

**Agenda For The AGM and Meeting of Otago Fish & Game Council
On 25th November 2021
At The office of Otago Fish and Game Council
Cnr Hanover and Harrow Street, Dunedin
Starting 12:30pm**

Timetable	
11:45am	Light lunch for Councillors
12:30pm	Council Meeting begins
3:00pm	Afternoon Tea
3:15pm	AGM and Public Forum
3.45pm – 5pm	Council Meeting resumes

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Otago Fish & Game Council Annual General Meeting

AGM

3.15pm, Thursday 25th November 2021
To be held at Otago Fish & Game Council Office
Cnr Hanover and Harrow Streets, Dunedin

Agenda

- 1. Present**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Presentation of Annual Report**
- 4. Questions from the floor**
- 5. Presentation to Outgoing Councillor**

1.0 Present and Apologies

2.0 Matters to be raised not on the agenda

3.0 Declarations of Interest

Forms to document declarations of interest will be circulated for completion. These will be filed in the minutes folder.

4.0 Confirmation of Previous Meetings Minutes

4.1 Minutes of Otago Fish & Game Council Meeting 30th Sept 2021

At Otago Fish and Game Council Office
Cnr Hanover and Harrow Streets, Dunedin

The meeting opened at 12.30pm and the Chair welcomed all in attendance.

1.0 Present and Apologies

Present: Monty Wright (chair), Colin Weatherall, Adrian McIntyre, Murray Neilson, Dan Rae, Mike Barker, John Barlow, Ian Cole, Rick Boyd, John Highton, Vicky May (nee Whyte), Ray Grubb.

Present via Zoom: Richard Twining (Ngai Tahu).

In attendance: Ian Hadland (CE), Bruce Quirey (OF&GC communications officer/minutes secretary).

Apologies: None

2.0 Matters to be raised not on the agenda

Cr Weatherall proposed there would be valedictory resolutions and requested that they be inserted in the minutes. The CE outlined the meeting timetable

3.0 Declarations of Interest

Cr Grubb is a member of the NZ Landcare Trust, High Country Advisory Group, Freshwater Implementation Group, and chair of the Fish & Game Ministerial Review implementation group.

Cr Highton is a member of Teviot Anglers Club.

Cr May is a member of Teviot Anglers Club.

Cr Rae declared a conflict of interest in regard to Onslow Battery Project discussions.

4.0 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Moved (Cr Rae/Cr Weatherall)

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 22nd July 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record without any amendments.

Carried unanimously.

5.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Cr Grubb advised there had been an issue involving the contracted licence provider ESL with salmon licences and a remedy was being sought.

The CE advised that the governance manual was being updated and any returning councillors would receive an updated copy.

6.0 Health and Safety Report

Moved (Cr Cole/Cr Boyd)

That the Health and Safety Report be received.

Carried unanimously.

7.0 Items Requiring Decisions

7.1 Offence Guidelines for Otago – September 2021

The CE discussed proposed prosecution guidelines and noted that diversion levels for common categories of offences had not been adjusted for over 5 years. Council members discussed whether Otago diversion fees should be increased to align with neighbouring Fish & Game regions.

There was discussion about payment plans, confiscation of equipment and the difference between fishing/hunting offences and penalties. The status of grey teal was also queried, and the CE undertook to follow up on that matter.

Moved (Cr Weatherall/Cr Grubb)

That the prosecution guidelines be adopted, and the schedule of diversion payment levels be confirmed for use from this point onwards.

Carried

7.2 Sensitive Expenditure and Gift Policy

The CE explained that this was an update of the council present policy to reflect more modern practices.

It was agreed that spending limits in the document be adjusted as follows:

Expenditure over the value of \$200 that might be considered **sensitive expenditure** must be approved by the Chief Executive. Note any spending should be approved by a person that is more senior to the person who will benefit or might be perceived to benefit.

Expenditure over the value of \$2000 that might be considered **sensitive expenditure** must also be approved by the Council. This should occur at an ordinary meeting, where possible. However, if a decision needs to be made prior to the next ordinary meeting the Chair must get written approval from fellow Councillors that they agree and accept the **sensitive expenditure** before the **sensitive expenditure** is incurred or have it retrospectively ratified by the Council.

The CE was asked to consider a second credit card for the office for times when he was away.

Moved (Cr Weatherall /Cr Boyd)

That the Council adopt the amended Sensitive Expenditure and Gift Policy.

Carried unanimously

8.0 Public Excluded Items

Moved (Cr McIntyre/ Cr May)

That the Council move into the Public Excluded Session.

Carried unanimously.

8.1 Confirm previous public excluded minutes

Moved (Cr Weatherall/Cr Barlow)

That the public excluded minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 22nd July 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record without any amendments.

Carried unanimously.

8.2 Proposal to vest part of a recreation reserve

The Council **resolved** that the CE reply to reply to DoC that it had little issue with the vesting if public access was secured and Council remained neutral on the matter of public notification of the vesting.

8.3 Bullock Creek Stormwater and Development Proposal

Moved (Cr Weatherall/Cr Rae)

That the CE be authorised to advance the Bullock Creek Springs Hatchery subdivision project to the next phase to prepare sections 1-5 for market.

Carried unanimously.

Moved (Cr Cole/Cr Neilson)

That the meeting move out of Public Excluded Session.

Carried unanimously.

9.0 Financial and Sales Reports

Finance and Licence Sales 31st August 2021

The CE noted that the Council had received the government wage subsidy and would likely be in position to repay it. He invited questions from the meeting and called on the Council to adopt the finance reports for audit.

Moved (Cr Grubb/Cr Boyd)

That the 2020/21 financial year Balance sheet and Profit and Loss statement be adopted as a draft set of accounts for the Auditor.

Carried unanimously.

Moved (Cr Grubb/Cr Boyd)

That the financial and sales report be received.

Carried unanimously.

10.0 Chief Executive's Report

The CE talked to his report.

10.1.1 Progress Against Council's 3 Year Strategic Priorities

The CE provided a verbal update on progress against the Council's three-year strategic priorities. There had disruption because of Covid and several targets could be carried through to the next three-year strategic priorities.

10.1.2 Other Staff Activity

The CE said a further Covid lockdown had caused disruption. Staff had worked from home.

10.2 SPECIES MANAGEMENT

10.2 HABITAT PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

The CE provided an update on the Contact Energy – Lower Clutha Sports Fish Management Plan Implementation. The Council was awaiting trust documents from Contacts lawyers and councillors expressed frustration at the delay.

Moved (Cr Weatherall/ Cr May)

That the CE write to Contact Energy to express disappointment in the lack of meaningful progress on the Contact Energy – Lower Clutha Sports Fish Management Plan Implementation and present formal documentation on a trust to the incoming council in November.

Carried unanimously.

Moved (Cr Weatherall/ Cr May)

That the CE's report be received.

Carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION: NZ Battery Project (Onslow)

MBIE representatives Carl Walrond and Maria Hernandez-Curry joined the meeting at 2.30pm via Zoom and addressed the Council on the Onslow Battery Project. The presentation discussed options and potential solutions to dry year threats. A feasibility study is being developed for presentation to Cabinet in May 2022 to decide whether to proceed to a detailed business case. The presentation provided an indicative timeline for reporting, outlined stakeholders, environmental assessments; social impacts; hydrology and workstreams.

The MBIE then took questions from Council members.

The meeting adjourned at 3.30pm and resumed at 3.45pm.

Di Taylor NZC Chief Executive

New Zealand Fish & Game Council chief executive Di Taylor joined the meeting and introduced herself to the Council. Councillors discussed governance and offered comments and questions for the CE, including finding the right balance between paid and non-paid input into F&G governance.

Discussion on the CE's report then resumed.

10.3 USER PARTICIPATION

Take a Kid Fishing Days

Council members acknowledged the success of TAKF events.

New and Reactivated Licence holder Survey

10.4 PUBLIC INTERFACE

Media

The Council asked that issues raised on social media channels be highlighted to the Council.

10.5 COMPLIANCE No discussion.

10.6 LICENCING No discussion.

10.7 COUNCIL

Elections

First meeting of new Council

The CE proposed a meeting of the new council be held on the 1st of November 2021 to elect a chair and to appoint an Otago representative to the NZC. The Council proposed an alternative date of the 28th October 2021, which was agreed.

10.8 PLANNING AND REPORTING No discussion.

Moved (Cr Highton/Cr McIntyre)

That the Chief Executive's report be accepted and received.

Carried unanimously.

11.0 RMA Planning and Consents Report – 14 July - 22 September 2021

The meeting briefly discussed the Pigburn water take application, public perceptions of Fish & Game, and questions about the Pomahaka suction dredging application.

Moved (Cr May/Cr Grubb)

That the RMA Planning and Consents report be received.

Carried unanimously.

12.0 Committee & Delegate Reports**12.1 CFT**

Cr Cole reported on the CFT. The Trust had sought to amend its deed. The Trust needed additional trust expertise, no longer having a full-time employee.

The Trust now had ability to nominate two more trustees. CFT would meet next month and look at appointing a trustee. There was discussion about the need for a management plan for maintenance on nesting islands at Lake Dunstan.

The Trust confirmed its donation to the Donald Scott Memorial Fund of a yearly amount of \$5000.

12.2 NZC

Cr Grubb gave a verbal update about NZC matters. Ngai Tahu had asked F&G to join into its High Court case regarding its rangatiratanga application for freshwater. NZC was having discussions with iwi about attitudes to trout and salmon, and they did not regard them as threatening to F&G.

NZC was helping to develop farm plans, working with other NGOs to find common ground for a joint submission. Other matters noted included the development of a strategic planning process, a communications strategy, praise for Otago RMA efforts and successes, and high-country access.

12.3 Salmon Committee

The council was asked by a member if the salmon sub-committee still existed. The answer was no.

12.4 Ngai Tahu

Nil

12.5 Conservation Board.

Nil

13.0 Correspondence

13.1 NZC to Otago

13.1.1 Meeting and Budget Timetables 2021-22

13.2 Otago to NZC

Nil.

13.3 General Correspondence In

13.3.1 Onslow Battery Project

13.3.2 University of Otago

The CE advised that he would reply on the Council's behalf that the NZC meetings schedule did not interfere with Otago.

The CE would write to MBIE representatives regarding the Onslow Project to thank them for their correspondence and the presentation to Council.

Moved (Cr Barlow/Cr Cole)

That correspondence to the Otago Fish & Game Council be received.

Carried unanimously.

13.4 General Correspondence Out

Nil

Cr Rae left the meeting at 5pm.

14.0 Items to be Received or Noted

These reports have been received separately. The CE invited questions on items received.

14.1 2021 Whole Season Game Harvest Report There was discussion about the game harvest report and the desire for an estimate of birds harvested by farmers. Council members discussed the paradise shelduck harvest and queried why it was not increasing in line with the population trend.

14.2 Compliance Summary Report

14.3 Summary of Fishing competitions for the 2020/21 Season

14.4 Upper Clutha Catchment Land-locked Salmon Spawning Surveys

A question was asked if the salmon spawning survey would continue. The CE affirmed that it would be funded by Contact Energy.

The Chair congratulated the CE and staff for their good work.

Moved (Cr Weatherall/Cr Barker)

That the reports be received or noted.

Carried unanimously.

15.0 General Business

Moved (Cr Weatherall/Cr Highton)

That a vote of appreciation is extended to Crs Wright, Rae and Barlow for their extensive years of service and that be recorded in the minutes.

Carried unanimously.

**The Chair thanked the councillors for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at
5.10pm**

4.2 Minutes of Otago Fish and Game Council Meeting 28th Oct 2021

Held by Zoom, 7:10pm, 28th October 2021

In Attendance

Cr Adrian McIntyre

Cr Colin Weatherall

Cr Mike Barker

Cr Rick Boyd

Cr Ray Grubb

Cr Ian Cole

Cr John Highton

Cr Blair Travathan (Joined meeting at 7:47pm)

Ian Hadland (Chief Executive)

Apologies

Cr Vicki May

Conflicts of interest

Cr Grubb said he would take no part in the discussion related to Otago Councils submission back to the Amalgamation Review team.

Agenda

1. Election of Chair

The CE called for nominations for the position of Chairperson.

Cr Colin Weatherall – Nominated by Cr Cole, seconded Cr McIntyre.

There being no further nominations, Cr Weatherall was appointed Chair.

Cr Weatherall addressed the Council briefly, thanking them for his confidence in him and expressing his wish to see cooperation around the table and full involvement in discussions. He acknowledged that this term of Council would be a challenging one with the review provisions being implemented.

2. Election of New Zealand Council Appointee

The chair called for nominations for the role of New Zealand F&G Council appointee.

Cr Ray Grubb was nominated by Cr Boyd, seconded Cr Cole.

There being no further nominations Cr Grubb was appointed to the role.

Cr Grubb thanked the Council for supporting him in this role to date and he welcomed regular discussion from Cr's on NZC issues. He said there was much to do at New Zealand Council, especially with regards to the review. He was especially passionate about improving our relationship with agriculture and its leaders and improving our communications at a national level.

The Chair deferred the election of a deputy chair and the election of a Council Executive Committee until the November meeting. He said the standing orders provided for 3-5 members of that committee but with a 9 person Council, 4 was probably an appropriate number.

3. Approve Draft response to Amalgamation Review (previously circulated)

The CE spoke briefly to the draft and the Amalgamation Review timetable. He thanked Councillors for their input to the document.

[Cr Trevathan joined the meeting, 7:47pm]

Moved Cr Barker/Cr Highton

That the draft submission on the Amalgamation Review be approved for distribution to the independent chair of the amalgamation review team.

Carried

4. Other business

There was general discussion on a number of matters including the following years meeting timetable and the anglers notice review. All matters were deferred to the November meeting.

Meeting Concluded 7:48pm

Colin Weatherall

Chairman, Otago Fish & Game Council

5.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

6.0 Health and Safety Report

Health and Safety Report - October November 2021

Covid 19

- Covid continues to spread from Auckland to surrounding districts. Otago continues at level 2. This has been since 8th September 2021.
- One close contact from the Christchurch positive case, works at OceanaGold Mine where our hatchery is situated. This person had not been to our hatchery. The hatchery has a tracer sign in, sanitizer and masks.
- At Level 2 we work from the office and public are allowed entry with a mask, sanitized and of good health.

A plan was presented to all staff at the change of each level, providing information on conduct and limitations for office work, field work, events, meetings, and personal safety during the level. We will convert our plans if the new traffic light system of levels comes into use.

Masks, gloves and sanitizer are available to staff.

All staff are now vaccinated.

Other activity

- An upgraded the gas cooker system has been installed at the Glenorchy hut.
- A national updated Ranger Guide and health and Safety manual has arrived for distribution. Otago rangers and staff have been given guidelines for ranging in level 2. No ranging is to be actioned at level 3 and above.

Events OHS plans are made before all events.

- 2 Take a Kid Fishing events were held late in September. One child fell in and was safely returned to the side, one hock in a finger needing a sticking paster, one lure in a child's hair, was removed by a parent.
- Novice Anglers classes were held in Dunedin (3) and Cromwell (1), these included a field trip to fish. No incidents occurred.
- Greenstone River drift dive, helicopter in and out, JSA completed ahead of event.
- Soft bait plastic fishing class Outram Glen. JSA completed ahead of event

• OHS Audits

- Completed audits - Boat Audit
Training Register audit
Main Hazard Register audit
Chemical audits
- Next audits – December full annual audit checklist for council

Incidents/Accidents/Near Misses

- A staff member sprained a thumb while boarding the boat on a ranging trip. No medical response needed. Staff reminded to take care when exiting and entering the boats.
- A trailer j coupling was not fully locked on while being towed by the truck. This was noted at the end of the trip. Safety chains (x2) were attached. Care needs to be taken when attaching the trailer to trucks. An extra check before leaving is advised.
- A staff member broke a finger while drift diving. Xray's and a splint were required.
- The TAKF trailer moved when being taking off tow ball of a truck. The incident was discussed, and it was recommended that chocks be used before disengagement on uneven ground.

Training

Ranger training is proposed for the 4-5th December. H&S is a part of every event.

Policy adoption

It is necessary for the incoming council to adopt the Health and Safety Policy. This can then be signed off by the chair and displayed at our offices. It sets out the commitment of the Council, management and staff to health and safety at work. That is attached as Appendix 1

Recommendations

- 1. That Council adopts the Otago Health and Safety Policy**
- 2. That is report be received.**

Sharon Milne
Administration
November 2021



Appendix 1

OTAGO FISH AND GAME COUNCIL HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

Introduction

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

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

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

Scope

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

Key elements of the policy

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

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

Liability and personal liability

The Council, its chief executive (CE) and staff are responsible for implementing health and safety policy. Councillors and the CE are 'officers' in terms of the legislation and while the Council may be liable, and the CE and workers may be personally liable, for a failure to meet

health and safety obligations an individual councillor cannot be prosecuted under the HSWA for failing to comply with his or her duties because they are volunteer officers.

The CE has primary responsibility for implementing this policy including:

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

Everyone is responsible

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

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

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

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

Signed: _____ (Chief Executive)

Signed: _____ (Chairman)

Adopted: 25th November 2021

7.0 Items Requiring Decisions

7.1 Election of officers

Election of Deputy Chair

The role isn't specifically described in the Council's governance manual but does perform a useful function and helps clarify lines of accountability, especially if the chair becomes unwell or is absent.

Chair to lead discussion/election

Election of Executive Committee

As mentioned by the chair at the last meeting, ideally the number of executive committee members should be less than half of the entire council. The Governance manual says between three and five. The chair has previously suggested four being an appropriate number. The role of the executive is described below;

Otago Governance Manual

An Executive Committee, consisting of not less than three and not more than five members shall be charged with the following:

- *To carry out the functions of a Committee of the Otago Council in a manner consistent with the Council's Governance Policies and Standing Orders.*
- *To assist and advise the CE in the consideration and action of matters of urgency, confidentiality and sensitivity and inform the Otago Council in a manner deemed appropriate whilst ensuring adherence to the Council's high standards of ethics, corporate behaviour and transparency.*
- *To provide advice, guidance and support to the CE on an as requested basis but without impinging on the CE's delegated powers.*
- *At the Chairperson's discretion, the Executive Committee may collectively assume the Chairperson's representation and communication role outside of Otago Council meetings as prescribed in Governance Policy 1.6 The Role of the Chairperson and specifically as regards policies 1.6.1.3 and 1.6.1.4.*
- *To temporarily act in the place of the Chairperson in the event of the Chairperson's unavoidable or unexpected absence or unavailability in any period prior to the next Otago Council meeting.*
- *Attend to the preparation and completion of the CE's annual performance appraisal including remuneration arrangements, succession planning and professional development.*
- *Report to Otago Council on its activities.*
- *To assume such other responsibilities as Otago Council deems appropriate.*

Council usually reconsiders these roles at its February meeting but consideration should be given to pushing that out to the February meeting in 2023

Chair to lead discussion/election

7.2 2020/21 Anglers Notice Triennial Review

Timetable and Scoping

1. Introduction

The last triennial review of the Anglers Notice for the Otago Region was completed in the 2017/18 season with considerable public consultation undertaken and resulting in several regulation changes made to the Anglers Notice for the 2018/19 fishing season.

A triennial review has commenced, with angling clubs canvassed for submissions and staff identifying issues around sustainability, opportunity and simplification. Any changes would come into effect on the 1st October 2022.

2. Timetable

The following schedule details the review timetable, staff reporting, the consultation process, and final approval deadlines for the 2021/2022 Anglers Notice Review.

Any changes will become effective in the 2022/2023 fishing season.

- **October 2021** – A request to angling clubs to submit suggestions to the Anglers Notice review. (complete)
- **Otago Fish and Game Council November 2021 Meeting** – Staff provide Council a list of regulations to review based on initial submissions from angling clubs and issues identified by F&G staff. Councillors will have an opportunity to add to the list of matters presented. Council to decide on which changes warrant further investigation and inclusion in the review.
- **Otago Fish and Game Council February 2022 Meeting** – Staff will present a report on proposed changes including any supporting monitoring data or biological information and published scientific reports and referenced to provisions of the Sportsfish and Game Management Plan for Otago. Staff will aim to seek consistency with neighbouring Fish & Game regional regulations where it is practical. Council to adopt draft Anglers Notice (including proposed changes) which will be circulated to clubs and submitters and notified to the public.
- **1 March 2022 through April 2022** – Anglers and angling clubs will be advised of recommended changes and canvassed for final feedback.
- **Otago Fish and Game Council May 2022 Meeting** – Staff will provide a report incorporating a summary of angler submissions, and final recommendations for council consideration. Council to approve final changes.

3. Scoping

Submissions have been received from 5 angling clubs and 27 individuals. Submissions covered 35 topics. The submissions have been analysed alongside the current set of Otago regulations to prepare a list of angling conditions for review (Table 1). Staff have taken in to account current knowledge of the fisheries and relevant clauses in the Sports Fish and Game Management Plan (SFGMP) to provide advice on which ones should be investigated further. Relevant SFGMP objectives and policies are outlined below (section 03.1).

Otago Fish & Game Staff are also involved in national groups that will affect future angling regulations including a group to review national regulations on fisheries (Schedule 1 - national regulations) and a working party reviewing regulations for rivers subject to high angling pressure. Staff have also been involved in the planning for a licencing system for fishing guides. It is recommended in Table 1 that some submissions would be more appropriately dealt with through these processes.

3.1 Relevant SFGMP Objectives and Policies

The following sections of the Otago Sports Fish and Game Management Plan apply:

5.2.3 - *There is a demand amongst anglers and hunters for a diverse range of recreational opportunities.*

5.3.1 - *To manage sports fisheries and game resources having regard to sustainability to meet the interests and recreational needs of present and future generations of anglers and hunters.*

5.3.3 - *To optimise angling and hunting opportunity and maintain or improve the recreational fishing opportunity spectrum available in Otago.*

5.4.1 - *Achieve sustainability through the following approach:*

(a) Ensure that the sustainability of the resource has precedence over utilisation (i.e., utilisation will be dependent on sustainability).

(b) In the absence of reliable information or in the face of uncertain information, a precautionary approach will be adopted in managing fish populations.

(c) Management decisions will be based on the best available information.

(d) The absence of information will not be used as a reason for failing to adopt management measures.

7.3.2 - *To minimize and simplify regulations controlling angling and hunting so that they do not become an impediment to participation, but not at the expense of precautionary management.*

7.4.2 - *Review annually angling and hunting conditions and assess them for relevance, clarity and simplicity.*

7.4.3 - *Liaise with other regions over the annual review of angling and hunting conditions and to seek consistency between regions.*

Table 1: Issues identified by staff and submitters alongside staff advice on whether to investigate further

Category	Number	Regulation	Review	Staff Comment
Boat fishing	1.1	Clarify boat rules.	Yes	There are currently seven notes regarding boat use in the Otago Region. Staff intend to investigate reducing this number while keeping their intent. Meets clause 7.3.2 of the SFGMP (reduce and simplify regulations).
	1.2	Increase drift boat opportunities.	Yes	Submitters were looking to have the Hawea River, the Makarora River below the Wilkin confluence and the Deans Bank section of the Clutha River open to drift boat fishing. Meets clauses 5.2.3 and 5.3.3 of the SFGMP (optimize spectrum of opportunity).
Guides	2.1	Limit number of non-resident guided angling days.	No	Should be dealt with through the guides licence and pressure sensitive fishery work.
	2.2	Limit on number of guide licences.	No	Should be dealt with through the guides licence and pressure sensitive fishery work.
	2.3	Non-residents must fish with a guide.	No	Should be dealt with through the guides licence and pressure sensitive fishery work.
Non-resident	3.1	Booking system for non-residents.	No	Should be dealt with through the pressure sensitive fishery work.
	3.2	Limit number of non-resident licences and angler can purchase.	No	Should be dealt with through the pressure sensitive fishery work.
	3.3	No fishing weekends.	No	Should be dealt with through the pressure sensitive fishery work.
	3.4	Non-resident licence price increased.	No	Should be dealt with through the pressure sensitive fishery work.
	3.5	Only short-term licences for non-residents.	No	Should be dealt with through the pressure sensitive fishery work.
Season length	4.1	Closure of small spawning streams.	Yes	Staff have identified a number of small waterways that provide little fishing opportunity but are well utilised for spawning. Meets 5.4.1 of the SFGMP (ensure sustainability has precedence of utilisation).

Category	Number	Regulation	Review	Staff Comment
	4.2	Glenorchy lagoons open year-round.	Yes	Staff believe this would offer a sustainable year-round fishing option to licence holders. Meets clauses 5.2.3 and 5.3.3 of the SFGMP (optimize spectrum of opportunity).
	4.3	Hores pond open 1 November to 30 April.	Yes	A submission was received by the landowner to restrict access to their pond during lambing.
Season length	4.4	Lower Greenstone River open all year.	Yes	Increased season length meets clause 7.3.2 of the SFGMP (reduce and simplify regulations).
	4.5	Lower Manuherekia River open all year.	Yes	Increased season length meets clause 7.3.2 of the SFGMP (reduce and simplify regulations).
	4.6	Align open season for Poolburn, Manorburn and Idaburn dams.	Yes	Increased season length meets clause 7.3.2 of the SFGMP (reduce and simplify regulations).
Sensitive fisheries	5.1	Daily limit on catch & release.	No	Should be dealt with through the pressure sensitive fishery work.
	5.2	Fishless days.	No	Should be dealt with through the pressure sensitive fishery work.
	5.3	Introduce beat system on upper Pomahaka.	No	Staff feel a beat system has limited use on a fishery with few public accesses.
	5.4	Rest days.	No	Should be dealt with through the pressure sensitive fishery work.
	5.5	Restrict Helicopter fishing.	No	Should be dealt with through the pressure sensitive fishery work.
	5.6	Upper Rees River to fly only and zero bag.	No	Staff believe this fishery is not currently subject to unsustainable harvest levels.
Other	6.1	A combined sports fish bag limit for southern lakes.	Yes	Staff have identified issues with fish identification, particularly for small trout and lake salmon. Meets clause 7.3.2 of the SFGMP (reduce and simplify regulations).
	6.2	Introduce minimum size for trout.	No	Anglers tend not keep smaller fish. Having no minimum size allows harvest from beginner anglers and in fisheries with large numbers of small fish.

Category	Number	Regulation	Review	Staff Comment
	6.3	Mill Creek above Waterfall Park open to all anglers.	Yes	Fishery is currently open to junior anglers only; staff believe it is not currently utilised by junior anglers.
	6.4	Reduce sections of Clutha and Taieri rivers.	Yes	Staff receive frequent comments on the difficulty of interpreting the rules of fisheries with multiple sections. Meets clause 7.3.2 of the SFGMP (reduce and simplify regulations).
	6.5	Region wide bag limit.	No	Otago currently has highly variable bag limits throughout the region. Staff believe there is not enough desire from anglers for simplification to justify such a major shift.
	6.6	Review rules regarding multiple hooks	Yes	Staff have identified issues with understanding of the intent of current multiple hook rules. Some members of angling clubs have indicated a dislike for multiple hook lures.
	6.7	Separate bag limits for rainbow/ brown trout.	No	Staff have identified issues with fish identification, which would make this regulation difficult for anglers to follow.

4. Recommendations

1. That the review timetable be agreed
2. That the recommendations for regulations to review outlined in Table 1 (marked as 'Yes') are accepted and staff prepare a report on these for the February Council meeting.

Jayde Couper
Fish and Game Officer
November 2021

7.3 Draft Game Notice 2022 (Gamebird hunting regulations)

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to recommend the draft 2022 Game Gazette Regulations to Council.

Changes proposed

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

As such, no changes are proposed to the 2022 season (subject to Paradise shelduck counts)

Gamebird Species Monitoring

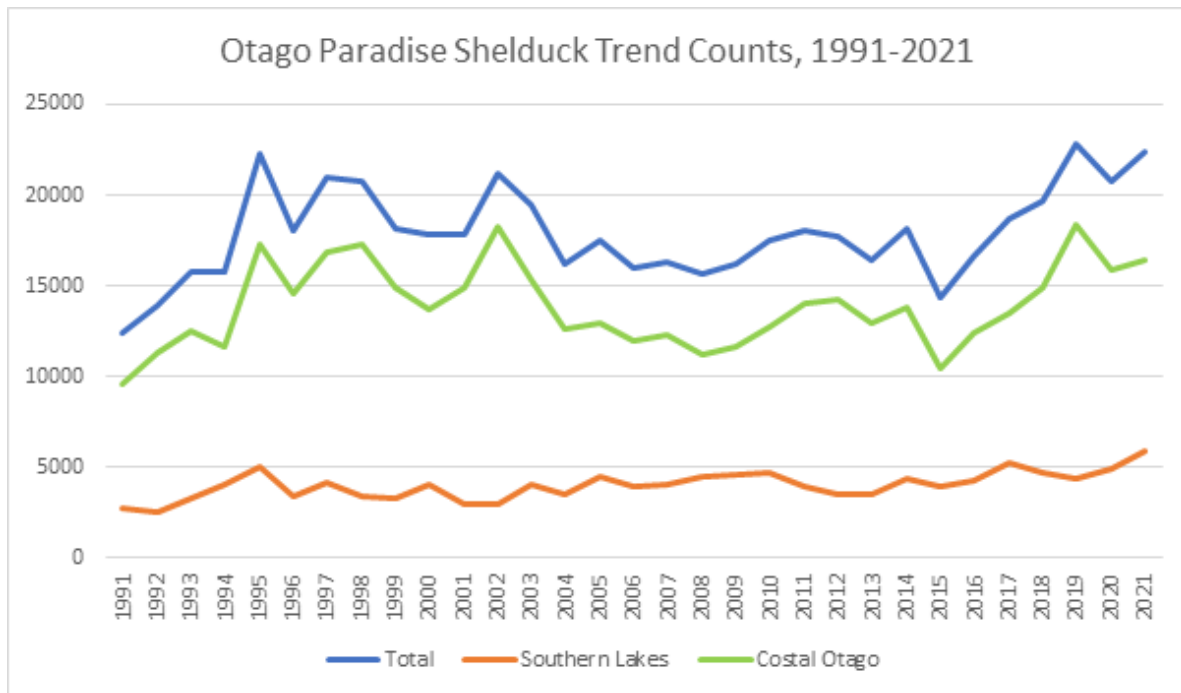
Mallards

Aerial surveys were completed in April 2021 and reported to Councils May 2021 meeting. The trend showed an improvement of around 10% on the previous 2019 survey result but the long term trend indicates a stable population. Staff observations from this spring point towards a higher than usual abundance of adult birds coming out of winter and a successful breeding season to date. There are no indications that there is an issue with sustainability of the population.

Paradise Shelduck

Last season's January aerial trend counts (reported in March 2021) showed an increase in the Paradise shelduck population from 20575 to 22425 for 2021. That was a similar result to 2019's trend count. This is still within the long term range of between 16,000 and 23,000 so there is no cause for concern regarding sustainability. Paradise Shelduck trend counts will be completed in January and the final bag limit is usually reconsidered in light of the population trend. If no significant changes in the population are noted, then the status quo should remain.

If however the trend count result exceeds 23,000, consideration should be given to lifting the daily bag limit (to 15/day) or further loosening the conditions and bag limits around the summer parry season for junior's.



Black swan

Monitoring data of Black swan doesn't show a large increase in abundance, but we undertake this count alongside our Paradise shelduck monitoring in January. The time they cause the most harm to pasture is in early spring. The aerial black swan count in January showed an increase from 2266 birds to 2678 in 2021 F&G Officer Sowry noted that the population had been largely stable over the last 20 years.

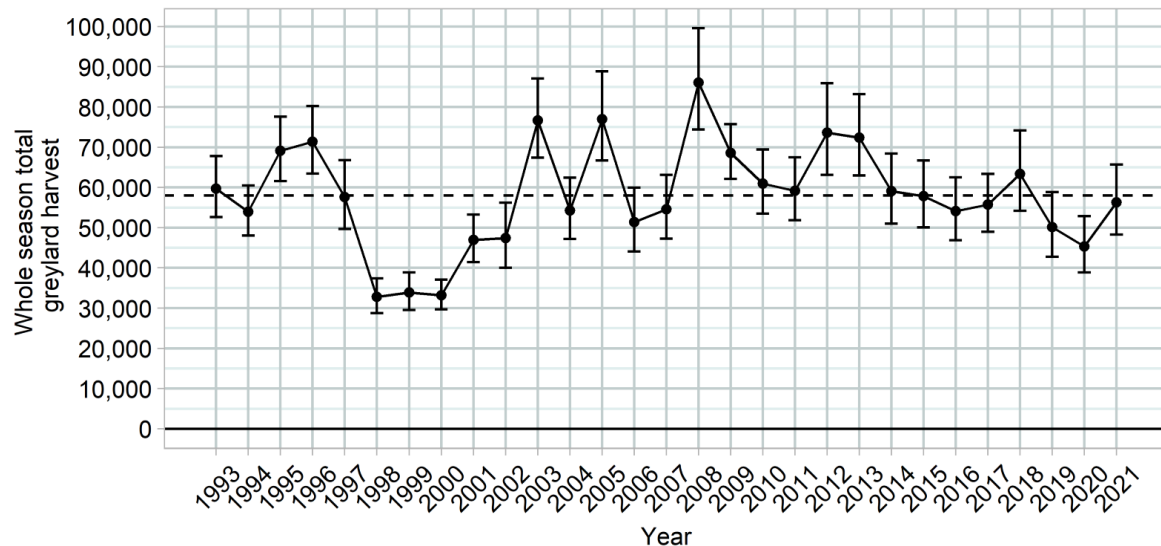
Pukeko and shoveler

Counts are undertaken annually to understand trends in the population and for setting game regulations. Data suggests there was no significant change overall on monitored sites therefore no change to the 2021 regulations are proposed for those species.

Hunter Harvest

The 2021 game bird season was similar to long term averages in every key metric except the amount of time that hunters spent in the maimai. Licence sales this year showed a strong increase after a period of falling numbers. Overall, there 73,850 game birds harvested in the Otago Region this season. Just over three quarters of harvested game birds were greyhounds.

Total seasonal harvest largely hinges on the success of opening weekend when a high proportion of the hunter effort (70% of total effort) is expended. Weather conditions can play a major role in the success of individual hunters and arguably have a bigger bearing on harvest than the abundance of birds. In saying that, the harvest per hunter per hour is remarkably consistent over the last decade at around 0.9 'greyhounds' per hour hunted.



Liaison with neighbouring Fish and Game Regions

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

CSI are looking at maintaining the status quo with their regulations for the coming season. Their review of the 50 bird mallard limit was concluded two years ago and they agreed to keep that daily bag limit in place.

Southland are not presently considering any changes to their season regulations including season length.

Recommendations for the 2021 game bird hunting season:

1. ***That the draft game regulations be adopted subject to Paradise shelduck trend counts and the population falling between 16,000 and 23,000 birds.***
2. ***If the Paradise Shelduck trend count exceeds 23,000 birds that the daily bag limit for that species be increased from 12/day to 15/day.***

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

Ian Hadland
Chief Executive
November 2021

Appendix 1 – Draft Game Notice

OTAGO FISH AND GAME REGION

1 Game That May be Hunted or Killed—Duration of 2022/2023 Season

Species	Season Duration (dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit	Hunting Area
Grey/mallard duck and any hybrid of those species	7 May to 17 Jul 2022	25	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	7 May to 17 Jul 2022	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	7 May to 28 Aug 2022	12	All areas
	4 Mar to 12 Mar 2023	5	All areas junior season (refer to clause 5(4) for this Region)
Pukeko	Closed season	0	All areas
Black swan	Closed season	0	Area A
	7 May to 28 Aug 2022	10	Area B
California quail	4 June to 28 Aug 2022	10	All areas
Chukar	4 June to 28 Aug 2022	2	All areas
Cock Pheasant	4 June to 28 Aug 2022	5	All areas
Red-legged partridge	Closed season	0	All areas

2 Definition of Areas

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

3 Shooting Hours

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

4 Decoy Limit

No limit.

5 Special Conditions

- (1) No person shall use or cause to be used on any water within the region for the hunting or killing of game, any fixed stand, pontoon, hide, loo or maimai, except within a distance of 10 metres from the water margin in non-tidal waters, or from the low water mark in tidal waters, or from the outside edge of the raupo growth where raupo abounds, without the prior consent of the Otago Fish and Game Council.
- (2) No person may leave on the hunting ground the bodies or parts of bodies of Black swan or other game shot in the Otago Fish and Game region.
- (3) Shooting from a boat is prohibited on the Clutha River from 7 May to 15 May 2022 (refer to First Schedule clause 6).
- (4) The summer paradise shelduck season is open from 5 March to 13 March 2023. Firearm licensed Junior game licence holders can hunt independently (under supervision where required) but an adult game bird licence holder must be accompanied by a junior hunter, and hunting is restricted to locations 200 metres or more from open water.

6 Refuges and Closed Game Areas

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

Refuges Location

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

Closed Game Areas Location

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

7.4 Confirm Otago Fish and Game Council Meeting Schedule 2022

Below is the draft schedule of meetings including the rolling agenda items for consideration. This has been pre circulated and some amendments made as a result of feedback on timing etc.

NZC Meeting Cycle

NZC have circulated a draft schedule of meetings and important dates. I have checked these proposed dates, so they don't clash and so there is enough time for consultation on important matters such as the licence fee setting. We responded in October that there are no conflicts with our proposed meeting schedule.

Ministerial Review Meetings

No doubt there will be further meetings on the Ministerial Review. Council will have to remain nimble and some of these may be hybrid video conference/face to face meetings.

Additional (zoom) workshop to consider Gamebird Gazette

The deadline for proposed changes to the Gamebird Gazette Notice (gamebird hunting regulations) is typically at the end of January which falls between meetings. The issue with this is that the main gamebird monitoring flights are only completed around the third week of January. I suggest we hold a workshop near the end of January to generate a draft of any changes required and endorse that at the February meeting.

Other Potential Meeting Sites

Hopefully we can get a booking into one or other of the Marae in our area for the May meeting. Richard Twinning has suggested that Hokonui would be happy to host, and this could be a separate joint meeting with Southland Council. We can look again at options in the new year.

Policy Updates

The rolling policy review is only a draft, so if you have suggestions for other policy - either for development, or review, then let's discuss this at the meeting so it can be scheduled in.

Recommendation

That the 2021/22 Meeting Schedule be adopted

Ian Hadland
Chief Executive
10 November 2021

Date	27 th Jan 2022	12 th & 13 th Feb 2022	24 th March 2022	26 th May 2022	21 st July 2022	29 th September 2022	1 st December 2022 (+AGM)
Venue	Zoom	Wanaka	Dunedin	Marae (TBC)	Roxburgh	Dunedin	Cromwell
Time	7:00pm	12pm Saturday to 1pm Sunday	12:00pm Lunch 12:30pm meeting start	TBC	11:45am Lunch 12:30pm meeting start	11:45am Lunch 12:30pm meeting start	11:45am Lunch 12:30pm Meeting 3:00pm AGM
Planning, Licence fees and Budgets		Strategic Planning session	Approve draft Operational Workplan and budget	Final Licence fee recommendation	Adopt final OWP and Budget	Approve draft set of accounts for audit	Adopt Annual Report
Governance				Executive meeting (CE review)	Exec meeting - Finalise CE review		Confirm meeting schedule for following year
Regulations	Workshop - Gamebird regulation changes	Approve Game Gazette Draft report on Anglers Notice changes		Approve Anglers Notice			Draft Game Gazette Notice approved
Health and safety		H&S Self Audit report	Bi monthly report	Bi monthly report	Bi monthly report	Bi monthly report	Bi monthly report
Policy Review and other			Fraud Policy		Schedule of legislative compliance	Compliance Guidelines	H&S Policy

8.0 Public Excluded Items

8.1 Public Excluded Minutes Meeting 30th September 2021

8.2 HERF Application – Bullock Creek

8.3 Contact Energy – Draft Trust Deed Consideration

8.4 Wanaka Hatchery Site Update (verbal)

9.0 Financial Report

Finance and Licence Sales 31st October 2021

9.1 Draft Finance Reports

The draft financial Profit and Loss report and Balance sheet for the period from 1st September 2021 to 31st October 2021 are below.

Expenditure at the 31st October for the 2021/22 financial year is \$445,814 (including levies \$239,810, agent commission \$41,729, depreciation \$9,137. This includes \$23,146 of spending from our reserves.

The annual expenditure budget \$2,280,928.

Income from Fishing licence sales to date is \$1,032,163. The annual fishing licence sales budget income is \$1,690,619. This shows good revenue collection for the past 2 months. Income from other sources totals \$20,372. This includes the \$10,554 covid wage subsidy grant.

Budget and expenditure figures are exclusive of GST.

The draft accounts show a surplus at 31st October of \$606,721

Current Accounts at 31st October 2021

ANZ 00 account \$151,538.93
ANZ 70 account \$593,636.08

Term Investments as at 31st October 2021

ASB 0079 \$563,977.37 @ 1% Maturing on 11th January 2022

Donations and Grants (not in budget)

Who	For	Amount GST excl
General	Donation	9.00
QLDC	Bullock Creek Plantings	\$470.00
Total		\$479.00

Debtors

There are no bad or doubtful debts at the 31st October 2021

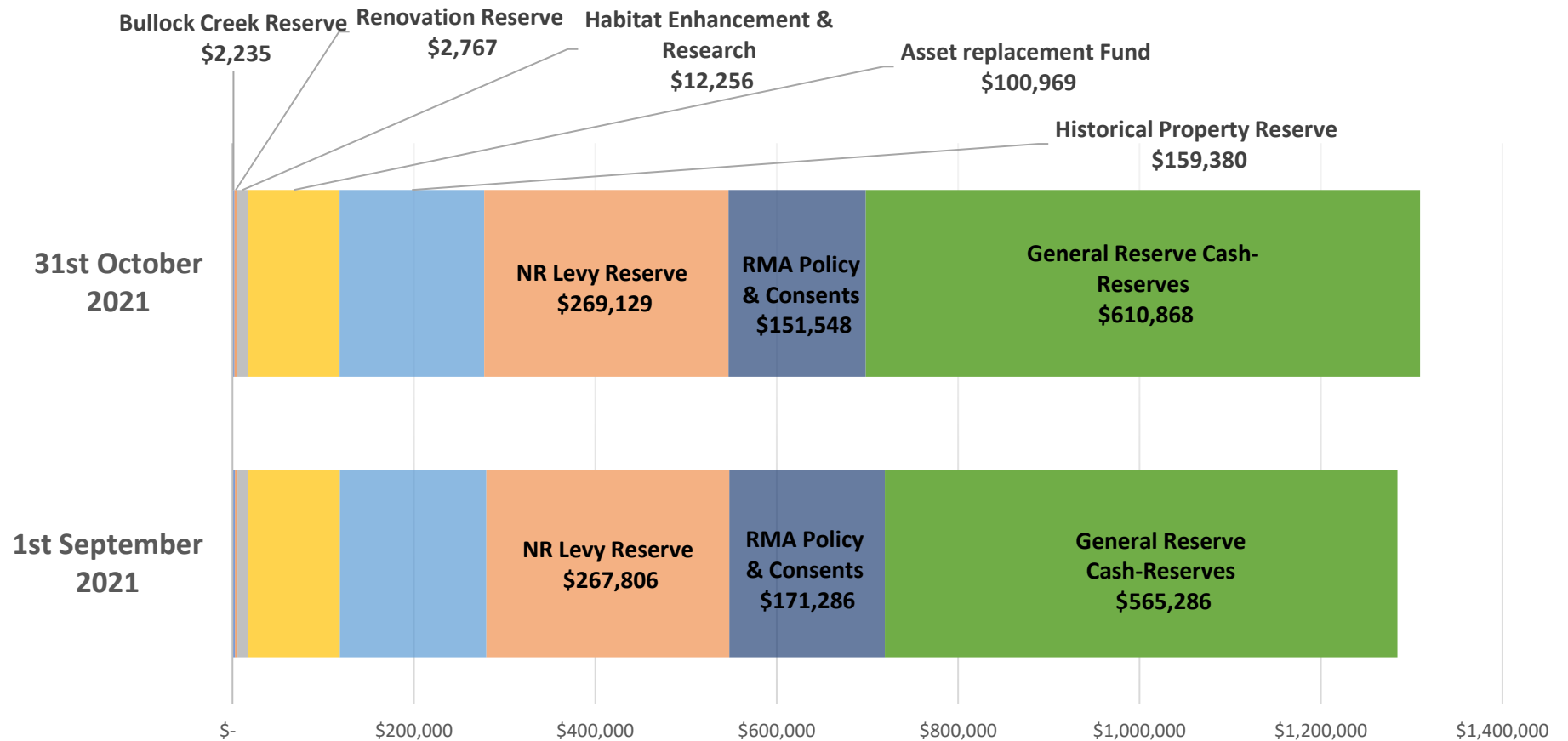
Capital Expenditure and Sales Nil

9.2 Otago Fish and Game Reserves 31st October 2021

Otago Reserves Movements	Balance August 2020	Income (To) Reserve	Note	Outgoing (From) Reserve	Balance April 2021
Back Country Non-resident Levy	\$267,806	\$1,323	1	\$ -	\$269,129
Habitat Enhancement & Research Fund	\$11,756	\$500	2	\$ -	\$12,256
Bullock Creek Reserve	\$2,806	\$540		\$1,111	\$2,235
Mining Rights Reserve	\$17,537		3	\$ -	\$17,537
Priority Consents Reserve	\$55,507		7	\$13,809	\$41,698
Historical Property Reserves	\$161,678		4	\$2,298	\$159,380
Renovation Reserves	\$2,767			\$ -	\$2,767
Regional Policy Statement Reserve	\$59,349		5	\$3,591	\$55,758
Priority Plan Changes	\$38,893		6	\$2,337	\$36,555
Total				\$23,146	\$698,698
NZC RMA/Legal Fund Movements					
Regional Policy Extra		\$60,000	8	\$	\$60,000

- Note 1 \$5000 a year for five years is to be taken from the Non resident fund for the Dr Donald Scott University Fund beginning. Agreed by Council May 2021. 2021/22 is year two.
- Note 2 Balance is \$12,256. Less committed but not yet paid out of \$9,500 so balance of \$2756 is available for dispersal by way of grants.
- Note 3 \$150,000 (Mining Rights) approved prior to 2018 by NZC from our reserves. Includes \$80,000 of Lindis expenses, agreed by Council July 2019.
- Note 4 Historical Property Reserve May 2020 \$15,000 and July 2020 \$25,000 was allocated to Wanaka subdivision by the Otago Council.
- Note 5 OF&GC agreed to \$60,000 May 2020. NZC notified.
- Note 6 OF&GC agreed to \$120,000 May 2020. NZC notified. \$81,000 agreed to be spent by council September 2020.
- Note 7 OF&GC agreed to \$60,000 May 2020. NZC notified.
- Note 8 August 2021 NZC approved the use of \$60,000 to be reimbursed by the Regional RMA legal fund towards our Regional Policy Planning Costs

MOVEMENT IN RESERVES FROM 31ST AUGUST 2020 TO 31ST OCTOBER 2021



Balance Sheet

Otago Fish and Game Council As at 31 October 2021

	31 OCT 2021	31 AUG 2021
Assets		
Current Assets		
Bank	745,396	720,937
Receivables		
Accounts Receivable	970,006	23,078
Total Receivables	970,006	23,078
GST	(102,003)	28,120
Investments	563,977	563,977
Inventory	17,222	17,222
Accrued Interest	803	803
Total Current Assets	2,195,402	1,354,137
Fixed Assets		
Property Plant & Equipment	1,350,142	1,359,279
Total Fixed Assets	1,350,142	1,359,279
Total Assets	3,545,544	2,713,416
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	307,690	45,252
Other Payables	162,569	162,068
Employee Entitlements	15,799	53,331
Suspense	-	-
Total Current Liabilities	486,058	260,652
Total Liabilities	486,058	260,652
Net Assets	3,059,485	2,452,764
Equity		
Accumulated Funds		
Accumulated Funds	1,608,370	1,364,081
Current Year Earnings	606,721	244,289
Transfer (To)/From Reserves	142,890	122,678
Total Accumulated Funds	2,357,981	1,731,047
Dedicated Reserves		
Non Resident Levy Reserve	269,129	267,806
Habitat Enhancement & Research	12,256	11,756
Priority Plan Changes Reserve	36,556	38,893
Priority Consents Reserve	41,698	55,507
Regional Policy Statement Reserve	55,758	59,349
Mining Privileges Reserve	17,537	17,537
Historical Property Reserve	159,380	161,678

	31 OCT 2021	31 AUG 2021
Renovation Reserve	2,767	2,767
Asset Replacement Funding	103,618	103,618
Total Dedicated Reserves	698,698	718,910
Restricted Reserves		
Bullock Creek Reserve	2,806	2,806
Total Restricted Reserves	2,806	2,806
Total Equity	3,059,485	2,452,764

Profit and Loss

Otago Fish and Game Council For the 2 months ended 31 October 2021

	SEP 2021	OCT 2021	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	VARIANCE	% OF YTD BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET	LAST YEAR 2019
Income								
Licence Sales								
Fish Licence Sales	483,711	547,130	1,030,841	788,954	241,887	131%	1,690,619	1,682,748
Non-Resident Licence Revenue	267	1,055	1,323	-	1,323	-	-	6,839
Game Licence Sales	-	-	-	-	-	-	323,364	341,516
Total Licence Sales	483,978	548,185	1,032,163	788,954	243,209	131%	2,013,983	2,031,103
Other Income								
Contact Energy Mitigation Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	53,911
Govt Grants	10,554	-	10,554	-	10,554	-	-	-
Interest Income	23	41	64	-	64	-	-	5,064
Fines - Fishing & Game Offences	54	43	98	-	98	-	2,000	1,714
Rent Received	4,044	3,966	8,009	8,430	(421)	95%	50,590	68,479
Fishing Competitions	-	458	458	-	458	-	-	1,526
Profit on Sale of Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,198
Donations & Grants	9	470	479	-	479	-	-	2,674
Merchandise Sales/Other	78	130	209	-	209	-	-	(249)
RMA Costs Reimbursed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49,853
Sundry Income	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	1,537
Diversion - Habitat Enhancement and Research Fund	500	-	500	-	500	-	-	6,500
Total Other Income	15,264	5,108	20,372	8,430	11,942	242%	52,590	212,207
Total Income	499,242	553,293	1,052,535	797,384	255,151	132%	2,066,573	2,243,309
Gross Profit	499,242	553,293	1,052,535	797,384	255,151	132%	2,066,573	2,243,309

	SEP 2021	OCT 2021	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	VARIANCE	% OF YTD BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET	LAST YEAR 2019
Expenses								
Species Management								
Population Monitoring	-	2,480	2,480	3,666	(1,186)	68%	31,000	10,568
Harvest Assessment	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,000	2,704
Hatchery Operations	-	92	92	1,500	(1,408)	6%	9,000	7,983
Releases	135	67	202	600	(398)	34%	1,800	585
Total Species Management	135	2,640	2,774	5,766	(2,992)	48%	44,800	21,840
Habitat Protection & Mngt								
Contact Sports Fish Management Plan	-	1,304	1,304	-	1,304	-	-	36,219
Resource Mngt Act	-	-	-	336	(336)	-	2,000	1,266
Works & Management	1,273	719	1,992	832	1,160	239%	5,000	7,277
Habitat Enhancement Research Fund Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,739
Total Habitat Protection & Mngt	1,273	2,023	3,297	1,168	2,129	282%	7,000	50,501
Participation								
Access and Signage	147	171	318	416	(98)	77%	2,500	1,892
Back Country Surveys/Monitoring	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	822
OF&G Training Events	952	783	1,735	1,100	635	158%	2,000	804
Club Relations and Grants	-	-	-	300	(300)	-	1,000	918
Total Participation	1,099	954	2,053	1,816	237	113%	5,500	4,437
PUBLIC INTERFACE								
World Wetlands	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	-
Liaison	-	-	-	166	(166)	-	1,000	111
Media Releases	-	-	-	1,168	(1,168)	-	7,000	833
Total PUBLIC INTERFACE	-	-	-	1,334	(1,334)	-	9,000	944
COMPLIANCE								
Ranger Training and Expenses	-	1,951	1,951	1,000	951	195%	6,500	1,795

	SEP 2021	OCT 2021	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	VARIANCE	% OF YTD BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET	LAST YEAR 2019
Compliance	-	-	-	833	(833)	-	5,000	8,621
Total COMPLIANCE	-	1,951	1,951	1,833	118	106%	11,500	10,415
LICENCING								
Agent Servicing	24	-	24	100	(76)	24%	500	177
Commission/Fees	20,374	21,355	41,729	25,360	16,369	165%	90,629	81,876
Total LICENCING	20,398	21,355	41,753	25,460	16,293	164%	91,129	82,054
COUNCIL								
Elections Council	-	-	-	300	(300)	-	500	-
Council Meetings	1,490	2,983	4,473	2,500	1,973	179%	15,000	8,080
Total COUNCIL	1,490	2,983	4,473	2,800	1,673	160%	15,500	8,080
PLANNING & REPORTING								
Reporting/Audit	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,000	16,364
National Liason	-	-	-	333	(333)	-	2,000	421
Total PLANNING & REPORTING	-	-	-	333	(333)	-	18,000	16,785
ADMINISTRATION								
Salaries	7,791	57,943	65,734	129,376	(63,642)	51%	776,272	675,407
Staff Expenses	676	736	1,412	2,998	(1,586)	47%	19,000	23,279
Office Premices	19,575	10,690	30,266	23,514	6,752	129%	95,600	100,740
Office Equipemnt	623	184	807	416	391	194%	2,500	5,409
Communications	3,097	1,461	4,557	3,800	757	120%	22,800	20,836
General Exp (incl Insurance)	1,335	529	1,864	1,816	48	103%	3,900	3,173
General Field Equipment	463	-	463	498	(35)	93%	3,300	1,334
Vehicles	11,344	2,083	13,427	13,166	261	102%	44,000	43,901
Total ADMINISTRATION	44,905	73,626	118,530	175,584	(57,054)	68%	967,372	874,079
RMA Approved Reserve Expense	17,263	4,772	22,035	-	22,035	-	-	141,000
Depreciation	4,569	4,568	9,137	-	9,137	-	-	61,476

	SEP 2021	OCT 2021	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	VARIANCE	% OF YTD BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET	LAST YEAR 2019
Loss on Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	188
NZ Fish & Game Levies	-	239,810	239,810	239,810	-	100%	959,241	711,804
Office General (was Petty cash)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51
Wanaka Subdivision	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,366
Poll Public	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,000	-
University of Otago Research Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
Total Expenses	91,131	354,683	445,814	455,904	(10,090)	98%	2,137,042	1,999,021
Net Profit	408,111	198,610	606,721	341,480	265,241	178%	(70,469)	244,289

9.3 Licence Sales

Fish Licence Sales 2021/22 Season to 31st October 2021

See appendix 1 for a table showing fish licence sales categories and numbers. This table shows fish licences sales for seasons 2021/22 and 2020/21 to the end of October of the season.

In summary, fishing licence sales in whole season licence equivalents (LEQs) 8,730.83 LEQs compared with 8,138.79 LEQs for the similar period last year

Fish licence revenue from the Profit and Loss statement for the 2021/22 season recorded to 31st October 2021 total \$1,032,163 compared with \$942,821 for the 2020/21 season. These figures include both resident and non resident sales. Figures exclude GST and commission to agents.

The 2021/22 budget for fish licence sales is \$1,690,619 exclusive of GST.

9.4 Agents Debts

No aged or doubtful debts

9.5 Covid Wage Subsidy Return

As noted to Council at its September 2021 meeting, staff applied for, and received, the government wage subsidy of \$10,554. At the time of application, the Council fully qualified due to a substantial drop in licence revenue when compared to the same period the previous year.

One of the conditions of agreeing to receiving the subsidy was that Council would review this decision (as other regions are doing) in November to see if licences sales revenue lost during the August lockdown had been recouped. If they had been the Council agreed to look at repayment of the grant back to the Government.

The licence summary tables in this report confirm that the Council is in a good financial position with season sales of licences 7% ahead at the end of October and strong sales in angling licences have continued since.

Recommendations

- 1. That the Council note the strong early season sales and the Councils strong financial position and return the Covid Wage subsidy grant of \$10,554 to the Government.***
- 2. That the Financial Report be received.***

Sharon Milne
Administration Officer 17/11/2021

Otago Fish Licence Sales to the 31st October of the Season

2021/22

Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWIA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total	Fish LEQ
Agency	1,724	2,426	1	646	78	0	2	30	110	4	228	0	13	0	0	0	5,262	
ESL	3	5	0	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	
Online	1,174	1,372	27	265	138	0	0	49	300	15	181	2	28	0	0	0	3,551	
Total	2,901	3,803	28	915	216	0	2	83	410	19	409	2	41	0	0	0	8,829	8,730.83

2020/21

Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWIA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total	Fish LEQ
Agency	1,704	2,214	6	613	90	0	0	39	118	3	188	0	12	0	0	0	4,987	
ESL	5	6	0	8	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	
Online	996	1,267	21	237	117	0	1	40	252	19	148	0	36	0	0	0	3,134	
Total	2,705	3,487	27	858	207	0	1	79	371	22	336	0	48	0	0	0	8,141	8,087.76

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

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

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

10.0 Chief Executives Report

November 2021

10.1 Progress Against Councils 3 Year Strategic Priorities

SF&GMP Output	Goals 2020-2023	Draft Objectives (Specific, timebound and measurable)	Update
Species Mgt	Improved knowledge of Sportsfish population dynamics in Southern Lakes	Robust monitoring system for southern lakes fisheries established by 2022 with enough sensitivity to detect population change. Research proposal to investigate drivers for that change lodged to NZC for funding by 2023	Creel surveys are again underway for the third consecutive year of surveying on Lake Wanaka. The lake fisheries management workshop which was previously on hold is now scheduled for winter 2022.
	Improve Clutha River Salmon knowledge	Contribution of southern lakes salmon population to lower river searun fishery researched by 2022. Options for enhancement of downstream migration by 2023. Benefits and risks of further liberations reported on by 2021. Salmon spawning sites surveyed and documented (ongoing)	Contact Energy Sports Fish Management programme covers further research including eDNA on Lower Clutha to identify Salmon habitat. That work is proposed for Autumn.
Habitat Protection & Mgt	Improve outcomes in RMA planning processes – Plans reflect F&G input	Submissions reflecting F&G positions made on time and hearings attended for all planning matters impacting on F&G managed species, habitat and users (lumpy workload so no dates fixed) Additional advocacy in the form of; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once yearly Governor to governor meetings with ORC • Twice yearly meetings between CE's of orc and territorial authorities, iwi and DOC. (Same at a staff level) • Pre circulation of key submissions (two weeks ahead) to allies for comment and to seek alignment. 	The RMA consenting and planning report is provided by way of update in this agenda. Plan Change 7 decision was delivered mid October and was favourable to the Councils submission, especially the provision for short term replacement consents for water previously taken under mining privileges. Plan Change 8 looks as if it may be resolved largely through mediation. Further submissions have been made on the Regional Policy Statement after the draft returned with minimal and weak references to sportsfish values and habitat. Over the period CE has met with the ORC regulatory general manager and his staff have been invited to Takitakitoa Wetland to learn more about wetland management and consenting and also assist with some tree planting. That is

		By 2022, establish three way agreement (Aukaha, DOC, F&G) on freshwater values and bottom lines or input into FMU process.	<p>scheduled for 1 December. The CE had a telephone discussion ORC CEO.</p> <p>Any three way agreement looks increasingly unlikely by the deadline, however the groups continue to cooperate on matters of mutual interest, most recently to discuss the ORC global consent application for river works.</p>
	Create or improve more wetland areas with emphasis on irrigation dams as habitat and headwater wetlands	10 ponds/wetlands on private land developed or enhanced or protected annually (30 wetlands/ponds by 2023)	<p>Investigations for new pond development has slowed considerably –There were no enquires or inspections during this period.</p> <p>As noted before, staff effort has been diverted to catchment group work which could provide broader improvements to wetlands and waterways across Otago.</p>
Angler & Hunter Participation	Maintain or improve current participation levels, especially among females	Maintain current participation levels and improve female participation by 5% by 2023	<p>Staff are regularly contributing to national marketing efforts. There has been a healthy increase in early season angling licence sales. (7% ahead of last season)</p> <p>The survey of female anglers has been put on hold and a meeting is scheduled with University of Otago staff who we hope will pick up the survey.</p>
Access (under Participation in SF&GMP)	No net loss of access	Identify and log current access points by 2021 20% More access points identified in Otago region available to anglers and hunters by 2023.	<p>No additional work in this project area during the period.</p> <p>Replacement signage for the Nevis valley which were damaged by vandals has been ordered.</p>
Public interface	High licence holder understanding of F&G organisation and its work on their behalf	Improve licence holder knowledge of F&G activities (by two unit points in licence holder survey) by 2023	<p>The licence holder engagement survey has recently been circulated. This is a repeat of those conducted in 2019 and 2020. This will be used to check progress against this objective.</p> <p>Social media activity continues to rise with 2,700 followers on the Councils Facebook page.</p>
	Improved understanding by the general public of F&G role and work	Establish information portal including option of an educational facility in conjunction with Contact energy by 2023.	Negotiations related to a hatchery at Roxburgh hosted by Contact Energy are now concluding with the formation of a

		Generate and conduct general public survey of understanding by 2021 to establish base metric. PR/PA programme established and implemented by 2021. Follow up survey 2023 to check progress	trust. The core trust document is proposed to be tabled at this meeting. PR survey is now proposed for this financial year which means this project is well behind schedule. Its likely a third party will need to conduct it on the Councils behalf.
	Proactive engagement with Ngai Tahu	MOU/Principles document extended to cover wider Otago water and wildlife values and agreed by 2022.	Relationship with Aukaha continues to build with regular meetings and communication around planning and consenting matters. Staff have recently completed a Maoritanga course which was specifically designed to help to understand the maori world view and build on our relationships at a staff level.
	Improved FGO and Ranger visibility	15% of Otago fish licence holders and 10% of game licence holders have direct contact via CLE or through other F&G activities on an annual basis	Ranger warrants have been renewed and after a number of retirements, 12 honorary rangers remain across the district. One recently passed away. We are moving towards a smaller group of better trained rangers to ensure we comply with H&S provisions required of us.
	Form alliances/collaborations with landowners (and stakeholder organisations) on areas of common interest	360 degree survey of all stakeholders and other groups on organisational attitude and effectiveness by 2021. Draft and implement strategic communications plan for stakeholders by 2022. Review for positive progress and report 2023	Stakeholder survey is proposed for this financial year. Staff are proposing to discuss options with the University, so the results have a degree of independence to them. NZC is proposing to upgrade its Communication Strategy so some guidance may be provided by that. Timeframe is unknown.
Administration	Find alternative sources of income to support F&G activities	At least 20% of external expenditure is from alternative sources	As previously advised, a good portion of the target figure for this year has been secured through the Contact Energy Sportsfish Management Plan. (\$100,800 worth of work) TAKF grants also came through from The Otago Community Trust
Compliance	Regulations understandable by licence holders	Make regulations easier to interpret through simplification and improved user interfaces, especially online	The anglers notice review is underway and staff are looking at simplifying some areas including regulation around boating. A review of the first schedule (nationally consistent portion of the Angling Regs) is also underway.

Improved compliance rates	Improve compliance rate from 95% to 97%	Early season angling compliance has been good. Two people face prosecution action. One has completed diversion
Prosecutions completed in a compassionate and professional way	Revisit prosecution guidelines annually (Sept) and sign off alongside diversion payment schedule	Prosecution guidelines were adopted in September 2021 - Complete

10.2 Other Staff Activity

10.2.1 SPECIES MANAGEMENT

Drift Dive of Greenstone River

A drift dive of the upper Greenstone River was completed in late October and the early analysis shows that trout numbers are in the mid range when compared to previous surveys. 11 brown trout and 96 Rainbow trout were noted during the 13km dive at that compared similarly to 1994 (7 BT and 101 RT) and 2002 (31 BT and 107 RT).

Hatchery liberations complete

Liberations from Macraes Hatchery are largely complete for the season. A steady drip feed of 2 year old fish to our popular urban reservoirs (eg Sullivans Dam) will continue to ensure the angling is as sustainable as possible over the summer.

Angling and hunting regulations

Staff have been working on both the angling and hunting regulations over the period. The draft Game Season regulations need to be at NZC by the end of January and the Anglers Notice regulations by the end of June. The latter will be finalised at the Councils May meeting.

10.2.2 HABITAT PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

Contact Energy – Lower Clutha Sportsfish Management Plan Implementation

The first of the Contact funded field work is about to begin with lower Clutha River trout heads being collected at a fishing competition at the end of November. Heads have also been harvested from the Waipahi Gold Medal fishing competition to obtain a further batch of data and otoliths.

Outgoing correspondence contains a letter which staff recently sent to Contact Energy to prompt more action on the sportsfish management plan outcomes. Since then there has been some progress on a draft trust deed (to facilitate the hatchery build proposal) and those documents should make it to this meetings public excluded session. In addition to a trust deed, there has also been the development of a draft funding agreement to support the Trust.

CE to Update

RMA litigation

The Lindis High Court hearing was concluded at the end of April and we are still awaiting a decision. See separate report from the Environmental Officer on the (interim) outcome of the Plan Change 7 which was favourable to our submissions.

10.2.3 USER PARTICIPATION

Take a Kid Fishing Days

Four TAKF events have been completed and a report is appended to this agenda. They were highly successful. In addition, a 'Soft Bait Clinic' was held on the lower Taieri and was well attended. Feedback from that event was very positive.

Repeat of licence holder engagement survey

A repeat questionnaire has been sent to a random group of licence holders to test if our communications efforts are penetrating. Last conducted in January 2020, it will be interesting to see if our recent high media presence has improved licence holder understanding of what we do and their perceptions around value for money in a licence. The results will feed into the Councils strategic planning session in February.

10.2.4 PUBLIC INTERFACE

Media

Otago continues to generate a steady stream of media content readily picked up by print publications. Staff are proposing to move into more video production but there is a steep learning curve, and some new equipment will be required. That is being investigated now.

10.2.5 COMPLIANCE

Early angling season compliance has been very good. Three offenders have paid diversion at the time of writing and a further two have been contacted about their offending to offer diversion too.

10.2.6 LICENCING

Licencing system glitch

The licencing system was down for an afternoon just recently. NZC CEO is in talks with the provider to ensure there is better monitoring in place, so the service is as seamless as possible. It is rare for the online service to be disrupted. It has been remarkably stable over the last decade.

10.2.7 COUNCIL

Meeting with Amalgamation Group

The CE and a delegation of Councillors are due to speak to the Councils submission directly with the Amalgamation Group.

Chair/CE to update

Dunedin parking/storage

There has been a slight adjustment to the area of lease to our tenants in the Dunedin building. This gives them more workshop space and ensures their longer term tenure there. Staff have recently secured offsite covered garage space to house boats and trailers. This should free up carparking beneath the building.

Meeting schedule

This is to be adopted at the meeting. It might be useful to discuss the options of weekend or evening meeting or some blend of both over the year. Please note that staff have budgeted for six face to face meetings this financial year but there could be considerably more if the ministerial review progresses. It may be necessary to hold shorter online meetings to cover off content which may require a response between meetings.

For discussion**Agenda format**

With a new council formed it is timely to discuss agenda format and content. At present, to reduce printing and postage costs, agendas are sent (via email) as an electronic version. That does present opportunities in the future of being able to link up other interlinking material (like past reports etc). With a reduced number of councillors the printing costs in time and materials is reduced so paper agendas could be posted out. Due to postage delays, it could mean a very short period to read the agenda.

For discussion**10.2.8 PLANNING AND REPORTING****Annual Report**

The Auditor (from BDO Invercargill) has been and apart from a few follow up questions, the audit has run smoothly and the 2021 Annual Report is ready for adoption.

Unfortunately, it will be too late to circulate a paper copy for your digestion, but an online version will be emailed to you ahead of the meeting and printed copies will be available at the meeting.

Recommendation

That this report be received

Ian Hadland

Chief Executive

15 November 2021

11.0 RMA Planning and Consents Report

22 September to 17 November 2021

Current legislation, policy and planning processes

Plan Change 7, 8 and 1

Plan Change 7

An interim decision for Plan Change 7 (PC7) has been released, with substantive findings of interest to the Council. Staff are not able to comment on this decision publicly until after appeal periods are finished on the final decision. At that point, the provisions will be beyond challenge and will have full effect. Staff recommend that a summary of decisions and expenditure on the plan change is developed and reported to the Council and the New Zealand Fish and Game Council.

Plan Change 8

Plan Change 8 has been split into two hearings, one each for the primary sector and urban topics.

The entirety of the primary sector topics was mediated but the Environment Court had indicated that a hearing will still need to be held. The hearing was held on 8 and 9 November and staff attended both days. Mr Watson gave evidence for Fish and Game on discharges from hatchery operations. The hearing remains open for the time being but staff do not anticipate needing to attend further days in person. There is no indication yet of when a decision may be released.

During the reporting period, staff attended two days of mediation for the urban topics. Most of the issues were successfully mediated. This means opposing cases will still need to be put to the Environment Court on those points not resolved, in addition to considering the position reached on mediated points. The hope for staff is that Fish and Game's involvement from this point on need only be limited.

Regional Policy Statement

The Otago and Central South Island Fish and Game Councils lodged a joint submission and further submissions on the Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement (**PORPS**). Fish and Game's submission focused on adapting lessons from the NPS-FM; requiring direct language and limits; and protecting habitat for trout and salmon.

Expenditure for the work is funded through the Regional Policy Statement reserve, which has co-contributions from the Otago and New Zealand Fish and Game Councils.

The RPS is intended to go through a Freshwater Planning Process (**FPP**), which is an option made available with the most recent changes to the Resource Management Act 1991. The FPP is intended to be more streamlined and avoid a reliance on appeals. However, there is a question of law that has been raised by Forest & Bird and the Environmental Defence Society as to whether the whole RPS is eligible to be heard under a FPP.¹ During the reporting period, Forest and Bird and the Otago Regional Council agreed to seek a declaratory judgement on the issue from the High Court. Fish and Game has joined the proceeding to keep a watching brief. The associated costs are within the discretionary

¹ <https://www.odt.co.nz/news/dunedin/orc-policy-statement-raises-concerns>

allowance of the CE. Staff will brief the Council further if expenditure above that allowance is required. Staff do not expect any hearings to begin until the new year.

Deemed Permit Process

Most deemed permit applications have been placed on hold by applicants, pending the results of PC7. Now that an interim decision has been made, applicants may feel more comfortable progressing their applications. Staff expect that deemed permit applications will begin to be taken off hold in the coming weeks and months. Staff are unable to give an indication of likely workload as a result but expect to be able to do so as further decisions are published, and as the provisions are tested by applicants. It is hoped the provisions will deal with the applications efficiently and effectively.

Current Notification processes

Applicant	Activity	Outcome
<i>Otago Regional Council applications</i>		
JN & CA Davis	To abstract water from the Stratford and Colour Burn Creeks.	A submission in opposition was written in response to being limited notified. No hearing date has been set.
Arrow Irrigation Company	To abstract water from the Arrow River.	The application was publicly notified, and staff made a submission in opposition. No hearing date has been set.
Pioneer Energy Limited	To vary existing consents to store and use water at Lake Onslow to increase the drawdown rate.	The applicant has been consulting with staff on the proposal since 2017; however, the limited notification process has generated a significant amount of additional information. Staff are reviewing the additional information and will write a submission if necessary.
Dunedin City Council	Activities related to the construction and operation of the Smooth Hill landfill	A neutral submission was written to highlight key issues with the application, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a sparing analysis in the context of Te Mana o te Wai; and - that standards for discharge and receiving waters will not be developed until <i>after</i> the consent is granted.

Written approval provided during the period

Applicant	Activity	Outcome
Otago Regional Council applications		
Rees River Supplies Ltd	To extract gravel from the Dart River.	Written party approval was provided.
Queenstown Hardfill	To extract gravel from the Rees River.	Conditions were negotiated to limit the creation of new channels and disturbance near Diamond Creek, after which written party approval was provided.
Queenstown Lakes District Council		
100WPS Trustee Limited	Creation of building platforms, boundary adjustment and variation to consent notice conditions at Walter Peak Station.	Written party approval was provided.

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

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

Recommendation:

1. That this report be received.
2. That a summary of decisions and expenditure on PC7 be developed and reported to the Council and the New Zealand Fish and Game Council once the provisions are beyond challenge.

Nigel Paragreen
Environmental Officer
17 November 2021

12.0 Committee & Delegate Reports

12.1 CFT

12.2 NZC

12.3 Ngai Tahu

12.4 Conservation Board

13.0 Correspondence

13.1 NZC to Otago

Nil

13.2 Otago to NZC

13.2.1 OF&GC Feedback on Regional Structure of Fish and Game Councils



28 October 2021

Chair, David Hunt

Structure review project team

Via Email : david@concept.co.nz

Dear David,

Initial Otago feedback on Regional Structure of Fish & Game Councils

Thank you for the opportunity to comment at this early stage.

Our Council would like to firstly express its concern about the short timeframes for feedback. It appreciates that this won't be its only opportunity, and you have been given a tight schedule to work to, but there does seem to be a lack of timelines set out for how this fits into the wider review and any expected milestones.

Council was also concerned about the lack of clear direction in the review report (or subsequently) about what the expected outcomes from amalgamations are. Better defining matter such as 'efficiencies at an operational level' and 'improved effectiveness' would help shape further submissions if they are sought.

Feedback to questions

Questions	Otago perspective
<p>1. <i>What does your Council consider the best regional organisational structure moving forward for the next 20 years:</i></p> <p><i>a. for the overall organisation (i.e. number of regions and broad boundaries)</i></p> <p><i>b. with particular reference to your region?</i></p>	<p>A. Council found some difficulties looking 20yrs forward with so much disruption and change around us. It favoured trying to describe what an ideal region would look like; have abundant angling and hunting opportunities to generate a critical mass of effort and generating sufficient income to fund management of licence holder interests in that area, undertake its statutory functions, with adequate surplus funds to contribute to supporting National Office</p> <p>Council agreed some principles were important:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting relatively even sized regions in terms of use, revenue and area. The creation of 'super regions' is undesirable. • Ideal regions operate without the need for grants • Wards required to maintain geographic representation • Should encapsulate and not split 'communities of interest' • Any amalgamations should optimise career paths and provide staff with development opportunities to both working across boundaries and to progress to management positions

	<p>B. Otago Council believes it is already the optimum sized region. It has the resources and funds to manage itself and its licence holders, and to contribute to the wider organisation. We believe that Otago could be used as a model for the future.</p>
<p>2. We are seeking your input as to what criteria you think should be weighted in defining regional configurations. These might include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial viability based on revenue derived from licence sales • Operational viability based on the amount of fish and game resource, and resource use (user days), and management needs of the resource • A minimum scale of operations (critical mass) to carry out all statutory functions and responsibilities • Boundaries that reflect principal interactions with resource management/regulatory authorities • Boundaries reflect resource use • Boundaries reflect resource commonality • Boundaries that consider Rohe of iwi/hapu kaitiakitanga • Representation based on the number of licence holders in region • Representation based on geographic spread in region 	<p>Council felt that all of the attributes would be worth contemplating but the process would need to be simplified considerably to ensure governors and staff understand how these are being prioritised. The data and analysis used to inform such decisions need to be more clearly defined..</p> <p>The Council held differing views about the value of the Resource Allocation Report but overall it was accepted as a reasonable place to start. Its preference to use angler and hunter effort/use data to drive discussions about resource allocation could clearly be used in the same discussion about amalgamations.</p> <p>*Council would like to see further economic and effort data modelling (such as in the Resource allocation Project) to be able to compare the following;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amalgamations as described in the review report 2. Amalgamation and/or combinations of regions without boundary changes 3. Amalgamations of regions with boundary changes <p>It was concluded that amalgamations without boundary changes would be the simplest to implement and better understood by licence holders and the public.</p> <p>That modelling should also use current revenue and approved budget rather than expenditure. It was noted that the resource allocation project used Otago 2019 expenses in a year where it spent well into its reserves to defend an important environment court decision.</p> <p>Minimum scale of operations is an issue for small regions which should consider amalgamation to save duplication of management and admin functions but this is unlikely to change the fact that many FGO's will be sole charge officers.</p> <p>Regulatory authority boundaries are important and also relationships with Regional Councils and Iwi but neither should constrain consideration of boundary adjustments or amalgamations. Local Government is under review and its likely that boundary changes and planning matters (NBEA and 14 regional plans suggestion) will change significantly in the future. Otago is already used to working across boundaries where iwi and RC boundaries don't align to our own.</p>

	The role of NZC and its resource needs must be considered alongside any amalgamations, especially if revenue is used as a criteria for regions and levies remain as a system to direct fund the National Office.
<p>3. What are the key elements or principles that you want to see retained in your region?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • e.g. Focus on wetland ownership and management • e.g. Visibility in community/relevance 	<p>Local contact for local issues is important. Brand identity and connectedness is critical to remaining relevant both locally and nationally.</p> <p>Maintaining present staffing levels is important and minimising disruption is desirable.</p> <p>Representation is important, especially at a governance level. Local governance managing local resources – that is a mantra important to all regions.</p>
<p>4. Can you provide views on what constraints or impediments to amalgamations that should be taken into account.</p>	<p>Lack of forward vision – what is required to be done?, do we have the right resources in the right areas or configurations to get it done? Outside consultants may well be required at significant cost.</p> <p>Council was concerned around transfer of any assets such as wetlands, trusts, covenants, land and buildings etc to a new organisation/identity, especially if they were acquired for specific local purposes or as mitigation. Relationships with third parties will also have to be rewritten (Clutha Fisheries Trust)</p> <p>Otago Council doesn't see many other impediments but has identified some areas of risk which we trust will be part of any analysis and reporting to come. They include but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That amalgamations could create less efficiency, as is commonly seen in larger bureaucracies like DoC. The cost of amalgamations will be significant and there isn't a budget to implement such change. • Amalgamations may widen the gap between the organisation and licence holders (no longer local) and reduce representation at a governor level. Could be knock on impacts to candidate lists for elections and weakening of the democratic process.

Thank you



Chair, Colin Weatherall

Otago Fish & Game Council



Chief Executive, Ian Hadland

**13.3 General Correspondence In
Nil**

13.4 General Correspondence Out

13.4.1 Contact Energy

5 October 2021

Neil Gillespie
Contact Energy Ltd
Clyde
Via email: neil.gillespie@contactenergy.co.nz

Dear Neil,

Progress on Sportsfish Management Plan outcomes

The Council has asked me to write to you again to express their disappointment at the slow rate of progress on the hatchery proposal and Trust Deed development.

It appreciates that these are complex matters but Council wanted to highlight that the trust option was first brought to the Council table in July 2020 and got a favourable response from members. Boyd Brindson agreed (at that meeting) he was happy to advance that and negotiations continued into November 2020 where you presented to Council that progress was being made on that Trust document and hatchery design. Hatchery design was confirmed in July this year after adjustments by your contractor but the Trust Deed development has languished. It was supposed to be presented at our last meeting in September but was unavailable to be put into the agenda which was disappointing to us all.

Despite my assurances that these two elements are actually advancing, the Council feel that this is at a frustratingly slow pace, with some hinting that this may be deliberate. Hatchery design/costing has taken nearly three years now and the trust option over a year. I'm sure you will agree that this is quite unreasonable.

To assist with our own forward planning (including briefing the Council on progress) can you please lay out a timeline for these matters to be resolved. If this is unreasonably long, or subsequent milestones are not met, then I am instructed to take the matter up with the Otago Regional Council.

Yours sincerely



Ian Hadland
Chief Executive

14.0 Items to be Received or Noted

14.1 2021 Southern Reservoir Take a Kid Fishing & Adult Beginner Spin Fishing Classes

On the weekends of the 18th & 19th September and 25th & 26th September 2021, the Otago Fish & Game Council held four 'Take a Kid Fishing' (TAKF) events at the Southern Reservoir.

Planning

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

Sponsorship

The Otago Community Trust generously donated \$2020.00 towards the event. The money was used for things such as toilet hire, traffic management, fish transportation.

Promotion

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

Access

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

Support

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

Entries

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

Because of Covid 19 restrictions numbers were limited to 100 people per event with 149 adults and 252 children registered across the four events.

Format of events

There were four sessions over the two weekends (one session per day). All the sessions were held from 10 am to 12 pm. On the day of the event, participants signed in using the CV19 contact tracer and then found a spot around the reservoir to fish.

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

The TAKF trailer has 40 rod and reel sets for loan and many of the rods were used across the four sessions.

Stocking of the Southern Reservoir

Approximately 800 two-year-old rainbow trout were set aside at the Macraes Trout Hatchery for the event. 400 fish were transported and released into the reservoir before the 18th of September. Another 400 fish were released into the reservoir the week after the first weekend.

Events

Saturday 18th September: 64 children registered. 49 attended (15 didn't show)

Sunday 19th September: 62 children registered. 49 attended (13 didn't show)

Saturday 25th September: 66 registered. 49 attended (17 didn't show)

Sunday 26th September: 60 registered. 46 attended (14 didn't show)

Overall registered = 252

Overall attended = 193

Overall, no show = 59

This equates to a no-show rate: 23.41%

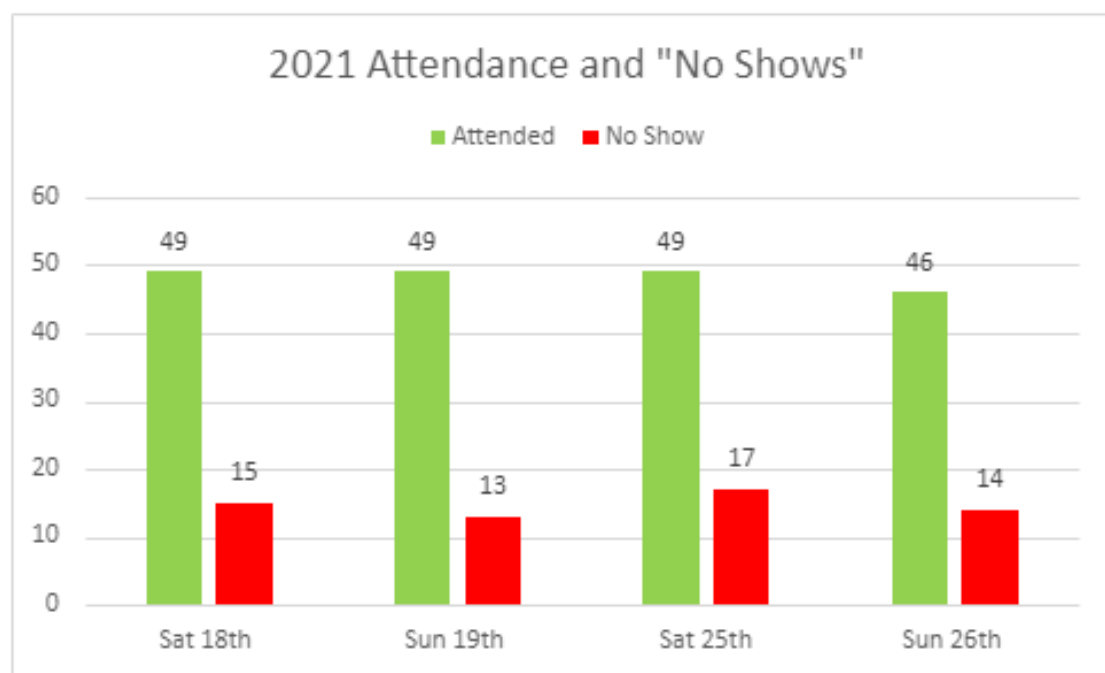


Figure 1: Attendance rates for all 4 sessions

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

Survey Results and feedback

149 families were sent the survey, with 59 complete responses.

Out of the completed responses:

22 fish were harvested (across the 4 days)

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

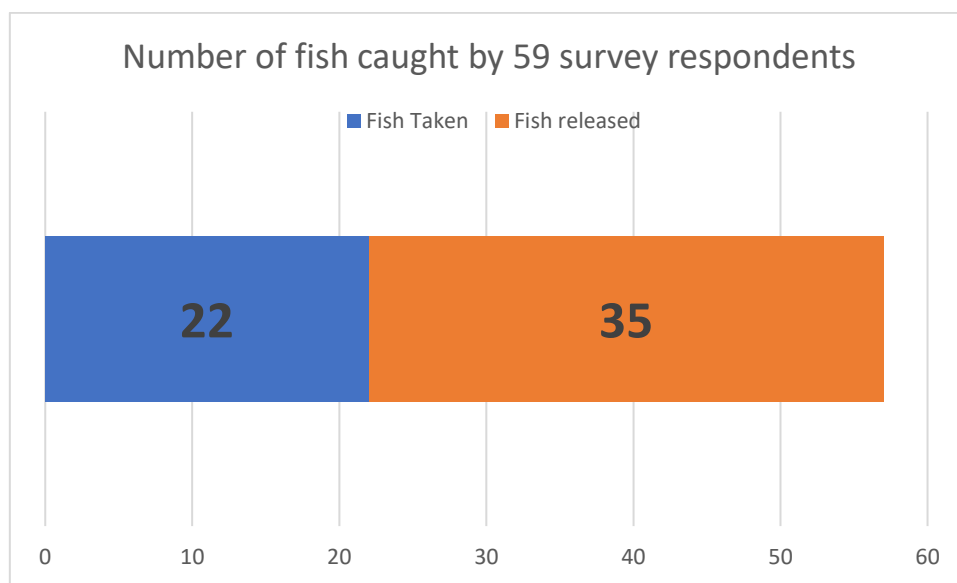


Figure 2: Overall catch from survey respondents

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

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

Participants were also asked if they had any suggestions for future events. All responses are summarised below:

No. Was well organized, we loved the day even no nothing caught.
--

Spot prizes. Keep numbers low like this year. Made for heaps of room. Prizes drawn by number entry
--

Such a good event for the kids.

No, the children both enjoyed it and the 2hrs is about right.
it was good thanks
Was a wonderful experience. Rangers were fantastic with our 2 young kids. May just suggest you mention that young children who are not great swimmers should bring along a life jacket or something similar. The water is deep from the bank.
No, they are very well-run events
these are well run events unfortunately covid 19 didn't help it this year
No it was well run as previously- just not as many fish were taking the bait as previously!!
Perhaps some of the fish kids catch that they don't want to take home could be taken by the rangers (instead of released back) and gutted and given to families who don't catch one, so they have something to take away if they are unlucky and don't catch anything?
We really enjoyed the day but were disappointed to have no fish despite staying the whole session. It would be helpful to know what the "next steps" in going fishing are - we don't know what to do next, what to buy, where to go, what we need. Maybe a leaflet outlining the next steps and a discount code to Hunting and Fishing would be an idea (we went to H&F though and they were useless - not really that interested in us as a Mum and boy who wanted advice on what to do next, I guess they are only catering for the Big Man Hunter?)
No, was very well run and organized. Under the circumstances we were facing it was good to be able to have some normality. Great job done by all.
No. It was fun for the kids, well done.
Nope ...all good
No, I think it is an excellent event. Maybe more than one each year?
Keep up the great work.
It was fantastic, just keep doing it!
A bit more guidance in how to fish, and where. We had never been fishing before, and kids were a bit disappointed not to catch anything.
None at all. All the rangers were excellent and very helpful.
Great event and awesome volunteers
No, they are awesome fun, and the helpers are fantastic
Nothing. Every year a good event for the kids.
Well organized event
No, you are doing a great job, thank you

Really enjoyed it. Thank you!
Event always seems to run smoothly. Due to alert levels, unfortunately only one parent could attend, but our kids still had fun. Great event put on by you guys every year. So pleased it has been extended into two different weekends. Only thing that I would work on is advertising better, maybe.
Lures handed out at the start was a fun way to start. Perhaps a popular toby or tizzy devil that is a sure thing to catch a fish to keep the kids interested. Spot prizes also use to be fun and a good way to keep people at the event till the end and my 8-year-old has suggested a lolly bag at the start would be nice for the kid's.
no. A good day.
Fun event! Can't think of any changes
Great event. We will be back next year.
Prizes, giveaways and a bit more interaction or amusements
Great experience for the kids. I hope you keep doing this every year.
More notifications
We enjoy it every year thanks. One day we will catch a fish. Thank you volunteers.
The event was run really well... kids loved it even though we didn't catch anything
Enjoyed it as is
I think this event was awesome for the kids my daughter really enjoyed it
Not at all, was a well-run event. My kiddos really enjoyed themselves and catching a fish really helped keep their enthusiasm up. Cheers fish & game team 🐟
No it was well organised
no, it was great

Beginner Adults Fishing Class

For the last eight years, Otago Fish & Game Council has been running adult beginner fishing classes. This year there were 3 classes in Dunedin (6th, 7th, 8th October) and one class in Cromwell (8th October).

Dunedin classes - there was a 2hr theory session (held in the Dunedin office boardroom) with a PowerPoint presentation on equipment, knots, fish species, where fish can be found, licences etc and on Saturday 9th the classes were combined and a 1.5hr practical session was

held at the Southern Reservoir. There were 34 registrations for the Dunedin classes and 1 fish caught on the Saturday.

Cromwell class - there was a 2hr theory session (held at Presbyterian Hall) on Friday 8th evening and on Saturday 9th the class had a 1.5hr practical session at Sarita Orchard Pond. There were 12 registrations for this class and most participants caught a fish (the reason for a high catch rate is because this Orchard pond is not open to the public for fishing)

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

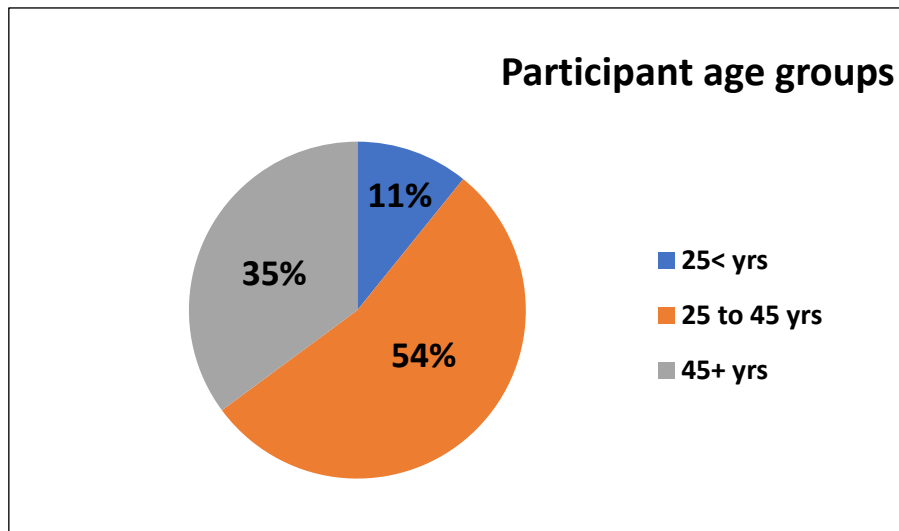


Figure 3: Relative percentage of participants across age groups

Acknowledgements

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Volunteers/Rangers

Ross Taylor, Mike Teasdale, John Burnip, Brian Hutton, Wayne Marsh, Ben Davies

Fish & Game staff

Steven Dixon, Bruce Quirey, Jayde Couper, Paul van Klink, Ben Sowry

Recommendations

That this report is received.

Steven Dixon
Fish & Game Officer
November 2021



Sibling sharing ... Ryder (10) and Willow (6) Greig, of Maryhill, enjoyed the warm sunshine as they tried their luck.



Fishing bros ... Three fish for three brothers (from left) Jensen (8), Archie (13) and Bryn (10) Hyslop, of Dunedin.



Dad and daughter ... Grace Kreft (8), of Mosgiel, reeled in a nice rainbow trout with her father Matt.



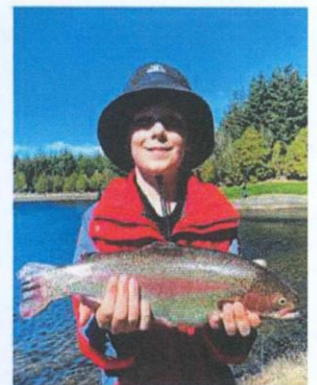
Decent haul ... Annabelle McConachie (7), of Green Island, caught three trout on the day, including this one.



Nice time ... Cambria Perez (8), of North Dunedin, fished with dad Tyson.



Group fun ... The Mitchell sisters (from left) Lucy (7), Grace (15) and Chelsea (12), of Waverley, had a successful morning fishing with their grandad Bob Hyslop at Southern Reservoir. PHOTOS: BRUCE QUIREY, OTAGO FISH & GAME



Nice specimen ... Owen Moody (10), of Concord, was happy with his catch.

Wind, sunshine turn on fishing action for kids

STAFF REPORTER

The fish were biting at Take A Kid Fishing at Southern Reservoir at the weekend.

About 200 children and adults took part in this year's final two events at the reservoir at Mount Grand, in Dunedin, on Saturday and Sunday.

"This has got to be one of the most successful weekends we've had in a long time when

it comes to fish caught," Otago Fish & Game officer Bruce Quirey said.

"Wind and sunshine have stirred up the fish to feed actively.

"Most children went home happy with a trout."

Otago Fish & Game ran four Take A Kid Fishing events at the reservoir this month.

Alert Level 2 rules limited the number of participants to 100 at each event.

Fish & Game officer Steve Dixon, who manages Macraes fish hatchery, made five 200km round trips last week to collect and release trout into the reservoir.

Southern Reservoir and many other Otago fishing waters will open to licensed anglers from tomorrow, marking the start of the 2021-22 fishing season.

Anglers were obviously keen to get back on to the

water, as Otago fishing licence sales were slightly up on this time last year, Mr Quirey said.

"Like last season, there will be very few foreign tourists around," he said.

"So make the most of this rare chance to explore the far corners of our amazing region in relative solitude."

High-country waters remain closed and will open on November 1.

Monday, 27 September 2021

First cast, first catch for Arah

By Andrew Marshall (/author/andrew.marshall%40odt.co.nz)

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Looking forward to a fish dinner are (from left) Arah, Matthew and Fletcher Parks, of Allanton, at Fish & Game's Take a Kid Fishing event at Dunedin's Southern Reservoir on Saturday morning. PHOTO: LINDA ROBERTSON

This fishing lark is easy.

You could not blame 5-year-old Arah Parks from thinking that when her first-ever cast resulted in landing a 1.36kg rainbow trout.

Arah was at Dunedin's Southern Reservoir on Saturday with brother Fletcher (7) and dad Matthew Parks for the second weekend of Fish & Game's annual Take a Kid Fishing event.

Entranced by the kaleidoscope of colours emblazoned on the fish, Arah decided to return her fish to the depths of the reservoir.

However, soon after Fletcher hooked his own fish which was not to be so lucky, destined for the Parks' dinner table.

Mr Parks said he had enjoyed fishing in his youth and the weekend's festivities had hooked his children.

"This is awesome, because the kids want to get into fishing now."

Fish & Game officer Steven Dixon said he thought the weather on a windy Saturday afternoon might have scared a few families off, but people turned up and "the fishing's just been magic today".

Conditions had been good and the fish were biting, as children had a catch in their first few casts, in many cases.

Mr Dixon admitted with a chuckle that Saturday's smorgasbord of fishing might be setting up an unrealistic expectation of the entire fishing experience, but ultimately he wanted families to enjoy the outdoors and be able to experience catching a fish.

"There's plenty of happy smiling kids, and even parents."

The four days of fishing had been completely booked out over two weekends, and could have accommodated more families if Alert Level 2 restrictions had not capped numbers at 100 people per day.

andrew.marshall@odt.co.nz (mailto:andrew.marshall@odt.co.nz)

Date - 20/9/21 ODT.



Dinner time . . . Daniel (7) and Emma (9) Collins, of Dunedin, show off the dinner they caught at the Southern Reservoir during the Take a Kid Fishing day on Saturday.



Third time lucky . . . Lisa Lokman (14), of Dunedin, managed to hook her first fish at the Southern Reservoir, after failing to catch anything in the previous two Take a Kid Fishing days.

Mixed emotions after trout caught

■ JOHN LEWIS

FORGET the arms — it was Emma Collins' face that got the biggest workout when she reeled in a 1.4kg rainbow trout on Saturday.

It went from a beaming smile as she landed the fish, to a wrinkled look of revulsion as Fish & Game officers gutted it for her, and then she pursed her lips at the thought of eating it for dinner — all within 60 seconds.

"It was disgusting watching it get gutted. But it hasn't put

me off eating it. It's going to be yummy."

The 9-year-old was one of about 60 children who had a go at fishing for the first time, at Dunedin's Southern Reservoir as part of Fish & Game's annual Take a Kid Fishing days yesterday and on



With baited breath . . . The Dukes family (from left) Claude (4), Breton and Hector (6) wait patiently to reel in a fish. PHOTO: GERARD O'BRIEN

Saturday.

Fish & Game officer Steve Dixon said the number of participants was limited to 50 each day this year because Dunedin was still under Alert Level 2 restrictions.

"Hopefully, we'll be at Alert Level 1 for next weekend's

event [September 25 and 26].

Then we can sign some more people in."

He said there were about 800 rainbow trout in the reservoir, which were raised at the Otago Fish & Game hatchery at Macraes.

On average, they weighed

about 1.4kg, he said.

"Normally, only about 20% get caught, and then everyone's allowed to come up and fish here when the season opens on October 1 — as long as you've got a licence, of course."

john.lewis@odt.co.nz

15.0 General Business