

## Agenda Item 10

**Operational Report** – for the period ended January 2021

**Prepared by:** Dean Kelly – Manager

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### **Introduction**

The Council's adopted governance policies require the manager to provide an Operational Report, specific proposals for capital expenditure and acquisitions as well as major issues and opportunities for the Council. There are further requirements for the Manager to provide assurance that the Management Limitations are being observed. The format of this report is therefore to certify compliance with Governance Policies, Management Limitations and provide other material, responses, or assurance that Council objectives, strategies, plans, performance, risks, operation, resources and structure are being met.

### **Notifications of intention to purchase unbudgeted capital items in excess of \$10,000**

Nothing to report

### **Matters for the information of council**

#### Staff:

Staff holiday entitlements:      Manager, 10 days  
   Hokitika Officer, 6 days  
   Northern Officer, 14 days

#### Vehicles:

Managers Vehicle: (start) 91,364km (fin) 102,758. Total private for period: 1,350km  
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle: 34,500km (start) 41,500km (finish) Total private for period: 1,527km  
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle: (start) 69,548 km (fin.) 76,021 km Total private for period: 1590 km

### **Bi-monthly report on outputs**

#### 1111 Drift Diving

Drift dives completed in the Mawheraiti (Mirfins and SH7 bridge), Upper Grey (Hospital Flat), Inangahua (Blacks Point), Waitahu (Gannons bridge) and Larry's Creek (Upper).

#### 1112 Lake Netting

Lake Netting surveys undertaken at lakes Paringa and Moeraki completed. Report completed.

#### 1114 Trend Counts

Paradise shelduck moult count surveys initiated.

#### 1115 Sportsfishery Research

Three new sites electric fished in the New River with only two juveniles captured.

#### 1116 Backcountry Fisheries Management

Four trail cameras capturing data in the Reefton area requiring fortnightly maintenance.

#### 1121 National Hunter Survey

See attached report.

#### 1161 Fisheries Enhancement

Site visit and discussions undertaken with Paul Berry and Greg Topp regarding the development of a Junior Fish Out Pond and Salomon release as mitigation following the reinstatement of the Reefton Power Scheme.

#### 1171 Regulations/Gazette Notices

Gamebird regulations amended to reflect changes recommended during the WCFGF December 2020 meeting.

#### 1181 Game Bird Control

Six Paradise Shelduck complaints received. Two responded to with the young hunter's club, two issued permits and advice given to two. One pukeko complaint, Permit issued.

#### 1211 RMA Plans/Policy/Consents

Meeting held with WCRC CEO discussing topical issues with a focus on NES implementation and enforcement.

Applicant	Area	Type	Nature of work	Comments
Westland Mining Ltd	Humphreys Gully, Arahura	Land use consent	Alluvial Gold Mining	
Reefton Powerhouse Trust	Inangahua River	Land use consent	Powerstation discharge location of tailrace.	
Road Metals	Inangahua River	Land use consent	Gravel extraction	Single crossing point for 4 week period.

#### 1212 Dairy Industry/Farmer Advocacy

Continued liaison with landowners regarding new freshwater standards and regulations.

#### 1213 DOC

Fish Passage Workshop attended with DOC, Regional council and NZTA staff at Hokitika

#### 1311 Access

Access issues investigated on Crooked River and lower Grey. Upper Crooked River access continues to be difficult for visiting anglers. Lower Grey access issue appears to be a confused angler, will improve signage to avoid this reoccurring.

#### 1331 Website/Ezines/Social Media

Relevant material been posted on website. Regular Facebook articles produced, focusing on promoting the Summer angling, fishing basics, compliance presence and family fishing.

#### 1332 Fish & Game Magazine

2021 Gamebird edition complete.

#### 1341 Sportsfisheries Guides

Checked and slightly edited for next print to ensure content still is relevant. Agents delivered copies in preparation for upcoming season.

#### 1361 Clubs, Outdoor Recreation Groups

Ran weigh in at Lake Brunner fishing competition. The push from West Coast Fish & Game to have a longest fish competition and photograph trout on rulers resulted in two thirds of entered trout being released. Fishing basics course ran in conjunction with the competition and attended by approximately 20 anglers. Fly fishing basics course ran in Ikamatua, attended by five anglers which was ideal given complexity of fly casting.

#### 1421 Media/Communication

Articles being released shortly promoting summer trout fishing and salmon angling.

#### 1431 Political Advocacy

A short introductory meeting was held with the Minister of Conservation. Topics discussed were native and introduced fish interactions, Fish and Game's role and our relationship with the DoC, Access and Whitebaiting regulation setting.

#### 1511 Compliance

Compliance undertaken over the Christmas break, fine weather and around long weeks/holiday periods. No offences detected.

#### 1521 Ranger Training

Bruce Hitchens has completed an honorary ranger application. Police vetting and referee checks have been completed with no issues identified thus far. Needs to spend time in field with staff to further assess his suitability.

#### 1531 Prosecutions

Diversions completed by anglers FWL at Lake Brunner and Ahaura.

#### 1621 Agent Liaison

Liaison continues regarding the start of the season and responding to angler enquiries.

#### 1841 National Liaison

Managers are meeting more frequently via internet meetings with the rapidly changing financial and regulatory environment. Promotion of the new fishing season have been a focus.

#### 1927 Occupational Safety and Health

Completed staff H&S meetings and currently reviewing the workplan with a focus on the safety of operations.

1980 Offices

General maintenance including weed spraying, mowing and cleaning.

1980 Equipment

Basic maintenance on field equipment.

Staffing

Staff performance reviews are complete.

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**Staff Recommendation:**

That this report be received.