for the Lake Wairarapa wetlands, that meant saving the wetlands from drainage.

Fish & Game has had a long and distinguished involvement with Lake Wairarapa, in terms of battles to save the wetlands from drainage, and were the instigators of the WCO granted to protect the area.

Mr Teal says while there's wide recognition of New Zealand's network of National Parks, too few Kiwis are aware that WCOs provide similar high-level protection for some of the country's most precious, pristine rivers and watery treasures. "I'd urge people to take the time to look at our new website (see below) to learn just what's out there."

The WCO campaign this week includes the launch of the www.OutstandingRivers.org.nz WCO website, erecting WCO signage and unveiling ceremonies at key locations around the country to identify these waterways of national significance, and raft and kayak flotillas down WCO protected rivers.

Former All Blacks captain Anton Oliver is fronting the campaign in his role as WCO ambassador.

MORE INFORMATION:

Fish & Game Wellington Manager Phil Teal,

Tel 06-3590409 or 021-859120

ENDS

10 AUG 2012

1593

Ref: 1/3/11

7 August 2012

Fish & Game NZ
P.O. Box 13 141
Wellington 6440

Appointment of Honorary Rangers.

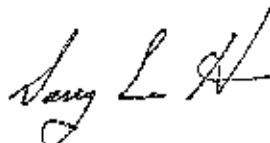
At Council's meeting of 4th August the NZF&GC CF's directives regarding placement of the a limit on the number of honorary rangers in an area, and an age restriction of 70 was discussed.

Council considered these were inappropriate, possibly illegal, and offensive to honorary rangers who had put in an immense amount of time, effort and personal expense in helping Fish & Game over the years, with it moved;

that Council advise NZF&GC that it did not support the approach taken by the NZF&GC CF regarding changes to the honorary rangers system.

Council was of the opinion that arrangements should be undertaken to transfer the authority and responsibility for rangers to regions, who were most appropriate and best suited for such.

Yours sincerely



Doug Emmett
Chief Executive

CC: Regional Managers/CF's
Regional Chairmen

157



21 JUN 2012
e-mailed Martin
as per Martin's instructions
on class 22.6.12

[Handwritten notes and signatures]
1845
1845
Martin Phil

11 June 2012

Martin Taylor
Chairman
Wellington Fish and Game Council
PO Box 1325
PALMERSTON NORTH 4440

Dear Martin

**OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST -
EXCLUSIVE CAPTURE / CONFLICT OF INTEREST LEGAL OPINION**

Further to your Official Information Request for the legal opinion sought by the New Zealand Fish and Game Council on the matter of exclusive capture and the real or perceived conflict of interest of NZC Councillor Bruce Bates as an appointee to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council, the Council appreciates your indulgence of time as it has endeavoured to work through the extensive opinion and advice it has received on this issue and determine an appropriate way forward.

At this time the Council is awaiting a response from Mr Bates to the opinion, on receipt of which it intends to finally determine its response to your request. Until that time the Council wishes to withhold the opinion on the grounds that it remains legally privileged.

The Council is currently also reviewing its 'Conflict of Interest' governance policy in light of this advice which, when finalised, it intends to formally adopt and probably also commend to regional Fish and Game Councils for universal adoption across the whole Fish & Game organisation.

The purpose of this letter is therefore to assure you that your previous request has not been forgotten and to respectfully request your further indulgence in permitting the New Zealand Council time to complete its assessment and consideration of the opinion's future status. Once the Council has done this I will write to you again with a final response to your request.

Yours sincerely

W B JOHNSON
Chief Executive

4.6.12

Iwi call for conference

Rangitikei iwi have called for an environmental conference to discuss the potential impact of the region's River Scheme. Presentations by Horizons Regional Council staff on the Rangitikei River Scheme and Dr. Jacques Boubee on regional and national tuna and eels will be heard by Nga Pae o Rangitikei, representing the collective hapu and iwi from the Rangitikei River catchment. The conference will be held at 9.30am on June 23 at the Otinopuhiawa (Parewahiawaha) Marae in Bulls.



Print

Iwi should claim ownership of riverbeds – Turia

02-Jul 17:27



By Patrick Gower

Maori party co-leader Tariana Turia is calling on iwi to investigate claiming the ownership of riverbeds around the country.

The water from them is critical to the power companies that the Government is putting up for sale, and Ms Turia says Maori should particularly consider claiming ownership of the riverbed along the Waikato and Whanganui Rivers.

Her call follows a ruling the Supreme Court made last week about a stretch of the Waikato River at Pouakani, near Mangakino. The ruling declared Crown ownership of the riverbed was null and void, which means ownership could be open to claims by Whanganui tribes.

Law professor David Williams says the ruling could set a precedent for other rivers.

"The Supreme Court has essentially blown out of the water the Crown's unambiguous claim to title to the riverbed," he says.

Maori claims or negotiations related to water right now include the Waikato River, Lake Taupo, the Whanganui River, and a claim on water ownership from the Maori Council.

Mighty River Power is the first asset for sale and has eight dams and nine power stations along the Waikato River, three dams of which are within the area of the current claim. Genesis energy is next up, and relies on water from the Whanganui River.

Such uncertainty about the ownership of the riverbeds critical to the first two asset sales could not have possibly come at a more inconvenient time for the Government.

With its governing partner the Maori Party calling for tribes to consider legal action, that just makes it even more awkward.

3 News

Front foot it!

ANDREW SWALLOW

'LICENSE TO operate, regulatory barrier or market opportunity?'

That was the title four guest speakers spoke to at Aguard's annual agribusiness breakfast, preceding the practical day of the Young Farmer Contest.

Fish and Game chief executive Bryce Johnson said five years ago the topic would have been "heresy" in such a setting but now it's time has come.



Bryce Johnson

"What agriculture needs to do is take the lead... The trick is to stay ahead of the game. You've got to collaborate with the policy makers."

Revisiting the Clean Streams Accord is "a huge opportunity" and as Land and Water Form (LAWF) progress has shown, all New Zealanders want more or less the same outcomes.

Environmental NGOs (which NZA is not), rather than being the enemy, are "really part of your strategic opportunity".

Johnson's presentation followed Lincoln University vice chancellor Andy West's, who gave a "big picture" personal view that world agriculture - New Zealand included - needs to intensify production, not just to feed the predicted 10 billion population of 2050, but to protect the environment.

"What we're doing right now is sending an awful lot of species extinct. We've got to intensify our use of land. The question is, does New Zealand want to be a part of that?"

Intensification, for example through partially housed dairy systems, offers a win-win to increase production and reduce environmental impact, he said, declaring he has an interest in the Herd Home company.

"We could double our [dairy] production just by feeding our cows properly." That would be worth \$7 billion at the farmgate, \$13 billion ex factory. In sheep the potential is probably even greater, he added.

However, compromises and strategic decisions at a national level need to be made.

"How many water bodies should be pristine... What we've got at the moment is an arms race going on between different communities about who can set the highest standards quickest."

Federated Farmers Dairy chair Willy Lefterink acknowledged agriculture "has some issues to address, particularly when it comes to nutrient loading."

"The problem is the science is struggling to keep up with all the people who write policy."

Inappropriate policy risks forcing unnecessary development costs on the industry, he warned.

He also had a dig at urban pollution, but noted in voting terms, New Zealand's 30,000 farmers "don't mean a thing" compared to the 2.9 million majority.

"But at least this Government listens to us."

Farmers urged to take lead on clean water

Bob
Tupa



The majority of the New Zealand public now believe clean water is the biggest environmental issue facing the country. Rightly or wrongly, that is the perception of most New Zealanders, 97 per cent of whom are urban dwellers, fish and game chief executive Bryce Johnson told an audience of farming leaders at an AGMARDT breakfast in Dunedin last week.

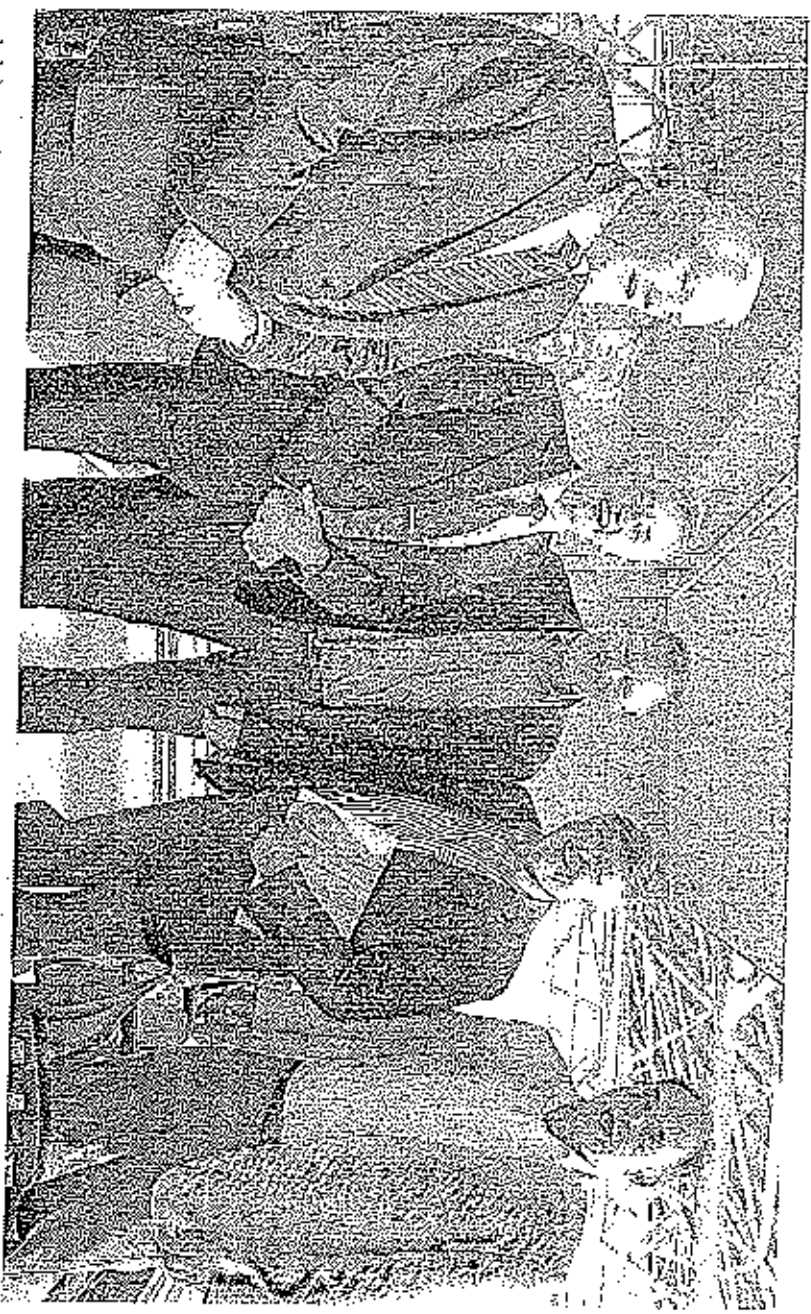
Mr Johnson was invited to speak about fish and game's role changing public attitudes on the environment and the challenges and opportunities that creates.

He urged farmers to read the signs of changing public opinion and encouraged the agricultural industry to take the lead on environmental management.

Fish and Game, an environmental lobby group often on the opposite side of the negotiating table to the dairy industry, was set up by law to manage the country's freshwater fisheries and game resources.

"So people shouldn't be surprised that the organisation gets pretty grumpy with some irrigation and land intensification proposals," Mr Johnson said. "It affects our core business. That's why we are in the debate," he said. "Land and water is a finite resource. Some people don't realise that."

"There's only so much of it at any point in time. We're slowly running out of the stuff and starting to make some hard political decisions and some hard political



cal debates."

He said the rural sector needed to remember 97 percent of New Zealanders were now urban dwellers so realistically the rural sector's political influence was relatively small.

A biennial assessment by Lincoln University of New Zealanders' perceptions of the environment gave some very clear messages, he said.

"The majority of the public now believes that clean water is the biggest environmental issue in New Zealand," Mr Johnson said.

"Rightly or wrongly, it's about perceptions. Whether you like it

or not, that's the perception."

Environmental pressure groups like Fish and Game were able to trade on that perception the same way agriculture could, Mr Johnson said.

Kiwis were proud of their 100 per cent clean, green brand. The country had good laws protecting the environment but Mr Johnson said we were not really applying them well enough.

The National Party's own Blue Green policy group wanted water that was drinkable, swimmable, fishable and safe enough for food gathering, and the Government wanted laws that resonated with middle New Zealand.

Public interest in the environment was building and everyone, including environmental lobby groups, wanted the same outcome.

Interestingly, he said, in the last six months agriculture had really lifted its game to try and sell its message to the wider New Zealand public.

"Political action follows public opinion whether you like it or not, so you have got to work with public opinion," Mr Johnson said. "Don't be led by politicians; take the lead on it."

"The trick I think is to get ahead of the game by collaborating with public entities and your

critics and turn them into strategic allies."

"Remember this," he said. "Using a public resource for private use is a privilege in New Zealand. People don't like the language but that is the political reality."

"It is a privilege. The public are okay with that provided you don't snuff up their interests in that resource."

More than 90 per cent of New Zealanders now lived in towns so farmers and agriculture had to win over middle New Zealand.

Mr Johnson said. "You've got to win them, not wack them."

Guest speakers at the annual Agricultural and Marketing Research and Development Trust's (AGMARDT) business breakfast at the Forsyth Barr Stadium in Dunedin recently were Seafood chief executive Graham Stuart, newly appointed Lincoln University vice-chancellor Andrew West, Federated Farmers' national dairy section chairman Willy Leterink, Fish and Game New Zealand's chief executive Bryce Johnson and AGMARDT chairman Jer Grant.

Cap on cow numbers urged by academic

By Emma Goodwin

MANAWATU University ecology academic Dr. Mike Joy is calling for a cap on cow numbers.

More cows in Manawatu means rivers will never get clean and probably get worse, he says in an international report.

Dr Joy is senior lecturer in freshwater ecology at Massey and he is in a report for the World Wildlife Fund that unless a cap is put on the number of cows, rivers and lakes will remain polluted.

The report looks at how far New Zealand has come since the first summit in 1992. Twenty years on the report shows that little headway has been made in addressing environmental issues.

Dr Joy said reports consistently showed that New Zealand's freshwater system was getting worse, and Manawatu was no exception. Manawatu had almost 13,000 cows in 2009, more than it had in 1998 and Tararua 10,900 more. This increased the number of cows per hectare from 2.54 to 2.73 in Manawatu and 2.59 to 2.73 in Tararua.

Dr Joy said he believed officials at the right for Lake Taupo when the council there put a cap and trade system in place. Under the system, farmers were told they could run only a certain number of cows and they were paid compensation if that number meant there was a reduction in their income. This had resulted in a reduction of the amount of nitrogen going

into Lake Taupo.

"All measures of the state of our freshwaters reveal worsening conditions. While small gains have been made, the intensification of farming has meant an overall net loss of freshwater ecosystem health," Dr Joy said.

Federated Farmers Manawatu/Rangitikei dairy chairman James Stewart said it was unlikely farmers would swallow being told how many cows they could run on a property.

"Regulation and capping are not good words to hear and I don't think it would be looked on favourably."

Farming had undergone large changes in the past decade. People were working on reducing pollution. This included retiring land and fencing streams, Mr Stewart said.

Dr Joy said more cows meant more effluent and that effluent was seeping into water.

"It's got to go somewhere."

Horizons chief executive Michael McCartney said the cap and trade system could work with a lake such as Taupo, but there would be difficult implementation.

"We are dealing with a river catchment, not a lake, so it would be a lot harder. The One Plan is addressing the issue and we want to halt any degradation of surface water. Once we have halted it we can start looking at how to reverse it."

The report is critical about how little New Zealand has progressed in dealing with water quality issues in the past 20 years.

— Fairfax NZ



Senior lecturer Dr Mike Joy believes a cap in cow numbers on Manawatu farms is necessary to reduce pollution to local rivers and lakes.

Troubled waters

The waters of Wellington are in a bad way, as Lano Nichols and Matt Stewart report.

OVER 1000 pollution sites "discharge" into the city's water supply, but the region's natural resources are being degraded. Wellington's annual rainfall has contaminated the health of the region's air, land, freshwater and marine resources. The water supply is being degraded by a number of pollution sites, including the city's sewage treatment plant, the city's water supply, and the city's water supply.

The report is being added as the most comprehensive analysis of the region's natural resources since a similar study in 1988.

The report says that the city's water supply is being degraded by a number of pollution sites, including the city's sewage treatment plant, the city's water supply, and the city's water supply.

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Water

Many of the region's urban and rural waterways remain contaminated with sediment, bacterial pollution and nutrients. Overuse is putting stress on resources, with some aquifers depleted and at high risk.

Air

The region's air quality is in good health due to its proximity to the coast and wind. However, wood-burning fires in Wairarapa and Wairarapa cause small-particle pollution on cold, still nights.

Land

Soil quality on horticultural land and dairy pastures in Wairarapa and Kapiti is a concern. Low carbon and high phosphorus and nutrient levels from pesticides and fertilisers can affect the land's productivity, with long-term environmental implications.



Wellington Harbour

Wellington Harbour is a major waterway in the region. It is a major waterway in the region. It is a major waterway in the region.



Kapiti Coast

The Kapiti Coast is a major waterway in the region. It is a major waterway in the region. It is a major waterway in the region.



Porirua Harbour

Porirua Harbour is a major waterway in the region. It is a major waterway in the region. It is a major waterway in the region.



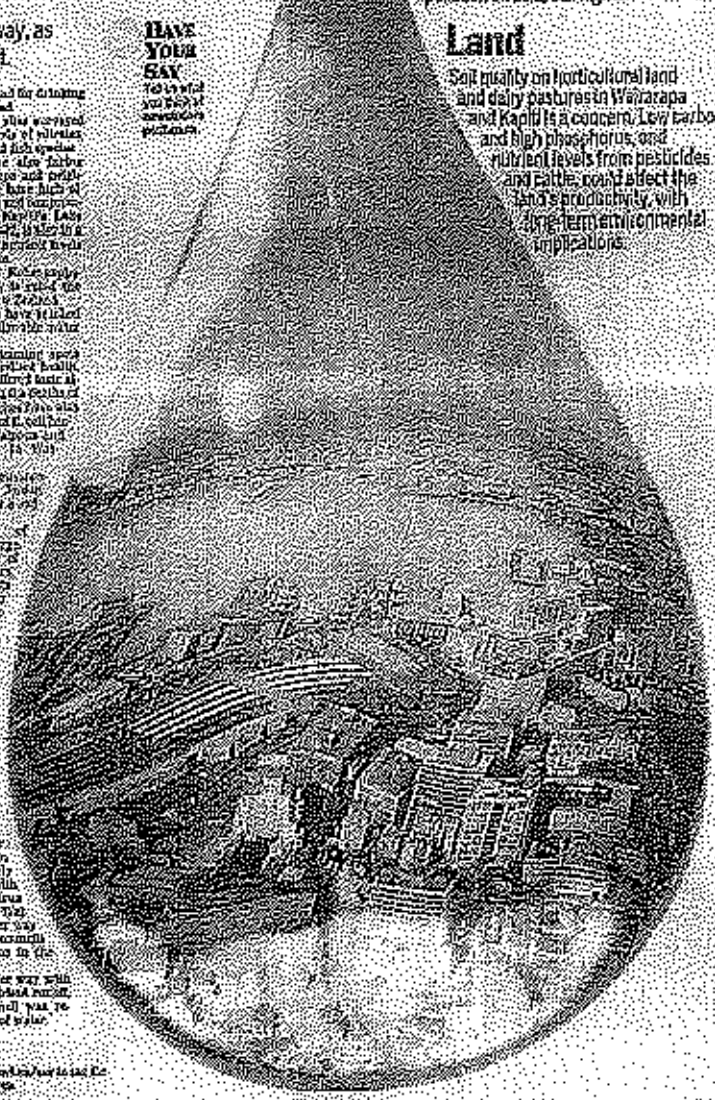
Wairarapa Valley

The Wairarapa Valley is a major waterway in the region. It is a major waterway in the region. It is a major waterway in the region.



Eastern Wairarapa Hills

The Eastern Wairarapa Hills are a major waterway in the region. It is a major waterway in the region. It is a major waterway in the region.



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Wairarapa News

Wave of interest in dam project

WALT DICKSON Last updated 15:59 10/07/2012

Interest in building a massive dam in Wairarapa to use for irrigation is gathering momentum.

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The Wairarapa Water Use Project is investigating the potential for the valley to store water in the winter and distribute it for community and agricultural uses during the dry season.

The project's aim is to improve the productive capacity of land, and subsequent economic return through water storage and irrigation opportunities.

A study of demand for irrigation water has indicated a strong desire by farmers to irrigate in future.

To date the project's technical co-ordinator, Greg Ordish, has interviewed 111 landowners representing 161 properties covering more than 26,000 hectares in the Carterton, Te Ore Ore and Woodside areas.

Owners of 68 per cent of properties expressed interest in new or expanded irrigation.

Of the landowners not currently irrigating, 71 per cent expressed interest in doing so in future.

The extra volume of water required to meet the new demand would be more than 33 million cubic metres a year.

The study continues until October, with farmer interviews now beginning in the Martinborough area.

Results will be compared with a theoretical study of demand over the whole of the Wairarapa valley by Landcare Research.

Over the past six months a range of parallel studies have been working towards identifying a shortlist of potential storage and distribution schemes by the end of this year, says project spokesman Nigel Corry.

Extensive pre-feasibility work would be needed during 2013 to decide which, if any, schemes warranted a full feasibility study.

The project's governance group, which represents district and regional councils, iwi, environmental, agricultural and economic interests, met last week and endorsed the work plan.

A separate advisory group representing iwi, environmental, farming, health, recreational, local government and business interests of 19 national, regional and local organisations aims to work collaboratively to provide feedback on project studies and jointly address issues.

A newly appointed steering group of experts, from seven of New Zealand's leading environmental science agencies advising the project on the potential effects of more intensive land use as a result of increased irrigation. The group will also identify management options to address any such effects.

Following a \$750,000 contribution to project funding by Greater Wellington Regional Council last year, the council has allocated \$1.25 million a year for the next three years for project investigation costs.

The project has also applied for funding of 50 per cent of project investigation costs from the Ministry for Primary Industries's \$35 million Irrigation Acceleration Fund.

Mr Corry said the outcome of the funding application was expected to be known within the next month.

- Wairarapa News

165

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Plowman is wasting rates - Guy

EMMA GOODWIN | Last updated 12:50 14/06/2012

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A Horizons regional councillor has been accused of costing ratepayers large sums of money in litigation costs.

Rangitikei councillor Mike Plowman took Horizons to the High Court over integrated management issues in the proposed One Plan, saying they were illegal.

He had previously lost his case in the Environment Court.

During a council meeting, Palmerston North councillor Murray Guy accused Cr Plowman of wasting ratepayers' money and using his position to drive a personal grievance through the courts. "My issue is he is causing financial expense to Horizons and its ratepayers by taking legal action. He took his issue to the Environment Court where it was thrown out, then he appealed to the High Court," Cr Guy said.

Cr Guy said he also found it objectionable that Cr Plowman was happy to receive remuneration from the regional council, but then went head to head against it in court.

"He's prepared to sit here and take council money then stand against it on one of its biggest initiatives.

Horizons chief executive Michael McCartney said he would look into the costs that had been incurred during the court proceedings and would report back to council.

Cr Plowman was not present when Cr Guy launched his attack as he was in the High Court in Wellington awaiting the court's decision.

Cr Guy said that not only was Cr Plowman wasting money, but during court proceedings his attendance at meetings had been sporadic.

Cr Plowman was defiant about his use of the council title and said he had no problem using his name as a councillor at court proceedings.

"Yes, I represented myself as a Horizons councillor. The court knew that and what I stood for and I don't have any problems with it as it."

The High Court did not uphold Cr Plowman's complaint.

Waste water problems, page 6

- @Fairfax NZ News

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6 comments

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Farmers not all to blame

RURAL NEWS
JUNE 5 2012

PETER BURKE

FARMERS, CONTRARY to popular myth, do not with 'gay abandon' pollute the environment, says Federated Farmers president Bruce Wills.

Speaking at an agriculture conference in Wellington, Wills acknowledged farmers do influence the environment because that's where they "run their business". But urban people also greatly influence the environment, he says.

"It's far more visual when you see a cow doing its thing in a river as was shown on television recently. Compare this with a boring old concrete pipe coming out of an oxidation pond near an urban centre and flowing into a river: it's not nearly so dramatic."

The Land and Water Forum has brought acceptance that the environment is everyone's problem and responsibility, Wills says. The view is that no one particular group is more to blame than another. Now that message has to get to the wider community.

Wills says agriculture is under more environmental scrutiny than ever and it's clear some farmers need to lift their game, but most do a good job and care about the environment. Wills spends half his time as Feds president dealing with environmental issues.

He raised concern at the growth in the number of lifestyle blocks around provincial cities and towns. In 20-30 years land equivalent to half that now in dairying has been lost to lifestyle blocks, much of it 'class one' quality. If this trend continues it will have implications for farming and farm production.

Much of this growth has been due to "lazy urban planning," Wills says.



Dairy farmers produce compliance high

EMMA GOODWIN Last updated 12:00 14/06/2012

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A collaborative approach has been lauded as the reason farm environmental compliance rates are at an all-time high.

Horizons Regional Council statistics show dairy compliance rates reached 81 per cent for the 2011/2012 season. Environmental protection manager Alison Russell said a lot of hard work between the council and farmers had paid off resulting in the lowest non-compliance rates on record.

"Farmers are calling us and asking us for advice, and our compliance officers are talking farmers when they are on the verge of non-compliance and suggesting people to talk to for help. "It's working well."

Ms Russell said the Horizons compliance team were extremely well-versed in dairy farming, with many of them coming from farms themselves. "They have a lot of knowledge and they want to help."

Ms Russell said that in the past eight years of recording, the average compliance rate was 83.2 per cent.

"This {81 per cent} is a great result and reflects the significant effort dairy farmers have taken to head towards best industry practice."

Federated Farmers Manawatu/Rangitikei provincial president and dairy industry group vice-chairman Andrew Hoggard said he was pleased with the results.

"I am incredibly happy with the high compliance levels and it is also worth noting not all cases of significant non compliance result from effluent entering waterways."

Nine hundred farms had been inspected over the year and the results showed 7 per cent had significant non-compliance.

"A number of factors have influenced this result, including the more settled weather over the season, but it is still very pleasing," Mr Hoggard said.

He thought dairy farmers deserved a pat on the back but while many were doing well, he said those who were having problems in complying with their resource consents should talk to the regional council or Federated Farmers to get advice.

"It is good to hear from Horizons that most farmers are doing just that when they are being inspected.

"There has been a huge culture shift in the dairy industry, which is still happening." But Mr Hoggard said farmers should not be complacent and should keep working to make things better. This is not a time to rest on our laurels. There is still plenty more work to be done, but these figures should prove to naysayers that dairy farmers are taking the environment seriously."

Ms Russell agreed. "The majority of farmers are good operators. There will always be one or two who have problems but these are getting less and less all the time," she said.

Mr Hoggard said he was pleased with other statistics that showed farmers were getting it right. The number of abatement notices issued was down to 12 from 53 last year and from 88 in the 2008/09 season, and the number of infringement notices issued was 36, compared with 41 last season and 75 in 2008/09.

Editorial PG

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Give dairy farmers credit where it's due

MICHAEL CUMMINGS - EDITOR Last updated 12:00 14/06/2012

Dairy farmers are often publicly maligned for the impact their industry can have on the environment, but they should be roundly applauded for achieving all-time high environmental compliance rates in this region.

As reported in today's Manawatu Standard, Horizons Regional Council statistics show dairy compliance rates reached 91 per cent for the 2011/2012 season. Nine hundred farms were inspected during the year, with just 7 per cent of them recording a significant non-compliance.

While the dairy industry acknowledges the need to further clean up its act, huge progress has been made and it's incredibly encouraging to see positive engagement between dairy farmers and Horizons.

Dairying has come under particularly close scrutiny in this region as a result of legitimate public concern over its impact on waterways, especially the Manawatu River. That has sometimes resulted in dairy farmers being lumped with a disproportionate amount of blame for the state of the river, to the point where many feel unfairly targeted.

Let's be clear, dairying is a significant contributing factor to pollution of our waterways, but it's for that reason that their improvement in environmental compliance should be properly acknowledged.

Cleaning up our rivers is going to take a concerted effort from many different sectors and stakeholders, and playing the blame game is counterproductive. The farming and agriculture industry shouldn't be demonised; it should be encouraged to fully appreciate the competitive advantage it can achieve by operating sustainably.

The region's Federated Farmers president, Andrew Hoggard, says there has been a huge culture shift in the dairy industry, which is ongoing.

Mr Hoggard acknowledges there is still much work to be done, and he's right. But when a whole region is facing a huge collective challenge, every small success or glimmer of hope should be embraced.

There is a long way to go before Manawatu's waterways are restored to a condition we can all be proud of, but progress is being made in some key areas, and that progress needs to be nurtured.

The region's dairy farmers are lifting their game, and richly deserve due credit for it.

ONE MORE THING: A salute to Brett Amos, the retiring commanding officer of Palmerston North's armed offenders squad. The public often forgets that those masked men entering life-threatening situations to help keep our community safe are somebody's husband, father, brother or child. People like Mr Amos put themselves at great risk on our behalf, and he has served the region with distinction.

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J #2 12:37 am Jun 15 2012

It's just a matter of really bad or worse really, isn't it? At its current state it is an absolute disgrace. The problem is only going to get worse before it gets any better. It's a mystery to me why current practices are still allowed (and so many people still get away with non-compliance). No significant progress (legislatively) is being made. 'Clean, green, 100% pure' -- yeah, right.

Hate to be the doom and gloom police, but it's true.

HC #1 08:17 pm Jun 14 2012

So why is the Manawatu River still the most polluted ditch in NZ? How sad that they feel maligned and given an undue proportion of blame.

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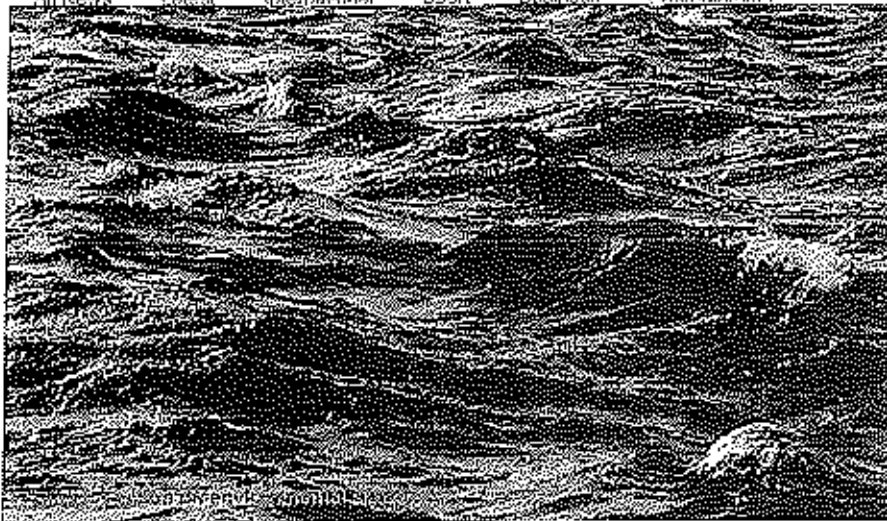
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Larry's Memo: June 14

Calls for action on environmental standards

Simon |

By: Felix Marwick | Latest Political News | Friday June 15 2012 12:07


The state of Wellington's waterways has got the Green Party calling for more action on national environmental standards.

It follows the release of a Wellington Regional Council report that's raising serious concerns over waterway quality and the impacts of increases in dairy farming activity.

Green MP Eugenie Sage says the findings show national environmental standards are urgently needed to set limits on intensive agriculture to protect rivers, lakes, and aquifers.

She says the Government's yet to commit to setting standards for water quality despite these being recommended by the Land and Water Forum.

Photo: stack.xchng


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Duck gets beak of steel

by JUEL MAXWELL | Last updated 14:05 12/07/2012

Photo: Beak: Birdcage mesh is wired around the duck's beak like a set of braces.

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A Kapiti "rockhopper" has a steel-reinforced beak after apparent world first surgery using birdcage mesh.

The mallard was rescued by Wellington SPCA's Kapiti shelter after it was found with its bottom beak torn off and broken - leaving its tongue hanging through a hole under its chin.

A bid to surgically reattach the beak eventually failed and now the Wellington Bird Rehabilitation Trust in Ohariu Valley has come up with a groundbreaking solution.

Trust spokesman Craig Shephard said the duck went through five procedures to try and save its beak and its life, before the sixth proved successful.

"We've wrapped some fine, stainless steel mesh around it and wired it all up. It looks a bit like a set of braces you might see on a human. Except it's on the bottom beak, and it's been really successful."

The idea to use the 3mm gauge mesh, which lines the trust's aviary and is fine enough to stop rat invasions, was Shephard's. "We had a fair bit left over," he said.

Since it received its permanent steel reinforcement, the duck dubbed Rocky has been "fisty as hell" and putting on weight.

Shephard said in total the operations cost several hundred dollars - which might seem a lot for a common mallard but provides useful tips for dealing with more valuable birds.

"For example if we had a brown teal, an endangered bird, with a similar injury, this is something we could do."

The duck will spend the rest of his life at the trust aviary alongside a hostful of other ducks with physical problems, including misshapen beaks and cataract blindness, preventing them from surviving in the wild.

Since the duck got its new beak it has been busy trying to establish a spot at the top of "the pecking order" - a trail that saved its life, Shephard said.

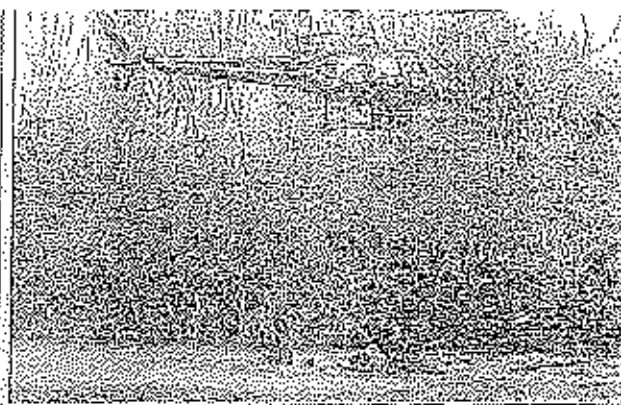
"If he hadn't been such a fighter and so fisty, we probably would've considered euthanasia."

- Kepff Observer

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Wet and cold: The Palmerston North Rescue Helicopter lifts duck hunters out of the Manawatu River.

19.6.12

Manawatu Star

Rescued men out for a duck

Wet Waterhouse

viki.waterhouse2mp.com

Not only did three Palmerston North hunters end up having to be winched, wet and cold, out of the Manawatu River but they also failed to shoot any ducks.

The three men, aged 26, 65 and 76, were out for a leisurely duck hunting expedition on Saturday morning when they hit trouble between the Ashhurst and Fitzherbert bridges.

Despite desperate attempts to avoid a large log submerged in the water, their 12-foot aluminium boat smashed into it and flipped.

Two men clambered out on to the log, and the 65-year-old man managed to right the boat before floating downstream with it for 40 metres, before it struck another log and sank.

Two of the men were taken to Palmerston North Hospital with mild hypothermia after spending an hour in the cold water, but were released in the afternoon.

The 65-year-old man, who did not wish to reveal his name, told the *Manawatu Standard* he had done the trip three or four times, but was unaware of the log jam because it was 20 years since he last did it.

"I tried to row to the right to go into the shallower water, but it just kept pulling us back," he said.

"I was rowing flat out and I thought we'd got around that log."

After the boat sank, he clung to a log and salvaged his mobile phone from a plastic bag to call emergency services.

He considered swimming to the edge of the river, but decided it was too dangerous as the river was full of logs and his 76-year-old friend could not swim.

"It wasn't all that warm, it was only about 5 degrees," he said.

"My temperature dropped about 15 degrees or something because I was writhing wet... I was there for about an hour."

The three men had to wait to be rescued, while emergency services first searched for them and then organised for the Palmerston North Rescue Helicopter to winch them out.

The man was not terribly concerned for his safety, but was certainly feeling the effects of the cold water and air.

"I was just most worried about the bloody cold... I was bloody shivering like hell," he said.

He said the group had been on the river about an hour when the accident happened, but they had not managed to shoot any ducks in that time.

He said the most important thing was that everyone was alive and unhurt.

Despite his bad experience, the man said he would be heading out shooting again this weekend, though not on the water.

Police said the men were well prepared but urged hunters to carry an emergency locator beacon.

District Search and Rescue co-ordinator Sergeant Bill Nicholson said that in similar incidents mobile phones were drowned and did not work, and plastic bags were not fail-safe.

"(Phones) should not be the primary means of communication," he said.

Emergency locator beacons could pinpoint locations and alerted the rescue co-ordination centre immediately when activated.

He praised them for wearing lifejackets. The 65-year-old man said he would buy an emergency locator beacon.

"If we get in trouble again they probably won't appreciate it."

Manawatu Standard

Sewerage falls short of regional standard

EMMA HORSLEY Last updated 13:47 26/07/2012

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Manawatu District Council is to spend \$6 million upgrading its Feilding sewage treatment plant, but its other plants are struggling to comply with environmental standards.

Out of nine discharge consents, only two complied in recent inspections by Horizons Regional Council, with Kimbolton, Sanson and Feilding classed as significantly non-compliant.

Feilding has been discharging on an outdated consent since June 2009, with a consent hearing for the plant scheduled for late November.

But it is the council's Kimbolton plant that is causing the regional council concern on three major points.

Testing has shown its discharge into the Orua River has high levels of suspended solids, E-coli concentrations and ammonia-nitrogen concentrations in almost all of its sampling.

Horizons said it had been working with the district council to resolve the problem.

Manawatu District Council's infrastructure group manager Hamish Waugh said the council knew there was a problem with the plant and that it had set aside funding in its long-term plan to fix the problem.

"There's been some ongoing issues with the plant and the council spent \$300,000 on it a few years ago to fix some problems but it didn't work, so it was decided to put aside some more money to get it up to standard."

Mr Waugh said the council would use \$150,000 from the money it had received from the Ministry for the Environment's Fresh Water Cleanup Fund to help pay for the work needed.

"The work has been earmarked for this financial year so we hope to see a major improvement as soon as possible."

He said it would rectify the non-compliance issues once and for all.

Mr Waugh said finances prevented all plants being upgraded at the same time.

"It would take a lot of money and that money would have to come from ratepayers, and that wouldn't be possible all at the same time."

Orua Catchment Care Group chairman Dennis Emory said he hoped the council would take all necessary steps to ensure the Orua River did not suffer from any environmental impacts.

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Water quality moves worry farmers

By Nikki Preston

5:30 AM Friday Jul 27, 2012

A move to improve water quality in Waikato rivers by focusing on land and water use will cost the regional council \$6.3 million and farmers believe it could lead to rules on how they run their farms.

The Waikato Regional Council's land and water quality subcommittee yesterday approved a review of the regional plan change on water for the Waikato and Waipa river catchments.

The review has to be approved by the policy committee and full council.

The subcommittee was responding to requests by the joint working group of iwi and the regional council to urgently address the effects of discharges to land and water.

The latest policy review is expected to cost \$1.8 million a year for 3 years until a final document can be produced for consultation. Waikato Regional Council group manager of policy and transport Vaughan Payne said it was the most expensive policy the council had embarked on.

It was too early to say what would be in the final plans, as the council intended to spend three years consulting farmers, iwi and other parties before the policy was completed.

The plan would then be put out for formal consultation and was expected to be the subject of appeals to the Environment Court.

Waikato Federated Farmers and some councillors questioned what the changes could mean for the 1500 farms in the Waipa and Waikato river catchments, and suggested the plan could include contentious ideas such as capping stock numbers.

Waikato Federated Farmers president James Houghton felt it was another case of local and central government trying to tell farmers what they could and couldn't do. "What we would like to see is less rules and more results focus," he said.

Mr Houghton, whose farm crosses the upper Waipa and Waikato catchments, said he had four cows per hectare but managed his cows in such a way that his stock produced less nitrogen than an average farmer's.

Dairy NZ chief executive Tim Mackie said the policy had significant implications and care needed to be taken to get the policy right.

"That means addressing and fixing real sustainability issues while growing the economic contributions of important livestock industries like dairy."

Councillors were told the Waikato River Authority and iwi were committed to working closely with the council to ensure their policies were in line after some councillors asked if they would be duplicating rules the authority could set in 2016.

The only councillor to vote against the process, Theresa Stark, wanted the regional plan to be reviewed in its entirety rather than singling out water.

"A lot of it is the fear of the unknown but when it comes to people's livelihoods, I think that fear and concern is justifiable."

Councillor Lois Livingston said farmers should start looking at how they could improve their practices.



The plan aims to improve the quality of the Waikato (pictured) and Waipa rivers. Picture / Christine Cornago.

DOMINION
POST

Business

It's a fair cop, our farming editor done it

OVER THE FENCE - JON MORGAN Last updated 5:00 27/06/2012

OPINION: All right, I'll come clean, it's my fault. I was the one who snuck on to Colin Azmer's farm in the middle of the night and broke his affluent disposal system.

I've been doing it for years – creeping on to dairy farms under the cover of darkness to wreak environmental mayhem.

And here's the scoop – I'm just one of a team, all of us from newspapers around the country, with the sole aim of taking New Zealand's clean green reputation.

My boat has been the Otago farms. I've made sure they have had a procession of incidents that has made their name a byword for dirty dairying.

I almost kept up in the middle of the endless speechifying at Saturday night's farm environment awards dinner at Parliament to confuses. But I held back to reveal all to you now.

The timing is right. It is clear you're on to us. Speaker after speaker at the dinner blamed the dows media for dairying's bad name.

They complained that while we highlight the pollution cases we don't give equal coverage to the good news, the farmers who are exemplars of environmental best-practice.

No, we don't. It would be like putting the story of a person who committed a heinous crime on the front page and right alongside it, a story of a person who was leading an honest and upright life.

The point is that we should all live this way and, by and large, we all do. It's sure you want us to point out the ones who don't.

Dairying should not be an exception.

No-one believes all dairy farmers are polluters, but the fact remains that as an industry they are slow to lift their standards.

A good newspaper, with its finger on the pulse of public opinion, wouldn't be doing its job if it did not point this out.

Actually, the other side, the stories of the farmers who are doing all they can to protect the environment, are being run. They appear on farming pages up and down the country.

It's not the front page, but how many of you buy a paper, read just the front page and throw it away?

Enough of this. You get my point. On to the awards.

First, the dinner. Rarely have I tasted a more tender beef steak, not as a judge at the Steak of Origin competition or as a social diner. The Beehive catering team performed wonders to give all 350 guests such an experience.

The awards stem from an idea by Waikato farmer Gordon Stephenson in 1991 and have grown to include nine regions. All but Taranaki, Nelson-Marlborough and Westland have been signed up.

For the farmers who enter the awards, it is an exciting time.

At the regional level each entrant undergoes a critical analysis by farmer judges and finalists are chosen after robust debate. Winners then host on-farm field days that attract big crowds. The search for a national winner subjects them to further scrutiny.

This year's winners, North Otago sheep and beef farmers Blair and Jane Smith, said as many as 10 judges inspected them and their property.

Judging by the short film we saw, they are the beneficiaries of previous generations' work. More than 80,000 trees have been planted to stabilise the hills and provide shelter and shade since 1972 and more are planned.

To say they keep busy is an understatement. They look after three farms, including a perendale stud and lamb finishing, Angus cows and calves, dairy grazers and beehives, often in harsh conditions.

They have three children under five and Jane still has time for netball, Playgroup, Piasket, organising a school centenary and her part-time job as a Redoubt rural manager.

Blair is a Central South Island Farmer Council member, a Perendale Society judge and rugby coach.

They are planting up gullies and the quality of their streams' water is such that they have been able to introduce native crayfish.

115

Water quality is critical issue

I am writing to you regarding the jet boating debate taking place in Rangitikei.

This debate centres around what sections of the river jet boats should be excluded from. The debate seems to have inflamed various segments of the community on a for or against basis.

I am writing as one who did not lodge a submission, who has followed the debate since the day of the hearings, and who represents a company that is the major commercial user of the river, on the section in question.

First of all I would like to say that I think it really won't matter what the commissioners decide as the river will have the best of it.

The reality is that most of the summer when there is a lot of raft, canoe, troyak and fishing traffic on the sections in question, the river is simply too low for jet boats.

What I think is good about the whole debate is that it shows how many people are passionate about the river, or am I wrong about this and people are only passionate about access to the river?

I say this because it is the state of the river we need to be passionate about.

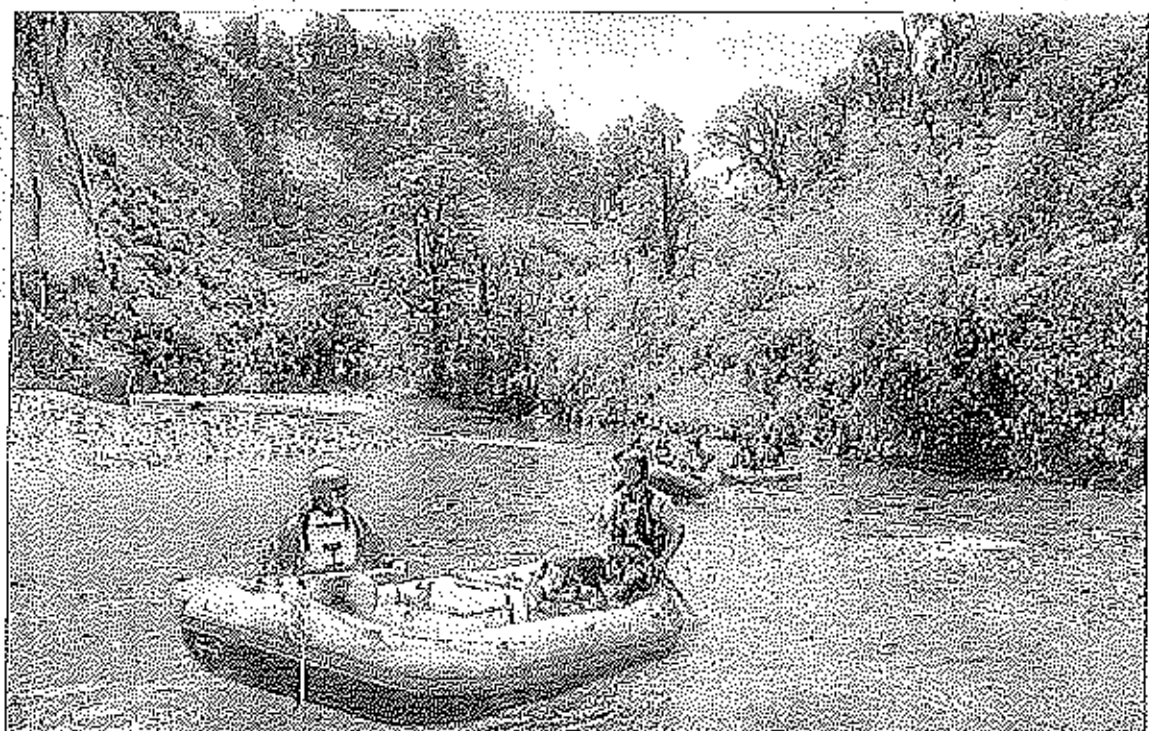
The Rangitikei River is an incredibly beautiful river, a river that I have been fortunate enough to spend a good deal of my working life on. But our river is under threat and this is where we, as a community, need to focus our concerns.

While "dirty deirying" has, for good reason, been in the spotlight a good deal lately, what has slipped under the radar is intensification of hill country farming, particularly the "feedlots" (starting to spring up along the river banks, recycling thousands of cattle each winter).

What is the significance of those? Consider this. These feedlots are generally in use for two to three months over winter, with 2500 cattle or more on an area seldom exceeding five hectares. While the river is fenced off, back about 20m or so, there is an actual riparian planting as such. Not that I think this would do much as these feedlots are on a free draining soil type with most of the liquid waste permeating through the soil.

How on earth this, fresh cattle manure is equivalent in wet manure and urine production to 14 people, (some reports suggest 20 to 40 people).

A little bit of maths says that each feedlot, as far as faeces and urine production is concerned, is the same as a town of 21,000 people parked on



20 acres without any waste treatment. Two feedlots and you have a city of 80,000 people sitting on the riverbanks of our beautiful river with only one place for all the waste to go; yes you guessed it, into the river.

But it is not only farming practices that we need to draw attention to.

The wastewater treatment facility for Taupo has consistently been unable to meet its discharge quality requirements since 2008. This treatment facility

discharges into the Hutangui River, a tributary of the Rangitikei.

What this means is, and I quote from a report:

"There are very high faecal coliform bacteria and phosphate levels in the discharge from the Taupo treatment facility. These levels are sufficiently high to deem the Rangitikei River downstream of the Hutangui-Rangitikei River junction unsafe for swimming, despite the massive dilution factor provided by the

Rangitikei River. This discharge has drastic effects on the aquatic ecosystem and encourages algal growth. The extremely low water quality restricts movement of native migratory fish to pristine habitats usually located nearer the source."

Until recently I think many New Zealanders thought we weren't too bad on the water quality front; even though we were quite good.

It is time to think again. On the world stage we have sunk from number two on the pure

water front to 68.

Is this what we need to be passionate about? I would think so.

Who wants to drive a jet boat, row a raft, paddle a troyak, or fish in water that is unsafe to swim in, contains cow excrement, is unsafe to drink, and has degraded aquatic life?

I believe it is not too late to change things for the better. We can keep

our rivers clean and healthy.

We can rectify most of the mistakes of the past but what we cannot do is ignore what is happening.

We need to address these issues as a community and also for our children and grandchildren.

Regards
Brian McGavin
River Valley

Para and clean; protecting our rivers for the right reason is a concern for many.

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FALDING HERALD RANGITIKEI MAIL



Print

Dairy industry working on pollution

28-Jun 09:36



By 3 News online staff

Initiatives to improve water quality in our rivers and streams largely focus on so-called "dirty dairying" - but farmers say that's only part of the problem.

Managing and improving water quality is a key focus of the Federated Farmers national conference currently underway in Auckland, but they say other areas of society also need to step up.

Federated Farmers' Ian McKenzie says there is "no question" agriculture plays a part in the pollution of rivers, but points out effluence is dumped in Christchurch's Avon River by the city council.

"Urban population is responsible for 80 percent of the world's pollution, and that's water and air pollution," he told Firstline this morning.

Mr McKenzie says the industry does realise the impact it has on the environment and is taking steps to work on this.

"The dairy industry is about to come out with their second iteration of the Clean Streams Accord [...] it's going to make fencing compulsory," he says.

3 News

3 News - <http://www.3news.co.nz/defaultStrip.aspx?tabid=213&articleID=259394>

New clean streams accord 'will curb Govt'

Updated at 5:32 am on 29 June 2012

Federated Farmers' conference has heard that a new clean streams accord will limit the role of government and local bodies and include more industry groups.

A final report on the first accord is due at the end of the year. It was set up as a joint venture between Fonterra, the government and regional councils in 2009 in response to the dirty dairying campaign targeting pollution of waterways by dairy farming.

That accord set targets including the fencing off of all on-farm waterways, which Fonterra says has now been completed by 87% of dairy farmers. Government figures reported a lower compliance rate.

Fonterra says it's now developed a new draft accord which it plans to finalise in August, but this time it's sought input from eight industry groups. Its general manager of sustainability Jane Hutchings says that's important because the achievement of the accord can be measured by industry standards.

Mr Hutchings says riparian planting will be a key focus in the second clean streams accord.

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Court slams Te Awamutu farm for illegal effluent discharge

AARON RAMSAY | Last updated 05:00 22/07/2012

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A Te Awamutu farming company has been hit with almost \$32,000 in fines for dirty dairying after a helicopter monitoring flyover raised red flags with their operation.

Wyebrook Farms Ltd, owner of a farm in Candy Rd, west of Te Awamutu, has been fined \$51,875 and ordered to pay \$481 costs following a hearing in the Hamilton District Court. The company pleaded guilty to two Resource Management Act charges.

The prosecution, brought by the Waikato Regional Council, relates to two events at the Wyebrook farm last year in which dairy effluent was illegally discharged.

Following a helicopter monitoring flyover in August, council staff visited the property and found effluent from a holding pond had overflowed at five different spots into a nearby stream.

The stream flows 700 metres to the Waipa River.

Further investigation found a large pile of effluent scrapings had been removed from a bunker and put on a nearby paddock about five months earlier, causing further discharges into the environment.

Judge Melanie Harland said the breaches were moderately serious offending and the overflow into the waterway had been ongoing for several days.

"The overriding concern is the cumulative effect of such discharges to waterways," Judge Harland said.

Commenting afterwards, the regional council's investigation and compliance manager, Patrick Lynch, said despite positive environmental protection work within the farming industry, "We are still finding dairy farms that simply do not place effluent management as a priority".

"Now that there is a code of practice and design standards for effluent systems, there is no excuse for not knowing how to manage effluent appropriately."

Judge Harland said effluent management should be a matter of top priority.

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Dirty few's actions tainting dairy industry

GERALD PIDDOCK, Last updated 09:03 03/07/2012

The bottom 10 per cent of the dairy industry is giving traction to the "dirty dairying" slogan, DairyNZ chief executive Tim Mackle says.

Mackle was part of a panel discussion about improving perceptions of the industry, held at the South Island Dairy Event conference.

The industry had to remain profitable because that gave farmers options and drove sustainability, Mackle said.

"The two go hand in hand. The minute we lose profitability, sustainability goes down the gurgler."

The No1 priority for farmers was to get things right on their farms. The industry also had to get on top of any animal welfare issues, improve its environmental footprint and present the right attitude to the public.

"If you let any of these things go, it undermines all the good work that we do," Mackle said.

Other farmers have to apply peer pressure to those bottom 10 per cent, dairy farmer Stephen Korteweg said.

All dairy farmers had to try and do better. The industry had to talk and encourage those letting the industry down rather than denigrate them because this risked segregating them.

Rekindling connections with urban dwellers by inviting people onto their farms, including local government officials, would enlighten people about good dairy practice and improve perceptions.

"All of us also have to lift our game a notch and some more than others no doubt," Korteweg said.

Perception was reality as far as the public were concerned, Neil Deans from Fish and Game said.

The image of the industry was judged on the actions of the bottom 10 per cent, which was unfair for those farmers who were following best practice guidelines.

"The question is, do you want these people to be part of your industry. That's a real challenge in the future," Deans said.

The industry should stop defending the indefensible. If a farmer was caught in an effluent spill they should take responsibility for their actions.

Increasingly, expectations will be that full compliance has to go hand in hand with the supply agreement the farmer had with their dairy company.

The industry could put the "dirty dairying" slogan to rest if dairying's environmental issues were addressed.

"If you can get that message from people that have been saying they have been concerned in the past, then I think bogey man will have gone away."

The country needed the industry to get things right given its importance to the New Zealand economy.

"Dairy success is important and we all have an interest in that success and we all have an interest in the environment he said.

Water in New Zealand is a common resource where everyone has a share.

"People are perceiving that your gain is their pain," he said.

The industry needed to showcase its top performers along with educating the public to help change that perception



Cliffs project likely to receive consent

JANINE RANKIN Last updated 12:00 20/08/2012

Work to turn Palmerston North's Anzac Cliffs into a hill and shift the Manawatu River away from their base is likely to get resource consents without going to a public hearing.

The \$3 million project by Horizons Regional Council is designed to stabilise the eroding cliffs and protect the city's stopbanks.

At the top of the cliffs, landowners FMR Landco plan to carve the edge off the cliffs to create a new slope, making it safe to develop building sections at Vaucluse Heights.

The applications for resource consents attracted 10 submissions opposing the changes.

However, most had been satisfied their concerns could be addressed through conditions applied to the consents.

One of the last objectors left standing, Carol Howard, initially said she was disappointed with the proposal.

"I am very much opposed to removing a dramatic, natural part of our landscape ... and replacing them with a boring, sloping green paddock."

But she had moderated her view after a pre-hearing meeting this week.

"The trouble with the cliffs being left to erode naturally (apart from the fact that they might fall on someone) is that they will naturally find their own level and then they will start to revegetate themselves and that might be a bit scrubby. So maybe a slightly lowered and recontoured cliff, planted in natives, would not be so bad.

"It's a pity to lose the cliffs, but they may lose themselves otherwise."

A hearing has been set down for July 30, but will not go ahead if agreements are reached with all of the submitters before then.

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Cliff-top plan sent for review

JANINE BARKIN Last updated 12:09 10/07/2012

The multimillion-dollar project to reshape Palmerston North's Anzac Cliffs and stop the Manawatu River eroding their base is going to a hearing to refine details of the work.

Horizons and Vaucluse Heights landowner PMS Landco have applied to the regional council and city council for resource management consents to carry out the work this summer.

Those who have made submissions about the work have agreed in pre-hearing talks that their concerns could be satisfied by conditions imposed on the consents.

However, a hearing will be going ahead on July 30 to resolve some technicalities, a Horizons spokeswoman said.

The project has been promoted for several reasons.

It will stabilise the cliff-top land for eventual residential development.

The land at the end of Vaucluse Heights was a no-go area while the city council had a building restriction line at the top.

That control has been removed through a District Plan change, but future development is dependent on the earthworks going ahead.

The cliffs have eroded as much as 45 metres in the last six years, steadily approaching the building line and sending up to 20,000 cubic metres of soil down the river each year.

Some has blown away as dust.

Adjusting the slope of the cliffs to form a steep hill covered in vegetation will remove the risk of lumps of soil and rock from the cliff crashing down into the river and injuring anyone breaching the advice not to swim there.

Horizons engineer Allan Cook said re-aligning the river channel would also stop the river's force from bouncing back against the city-side stopbanks at the back of the Manawatu Golf Course and Massey University's Hōkōwhiri campus.

The new channel would be created over a length of 460 metres, shifting the river from 50 to 125 metres from its existing course.

Horizons plans to spend about \$3 million building a rock lining to steer the river away from the foot of the cliffs.

The Higgins group of companies landholder PMS Landco will spend a similar amount backfilling with soil carved off the top.

The work this summer would start on the city side of the river, in the dry.

Conditions were likely to be imposed that would minimise the amount of soil allowed to be discharged into the river during the disturbance.

Wellington Fish and Game wants to ensure work is finished before the trout spawning season beginning in May, and wants river crossings by heavy machinery and trucks kept to a minimum.

City Networks general manager Ray Swales said the council was planning ways to provide recreational access and pathways on the Anzac Park side of the river after the project was finished.

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Anzac Cliffs face safety makeover

JANINE RANKIN Last updated 12:00 04/08/2012

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Public access to a popular Manawatu River swimming spot opposite Anzac Cliffs is likely to be closed off this summer.

Horizons Regional Council will be shifting the river channel away from its current course which is eroding the base of the cliffs.

If the work goes ahead, including reshaping the sheer face into a hill, it would mean people could use the area next summer without danger of being hurt by rockfalls.

A hearing by commissioners considered Horizons' application for resource consent in Palmerston North yesterday.

It also heard property owner PMB Landco's proposals to reconstruct the cliffs into a slope behind the new rock wall on the far bank and secure the land at the top.

Commissioner Sue Scott paid particular attention to plans to plant the slope and provide public access to the new left bank.

Those aspects of the project were designed to make up for the loss of what was acknowledged by all parties as a dramatic landscape feature.

In the absence of submitters in opposition, the hearing focused on areas of disagreement about conditions.

Horizons' operations group objects to having to provide a construction environmental management plan before starting work.

Design engineer David Bell said it was unnecessary because the details were already in the resource application or would be covered by conditions.

It could create uncertainty about a start time for the project, when crews would be racing to complete the work during the summer.

Operations manager Allan Cook said any delays could be as serious as a flood.

"Maximum utilisation of the seasonal period of low river flows is imperative to the successful completion of construction.

"The quicker we can get in and get it finished, the better for all interests," he said.

But Horizons consents department planning consultant Dave Moutie said supplying a Comp report was best practice and it should not be an onerous task to provide it.

The provision of walkways from the planned subdivision at Vaucluse Heights down to the newly-created left-bank area was also a point of disagreement.

The city council sees the earthworks providing an opportunity to create pathways, but PMB Landco's planning consultant Lisa Poynton said the property owner should not have to pay for them.

She said forming pathways on the steep slope would be difficult, and probably expensive.

Public access down to the rock wall should be the city council's responsibility, and it was unfair to impose that requirement on PMB Landco, she said.

Horizons, PMB Landco and the city council have worked together to develop the project.

Mr Cook said there were three major reasons behind the proposed work: to protect the city-side stopbanks from damage as the river swings back acutely from the cliffs, to stop the danger of the cliffs collapsing into the river, and to secure land at the top for residential development.

The public will continue to be able to use the riverside walkway throughout the construction, although there will be 15 trucks laden with rock crossing from Albert St each day, starting as early as next month.

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Water conservation orders deserve celebrating

14 August 2012

United Future Leader Peter Dunne has welcomed a brand new campaign celebrating water conservation orders and the 15 waterways currently protected by them.

The campaign led by Fish and Game NZ, Forest and Bird, the Environmental Defence Society, Whitewater NZ and the Federated Mountain Clubs is aiming to raise awareness about the existence and importance of water conservation orders.

"Water conservation orders are a little known but crucial part of the environmental management framework in this country," said Mr Dunne.

"New Zealanders are quite rightly proud of our natural heritage, particularly our network of national parks, conservation areas and marine reserves, however very few people are even aware of the existence of water conservation orders."

"Effectively water conservation orders are national parks for our waterways, which is why it is such a pity that until now they have not been celebrated as such."

"I congratulate the various conservation and recreation organisations responsible for the campaign and wish them well in their efforts to further emphasise the importance of protecting the quality of our freshwater resources," said Mr Dunne.

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Wairarapa's wonderful wetlands

Friday, August 10, 2012 8:30

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A campaign launched this week has highlighted the Lake Wairarapa wetlands as one of the country's most outstanding waterways.

Fish & Game, along with other organisations, have launched a campaign to raise awareness of the country's most outstanding rivers and the Water Conservation Orders (WCO) that protect them.

This includes the launch of a WCO website, putting up signs and holding unvoicing ceremonies around the country and groups of rafts and kayaks floating down the protected rivers.

Former All Blacks captain Anton Oliver will front the campaign in his role as the ambassador.

Fish & Game Wellington regional manager Phil Teal said duck hunters have been using the wetlands for decades, but some don't know they exist.

"Many others who travel over the Wairarapa probably overlook this local water treasure, and sadly, may be unaware that such special places exist."

Mr Teal said about six signs will be put up at access points near Lake Wairarapa in the next few days. This is to raise awareness of the status of the area.

Around 15 rivers and some lakes are protected by WCO, which is the highest level of protection to any waterways in the country.

Mr Teal said many people weren't aware a WCO provides the same level of protection as national parks: "I'd urge people to take the time to look at our website to learn just what's out there."

Other organisations taking part in the campaign include Forest & Bird, Environmental Defence Society, Whitewater NZ, Federated Mountain Clubs and other environmental and recreational organisations.

www.outstandingrivers.org.nz

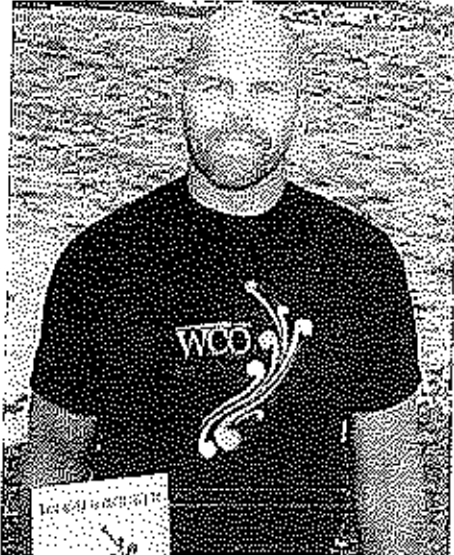


STANDING: Lake Wairarapa is one of few protected by a Water Conservation Order, the same level of protection as national parks. PHOTOFILE

Water resources more important than dollars

RACHEL STEWART

Last updated 07:50 13/08/2012



Former All Blacks skipper Anton Oliver is now leading a campaign to keep rivers all green and clean.

OPINION: What do Richie McCaw and Anton Oliver have in common, besides the All Black captaincy and being South Islanders by birth? Not very much, it turns out, but we'll get to that in a moment.

First, let's talk water. It is a subject on the lips of many. Every New Zealander has a huge stake in its future, whether it relates to ownership, availability or quality.

We're all quickly learning that it's something that can no longer be taken for granted. The pressures on water have become too large and unrelenting and involve industry trying to extract financial gain from it one way or another. The fight is definitely on.

The team in white is the dairy industry - prime polluter No 1. "Dirty dairying" is now a household term, and its implications are evident in declining water quality. Yet cow numbers march incessantly on, keeping Fonterra's insatiable growth projections moving forward and farmers on the never-ending treadmill of intensification.

The team in green are the various environmental groups and, for this particular match, they are led by Fish & Game. It has made more headway on water issues than any other "green" group in the land - a happy by-product of looking after its hunting and fishing stakeholders well.

Last week Fish & Game spearheaded a new campaign highlighting awareness of Water Conservation Orders (WCOs) which, despite having been in existence for some time, are not generally well understood.

Essentially, they give specific waterways the highest level of protection available - much like a national park does on land.

There are currently only 15 protected water bodies in New Zealand. Fish & Game instigated 12 of those, which its members paid for through their hunting and angling licence fees.

Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment Dr Jan Wright also recently called for broader protection of wild and scenic rivers. It is yet to be seen whether the Government will act on her recommendation.

New Zealand needs more than 15 protected waterways, not least because WCOs bring with them defined limits on water abstraction. This means that any companies pursuing more water than the limits allow for know the perimeters before embarking down the litigation track.

Data suggests that setting limits on all waterways would most certainly reduce the legal wrangling polluters and abstractors will be willing to engage in. From the outset they clearly see the financial risks and benefits of doing so.

A public awareness push is imperative because attempts are already under way by the extractive industries to undermine the status of WCOs. Given our current Government's track record on matters economic and democratic, this has to be treated as a real threat.

Unconvinced? Think Environment Canterbury's councillor sackings due, according to Nick Smith, to their "water management style". The asset sales programme, and its associated water resources, is another example of essentially selling the car without the ownership papers. Water is fast becoming the new oil, such is its financial value to agriculture.

Conversely cow shit doesn't offer many benefits to water.

Fish & Game's campaign to emphasise WCOs is fronted by ex- All Black Anton Oliver. He has completed a masters degree in environmental policy from Oxford University, and has been an assertive critic of what he sees as mismanagement of New Zealand's freshwater resource.

"Living in the UK I see the promotions aimed at luring tourists to New Zealand - the land of crystal-clear waterways. In my opinion there is a large and growing discrepancy between the marketing 'clean green' rhetoric and the reality of what's actually happening on the ground.

"My concern is that we are fooling ourselves if we think New Zealand's natural world is pristine and untouched - it's a concept that is difficult for us to accept, because it challenges a part of our national identity."

He's right. Kivis seem to have difficulty grasping the fact that not all is well in our rivers, lakes and streams. It's like an admission would be tantamount to a loss of environmental innocence and we're "100 per cent Pure", right?

Tellingly, while Oliver is putting his beliefs into action as a WCO ambassador the current All Black captain is fronting as Fonterra's ambassador. New Zealand's largest company is using him for the next three years to "build pride" among Kivis in the Fonterra brand. Marketing experts estimate he is earning a fee of somewhere in the vicinity of \$300,000 annually for doing so.

In other words, McCaw is lending - sorry, selling - his over- exposed face to this country's largest industry abstracter and polluter of freshwater. It is nothing more than unthinking, opportunistic and greedy.

Anton Oliver is doing the exact opposite. He is speaking out about water quality degradation in his homeland by putting his money where his mouth is - money not made by fronting the WCO campaign.

And therein lies the stark difference between these two men, and also between those in society who revere the economy like a god and others calling for more principled handling of our natural resources.

Some things - and clean, fresh water is one of them - are rightly bigger than the bucks.

- © Fairfax NZ News

Rugby legend fronts river protection campaign

09 Aug, 2012 09:33 AM

Former All Blacks captain Anton Oliver is throwing his weight behind a new environmental cause – protection of the country's outstanding wild and scenic rivers.

Although now based in London, Oliver says on recent visits back to New Zealand he's been staggered by the rate of decline of many of our country's rivers and waterways.

"I'm like many Kiwis who love and have a great affinity for our rivers – I grew up swimming, playing, and fishing in crystal clear water that you'd drink without any fear of sickness or pollution.

"Living in the UK I see the promotional aimed at luring tourists to New Zealand – the land of crystal-clear waterways. In my opinion there is a large and growing discrepancy between the marketing 'clean green' rhetoric and the reality of what's actually happening on the ground.

"My concern is that we are fooling ourselves if we think New Zealand's natural world is pristine and untouched – it's a concept that is difficult for us to accept because it challenges a part of our national identity.

"We're not doing enough to protect these special natural features, and consequently the highly lucrative '100% Pure' brand that relies so heavily on wild, scenic rivers and clean water."

Hence, why Oliver is fronting efforts to preserve and even strengthen the use of Water Conservation Orders (WCOs), which confer status akin to National Park-protection over some of the country's most scenic and pristine wild rivers.

"WCOs are the highest level of protection that can be afforded to any freshwater body in New Zealand, yet lots of people have never heard of them.

"We've only got a finite number of wild, free-flowing rivers left in this country and many are protected by WCO. It's time to get WCOs to the fore and ensure the average Kiwi understands how precious they are."

A WCO recognises a river or lakes' outstanding natural, recreational, cultural or heritage values – presently there are 15 WCO-protected waterways throughout New Zealand (for a full list visit www.OutstandingRivers.org.nz).

"When a WCO is granted it provides National Park-type status, protecting its outstanding natural values for all freshwater fish, wildlife, outdoor recreation and present and future generations," Oliver says.

So, when a WCO is put in place it protects a river from damming, altering its course, or other environmentally damaging in-stream impacts, he adds.

Fish & Game NZ, through their efforts to preserve and enhance habitat for species like trout, salmon and a variety of waterfowl, have led the majority of applications for WCOs. But because a WCO also protects a host of other recreational and indigenous wildlife values, many other parties have assisted their efforts – including Whitewater NZ, Forest & Bird and the Environmental Defence Society.

Oliver says he is happy to front the campaign on behalf of these organisations.

"We need to get behind Fish & Game and the NGOs who've gone into bat on behalf of the public so often on this issue. All Kiwis – including our kids and future generations – benefit from having these special places protected in perpetuity.

"Some sectors might make short-term, private profit by damming or irrigating from rivers, but we all benefit in the long run by having clean rivers and lakes which belong to the New Zealand public and are so vital to our '100% Pure' brand."

Present and future governments should explicitly recognise the value of preserving wild and scenic rivers, Oliver says, and should support only for legislation to be strengthened so the protection mechanisms can't be watered down.

Oliver has been outspoken on environmental issues – including the mismanagement of New Zealand's freshwater resource – and his credentials include the completion of a Master's degree in Environmental Policy from Oxford University, UK.



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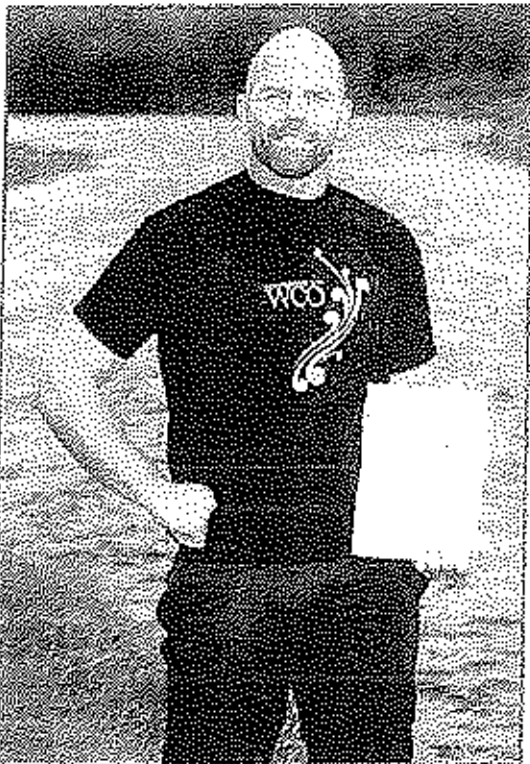
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Former All Black and WCO ambassador Anton Oliver



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