



**EASTERN  
FISH AND GAME COUNCIL**

***MEETING  
AGENDA***

**28 October 2021**

## AGENDA

### The 191st Meeting of the Eastern Fish and Game Council

**Venue:** Eastern Fish & Game Region Offices  
Paradise Valley Road  
ROTORUA

**Date:** Thursday, 28 October 2021

**Commences:** 12.00 PM

|   | <u>Page Number</u> |
|---|--------------------|
| 1 Welcome (12.00 PM)  |                    |
| 2 Introductions   |                    |
| 3 Apologies   | (R)                |
| 4 Election of Officers (12.20 PM, 20 min)                           | (R) 1              |
| 5 <i>Minutes of the previous meeting (5 August 2021)</i> (12.40 PM) | (R) 6              |
| 6 Identification of Items for Council Policy                        | (D)                |
| 7 Matters Arising   | (D)                |
| 8 Notification of Items for General Business                        | (D)                |
| 9 Conflict of Interest Register                                     | 14                 |
| 10 Operational Reports (12.55 PM, 15 min)                           |                    |
| 10.1 Health and Safety  | (R) 16             |
| 10.2 Management   | (I) 18             |
| 10.3 Finance  | (R) 34             |
| 10.4 Licence Sales  | (I) 46             |
| 11 2022 Game Season Conditions (1.10 PM, 20 min)                    | (D) 51             |
| 12 Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Fund (1.30 PM, 5 min)           | (I) 64             |
| 13 <i>2020-2021 Draft Performance Report</i> (1.35 PM, 10 min)      | (R) 66             |
| 14 Dates for Council Meetings in 2022 (1.45 PM, 10 min)             | (R) 68             |
| 15 Regional Structure Review (1.55 PM, 15 min)                      | (D) 74             |
| 16 Species Monitoring Reports (2.10 PM, 5 min)                      | (I) 78             |
| 17 Liaison Officers Reports (2.15 PM, 10 min)                       | (I) 81             |
| 18 General Business (2.25 PM, 15 min)                               | (D)                |
| 19 <i>Public Excluded Session</i> (2.40 PM, 5 min)                  | (R) 82             |
| 20 Farewell to Departing Councillors (2.45 PM, 15 mins)             | 84                 |
| 21 Meeting Closes (3.00 PM)   |                    |

#### Notes:

1. Resolutions relating to agenda items in italics (5, 13 and 18) are tasks for the outgoing Council while the remainder are to be taken by the new Council.
2. **(R)** = resolution required, **(D)** = for discussion/advice, **(I)** = for information

## 4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Ref: 7.02.01

12 October 2021

### 1. Purpose

To meet the statutory requirements relating to the appointment of an Eastern Fish and Game Council member to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council, and to elect officers for this Council for the coming year.

### 2. Background

The newly elected regional Fish and Game Councils following the 2021 election take office on 27 October 2021. Eastern Region has a new Council comprising 12 members. An election was not required this round as the number of candidates did not exceed the 12 vacancies available. The Fish and Game Council Elections Regulations 1990 state that the new Council must meet within three weeks of taking office to appoint a member to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council as follows:

#### *26 Appointment of members of New Zealand Fish and Game Council*

- (1) The first meeting of each newly elected Fish and Game Council shall be held not later than 3 weeks after the date the members came into office.*
- (2) At the first meeting of the Council members shall appoint one of their number to be a member of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council.*
- (3) The appointment shall be by majority vote of the Council.*
- (4) Members of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council shall remain in office as long as they remain members of the appointing Fish and Game Council, except that where a majority of the members of the appointing Fish and Game Council pass a resolution that a vote be taken on a new appointment prior to expiry of the term, then a vote shall be taken and the successor shall serve out the remaining period of the term.*

Today's meeting is the first meeting of the new Eastern Fish and Game Council meaning one of its tasks is to elect a NZ Council appointee. This is to ensure that there is a NZ Council in place between now and the inaugural meeting of the new Council in Wellington which is currently scheduled for 4 December 2021. The current Eastern Fish and Game Council appointee to the NZ Council is Debbie Oakley.

This Council also needs to appoint officers for the coming year, a process which is undertaken annually, and confirm the ongoing appointment of a staff member as a trustee representing Council's interests. These roles and those who have held the positions over the term of the past Council are as follows:

- Chair – David Woolner (to 27 August 2021) and Ngahi Bidois (since 30 August 2021).
- Deputy Chair – Ngahi Bidois (to 27 August 2021).
- Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement (WCEET) trustee – Matthew McDougall.

There is also, an Executive/Managers Performance and Remuneration Committee. This has specific Terms of Reference (TOR) dealing with the compilation of information for the annual Manager's performance review, but also serves as an initial point of contact for the Manager in the event of issues arising that need to be addressed urgently or in between scheduled meetings of Council. In addition to the Chair (David Woolner) and Deputy Chair (Ngahi Bidois) of the

Council, Crs Debbie Oakley and Lindsay Lyons have been the other members of the current committee until now. The committee has comprised four members for the past three years but for some time prior to that numbered three, there being no prescribed number of members required.

The objectives of the Waikato (WCEET) trust are detailed in an attachment to this item. Matthew's role on the WCEET remains largely technical and involved with the evaluation of funding applications and acting as project manager and advisor for a number of projects. The members of the WCEET are mostly staff from agencies including Fish & Game, DOC, territorial authorities, and Mercury Energy.

Finally, there is a short term need to delegate a member(s) of Council, or appoint a sub-committee, to collate and summarise Councillors' views on questions that have been posed by the NZC's Structure Review Project Team on the future regional structure of Fish and Game Councils. Papers relating to this were circulated to all members of both the incoming and outgoing Eastern Fish and Game Council on 15 October (note key paper from David Hunt dated 13 October 2021 is appended to this agenda item). The requirement for a delegation or sub-committee arises from the very tight consultation timetable that has been imposed by the Project Team, and deadlines for feedback that preclude the first two rounds of consultation being considered in depth at Council's two upcoming meetings scheduled for 28 October and 9 December 2021.

### **3. Recommendation**

- 3.1 That Council elects a New Zealand Council appointee and members of Council to fill the roles described above, and confirms the ongoing appointment of Matthew McDougall as its representative on the Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust.**
- 3.2 That Council delegates a member(s) or appoints a sub-committee to provide feedback to the NZC Structure Review Project Team on the future regional structure of Fish and Game Councils.**



## Trust Purpose

The Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust was established for the following charitable purposes:

- To foster and enhance the sustainable management of the ecological resources in the Lake Taupo and Waikato River catchments;
- To mitigate adverse effects of the operation of the Hydro Scheme on the ecological environments in the Lake Taupo and Waikato River catchments;
- To maintain and enhance indigenous biodiversity, the sports fishery and game bird populations in the Lake Taupo and Waikato River catchments through appropriate and sustainable species and habitat management by:
  1. identifying important habitats and/or species;
  2. identifying risks and threats to those identified habitats and/or species;
  3. identifying most practicable means to ameliorate or resolve risks and threats to habitats and species in the catchment;
  4. identifying practical means to enhance important habitats and/or species;
  5. establishing an enduring and beneficial working partnership between Mighty River Power and the Trust.

## Trust Objectives

Objectives of the trust are:

1. Enhancement of wetland values in the Lake Taupo and Waikato River catchments.
2. Enhancement of indigenous biodiversity in the Lake Taupo and Waikato River catchments.
3. Enhancement of the sports fishery and game bird population in the Lake Taupo and Waikato River catchments.
4. Mitigation of any adverse effects of the operation of the Waikato Hydro System on the ecological environments in the Lake Taupo and Waikato River catchments.

13 October 2021

To: All Chairs and Chief Executives of Fish and Game Councils and NZ Fish and Game Council

## **Input into review of future regional structure of Fish and Game Councils**

The Structure Review project team is currently seeking feedback on the Ministerial Governance Review regarding the future regional structure of Fish and Game Councils.

At this point we are looking at doing the consultation in at least three stages:

- initial feedback sought on the questions below from an operational and governance perspective (followed by a zoom meeting with a representative delegation of council/staff to provide clarity);
- a second chance in mid-November to respond to initial feedback and deliberations; and progress will be reported to the NZ Council meeting in December 2021;
- A draft report will developed by mid-February and further feedback sought.

We will come back to you if there are any changes to this timetable.

### **Background**

The Ministerial Governance Review confirmed the appropriateness of the regional based system. However the Review also recommended that the organisational configuration be changed to a total of six fish and game regions (three in the North Island and three in the South Island). The principal drivers for the recommendation were efficiencies in operational activities, improved effectiveness, and prudent allocation of resources.

The six-region NZ model appeared to be set rather arbitrarily but this is the option that is currently on the table. The Implementation Group has asked us to objectively develop the best proposed structure for moving forward based on an open slate.

This is your chance to provide your input for defining a modern, sustainable configuration for the next 20 years. The Minister has asked that the Implementation Group and now the Structure Review project team to provide recommendations on this, therefore we are seeking your Council's feedback. We need your knowledge and expertise to update the overall organisational structure while retaining the strengths of local involvement.

With these factors in mind, can you please respond to the questions below.

- 1. What does your Council consider the best regional organisational structure moving forward for the next 20 years:**
  - a. for the overall organisation (i.e. number of regions and broad boundaries)**
  - b. with particular reference to your region?**

**In both cases please provide feedback from an operational perspective and governance perspective.**

The Implementation Group has requested the Structure Review project team to provide supporting objective evidence as to why a particular alternative is preferred to the six-region structure recommended to the Minister. These are alluded to in the Terms of Reference - you already have a copy of this document.

- 2. We are seeking you input as to what criteria you think should be weighted in defining regional configurations. These might include but are not limited to:**
  - **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**

In reviewing the regions, there is an appreciation of the unique character of regions that are important to retain.

**3. What are the key elements or principles that you want to see retained in your region?**

- e.g. Focus on wetland ownership and management
- e.g. Visibility in community/relevance

While the Structure Review project team can come up with suggested permutations that work in theory – there may be practical or other considerations that need to be taken into account that would not make certain configurations practical.

**4. Can you provide views on what constraints or impediments to amalgamations that should be taken into account.**

**Next Steps**

We are keen to get your feedback on the questions set out above within two weeks (i.e. by 28 October 2021).

We recognise this is very tight but as you can see the timeframes given to the Structure Review project team are ambitious.

There will be further opportunities for you to express your views (including a meeting with each region) – but early feedback on the above questions will help us to distill the key elements for consideration as we look at potential options.

The project team also appreciates that these topics have no doubt been well debated within your region so it's a further chance to formalise your views. It is also acknowledged that the positions of your existing Council might differ from the Council declared after the election – but you will have an opportunity in mid-November to refine governance positions.

It is anticipated and encouraged to have an operational and governance perspective from each Council – so it would be entirely appropriate to have commentaries of different focus and potentially separate responses.

There is still an opportunity to shape the organisation moving forward into the next decades – and this is it.

Please send your feedback to the project team chair at [david@concept.co.nz](mailto:david@concept.co.nz).

David Hunt  
Chair  
Structure Review Project Team

**5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**



**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE 190<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE EASTERN FISH  
AND GAME COUNCIL, HELD AT THE ROTORUA OFFICES OF FISH & GAME  
NEW ZEALAND ON THURSDAY 5<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2021 AT 12.00PM**

**Present**

Crs David Woolner, Barry Roderick, Laurance Tamati, Alan Baird, Debbie Oakley, Lindsay Lyons, Ken Coombes, Geoff Thomas, Adam Rayner, and Ngahi Bidois.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Andy Garrick, John Meikle, Eben Herbert, and Kate Thompson (Eastern Fish & Game);  
Carmel Veitch (New Zealand Fish & Game).

**1.0 WELCOME AND KARAKIA**

- 1.1 Cr David Woolner (Chairman) opened the meeting at 12.10pm, welcomed all present, and invited Cr Ngahi Bidois to start the meeting with a karakia.
- 1.2 Cr David Woolner informed the meeting that Agenda Item 11 regarding the 2021 Fish and Game Elections would be brought forward as Cr Ngahi Bidois needed to depart the meeting at 2pm.

**2.0 APOLOGIES**

- 2.1 Apologies were received from Cr Murray Ferris, Cr Ngahi Bidois for his early departure from the meeting, and Dave Conley (Department of Conservation).
- 2.2 *Agreed (Alan Baird/Laurance Tamati) that the apologies for the 190th meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [21/08/2.2]*

**3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021)**

- 3.1 *Agreed (Ngahi Bidois/Ken Coombes) that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [21/08/3.1]*

**4.0 IDENTIFICATION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN COUNCIL POLICY**

- 4.1 No items were identified for inclusion in Council policy.

**5.0 MATTERS ARISING**

- 5.1 Cr Laurance Tamati informed Council of concerns raised by Ken Raureti regarding opening of Lake Tarawera to year-round fishing (refer minuted item 10.1 and 10.2). Cr Lindsay Lyons commented that he understood Ken's concern was that the lake should be allowed to rest over winter. Council was not intending to open Tarawera, Rotoiti or Okataina to year round boat fishing, but needed to address an issue arising from shifting the opening of these lakes to fishing from 1 October to the first Saturday in October. Currently shoreline fishing can be undertaken year round (1 October to 30 September) on these lakes within the designated winter shoreline areas, but shifting the opening to the first Saturday in October would mean shoreline fishing would end on 30 September and be closed for a period of 1-6 days in those years when 1 October didn't coincide with being a Saturday. This didn't make sense.

**6.0 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR GENERAL BUSINESS**

- 6.1 Adam Rayner – Council photo
  - social media presence
- Alan Baird – media article on native birds dying of lead poisoning

## **7.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER**

7.1 Councillors were asked to inform the chair of any conflicts of interest. Potential conflicts were identified by Cr Adam Rayner and subsequently by Cr Lindsay Lyons around discussions relating to Agenda Item 12 and ballot holder access to the Kaituna WMR. Both Councillors had held ballots in the reserve this game season.

## **8.0 2021 FISH AND GAME ELECTIONS**

8.1 Cr David Woolner asked for discussion on proposed Councillor numbers for the 2021 Fish and Game election. Would this council continue with 12 seats or opt for a lower number in anticipation of the lower numbers recommended within the ministerial review of Fish and Game? The following points items were raised and/or discussed:

- There is a lot of conjecture out there that Fish & Game is opposed to the review. A reduction in line with recommendations from the review would signal that Fish & Game is committed to the intent of this particular recommendation at very least;
- All Councillors choose to be here voluntarily, this shows commitment to the organisation and interest which should be provided for by retaining a Council of 12 members at this point in time;
- Representation across the sub-regions is required and may not occur with fewer members;
- How will there be sufficient diversity within the Council with fewer members?
- Appointed versus co-opted members;
- Iwi representation - with so many iwi and hapu within the Eastern Region it's not possible to have someone on Council who is capable of or would have support from diverse iwi to represent their views and positions on matters, rather Council needs a member who can bring te ao maori perspectives to the table;
- A suggestion that Council opt for eight elected members and appoint two additional members was rejected as not being possible under current legislation.

8.2 Ultimately Council supported maintaining the status quo for the upcoming election with the intention that it review membership at a later point in time.

## **9.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS**

9.1 Some Councillors had noticed the boardwalks were slippery in some areas and Cr Adam Rayner offered his services to assist staff with cleaning these.

9.2 Cr Lindsay Lyons queried the reimbursement of travel costs for Councillors who lived in areas outside of the region and understood that reimbursement was only to be paid for travel within the Region's boundaries. Kate Thompson advised that she would look into the rules around reimbursement of costs, but wanted to make the point that the particular reimbursement being queried was for a meeting that was called at short notice that was outside of Council's scheduled bi-monthly meetings, and that the Councillor concerned had not claimed for travel costs associated with any of those scheduled meetings (which he was entitled to during his time on Council). Nor had he instigated the claim, it had been at the manager's suggestion. Cr Barry Roderick re-iterated his concern that the meeting in question with the New Zealand Council chair was too short notice for some Councillors to attend. Andy Garrick commented that the meeting was purely opportunistic and should not have been portrayed as a consultation meeting with the Eastern Fish and Game Council.

**9.2** *Agreed (Geoff Thomas/Laurance Tamati) that Council receives the Management Report and Health and Safety reports. [21/08/9.2]*

9.3 Kate Thompson pointed out a typo in the finance report where the total for payments in May and June 2021 was incorrectly recorded as being \$239,744.47 on page 45 of the agenda and that the correct figure was \$264,186.17.

**9.4** *Agreed (Geoff Thomas/Laurance Tamati) that Council receives the Finance Report and approves payments for May and June 2021 totalling \$264,186.17. [21/08/9.4]*

#### **10.0 2021-2022 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN**

10.1 Cr David Woolner confirmed that no feedback had been generated from the distribution of the draft 2021-2022 Operational Work Plan to clubs and stakeholders.

10.2 Cr Barry Roderick was pleased that the Eastern Council's bid to employ a hatchery trainee was successful but expressed concern over budgets of other regions, and in particular the disparities in the salaries of some managers. He was also concerned that CPI adjustments were coming out of licence revenue rather the reserves of those regions with sufficient funds to finance these. Cr Debbie Oakley suggested that this was not the forum to discuss staff salaries as these would be considered in the wider review process.

**10.3** *Agreed (Debbie Oakley/Ngahi Bidois) that Council approves the Operational Work Plan and budget for the 2021-2022 year. [21/08/10.3]*

**10.4** *Agreed (Debbie Oakley/Ngahi Bidois) that Council delegates authority to the Manager to approve expenditure during the year as set out in the Council approved Operational Wok Plan and budget. [21/08/10.4]*

#### **11.0 EASTERN FISH AND GAME COUNCIL FORESTRY ASSET**

11.1 Andy Garrick provided a brief overview to the agenda item proposing the removal of the Forestry Asset from the Council's financial statements. It had been costing the Council valuation fees each year which other than meeting auditors' requirements, was a meaningless expense given there is no intention to harvest those trees, the risks are too great. The Douglas fir trees were planted to stabilise the hillside above the hatchery and rearing ponds. Given the marginal return likely to be realised from harvesting the trees and the cost of reinstating an effective erosion proof cover over the area, staff believe it should not be viewed as a saleable asset. As the trees were planted pre 1990 the stand is ineligible for carbon credits under the Emissions Trading Scheme, and likewise, the stand does not qualify for any form of nitrogen trade off or buy back scheme for retirement of pastureland as has or had been available within the Taupo catchment.

11.2 Carmel Veitch confirmed it had to have a benefit to the organisation to be classed as an asset. She agreed that the original intention was to stabilise the hillside and unfortunately in having it added to the financial accounts some years ago, changes to accounting standards had meant that it required to be revalued annually.

**11.2** *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Lindsay Lyons) that Council agrees to the Forestry Asset as recorded in Note 3 in the Performance Report for the year ended 31 August 2020 no longer being viewed as a future source of income realised from the logging and sale of its timber, but as an Erosion Control and Land Stabilising Asset not intended for sale. [21/08/11.2]*

**11.3** *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Lindsay Lyons) that Council agrees to write off the Forestry Asset currently valued at \$91,600 and create a new Asset within Property, Plant and*

***Equipment at a value, as at 31 August 2021, to be determined by an independent valuer. [21/08/11.3]***

**12.0 BALLOT HOLDER ACCESS TO THE LOWER KAITUNA WMR**

- 12.1 Cr David Woolner noted that Cr Lindsay Lyons had prepared a paper on hunting access to the Kaituna Reserve and emailed it to all Councillors to be considered in conjunction with the prepared agenda item. David commented that the discussion to follow may be relevant to other managed wetlands also.
- 12.2 Cr Debbie Oakley pointed out that Council needed to confirm whether it was appropriate for Cr Lindsay Lyons and Adam Rayner to be involved in the discussion having earlier recorded their conflict of interest with this item. All those present agreed that Crs Lyons and Rayner should be able to provide information and participate in the conversation. Andy Garrick advised that staff looked forward to hearing Councillors' views and suggestions and would take these into account when reviewing, and if appropriate, modifying our current approach. He noted that ultimately it was an operational matter for management to resolve rather than governors.
- 12.3 There was mixed opinion about closure of vehicle access at the conclusion of the exclusive ballot holder period and the following suggestions were made:
- Those with disabilities or incapable of walking significant distances could only hunt in the reserve when the gates were open to vehicle access if they didn't have a quad;
  - Access should not be by vehicle the night before opening as people shouldn't be disturbing ducks;
  - Once the gates were closed, access to maimai involving a significant walk was a disincentive to go and this resulted in a shortened season for those affected;
  - Given the reserve is so close to built up areas, its unlikely to be long before people start using it for 4WD hooning;
  - There is a maimai close to the gate which was vacant for most of the season, and this and others a relatively short distance away are options for those unable to walk very far;
  - We need to publicise what opportunities exist to those less able, and prior to the ballots we need to advise hunters the accessibility and degree of effort required to reach stands if vehicle access is unavailable. Stands could be categorised along the lines of being easy, moderately challenging, or requiring greater effort to get to;
  - Risks and consequences of leaving gates open, e.g. damage to tracks, health and safety issues.
- 12.4 Cr Ken Coombes asked for John Meikle's comment. John provided some background to Council in relation to damage done to tracks in the past not only by hoons, but unintentionally by otherwise caring hunters. John noted the significant funding and effort put in by the Regional Council over the past couple of years to upgrade the tracks, and detailed the system we currently have in place in terms of gates, quad access, and other users. The Department of Conservation had not contributed to maintenance costs over the past 7-8 years and our total budget less habitat contribution fee from ballot holders for management of this and all other reserves was in the region of only \$12,000. A substantial amount was spent on keeping water in the wetlands, and additional costs were incurred with mowing access tracks, e.g. staff time and equipment costs. The annual habitat contribution fee by ballot holders of around \$5,000 contributed to spraying and maintenance of access tracks in all balloted reserves, but when tracks were

seriously damaged as they easily can be when water levels are higher than they were this year, this amount of money doesn't go far. If our budget is constantly having to be directed to maintenance and repair of tracks it leaves nothing for enhancement or development of additional access.

- 12.5 Cr Barry Roderick felt that the outer access ring road was solid and suggested that vehicles be kept out of internal access ways, and maybe Fish & Game could provide keys to those with mobility issues. Cr Alan Baird suggested specific, easily accessible stands could be made available to those who inform Fish & Game they have limitations in terms of their ability to walk any distance. Cr Lindsay Lyons suggested that ballot holders could contribute to maintaining access tracks through working bees.
- 12.6 Cr Ngahi Bidois left the meeting at 1.30pm.
- 12.7 Cr Ken Coombes did not support vehicles in wetlands, quad access was available, and he agreed that closer and more easily accessible stands could be identified.
- 12.8 Eben Herbert indicated his preference would be for vehicles to be excluded from wetlands, but felt that the Kaituna Reserve ring road may be something that could be made greater use of if it was possible to prevent people from deviating off it.
- 12.9 Andy Garrick thanked Council for their input and suggestions and advised that staff would devise an approach aimed at maximising access opportunities while minimising damage and other potential impacts.

### **13.0 LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS**

#### **13.1 Conservation Boards**

No report.

#### **13.2 Department of Conservation**

No report.

#### **13.3 Te Arawa Lakes Trust**

No report.

#### **13.4 The New Zealand Fish and Game Council**

Cr Debbie Oakley commented briefly on items covered at the most recent meeting of the New Zealand Council including;

- Workshop on ministerial review
- October council elections
- Licence fee increase – two regions opposed
- Pheasant preserves
- Appointment of Di Taylor to Acting CEO
- Thanks to Paul Shortis

### **14.0 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION**

**14.1 Agreed (Debbie Oakley/Laurance Tamati) that pursuant to Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the public be excluded at 1.51 pm from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:**

- *Manager's annual performance review,*
- *Council's self-appraisal review. [21/08/14.1]*

**14.2 Agreed (Debbie Oakley/Laurance Tamati) that the public be re-admitted to the meeting at 2.40pm. [21/08/14.2]**

### **15.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

15.1 Cr Adam Rayner a group photo of Councillors be arranged.

15.2 Adam also noted that we really need to review our use of social media and commented on opportunities being missed. Andy Garrick agreed. He advised that we update our Facebook page relatively regularly and also have a Twitter following, but need to be using other media platforms such as Instagram. One of our issues was not currently having the resources to do a good job of this. Andy said he understood that DOC had a dedicated team of something in the order of eight staff dedicated to social media communications, and we just didn't have the capability to devote a significant amount of even one person's time to this. Cr David Woolner suggested Andy in conjunction with other staff give further thought to how we might be able to do more in this area.

15.3 Cr Alan Baird expressed concern over a recent article he had read about native birds dying from lead poisoning and associated comments about what is or isn't humane. His concern was that similar sentiments could be brought to bear on hunting and fishing, and wondered what we could do to prevent or offset this.

**16.0 MEETING CLOSED**

16.1 The meeting closed at 3.00pm with a karakia from Cr Laurance Tamati.

.....  
**David Woolner**  
**Chairman**

## SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

### 2.0 APOLOGIES

2.2 *Agreed (Alan Baird/Laurance Tamati) that the apologies for the 190th meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [21/08/2.2]*

### 3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021)

3.1 *Agreed (Ngahi Bidois/Ken Coombes) that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [21/08/3.1]*

### 9.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

9.2 *Agreed (Geoff Thomas/Laurance Tamati) that Council receives the Management Report and Health and Safety reports. [21/08/9.2]*

9.4 *Agreed (Geoff Thomas/Laurance Tamati) that Council receives the Finance Report and approves payments for May and June 2021 totalling \$264,186.17. [21/08/9.4]*

### 11.0 EASTERN FISH AND GAME COUNCIL FORESTRY ASSET

11.2 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Lindsay Lyons) that Council agrees to the Forestry Asset as recorded in Note 3 in the Performance report for the year ended 31 August 2020 no longer being viewed as a future source of income realised from the logging and sale of its timber, but as an Erosion Control and Land Stabilising Asset not intended for sale. [21/08/11.2]*

11.3 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Lindsay Lyons) that Council agrees to write off the Forestry Asset currently valued at \$91,600 and create a new Asset within Property, Plant and Equipment at a value, as at 31 August 2021, to be determined by an independent valuer. [21/08/11.3]*

### 14.0 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

14.1 *Agreed (Debbie Oakley/Laurance Tamati) that pursuant to Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the public be excluded at 1.51 pm from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:*

- *Manager's annual performance review;*
- *Council's self-appraisal review. [21/08/14.1]*

14.2 *Agreed Debbie Oakley/Laurance Tamati) that the public be re-admitted to the meeting at 2.40pm. [21/08/14.2]*

## 9. CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

Ref: 7.02.01

18 October 2021

### 1. Purpose

A standing agenda item to disclose any Councillor (“Member”) Conflict of Interest or potential Conflict of Interest, and record this in the Councillor Conflict of Interest Register.

### 2. Background

The Eastern Fish and Game Council at its October 2016 meeting revised its policy and rules for dealing with Conflicts of Interest and must provide a standing agenda item to allow Councillors to disclose any Conflict or highlight any potential conflict. The “Interest Register” ring binder will be circulated in the first part of each meeting for Councillors to record any interests. The Council should then discuss how it wants to deal with any interest or perceived interest identified.

**Conflict of Interest** (refer s2.7 Governance Policies) means when the member can be shown to have actual bias or apparent bias in respect of a matter<sup>1</sup> i.e:

- (i) A member can be shown to have actual bias when a member’s decision or act in relation to a matter could give rise to an expectation of financial gain or loss (that is more than trivial) to the member (and/or to the member’s parent(s), child(ren), spouse, civil union partner, de facto partner, business partner(s)/associate(s), debtor(s) or creditor(s)).
- (ii) A member can be shown to have apparent bias when a member’s official duties or responsibilities to the Council in relation to a matter could reasonably be said to be affected by some other interest or duty that the member has.
- (iii) A member’s “interest or duty” includes the interests of that member’s parent(s), child(ren), spouse, civil union partner or de facto partner that may be affected by the matter at issue. It also includes the interests of a person with whom the member has a close, personal relationship where there is a real danger of personal favouritism.
- (iv) There is no Conflict of Interest where the member’s other interest or duty is so remote or insignificant that it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to influence him or her in carrying out his or her responsibility.

**A potential conflict of interest** (refer s2.8 Governance Policies) arises when:

- (i) There is a realistic connection between the member’s private interest(s) and the interest(s) of the Council;
- (ii) The member’s other interest could specifically affect, or be affected by, the actions of the Council in relation to a matter;

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<sup>1</sup> “Matter” means:

(i) The Council’s performance of its functions or exercise of its powers as set out in Part 5A of the Conservation Act 1987, subject to the Council’s statutory purpose set out in section 26P(1) of the Conservation Act; or

(ii) An arrangement, agreement, or contract made or entered into, or proposed to be entered into, by the Council.



- (iii) A fair-minded lay observer might reasonably consider that the member's private interest or duty may influence or motivate the actions of the member in relation to a matter; and
- (iv) There is a risk that the situation could undermine public trust and confidence in the member or the Council.

**Conflicts of Interest should be dealt with as follows (refer s1.13 Standing Orders):**

1.13.1 Every member present at a meeting must declare any direct or indirect conflict of interest that they hold in any matter being discussed at the meeting, other than an interest that they hold in common with the public.

1.13.2 When a conflict of interest arises in respect of a matter, the affected member will:

- (i) not vote on issues related to the matter;
- (ii) not discuss the matter with other members;
- (iii) conform to the majority view of other members present as to whether to be excluded from discussions regarding the matter and/or leave the room when the matter is discussed;
- (iv) not, subject to the discretion of the Chairperson, receive further papers or other information related to the matter.

1.13.3 Where a member can be shown to have a potential conflict of interest, the Council (excluding the affected member) will determine an appropriate course of action, which may include the following:

- (i) applying some or all of the actions applied to a member with a conflict of interest (set out in 1.13.2 i) – iv) above);
- (ii) providing a written explanation outlining why there is no legal conflict of interest that can be made available to all Fish and Game Councils, licence holders and other interested parties.

1.13.4 The conflicted member will be given the opportunity to be heard by the Council on the points raised and the member's submissions will be taken into consideration by the Council.

1.13.5 The minutes must record the declaration and member's subsequent abstention from discussion and voting.

Councillors should take this opportunity to disclose any Conflict of Interest they are aware of now and record it in the circulated Conflict of Interest Register. If during the course of the meeting a conflict or perceived conflict is recognised, then this should be disclosed at that point in time.

**3. Recommendation**

***3.1 That Councillors disclose any Conflict or potential Conflict of Interest, record it in the Interest Register, and Council agrees on how to deal with any Conflict of Interest raised.***

## 10. OPERATIONAL REPORTS

### 10.1 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Ref: 9.01.07

17 October 2021

#### Background

As part of its commitment to Health and Safety and providing a safe workplace, the Eastern Fish and Game Council is provided with a report at each meeting describing:

1. Implementation and adherence to the Health and Safety plan – including Health and Safety as an agenda item for staff and ranger meetings;
2. Monitoring and Reporting – in accordance with the Health and Safety plan;
3. Risk Management (identification and treatment) – any new issues or hazards that have arisen and how these have been addressed;
4. Training programme – information sharing and training of staff and volunteers;
5. Health and Safety incidents – near misses or injuries sustained, plus updates on past events;
6. Recommendations.

#### July-September 2021

##### **1. Implementation and Adherence to the Health and Safety Plan**

Regular (weekly) staff meetings.

Minutes from the Health and Safety portion of the meeting are emailed to all staff.

Visitors are required to sign our register, and our hazard register is updated as required.

##### **Tail Gate forms completed for:**

July 2021 Hopuruahine/Waiotukupuna/Mokau spawning counts

July 2021 Tarawera outlet drift dive

**2021-2022 Budget for Health & Safety \$2,000**

## 2. Monitoring and Reporting

### Work Place Accident Register

|   | 30/09/2021 | 31/08/2020 |
|---|------------|------------|
| Number of Workplace injuries in 2021-2022 year  | 0          |            |
| Number of Workplace injuries in 2020-2021 year  |            | 1          |
| Number of Workplace injuries in 2019-2020 year  |            | 1          |
| Number of Workplace injuries in 2018-2019 year  |            | 1          |
| Number of Workplace injuries in 2017-2018 year  |            | 1          |
| Number of Workplace injuries in 2016-2017 year  |            | 2          |
| Total Number of Workplace injuries since 1 Sept 1995  | 42         | 41         |
| Total Number of lost work injuries since 1 Sept 1995  | 5          | 4          |
| Total number of days since last lost work injury on 21/03/2021                                    | 193        |            |
| Total number of days since prior lost work injury on 19/07/2020                                   | 248        |            |
| Total number of days since prior lost work injury on 13/08/2017                                   | 1,071      |            |
| Total number of days since prior lost work injury on 17/12/2013                                   | 1,335      |            |
| Total number of days since formal register commenced 1/09/95 to first lost work injury 17/12/2013 | 6,682      |            |

## 3. Risk Management (identification and treatment)

### COVID 19

The following procedures remain in place:

- Property closed to public, additional Covid signage put up in the office.
- If unwell stay at home
- Sanitiser available throughout office for public and staff use
- Morning teas and lunch to occur in specified seating in the boardroom

### Notes taken for the H&S minutes at the weekly staff meeting and emailed to all staff:

- 5 July 21 Sand applied to decks/walkways, site speed, tree fall and hang ups
- 12 July 21 Be aware of weather and frosts – icy roads
- 19 July 21 Gate closed to public while tree by carpark being felled
- 26 July 21 Power line down, area taped and gates close till resolved. Unison onsite to Disconnect power. Electrician to follow to reconnect and discussion to Occur with pump shed owner
- 2 August 21 No news hazards identified
- 9 August 21 No meeting
- 16 August 21 Netting to be added to some walkways
- 23 August 21 No meeting in office Level 4 lockdown
- 30 August 21 No meeting in office Level 4 lockdown
- 6 Sept 21 No meeting in office Level 3 lockdown
- 13 Sept 21 Care to be taken for stream call outs - large numbers of fish congregating
- 20 Sept 21 Offal pit to be fenced off
- 27 Sept 21 Hung up branch on track to storage shed/offal pit - Be aware, but not an imminent danger

## 4. Training Programme

First Aid Refresher Course for all staff rescheduled for 29 October 2021.

## 5. H&S Incidents

Nil

## 6. Recommendation

That Council acknowledges it has received this report.

## 10.2 MANAGEMENT REPORT

8 October 2021

### SPECIES MANAGEMENT

#### 1112 Datawatch

Over the course of the 2020-21 trout fishing season, a total of 869 datawatch tags were returned and entered into the database. This spans all database entries made between 1 October 2020 and 30 September 2021. The numbers returned from each lake are as follows:

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Lake McLaren       | 3   |
| Lake Okareka       | 20  |
| Lake Okataina      | 145 |
| Lake Rerewhakaaitu | 24  |
| Lake Rotoehu       | 29  |
| Lake Rotoiti       | 120 |
| Lake Rotoma        | 29  |
| Lake Rotorua       | 17  |
| Lake Tarawera      | 458 |
| Lake Tutira (HB)   | 24  |
| Hawkston (HB)      | 0   |

*data entered to 28 September 2021*

The datawatch programme was advertised in the latest Fish & Game magazine (fish supplement) and on the Fish & Game website to encourage anglers to keep on sending in tag returns.

Tag returns for the season 1 October 2020 – 30 September 2021 are 209 up on the 2019-20 season. Covid lockdown rules have affected both fishing seasons, but more so the 2019-20 season where fishing was unable to be undertaken during the peak of the autumn angling period. The lake with the largest increase in tag returns was Lake Tarawera (up by 189 tags). Tarawera's returns are bolstered by the running of the Te Wairoa fish trap which provides a large proportion of the 3 and 4-year-old tagged fish. Lake Okataina saw an increase of 24 tags, Rotoehu was up by 14 and Okareka up by 8. Other lakes were within 5 tags of the 2019-20 season except Lake Tutira in the Hawke's Bay which was down 24 tag returns, the latter a consequence of no trout being liberated into the lake since the 2018-19 season. *Note: the totals reported here for 2020-21 financial year are different to those recorded in the 2020-21 datawatch tag return winners draw as the time periods differ for each.*

#### 1113 Lake Waikaremoana

##### Lake Waikaremoana Monitoring Buoy Update

The Lake Waikaremoana water quality monitoring buoy has again not been transmitting data. A new battery was placed in the buoy during July as the other was not recharging, due most likely to the smaller solar panels fitted to the buoy following replacement of the top hat after it had been vandalized coupled with the age of the original 2009 battery. Staff had planned to retrieve the buoy sensors and top instrumentation during August, but changes to Covid alert level status precluded this. Te Urewera remains closed to public currently (Alert level 2) and may be for some time yet.

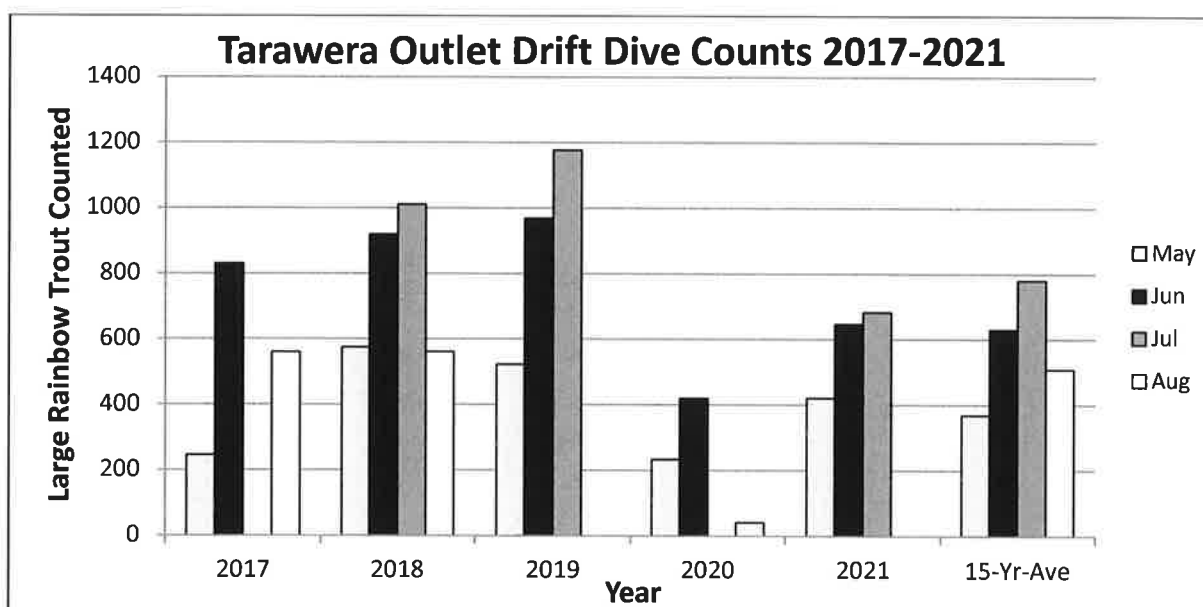
## 1114 Lake Tarawera

### Tarawera Outlet Drift Dive Survey

Fish & Game staff were unable to undertake a drift dive count of the Tarawera Outlet during August 2021 as was the case in 2019. Counts for May to June 2021 were as follows:

|        | Size range |        |       | 2021  | 2020  | 2019  |
|--------|------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|        | Small      | Medium | Large | Total | Total | Total |
| May    | 12         | 11     | 421   | 444   | 238   | 531   |
| June   | 0          | 0      | 646   | 646   | 420   | 968   |
| July   | 0          | 0      | 683   | 683   | -     | 1177  |
| August | -          | -      | -     | -     | 41    | -     |

Large size class trout counts (>450mm) in the Tarawera Outlet during the 2021 winter were very close to the long-term average for Outlet drift dive counts. They were slightly above the past 15-year average for May (421 versus 395) and June (646 versus 630) and behind the 15-year average for July (683 versus 780).



## 1115 Other Lake Fisheries Investigations

### Ngongotaha Trap-run

The Ngongotaha stream fish trap has been out of operation for a number of months due to large debris (tree trunks) blocking the structure. The timeframe for removal is uncertain as it will require heavy machinery and the Regional Council contractor (digger operator) has been called into the Whakatane Region for emergency works.

### Lake Rotoiti and Rotorua Catfish Update

The community catfish programme overseen by Te Arawa Lakes Trust is ongoing with community groups deploying fyke nets around lakes Rotorua and Rotoiti. At this time of year (spring) the larger catfish are starting to move around seeking out new habitat and breeding areas and become more catchable using fyke nets. We've yet to receive updates on catch numbers.

## 1116 Waterfowl Monitoring

### Tauranga Harbour Black Swan Counts 2021

Black swan have been counted on Tauranga Harbour by Fish & Game since 1991 as part of an Eastern Region population census. Counts in January have increased considerably since the early 2000s though the count this year was significantly less than those in the preceding four years (Figure 1). The 2021 August count (plane hire for which was sponsored by BOPRC) was higher than normal which may have been due to a later than normal count due to the Covid-19 lockdown. Alternatively, it may reflect more birds in the population. This is difficult to substantiate however, as the Tauranga swan are part of a wider population which includes the Waikato and Rotorua lakes.

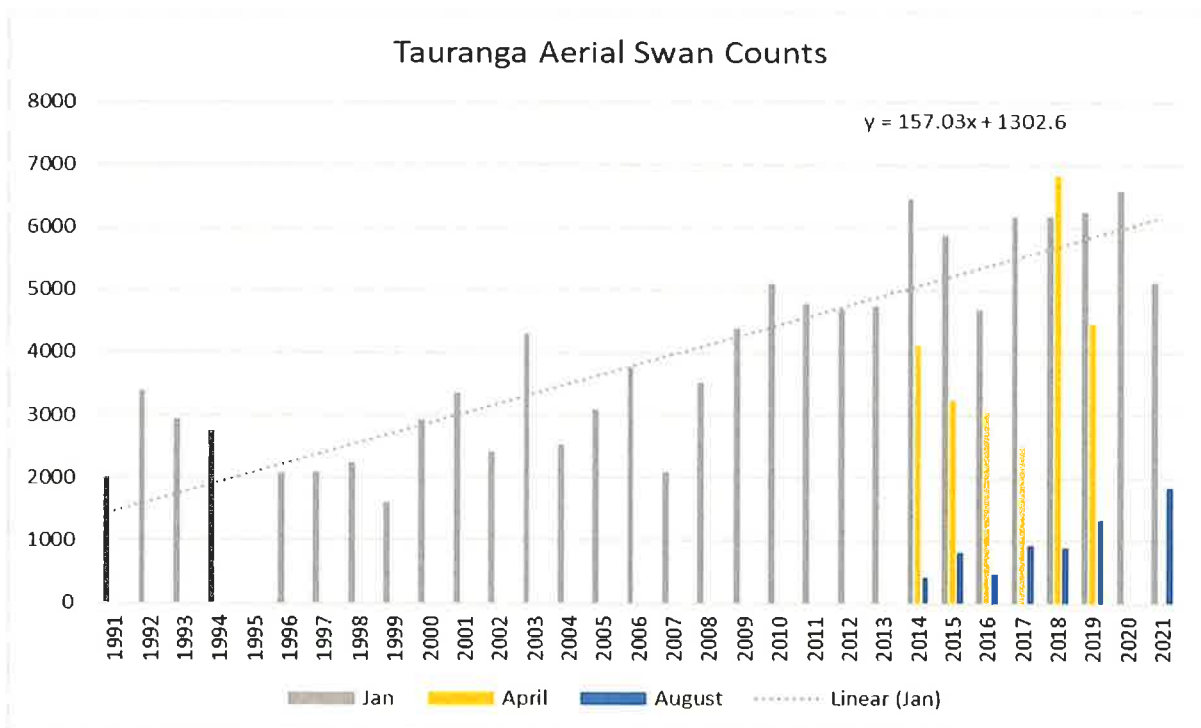


Figure 1. Black swan counts on Tauranga harbour 1991–2021 (grey columns). April and August counts are shown in yellow and blue respectively. Counts are made from a Cessna 172 aircraft flying at 300' using two observers. The 2021 count was delayed because of Covid-19 lockdown and did not occur until 12 September.

### Mallard monitoring

Mallard and grey duck (greylard) regulations in the Eastern Region are based on population size. When the population is assessed as low a restrictive set of regulations apply. Similarly, when the population is somewhere in between low and high, or high, an intermediate or relaxed set of regulations apply (Table 1).

Table 1. Mallard season regulations as a function of the estimated population size.

| Constraint          | Population Size | Daily Bag Limit | Season Length         | Area      |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| <b>Restricted</b>   | <350,000        | 6               | 4 week <sup>(a)</sup> | All areas |
| <b>Intermediate</b> | 350,000–450,000 | 8               | 6 week                | All Areas |
| <b>Relaxed</b>      | >450,000        | 10              | 10 week               | All Areas |

(a) If the last weekend of the mallard season is Queens B/day weekend, then the Monday is included.

We calculate the greylard population using the Lincoln Petersen estimator (see Mallard Harvest Management in the Eastern Fish & Game Region 2020-2021 in December 2020 PFI). Population estimates are retrospective as they rely on harvest, band recovery, and reporting rate estimates which are all obtained at the end of the game bird season for which the estimate applies. So, we need a way of predicting what the population will be prior to the beginning of the season. Over the last few years climate variables have been used to predict productivity, and band recovery data to estimate survival (see above mentioned report). These models have proven reasonably accurate at predicting the population size and very accurate at predicting the population zone (i.e., if the population is low, intermediate, or high; Figure 2).

The best model includes total summer rain (Whakatane weather station) which unfortunately is not available in January when the regulation recommendations are due.

Last season (2021) we used the NIWA predicted average summer rainfall (about 80 mm) which gave an estimated Eastern Region population size of 131,500. The actual summer rainfall recorded at the Whakatane Aero AWS was 238 mm which would have predicted a population of 290,000. Both estimates are in the restrictive regulation range. Retrospective estimates suggest the population was somewhere between the two estimates (mean = 169,499, 95% BCI 127,100 – 212,800; Figure 3).

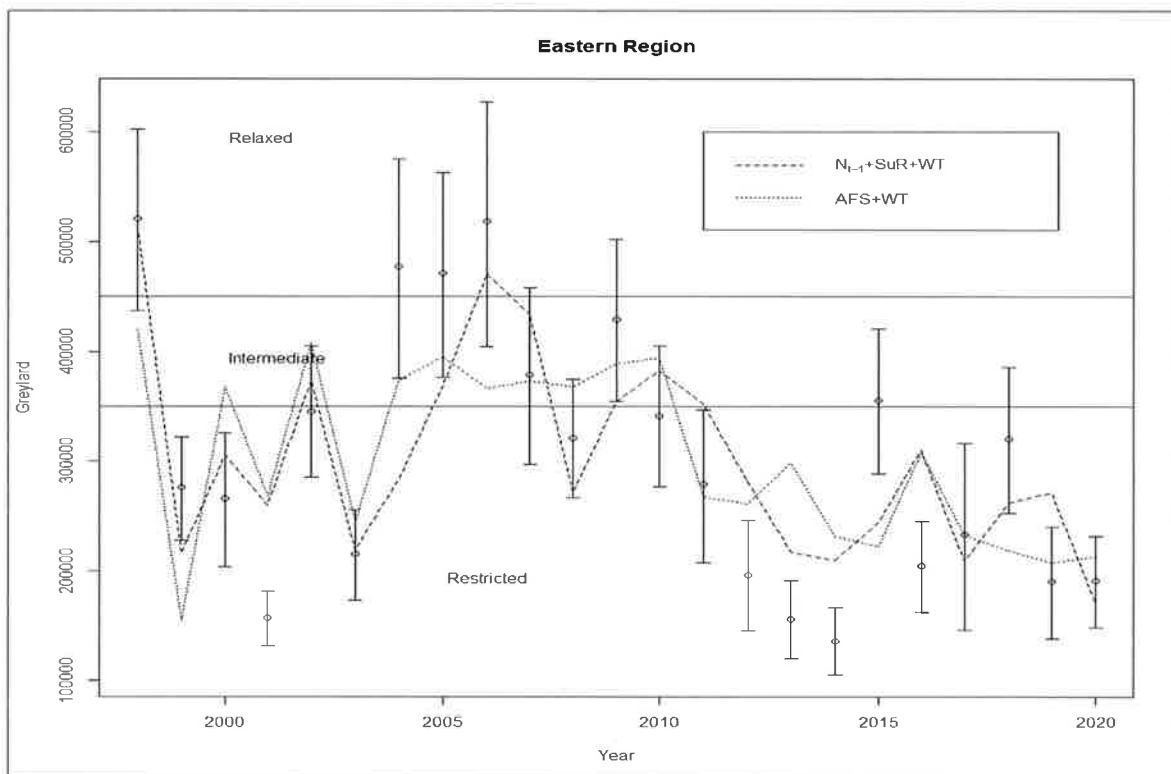


Figure 2. Eastern Region mallard population (open circle; mean  $\pm$  95% BCI) 1998–2020, with three zones of regulation constraint, Restricted, Intermediate and Relaxed. The dashed line shows the model  $N(t) = N(t-1) + SuR + WT$  where  $N(t)$  = mallard population in year  $t$ ,  $SuR$  = average summer rain (actual),  $WT$  = average winter temperature. The dotted line shows the predicted mallard population as a function of adult female survival rate (AFS) and average winter temperature (Whakatane weather station).

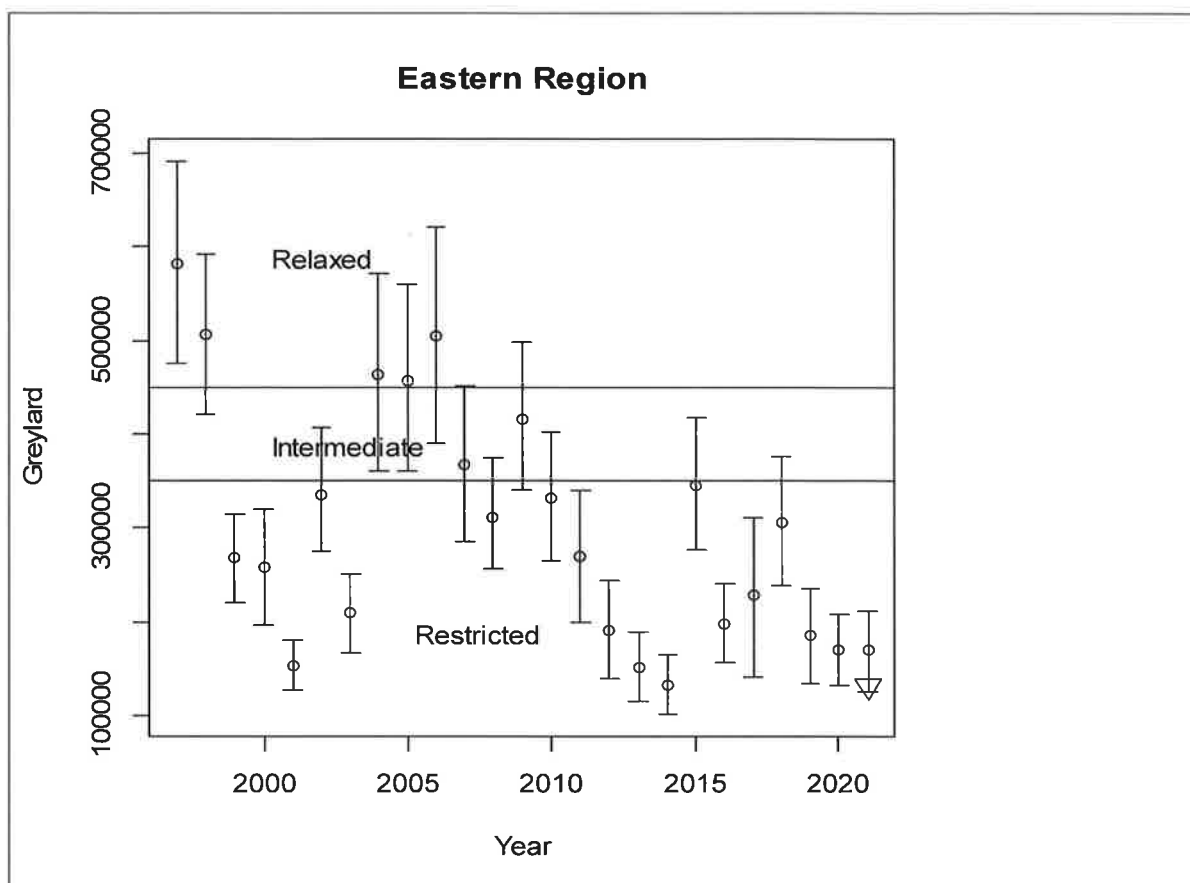


Figure 3. Estimated greylard population size (mean  $\pm$  95% Bayesian Confidence Interval) in the Eastern Region 1997–2021. The red inverted triangle shows the predicted population size prior to the season. The solid horizontal lines show the threshold limits demarking the three different levels of regulation constraint (restricted, intermediate and relaxed).

## 1121 Lake Fisheries Creel Surveys

### Ohau Creel Survey

Analysis of the 2020-21 Ohau Creel has been completed and a report is currently being prepared. The Expert Fisheries Panel consists of Michel Dedual (DOC Taupo), Ian Kusabs (Fisheries Consultant) and Dave Rowe (ex NIWA Fisheries Scientist). A date for a meeting with the panel has yet to be set. The 2021-22 Ohau Creel surveys commenced on 1 October 2021 and will be run over the months of October and November 2021, and April, May and June 2022. Te Arawa Lakes Trust have been contracted to undertake the surveys and are being funded by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

### Summer Creel Surveys

The 2021-22 summer creel survey schedule has yet to be formalised. The survey strategy will aim to follow the 2020-21 creel design retaining coverage of the four large high use lakes (Rotoiti, Tarawera, Rotorua and Okataina), and if possible, provide some level of presence/monitoring across the lesser utilised lakes. Our angler diary scheme will continue to be promoted and should provide greater insight into Eastern region's less utilised fisheries.

### 1122 Opening Day Angler Survey

Staff conducted the Trout Fishing Opening Day Creel Surveys on Saturday 2 October 2021 on lakes Tarawera, Rotoiti and Okataina. Due to the prevailing Covid situation we reduced the number of surveyors and volunteers that would normally assist us, and introduced other Health & Safety protocols such as social distancing, use of masks, and contact tracing.



A brief synopsis of results prior to a full survey analysis is as follows:

- At Lake Tarawera, 272 anglers were surveyed. Tarawera's 2-year-old spring released fish (from September/October 2020) came in on average at 506mm and 1.47kg. These fish were 26mm longer and 210g heavier than the same aged fish from the 2020 opening. The autumn released 2-year-olds (from March/May 2020) measured on average 553mm and 1.87kg. These fish came in 35mm longer and 280g heavier than the 2020 autumn 2-year-olds. The largest fish our staff weighed at Tarawera on the day was a 605mm, 2.89kg 2-year-old released in February 2020. This was confirmed via its hatchery tag.
- At Lake Rotoiti, 200 anglers were surveyed. Lake Rotoiti's fish were, as expected, the largest across the three lakes with the heaviest fish of the day (as weighed and measured by Fish & Game), a 3.5kg rainbow measuring 670mm. This fish was left pelvic fin marked (Lp), making it a 3-year-old hatchery release. Rotoiti's 2-year-old spring released fish averaged 506mm and 1.64kg and the autumn released 2-year-olds came in at 546mm and 2.13kg. Both release groups were smaller (10mm and 100+ grams) than the 2020 opening's 2-year-olds, but the fish weighed in over the 2020 opening were exceptional.
- At Lake Okataina, 59 anglers attended the Lake Okataina Lodge Competition weigh in and were surveyed. The 2-year-old spring released fish were larger at 512mm and 1.48kg, whereas the autumn released 2-year-olds were slightly smaller in comparison to the 2020 fish at 540mm and 1.82kg. The largest fish we recorded for the day was a 620mm, 2.94kg Lp clipped 3-year-old.
- The Ohau Channel also had a solid start to the season, with several rainbows and a brown trout exceeding 3kg weighed in. Conditions were low and clear meaning angling was best early and late in the day.

### **1123 Game Hunter Survey**

Game bird harvest in the Eastern Region has declined over the last 29 years (1993–2021) with the exception of paradise shelduck which indicate a relatively stable harvest over time, and possibly, black swan. The decline in mallard harvest can be explained by fewer hours hunted which can otherwise be considered a year effect. Season length showed a possible influence on hours hunting waterfowl, but it can primarily be explained by fewer hours hunted each year (i.e., a year effect). The decline in grey duck harvest was not tied to hours hunted but rather a year effect which is consistent with a declining population or a change in hunters' ability to accurately identify a grey duck.

Declining hours hunted may be due to other competing hobbies or it may be due to a decreasing population (i.e. hunters hunt less when there is less game - the law of diminishing returns).

Despite a decreasing trend in mallard harvest the 2021 total mallard harvest was up on 2020 but this was due to more licenced hunters. On average hunters shot fewer mallards. Greylard (mallard + grey duck) per hour hunting however, was similar to last year.

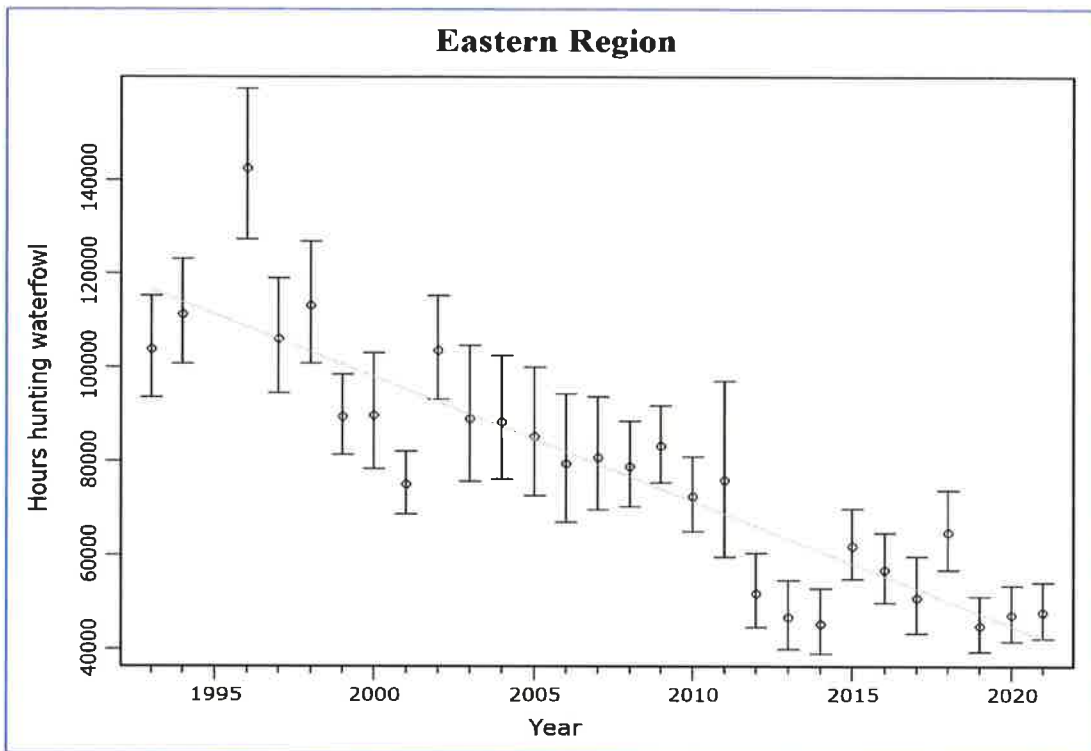


Figure 4. Total hours (mean  $\pm$  95% confidence limit; the solid line if the regression line) spent hunting waterfowl in the Eastern Region 1993–2021

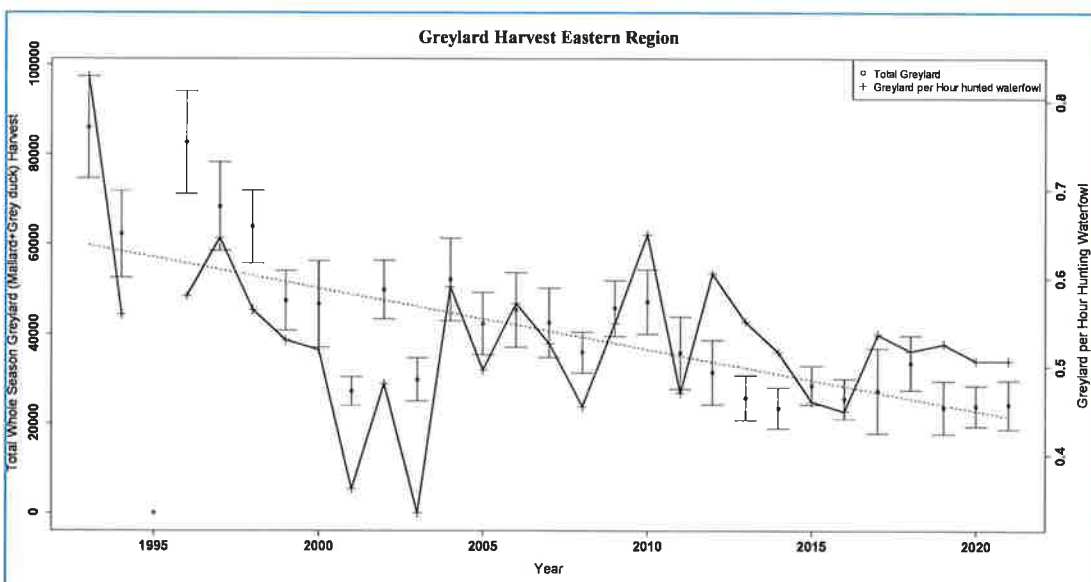


Figure 5. Greylard (mallard + grey duck) whole season harvest (mean=open circles; with 95% confidence bars) in the Eastern Region 1993 – 2021 (NB the survey was not carried out in 1995 in the Eastern Region). The solid line (with crosses) is per hour hunting waterfowl.

### 1141 Hatchery Operations

The Te Wairoa fish trap was used to collect brood fish up until the country went into lockdown on 18 August. At that stage the run was tapering off and adequate brood stock had been collected to run the breeding programme. The trap was rendered inoperative and cleaned intermittently to prevent erosion before being removed when we went to Alert level 2 on 14 September. Ten further crosses were taken for the period producing 56,000 ova.

Staff worked on-site over the lockdown periods, feeding fish and doing routine maintenance tasks. Fry were moved to the rearing tanks for on-growing until summer when they will be moved outside. Spring liberations commenced on 9 September as outlined below.

*Fish locations at 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2021:*

| Location | Type   | Qty (approx) | Comment                          |
|----------|--------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Hatchery | Rt, Bt | 120,000      | 2021 season fry                  |
| Tank A   | Rt     | 1,000        | 0+ 'best of' progeny             |
| Tank B   | Rt     | 10           | 1+ 'best of' brood               |
| Tank C   | Bt     | 1,000        | Liberation spring 2021           |
| Tank E   | Bt     | 1,000        | Liberation spring 2021           |
| Tank F   | Rt     | 1,000        | Akl/Wai liberation, Spring 2021  |
| Pond 3   | Rt     | 10,500       | Liberation, spring 2021          |
| Pond 4   | Rt     | 8,000        | Liberation, autumn 2021          |
| RW2      | Rt     | 6,000        | Rising 1+ for KF programmes      |
| RW1      | Rt     | 3,000        | 2+ for KF programme sales 2021   |
| Kids     | Rt     | 1,700        | 2+ for Eastern KF programme 2021 |

### 1143 Te Wairoa Trap

The Te Wairoa Fish Trap (Lake Tarawera) was disabled on 29 August due to the Covid lockdown taking effect. By this stage all required breeding crosses and ova had been taken for hatchery production. The total run recorded running upstream this winter was 2,312 fish. This total was nearly double the 2020 winter run (1,245) but less than the number of trout trapped during the 2019 winter (2,757 fish). Overall, the total was well above the past 15-year average of 1,310 fish.

The heaviest fish through the trap was a 660mm, 4.0kg RpAd female (4-year-old autumn hatchery release). The average size of the fish trapped this winter (537mm and 1.95kg) was significantly smaller (12mm) but significantly heavier (60g) and in significantly better condition ( $P < 0.001$  for all variables) than the average size of fish trapped during the 2020 winter. Hatchery liberated fish trapped over the 2021 winter measured 551mm and 2.07kg compared to 559mm and 1.97kg during the 2020 winter. The hatchery fish trapped over the 2021 winter were significantly smaller (8mm), but significantly heavier (100g) and in significantly better condition ( $P < 0.001$  again for all attributes). The average size of the wild fish trapped over the 2021 winter measured 501mm and 1.60kg compared to 517mm and 1.62kg during 2020. The wild origin fish were significantly smaller on average (16mm,  $P < 0.001$ ), lighter (20g) but in significantly better condition ( $P < 0.001$ ) than their 2020 equivalents.

The percentage of wild origin fish running into the trap increased to 38% of the run.

| Year | Total run | Wild run | Wild % | Ave length | Ave weight |
|------|-----------|----------|--------|------------|------------|
| 2017 | 801       | 189      | 23.6   | 538        | 1.82       |
| 2018 | 2122      | 626      | 29.5   | 532        | 1.86       |
| 2019 | 2757      | 740      | 26.8   | 550        | 2.09       |
| 2020 | 1245      | 286      | 23.0   | 549        | 1.89       |
| 2021 | 2312      | 636      | 38.0   | 537        | 1.95       |

## 1161 Sports Fish Liberations

### *Liberations, Eastern Region 19 July – 8 October 2021*

| Water         | Date       | Mark | Tag | Species | Age | Number |
|---------------|------------|------|-----|---------|-----|--------|
| Tarawera      | 9/09/2021  | Lp   | H21 | RT      | 1+  | 500    |
| Tarawera      | 9/09/2021  | Lp   | -   | RT      | 1+  | 3,000  |
| Okataina      | 10/09/2021 | Lp   | -   | RT      | 1+  | 750    |
| Okataina      | 10/09/2021 | Lp   | E21 | RT      | 1+  | 500    |
| Rotoiti       | 15/09/2021 | Lp   | B21 | RT      | 1+  | 500    |
| Rotoiti       | 15/09/2021 | Lp   | -   | RT      | 1+  | 6,500  |
| Okareka       | 21/09/2021 | Lp   | G21 | RT      | 1+  | 500    |
| Okareka       | 21/09/2021 | Lp   | -   | RT      | 1+  | 1,500  |
| Rerewhakaaitu | 22/09/2021 | Lp   | I21 | RT      | 1+  | 500    |
| Rerewhakaaitu | 22/09/2021 | Lp   | -   | RT      | 1+  | 2,500  |
| Rotoehu       | 23/09/2021 | Lp   | C21 | RT      | 1+  | 500    |
| Rotoehu       | 23/09/2021 | Lp   | -   | RT      | 1+  | 1,500  |
| Rotoma        | 5/10/2021  | Lp   | D21 | RT      | 1+  | 500    |
| Rotoma        | 5/10/2021  | Lp   | -   | RT      | 1+  | 2,000  |

Fish were also collected by NIWA and delivered to Wellington Fish & Game Region (Wellington and Palmerston North).

## HABITAT PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE

### 1211 RMA Planning

#### **Bay of Plenty Regional Council**

Fish & Game is continuing to liaise with BOPRC on the review of the Schedule of Important Trout Habitats in the region. BOPRC is looking at getting various plan changes underway by the end of the year in order to meet new obligations under the National Policy Statement (Freshwater) 2020. Consultation via the RESOF group has begun.

#### **Waikato Regional Council**

In March 2018 Auckland/Waikato and Eastern Fish and Game Councils lodged a joint submission on Waikato Regional Council's Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora: Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1. Council hearings were held mid-2019. Decisions were released in May. Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Council, with support from Eastern, have appealed a number of matters. No new developments to report.

#### **Gisborne District Council**

Following the conclusion of the Gisborne Freshwater Plan, the Motu Catchment Plan process is now underway. Fish & Game has so far had some input in identifying values, and we expect to have a greater involvement in its development during the second half of 2021.

#### **Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy**

The public notification of the draft Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy was revoked earlier in the year. The purpose of the revocation was to ensure further engagement opportunities are provided. The Department intended to re-notify the draft in April but that has yet to occur.

### **Other Planning Related Activities**

Fish & Game was previously involved in the Bay of Plenty Regional Water Advisory Panel and community catchment groups. Plan Change 9 was eventually withdrawn and consultation stalled. More recently Council has established a new group to provide advice in relation to policy development for NPSFM implementation. Eastern Fish & Game is part of this Rural and Environmental Sector Organisation Forum (RESOF).

Various Fish and Game regions are currently collaborating on a submission to amend some parts of the NES-Freshwater 2020 that are unacceptable/unworkable. Of particular interest to Eastern Region are some unreasonably strict regulations around physical works in wetlands, and on the construction of maimai. Some other areas of involvement at a national level include intensive winter grazing provisions, and the Essential Freshwater Work Programme involving Freshwater Farm Plans and Stock Exclusion Regulations.

The Government plans to repeal the RMA and replace it with three new pieces of legislation. RMA staff throughout the country are currently collaborating with a view to providing some formal input in this process.

Eastern Fish & Game recently submitted and attended a hearing on the WBOPDC Long Term Plan. The Plan allocates funding to create a new cycle/walkway along the stop bank adjoining the Kaituna Wildlife Management Reserve. We are concerned that this proposal could have significant impacts on the wildlife values and use of the wetland and have opposed its creation. Council has since indicated that they will be happy to meet with us to discuss our concerns. No new developments to report.

### **1212 Consent Applications**

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Authority</b> | <b>Applicant</b> | <b>Type</b>                      | <b>Resource Involved</b>    | <b>Action</b>      |
|-------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 22-Jul      | BOPRC            | RLC              | LUC – lake front development     | Lake Rotorua                | No concerns email  |
| 11-Aug      | GDC              | PF Olsens        | LUC – forest harvest and roading | Mangaotane Stream, Gisborne | Conditions imposed |
| 15-Sept     | GDC              | Grassmere Forest | LUC – forest harvest             | Nuhaka River (upper)        | Conditions imposed |
| 17-Sept     | BOPRC            | TCC              | LUC/DP– stormwater dams          | Ohauti Wetlands             | NAR                |
| 30-Sept     | BOPRC            | Tramroad Ltd     | LUC – forest harvest             | Waiata Stream, Waioeka      | No concerns email  |

### **Consents of Note**

BOPRC Integrated Catchments Group resource consent renewal of their erosion and flood protection works in non-Rivers and Drainage scheme within the BOP remains outstanding with hearing dates not yet scheduled.

### **Complaint re Forest Harvesting Operation**

We have received a complaint from anglers about poor production harvesting practices and river crossings this winter adjoining the Wharekopae River, Gisborne where significant trout spawning takes place. Investigations have confirmed poor practices were indeed occurring, though within the terms of approved resource consents but contrary to what we had sought. Our intention now is to consult with the forestry group involved and appropriate staff within the Gisborne District Council to ensure this does not happen again. We have also made contact

with DOC due to the high presence of native aquatic species present in the river but have yet to be advised of their position on the matter.

## **1221 Reserves Management**

### **Lower Kaituna WMR**

Normal cyclical water flows and levels within the wetland have resumed with floodgates and weirs in their normal operational positions. Discussions have been undertaken with Rivers and Drainage operators and BOPRC Land Management Officers about replacement of the “balancing culvert” weir. Water inflow to the wetland through this facility is deemed crucial for maintaining stable water levels in the eastern section of the wetland. Some vegetation transplanting along the track will be required for maintenance. Costings have been undertaken and BOPRC has committed to paying these. Works are proposed for February 2022.

BOPRC and DOC are undertaking a number of native bird surveys within the wetland over October and early November – principally bittern as this species is both agencies’ highest priority bird in this area.

The \$160,000 Lotteries Commission funding application that we had intended to submit for predator control was not lodged. At the eleventh hour we ascertained that a 33% contribution was required – which we did not have. Alternative options are being explored with a possibility that we’ll invite ballot hunters to manage the trap lines in a voluntary capacity.

### **Other Reserves**

Predator trapping in the Ohaaki Wetland commenced in August with very few pests being caught. This is reflective of other trapping seasons and other wetlands in close proximity. Trapping will continue until February.

The wetland reserves’ access track mowing is about to get underway with the first round of mowing planned for mid – late October.

Water reticulation and pest plant spraying works within the wetland reserves is still being worked through with clarification currently being sought from BOPRC as to whether these works can be undertaken in compliance with the recently introduced MFE National Environmental Standards.

## **1231 Respond to Landowner Requests for Assistance**

One new landowner has sought advice in relation to converting grazed paddocks to wetland on Tauranga Harbour margins. A site visit is planned for early – mid October. No site details available at this stage.

## **1232 Habitat Creation and Enhancement**

### **Torepatutahi Wetland**

Contact Energy has provided its contractor’s predator trapping report for the past year. Similar results were achieved to those at Ohaaki, the exception being a substantial number of cats were caught, the contractor believing these to be derived from a farm worker’s house in the near vicinity. The report noted that the new AT220 traps worked very successfully.

### **Burt Wetland (Te Puke)**

Engineering reports have been completed with the owners prepared to financially contribute to bund reconstruction. Permission has been granted by the owners for us to undertake further

discussions with BOPRC staff in relation to resource consenting, technical advice and funding to progress this wetland enhancement.

## **ANGLER AND HUNTER PARTICIPATION**

### **1311 Maintain & Enhance Access**

Winter recreational access through Kaingaroa Forest is now closed but was extended for permit holders into the first weekend of October. Any access beyond the end of September is at the discretion of the forest managers, and we have continued to liaise with the Timberlands staff involved. Timberlands are continuing to provide a financial contribution towards access works and more particularly covering contractors' fees.

Annual angler access track maintenance work is underway in various parts of the region.

### **Whirinaki River**

Following a drawn out period of consultation we have received approval from Te Runanga O Ngati Whare, and DOC, to enable work to reopen an old and disused track on the Whirinaki River between the Recreation Camp and the Mangamate Falls campground. The route needs to be marked, and then cleared by contractors. This will enhance angler access to this area and we thank Te Runanga O Ngati Whare and DOC for supporting the project.

### **1312 Signage**

Sign updates and maintenance work is also under way in various parts of the region.

### **1331 Electronic Newsletters**

Both Barrels e-zine was produced in July, and Reel Life in August and September.

### **1333 Fish & Game Website**

Updates or changes to the Eastern Web site included Council agendas and minutes, children's fishing page, new regulations page, and the tagged trout form.

### **1334 Social Media**

Recent posts include new season motivation, new season dates liberations, compliance etc. The page attracted over 21,000 views per month around opening and has over 1,200 followers.

### **1351 Junior Angler/Hunter Programmes**

No junior angler/hunter programmes were held during the reported period.

### **1352 Angler/Hunter Training**

A Hunts course was held during September.

### **1354 Fishing Competitions**

Four fishing competition permits were processed for the period.

### **1361 Fish & Game Club Communications**

No club visit was conducted for the reported period.

### **1371 Fish & Game Huts**

Wairua Hut has been used by anglers at the start of the new fishing season. Since the last report we have been unable to carry out work in Te Urewera so have not been to the Waikaremoana Hut since the end of July, but as of then there were no maintenance issues outstanding.

## **PUBLIC INTERFACE**

### **1411 Statutory Liaison**

#### **Department of Conservation**

Met with recently appointed Rotorua Area Operations Manager prior to Covid lockdown to discuss projects and programmes of mutual interest and opportunities for collaborative efforts.

### **1451 Education**

There were no educational visits within the reported period.

## **COMPLIANCE**

### **1511 Ranging**

Compliance activities have continued to focus on spawning areas, closed waters areas, and areas open to fishing through winter. Some streams still have spawning fish present in them and compliance monitoring needs to be ongoing around these.

Figures for the 2020-21 year show 30 offenders have been dealt with for a total of 46 offences.

Contacts figures for the 2020-21 year show we checked 2,407 persons for angling or hunting compliance. This is up on the previous year. The overall compliance rate continues to be in excess of 98 % of persons checked being fully compliant.

Ranging has in various parts of the region and honorary rangers continue to contribute to this especially in the Opotiki and East Coast areas. The game bird season concluded at the end of August with no new compliance issues detected.

The 2021-22 year to date offences while seemingly high for so early into the year, include a group of seven youths attempting to spear trout in a closed waters spawning stream.

#### **Contacts: Year 2020-2021**

| <b>Month</b> | <b>2016-17</b> | <b>2017-18</b> | <b>2018-19</b> | <b>2019-20</b> | <b>2020-21</b> | <b>Last 5 yr average</b> |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| September    | 29             | 21             | 21             | 46             | 16             | 27                       |
| October      | 903            | 836            | 893            | 726            | 724            | 816                      |
| November     | 62             | 69             | 20             | 126            | 16             | 59                       |
| December     | 310            | 390            | 309            | 237            | 287            | 307                      |
| January      | 217            | 195            | 442            | 246            | 404            | 301                      |



|              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| February     | 293          | 137          | 307          | 265          | 155          | 231          |
| March        | 191          | 199          | 180          | 23           | 164          | 151          |
| April        | 214          | 178          | 124          | 7            | 153          | 135          |
| May          | 292          | 226          | 252          | 143          | 297          | 242          |
| June         | 171          | 172          | 168          | 162          | 124          | 159          |
| July         | 94           | 80           | 63           | 75           | 45           | 71           |
| August       | 27           | 33           | 54           | 20           | 22           | 31           |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>2,803</b> | <b>2,536</b> | <b>2,833</b> | <b>2,076</b> | <b>2,407</b> | <b>2,530</b> |

### Contacts Year to Date 2021-2022

Figures to date, i.e. for September 2021, are currently unavailable.

### National CLE Liaison Role

Eastern Region continues to provide input to national undertakings. A reprint of the Rangers Guide and Health & Safety Manual is underway, and CERT training co-ordination is continuing.

### 1521 Ranger Training

A rangers annual training day held in mid-August was well attended and went well. All annual training days with rangers include a ranger safety refresher incorporated into the training which has a focus on field procedures and practice, and law.

### Rangers

Honorary Rangers have continued to be active around the region, with some assisting in the Rotorua area on opening day of the fishing season, and others ranging in their local areas.

Most of our Honorary rangers have had their ranger warrants renewed for the new three year term which runs through to the end of September 2024. We now have six warranted honorary rangers operating within the region. We had three rangers retire from the scheme when their warrants expired at the end of September, two of whom had completed lengthy terms as rangers - Mike Jarvie 17 years, and Wayne Stevens 21 years' service. These are outstanding contributions, and deserve recognition and thanks from Fish & Game. A third Tauranga based ranger (Clive Poultney) also withdraw from the scheme due to simply being unable to commit time to ranging given other personal and business commitments and moving location.

### 1531 Prosecutions

Currently 11 offenders have offences pending resolution, details as per the table below. Some have warrants for arrest, while others are pending prosecutions.

Prosecutions have been proceeding well with most matters being resolved via diversion processes.

### Offences 2020-2021 Year:

30 persons dealt with for 46 offences as tabled below.

#### *Offence table 2020-2021 year*

| Offence name                            | Number of offences |
|---|--------------------|
| Disturbing wildlife                     | 1                  |
| Fails to comply with ranger/obstruction | 3                  |
| False declaration that holds licence    | 1                  |
| Fish with illegal tackle                | 1                  |

|                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Fish closed waters              | 7         |
| Fish with unattended rod        | 3         |
| Fishing without licence         | 17        |
| Gives false details             | 3         |
| Hunt or kill protected species  | 1         |
| Hunting without licence         | 2         |
| Possess or hunt with lead shot  | 3         |
| Unrestricted shotgun magazine   | 4         |
| <b>Total number of offences</b> | <b>46</b> |

Resolution of offences, by offender, over the 2020-21 year is as per table below.

All matters which met the prosecution guidelines test for prosecution were dealt with in that manner, with diversion offered as appropriate to persons who were eligible for that.

Warnings were given for offences where the prosecution guidelines test for prosecution - in terms of a public interest – was not met, even though the offence had been committed. In general, this included lower level offences, those of a technical nature, and where warning and education was a suitable alternative. As this demonstrates, just because someone has committed an offence doesn't automatically mean they will face a prosecution.

*Resolution of offences 2020-2021 year*

| <b>Resolution Type</b>     | <b>Number of offenders</b> |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Prosecution – no diversion | 7                          |
| Prosecution – diversion    | 10                         |
| Warning – adult            | 10                         |
| Warning - youth            | 3                          |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>30</b>                  |

**Offences Pending Resolution**

To date (06/10/2021) 23 separate offences are pending resolution, by 11 offenders.

*The table below shows offences currently pending resolution:*

| <b>Offence name</b>       | <b>Number of Offenders</b> |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Fish without licence      | 11                         |
| Illegal tackle            | 1                          |
| Possess net-spear-gaff    | 1                          |
| Fish closed waters        | 4                          |
| False details             | 2                          |
| Obstruction               | 3                          |
| Fish with more than 1 rod | 1                          |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>23</b>                  |

**Offences 2021-2022 Year:**

To date 11 offences have been dealt with, by 10 offenders.

| <b>Offence name</b>       | <b>Numbers of Offences</b> |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Fish without licence      | 2                          |
| Fish closed waters        | 1                          |
| Fish with more than 1 rod | 1                          |
| Possession of spear       | 7                          |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>11</b>                  |

## **LICENSING**

### **1621 Licence Agent Support**

Staff visited most agents for the purpose of distributing the new season's regulation guides and highlighting the change to the opening of lakes Rotoiti, Okataina, and Tarawera. Agent requests for licence corrections, brochures, and information attended was to as and when required. One new licence agent was set up for the new owners of Sporting Life in Turangi.

## **PLANNING AND REPORTING**

### **1841 NZ Fish & Game Liaison**

Kate Thompson continued to provide regular updates of licence sales to the New Zealand Council and regions.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **1922 Employment**

Interviews were conducted in August and September for the two vacant positions that had been budgeted for in the 2020-21 and 2021-22 OWPs, these being the 0.4 FTE role of Office Administration Assistant, and a fulltime Hatchery Assistant respectively. Both have been structured as 12 month contracts in accordance with the "Change Freeze" principle and informal undertaking on the part of all Fish & Game regions that regions won't do anything prior to final decisions being taken on the amalgamation of regions that might compromise the operations or financial positions of any new regional structures established. We are pleased to welcome Nerida Evans to the office role, and Eden Mutton to the hatchery position. Nerida took up her appointment in September, and Eden will be starting up in early November.

### **1923 Staff Training**

Most field staff are due to renew their First Aid Certificates, but a course booked in for 18 August had to be cancelled due to Covid lockdown. It has since been rescheduled to 29 October.

## **10.3 FINANCE REPORT**

**Ref: 8.03.01**

**13 October 2021**

### **1. Purpose**

To inform the Council of the end of year financial position and approve payments for the months of July and August 2021.

Tables within this report:

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| Table 1 | Variance Report to 31 August 2021                 |
| Table 2 | Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021                |
| Table 3 | Profit and Loss to 31 August 2021                 |
| Table 4 | Bank Transactions 1 to 31 July 2021               |
| Table 5 | Bank Transactions 1 to 31 August 2021             |
| Table 6 | Credit Card Transactions 1 July to 31 August 2021 |

### **2. YTD Profit and Loss**

The Profit & Loss statement for the period ending 31 August is attached (Table 3).

#### **Income**

Licence revenue ended the year ahead of budget by \$130,040. A detailed explanation of licence sales performance can be found within the licence sales report.

Revenue from other sources over the period totalled \$38,305 and was made up of the following: hatchery income (\$12,008), fishing competitions (\$539), children's fish outs (\$355), reserves grazing (\$5,200), sale of explosive magazine (\$935), and rentals (\$9,572). Fines from prosecutions collected through the courts totalled \$141 and funds were also received from diversion processes for expense recovery and junior education programmes (\$200 and \$700 respectively). Contract income was invoiced to the New Zealand Council for Kate Thompson's work for the licence working group (\$2,700), and her work for Hawke's Bay Fish & Game (\$518). Interest accruals were processed at year end totalling \$2,729 for the general reserves and \$2,556 for the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund.

#### **Species Management**

Within the Population Monitoring output expenses are shown relating to staff expenses for field work in Waikaremoana which is being undertaken, by staff, for and funded by Genesis Energy. A further instalment was paid to Cawthron Institute for the Tarawera Food Web study (\$7,545) and a Kilwell gift voucher was purchased for the angler diary prize draw. The Population Monitoring area ended the year \$10,352 under budget and this is related primarily to the Tarawera Food Web Project expense being underspent. This project was funded by Non-Resident Levy Reserves and spending for the year was \$10,162 against an approved budget of \$20,000.

Harvest Assessment expenses for the period related to the payment of wages for the game hunter surveys. A slight overspend is reported within the Harvest Assessment area at year end (\$180).

Hatchery expenses for the period related to fish food, minor purchases of grounds and hatchery maintenance materials, fire extinguisher servicing, and stainless tank screens and foot bath for the entrance of hatchery building. The regular expenses for rates, electricity, fuel, and oxygen

are also reported. The Hatchery output has ended the year under budget \$2,869 as planned maintenance expenditure was deferred in August due to Level 4 lockdown of suppliers.

### **Habitat**

Works and Management expenditure for the period related to the water easement fee for the Awaiti wetland (\$1,000). Within Assisted Habitat expenses are reported relating to costs recovered from the Waikaremoana Sportsfish Habitat Enhancement Fund for approved projects (\$1,346) and a replacement battery for the water quality monitoring buoy (\$199). The Habitat output has ended the year over budget (\$7,328) due primarily to the unbudgeted solar system reinstatement at the Awakaponga WMR. This was funded by insurance proceeds and external funding received for the reinstatement currently sitting within "Other Income" (\$19,748). The Reserves Management budget was underspent by \$2,969 and offsets significant repairs required for the reserves mower which is reported in another area within the equipment budget.

### **Participation**

Within the Participation output expenses are reported relating to season overlay stickers for lakes signage and a "No camping" sign for Lake Ngapouri. Minor expenses were also incurred for hut maintenance, and electricity for the Waikaremoana hut. The Participation output ended the year below budget (\$2,965). The hunter ballots budget was underspent due to advertising being limited to the Fish & Game magazine and website only. This decision was made as the costs associated with advertising in regional newspapers have increased significantly in recent times and they do not have the same reach as they have had in the past. Access spending was also below budget as spending in this area is variable and subject to the level of work required to maintain existing access points. The proposed Whirinaki access project was also delayed.

### **Public Interface**

The Public Interface spending for the period includes the removal of a dead beech tree near the walkway bridge and a replacement fire extinguisher for the Octagon building. The Public Interface area ended the year below budget (\$4,113), however \$3,500 was budgeted for Fish for Gold and this amount has been transferred to the Fish for Gold reserve for an event to take place in the 2021-22 financial year.

### **Compliance**

Significant legal expenses were incurred for a high-profile prosecution in July and costs are also reported for catering and travel reimbursement for a ranger training day undertaken in August. The usual expenses for the 0800 Poaching service and cell phone are also reported. The Compliance output ended the year \$66 underbudget.

### **Licensing**

The Licensing cost includes agent commissions and the fees associated with the Public Online and 0800 sales. Licencing costs have ended the year below budget \$2,655 due to increases in the use of the Public Online service and a reduction in agent commissions paid.

### **Council**

Expenses are reported relating to travel reimbursement and catering for the August meeting of Council. Council spending has ended the year below budget \$1,321, another variable budget that fluctuates with attendance at meetings.

### **Planning**

Levies were paid in July as budgeted. The complete Audit fee for the 2020/21 Performance Report was accrued into August (\$9,550). This accrual has resulted in an overspend within the

Audit budget of \$5,840 as usually only part of the audit fee has been accrued since the early 2000s. This non-cash adjustment will allow the whole fee to be accrued going forward.

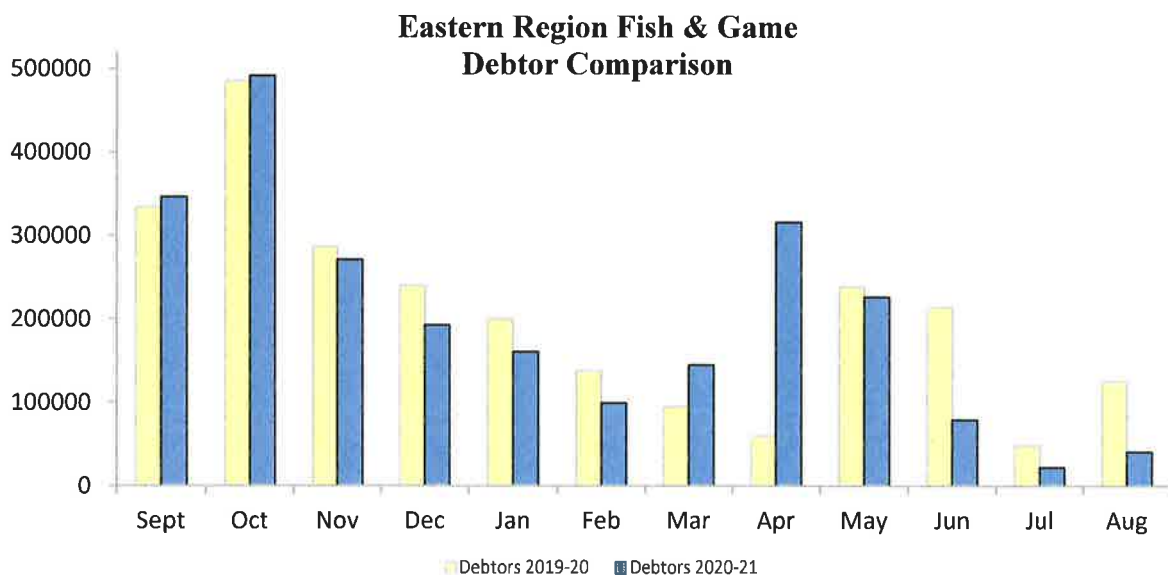
The budget allocated for the development of a preliminary R3 strategy and a preliminary Business Development Strategy/Plan was not utilised as both initiatives were contingent on the pre-arranged involvement of the Business Development and Marketing Manager for the New Zealand Council being personally involved and taking a leadership role in each of these undertakings. Neither was able to be progressed however, due to major staffing issues and disruption (\$8,500).

***Administration***

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Salaries                       | The Salaries expense ended the year under budget with two roles remaining vacant for the 12 months and staff extending their duties pending the review and establishment of two new roles. Underspent (\$38,357).  |
| Staff Expenses                 | ACC levies were paid in July and an accrual for a portion of these is shown as a negative in August. An expense is also reported in July within the Health & Safety budget for the removal of unsafe trees at the trap cottage and further clearance of walking/access tracks on the property following a tree fall. Expenses are also reported relating to staff clothing, meal expenses, advertising of staff vacancies, and one first aid course. The Staff Expenses area ended the year under budget by \$2,705 primarily due to reduced training and staff expenses. A planned first aid course for all staff was deferred due to the level 4 lock down.  |
| Staff Houses                   | Rates were paid in July and minor costs are reported within the Houses budgets relating to gas bottle rental and fire extinguisher servicing. The Staff Houses budgets were underspent at year end (\$2,378) as planned work on the trap Cottage was deferred due to staff time constraints and increased spending requirement on the two rental properties on site. One of these required a water barrier to be installed under the house and ventilation installed/replaced to meet healthy homes standards and the other required repairs to shower linings as a result of leaks cause by rodents. This unplanned expenditure meant that there were reduced funds available for the Cottage work. |
| Office Premises                | The office fire extinguishers were serviced within the period and the standard expenses relating to electricity, cleaning, rubbish removal and alarm monitoring were incurred. The spouting at the rear of the office building was replaced with a larger profile to accommodate significant rain events which had resulted in leaking into the building. The Office Premises area ended the year below budget by \$864 and this is attributed to reduced electricity costs primarily a result of more accurate cost recovery following the replacement of a faulty meter on the tenanted portion of the boat shed.  |
| Office Equipment               | The usual expenses relating to the phone & eftpos leases are reported. Three cell phones were replaced in July as budgeted. The Office Equipment area ends the year \$426 under budget.  |
| Communications/<br>Consumables | Standard communications expenses are reported for the period including phones, broadband, stationery, postage and photocopying. The Communications budgets were underspent by \$4,794 due to a reduced requirement for IT services throughout  |

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
|                   | the year and funds which had been allocated to improve the site broadband connection were unspent following advice that the proposed solution would not be as effective as suggested. The cell and broadband connectivity to the site remain a challenge.  |
| General           | Minimal expenditure is reported relating to the subscription to Survey Monkey, morning tea expenses, and bank fees. Over budget at year end (\$1,814) due to legal and insurance costs for the fire store. This is offset by increased rental on the fire store.   |
| General Equipment | Equipment maintenance expenditure included repairs to the Reserves mower, servicing of Parera boat motor, a trailer WoF and fire equipment servicing. The standard fuel expense is also reported. The General Equipment area ended the year over budget (\$2,776) due to unanticipated and significant cost associated with the Reserves mower which is offset by reduced spending within the Reserves Maintenance budget.   |
| Vehicles          | Vehicle expenses for the period included four vehicle services, and an insurance excess for a repair to one of the vehicles earlier in the year which had been overlooked by the repairer. The fuel expense includes 30,000kms worth of Road User Charges and is significantly reduced for the period due to the transfer of project related fuel costs to the Waikaremoana Fund expense and reduced vehicle use during the level 4 lockdown. The vehicles budgets were underspent by \$6,294 due to reduced servicing and fuel costs. The servicing costs on the new Mazda's have been limited to \$200 per service for the first three years. The low spec Mazda's are no longer available for purchase and as a result the vehicles requiring replacement this year will be replaced with the lower cost Mitsubishi Triton's however, these will attract standard servicing charges meaning the overall cost will be similar to that of the Mazdas. |

*Eastern Region Fish and Game - Debtors Balance Comparison 2019/20-2020/21*



Debtors outstanding as at 31 August are significantly lower than reported for the same period last year and this is due to delayed sales of the new season (2021-22) fish licence sales due to the Level 4 lockdown. There are no debtors of concern for the period.

**Cash Position:** \$813,250 (includes \$86,785 asset replacement reserve) as at 31 August 2021.

\$463,784 for Waikaremoana Fund as at 31 August 2021.

**Debtors:** Outstanding Debtors \$40,875 as at 31 August 2021 (\$125,510 as at 31 August 2021).

## **Fixed Assets**

### **Office Equipment**

Two laptop computers were purchased to replace two desktop computers under asset replacement funding. The purchase of laptop computers provides more flexibility for staff to work from home in these uncertain times.

### **Forestry Asset**

The Council agreed that the Forestry Asset as recorded in Note 3 in the Performance report for the year ended 31 August 2020 is no longer viewed as a future source of income to be realised from the logging and sale of its timber, but as an Erosion Control and Land Stabilising Asset not intended for sale.

The Council agreed to write off the Forestry Asset currently valued at \$91,600 and create a new Asset within Property, Plant and Equipment at a value to be determined by an independent valuer as at 31 August 2021

The tree plantation has been valued at the cost of planting the 2.5 hectares in Douglas fir. This cost is based on the Site preparation, tree stocks, planting labour and post plant weed control. The tree plantation will not be depreciated or revalued.

### ***Impact on Fixed Assets***

1. On the Statement of Financial Position:

| Asset Class                          | 2021    | 2020     | Change     |
|--------------------------------------|---------|----------|------------|
| Forestry Asset                       | nil     | \$91,600 | (\$91,600) |
| Property, plant and equipment – Land | 102,000 | \$93,500 | \$8,500    |

2. On the Statement of Financial Performance:

Net Loss on Forestry Asset \$ 83,100

### **3. Variance Report (Table 1)**

The variance report is shown on the following two pages. The year to date actual including staff hours are entered for each project area to provide Council with an overview of the staff time component of the Operational Work Plan.



**2020/2021 REPORT OF VARIANCES BETWEEN TOTAL BUDGET AND YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME**

**as at 31 August 2021**

| Schedule B Code | Project                                     | EXTERNAL COSTS |            | HOURS  |        | INTERNAL COST |            | NETABLE INCOME |            | NET COST     |            | NET COST    |             | Variance | % |
|-----------------|---|----------------|------------|--------|--------|---------------|------------|----------------|------------|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------|---|
|                 |   | Budget         | Actual     | Budget | Actual | Budget        | Actual     | Budget         | Actual     | Budget       | Actual     | Budget      | Actual      |          |   |
| 1110            | Species Monitoring                          | \$ 26,450      | \$ 36,098  | 2,132  | 2,253  | \$ 136,996    | \$ 141,892 | \$ 8,000       | \$ 4,000   | \$ 155,446   | \$ 173,790 | \$ (18,344) | \$ (18,344) | \$ 111.8 |   |
| 1120            | Harvest Assessment                          | \$ 2,400       | \$ 2,580   | 784    | 799    | \$ 50,378     | \$ 50,249  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 52,778    | \$ 52,829  | \$ (52)     | \$ (52)     | \$ 100.1 |   |
| 1140            | Hatchery Operations                         | \$ 74,550      | \$ 71,681  | 2,900  | 3,402  | \$ 186,346    | \$ 213,953 | \$ 56,500      | \$ 56,368  | \$ 204,396   | \$ 229,276 | \$ (24,880) | \$ (24,880) | \$ 112.2 |   |
| 1160            | Releases                                    | \$ -           | \$ -       | 154    | 104    | \$ 9,896      | \$ 6,541   | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 9,896     | \$ 6,541   | \$ 3,355    | \$ 3,355    | \$ 66.1  |   |
| 1170            | Regulations                                 | \$ -           | \$ -       | 165    | 31     | \$ 10,602     | \$ 1,950   | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 10,602    | \$ 1,950   | \$ 8,653    | \$ 8,653    | \$ 18.4  |   |
| 1180            | Control                                     | \$ 500         | \$ -       | 36     | 22     | \$ 2,313      | \$ 1,384   | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 2,813     | \$ 1,384   | \$ 1,430    | \$ 1,430    | \$ 49.2  |   |
|                 | <b>TOTAL - SPECIES MANAGEMENT</b>           | \$ 103,900     | \$ 110,359 | 6,171  | 6,611  | \$ 396,531    | \$ 415,768 | \$ 64,500      | \$ 60,358  | \$ 435,931   | \$ 465,769 | \$ (29,838) | \$ (29,838) | \$ 106.8 |   |
| 1210            | Resource Management Act                     | \$ 200         | \$ -       | 1,476  | 1,473  | \$ 94,844     | \$ 92,637  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 95,044    | \$ 92,637  | \$ 2,406    | \$ 2,406    | \$ 97.5  |   |
| 1220            | Works & Management                          | \$ 18,000      | \$ 15,706  | 932    | 1,185  | \$ 59,888     | \$ 74,525  | \$ 12,150      | \$ 15,703  | \$ 65,738    | \$ 74,528  | \$ (8,790)  | \$ (8,790)  | \$ 113.4 |   |
| 1230            | Assisted Habitat                            | \$ 2,700       | \$ 17,912  | 770    | 567    | \$ 49,478     | \$ 35,659  | \$ -           | \$ 19,748  | \$ 52,178    | \$ 33,823  | \$ 18,355   | \$ 18,355   | \$ 64.8  |   |
| 1240            | Assess & Monitor                            | \$ -           | \$ -       | 72     | 5      | \$ 4,627      | \$ 314     | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 4,627     | \$ 314     | \$ 4,312    | \$ 4,312    | \$ 6.8   |   |
| 1250            | Lake Waikaremoana                           | \$ -           | \$ -       | 0      | 0      | \$ -          | \$ -       | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ -         | \$ -       | \$ -        | \$ -        | \$ 0.0   |   |
|                 | <b>TOTAL - HABITAT PROTECTION &amp; MAN</b> | \$ 20,900      | \$ 33,618  | 3,250  | 3,230  | \$ 208,836    | \$ 203,136 | \$ 12,150      | \$ 35,451  | \$ 217,586   | \$ 201,303 | \$ 16,283   | \$ 16,283   | \$ 92.5  |   |
| 1310            | ACCESS                                      | \$ 5,700       | \$ 3,178   | 650    | 657    | \$ 41,767     | \$ 41,319  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 47,467    | \$ 44,497  | \$ 2,970    | \$ 2,970    | \$ 93.7  |   |
| 1330            | Newsletters/Information                     | \$ -           | \$ -       | 286    | 173    | \$ 18,378     | \$ 10,880  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 18,378    | \$ 10,880  | \$ 7,498    | \$ 7,498    | \$ 59.2  |   |
| 1340            | Other Publications                          | \$ 2,000       | \$ 2,196   | 40     | 31     | \$ 2,570      | \$ 1,950   | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 4,570     | \$ 4,146   | \$ 425      | \$ 425      | \$ 90.7  |   |
| 1350            | Training                                    | \$ 800         | \$ 81      | 755    | 537    | \$ 48,514     | \$ 33,772  | \$ 7,000       | \$ 7,839   | \$ 42,314    | \$ 26,014  | \$ 16,300   | \$ 16,300   | \$ 61.5  |   |
| 1360            | Club Relations                              | \$ -           | \$ -       | 32     | 20     | \$ 2,056      | \$ 1,258   | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 2,056     | \$ 1,258   | \$ 798      | \$ 798      | \$ 61.2  |   |
| 1370            | Huis  | \$ 1,450       | \$ 1,530   | 32     | 28     | \$ 2,056      | \$ 1,761   | \$ 400         | \$ 1,287   | \$ 3,106     | \$ 2,004   | \$ 1,102    | \$ 1,102    | \$ 64.5  |   |
|                 | <b>TOTAL - ANGLER &amp; HUNTER PARTICIP</b> | \$ 9,950       | \$ 6,985   | 1,795  | 1,446  | \$ 115,342    | \$ 90,939  | \$ 7,400       | \$ 9,126   | \$ 117,892   | \$ 88,798  | \$ 29,093   | \$ 29,093   | \$ 75.3  |   |
| 1410            | Liaison                                     | \$ -           | \$ -       | 72     | 15     | \$ 4,627      | \$ 943     | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 4,627     | \$ 943     | \$ 3,683    | \$ 3,683    | \$ 20.4  |   |
| 1420            | Communication                               | \$ 500         | \$ -       | 120    | 72     | \$ 7,711      | \$ 4,528   | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 8,211     | \$ 4,528   | \$ 3,683    | \$ 3,683    | \$ 55.1  |   |
| 1440            | Public Promotions                           | \$ 4,500       | \$ 91      | 104    | 31     | \$ 6,683      | \$ 1,950   | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 11,183    | \$ 2,041   | \$ 9,142    | \$ 9,142    | \$ 18.2  |   |
| 1450            | Visitor Facilities/Education                | \$ 500         | \$ 1,296   | 392    | 136    | \$ 25,189     | \$ 8,553   | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 25,689    | \$ 9,849   | \$ 15,840   | \$ 15,840   | \$ 38.3  |   |
|                 | <b>TOTAL - PUBLIC INTERFACE</b>             | \$ 5,500       | \$ 1,387   | 688    | 254    | \$ 44,209     | \$ 15,974  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 49,709    | \$ 17,361  | \$ 32,348   | \$ 32,348   | \$ 34.9  |   |
| 1510            | Ranging                                     | \$ 1,000       | \$ 927     | 914    | 742    | \$ 58,731     | \$ 46,665  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 59,731    | \$ 47,592  | \$ 12,139   | \$ 12,139   | \$ 79.7  |   |
| 1520            | Ranger Training                             | \$ 1,000       | \$ 914     | 104    | 92     | \$ 6,683      | \$ 5,786   | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 7,683     | \$ 6,700   | \$ 983      | \$ 983      | \$ 87.2  |   |
| 1530            | Compliance Prosecutions                     | \$ 5,000       | \$ 5,093   | 336    | 275    | \$ 21,590     | \$ 17,295  | \$ 6,000       | \$ 4,261   | \$ 20,590    | \$ 18,127  | \$ 2,464    | \$ 2,464    | \$ 88.0  |   |
|                 | <b>TOTAL - COMPLIANCE</b>                   | \$ 7,000       | \$ 6,934   | 1,354  | 1,109  | \$ 87,004     | \$ 69,745  | \$ 6,000       | \$ 4,261   | \$ 88,004    | \$ 72,418  | \$ 15,586   | \$ 15,586   | \$ 82.3  |   |
| 1610            | Licensing                                   | \$ 600         | \$ 576     | 140    | 110    | \$ 8,996      | \$ 6,918   | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 9,596     | \$ 7,494   | \$ 2,102    | \$ 2,102    | \$ 78.1  |   |
| 1620            | Agent Servicing                             | \$ -           | \$ -       | 164    | 63     | \$ 10,538     | \$ 3,962   | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 10,538    | \$ 3,962   | \$ 6,576    | \$ 6,576    | \$ 37.6  |   |
|                 | <b>TOTAL - LICENSING</b>                    | \$ 600         | \$ 576     | 304    | 173    | \$ 19,534     | \$ 10,880  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 20,134    | \$ 11,456  | \$ 8,678    | \$ 8,678    | \$ 56.9  |   |
| 1710            | Council Elections                           | \$ -           | \$ -       | 0      | 0      | \$ -          | \$ -       | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ -         | \$ -       | \$ -        | \$ -        | \$ 0.0   |   |
| 1720            | Council Meetings                            | \$ 6,000       | \$ 4,679   | 463    | 304    | \$ 29,751     | \$ 19,119  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 35,751    | \$ 23,798  | \$ 11,953   | \$ 11,953   | \$ 66.6  |   |
|                 | <b>TOTAL - COUNCILS</b>                     | \$ 6,000       | \$ 4,679   | 463    | 304    | \$ 29,751     | \$ 19,119  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 35,751    | \$ 23,798  | \$ 11,953   | \$ 11,953   | \$ 66.6  |   |
| 1810            | Management Planning                         | \$ 8,500       | \$ -       | 240    | 10     | \$ 15,422     | \$ 629     | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 23,922    | \$ 629     | \$ 23,293   | \$ 23,293   | \$ 2.6   |   |
| 1820            | Annual Planning                             | \$ -           | \$ -       | 66     | 16     | \$ 4,241      | \$ 1,006   | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 4,241     | \$ 1,006   | \$ 3,235    | \$ 3,235    | \$ 23.7  |   |
| 1830            | Reporting/Audit                             | \$ 9,750       | \$ 15,590  | 419    | 285    | \$ 26,924     | \$ 17,924  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 36,674    | \$ 33,514  | \$ 3,160    | \$ 3,160    | \$ 91.4  |   |
| 1840            | National Liaison                            | \$ 100         | \$ 14      | 260    | 115    | \$ 16,707     | \$ 7,232   | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 16,807    | \$ 7,246   | \$ 9,560    | \$ 9,560    | \$ 43.1  |   |
|                 | <b>TOTAL - PLANNING/REPORTING</b>           | \$ 18,350      | \$ 15,604  | 985    | 426    | \$ 63,293     | \$ 26,791  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 81,643    | \$ 42,395  | \$ 39,248   | \$ 39,248   | \$ 51.9  |   |
|                 | <b>TOTAL</b>                                | \$ 172,200     | \$ 180,142 | 15,010 | 13,553 | \$ 964,501    | \$ 852,353 | \$ 90,050      | \$ 109,196 | \$ 1,046,651 | \$ 923,299 | \$ 123,352  | \$ 123,352  | \$ 88.2  |   |

| OVERHEADS |                            | EXTERNAL COSTS |            | NETABLE INCOME |            | NET COST    |             | NET COST   |        | %      |
|-----------|----------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------|--------|
|           |                            | Budget         | Actual     | Budget         | Actual     | Budget      | Actual      | Budget     | Actual |        |
| 1910      | Salaries                   | \$ 879,056     | \$ 840,699 | \$ 11,580      | \$ 35,060  | \$ 867,476  | \$ 805,639  | \$ 61,837  |        | 92.9   |
| 1920      | Staff Expenses             | \$ 23,000      | \$ 20,295  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 23,000   | \$ 20,295   | \$ 2,705   |        | 88.2   |
| 1930      | Staff Houses               | \$ 13,060      | \$ 10,682  | \$ 50,000      | \$ 54,276  | \$ (36,940) | \$ (43,594) | \$ 6,654   |        | 118.0  |
| 1940      | Office Premises            | \$ 18,750      | \$ 17,886  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 18,750   | \$ 17,886   | \$ 864     |        | 95.4   |
| 1950      | Office Equipment           | \$ 3,600       | \$ 3,174   | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 3,600    | \$ 3,174    | \$ 426     |        | 88.2   |
| 1960      | Communications/Consumables | \$ 18,357      | \$ 13,563  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 18,357   | \$ 13,563   | \$ 4,794   |        | 73.9   |
| 1970      | General                    | \$ 11,058      | \$ 12,872  | \$ 1,500       | \$ 34,661  | \$ 9,558    | \$ (21,789) | \$ 31,347  |        | -228.0 |
| 1980      | General Equipment          | \$ 16,000      | \$ 18,776  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 16,000   | \$ 18,776   | \$ (2,776) |        | 117.4  |
| 1990      | Vehicles                   | \$ 44,700      | \$ 38,403  | \$ -           | \$ -       | \$ 44,700   | \$ 38,403   | \$ 6,297   |        | 85.9   |
|           | Administration             | \$ 1,027,581   | \$ 976,350 | \$ 63,080      | \$ 123,997 | \$ 964,501  | \$ 852,353  | \$ 112,148 |        | 88.4   |
|           | Total Overhead Net Cost    |                |            | \$ 964,501     | \$ 852,353 |             |             |            |        |        |
|           | Total Outputs Staff Hours  |                |            | 15,010         |            |             |             |            |        |        |
|           | Internal Cost Per Hour     |                |            | 64.26          |            |             |             |            |        |        |

**2020/2021 REPORT OF VARIANCES BETWEEN TOTAL BUDGET AND YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME**

| Schedule C | Code | Output                          | EXTERNAL COSTS |            | HOURS  |            | INTERNAL COST |            | NETABLE INCOME |              | NET COST   |            | %           |       |
|------------|------|---------------------------------|----------------|------------|--------|------------|---------------|------------|----------------|--------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------|
|            |      |                                 | Budget         | Actual     | Budget | Actual     | Budget        | Actual     | Budget         | Actual       | Budget     | Actual     |             |       |
|            | 1    | Species Management              | \$ 103,900     | \$ 110,359 | 6,171  | 6,611      | \$ 396,531    | \$ 415,768 | \$ 64,500      | \$ 60,358    | \$ 435,931 | \$ 485,769 | \$ (29,838) | 106.8 |
|            | 2    | Habitat Protection & Management | \$ 20,900      | \$ 33,618  | 3,250  | 3,230      | \$ 208,836    | \$ 203,136 | \$ 12,150      | \$ 35,451    | \$ 217,586 | \$ 201,303 | \$ 16,283   | 92.5  |
|            | 3    | Angler & Hunter Participation   | \$ 9,950       | \$ 6,985   | 1,795  | 1,446      | \$ 115,342    | \$ 90,939  | \$ 7,400       | \$ 9,126     | \$ 117,892 | \$ 88,798  | \$ 29,093   | 75.3  |
|            | 4    | Public Interface                | \$ 5,500       | \$ 1,387   | 688    | 254        | \$ 44,209     | \$ 15,974  | \$ -           | \$ -         | \$ 49,709  | \$ 17,361  | \$ 32,348   | 34.9  |
|            | 5    | Compliance                      | \$ 7,000       | \$ 6,934   | 1,354  | 1,109      | \$ 87,004     | \$ 69,745  | \$ 6,000       | \$ 4,261     | \$ 88,004  | \$ 72,418  | \$ 15,586   | 82.3  |
|            | 6    | Licensing                       | \$ 600         | \$ 576     | 304    | 173        | \$ 19,534     | \$ 10,880  | \$ -           | \$ -         | \$ 20,134  | \$ 11,456  | \$ 8,678    | 56.9  |
|            | 7    | Councils                        | \$ 6,000       | \$ 4,679   | 463    | 304        | \$ 29,751     | \$ 19,119  | \$ -           | \$ -         | \$ 35,751  | \$ 23,798  | \$ 11,953   | 66.6  |
|            | 8    | Planning, Reporting             | \$ 18,350      | \$ 15,604  | 985    | 426        | \$ 63,293     | \$ 26,791  | \$ -           | \$ -         | \$ 81,643  | \$ 42,395  | \$ 39,248   | 51.9  |
|            | 9    | Administration                  |                |            |        |            |               |            |                |              |            |            |             |       |
|            |      | Total Overhead Staff Hours      |                |            | 6,968  | 6,267      |               |            |                |              |            |            |             |       |
|            |      | TOTAL BUDGET                    | \$ 172,200     | \$ 180,142 | 19,820 | \$ 964,501 | \$ 852,353    | \$ 90,050  | \$ 109,196     | \$ 1,046,651 | \$ 923,299 | \$ 123,352 |             |       |

**Licence Income 2019-20**

|   | Budget         | Actual         | % of OWP budget spent |
|---|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| 2019-20 Fish Licence Income   | \$ 942,605     | \$ 1,066,921   | 100%                  |
| Less Commission   | \$ 42,417.00   | \$ -           | 88%                   |
| <b>Net Fish Licence Income</b>                                      | \$ 900,188     | \$ 1,066,921   |                       |
| 2020 Game Licence Income  | \$ 242,194     | \$ 247,918     |                       |
| Less Commission   | \$ 10,899.00   | \$ 50,685      |                       |
| <b>Net Game Licence Income</b>                                      | \$ 231,295     | \$ 197,233     |                       |
| Total Licence Income  | \$ 1,184,799   | \$ 1,314,839   |                       |
| Total Commission  | \$ 53,316      | \$ 50,685      |                       |
| <b>Total Net 2018/19 Licence Revenue</b>                            | \$ 1,131,483   | \$ 1,264,154   |                       |
| <b>Actual(surplus)/deficitYTD</b>                                   |                |                |                       |
| OWP Bulk Fund   | \$ 1,046,651   | \$ 923,299     |                       |
| Adjustment to OWP budgets - National Approved Budget                | \$ (8,200)     | \$ (8,280)     |                       |
| less Interest   | \$ 172,709     | \$ 172,709     |                       |
| Plus NZ Fish & Game Levies  | \$ (1,184,799) | \$ (1,314,839) |                       |
| Less Licence Revenue  | \$ 53,316      | \$ 50,685      |                       |
| Plus Commission Expense   | \$ (3,135)     | \$ 61,092      |                       |
| Plus Gain Loss on Sale/revaluation                                  | \$ 72,326      | \$ 71,952      |                       |
| Depreciation  | \$ 148,868     | \$ (43,382)    |                       |
| <b>Subtotal</b>   | \$ 148,868     | \$ (43,382)    |                       |
| <b>Adj to OWP budgets - Waikaremoana Fund</b>                       | \$ (4,115)     | \$ (5,398)     |                       |
| Less Waikaremoana Fund Interest                                     | \$ 8,000       | \$ 2,610       |                       |
| Plus Waikaremoana Fund Expenses                                     | \$ 20,000      | \$ -           |                       |
| <b>Adj to OWP budgets - Non Res Reserve - Lake Tarawera project</b> | \$ 172,753     | \$ (46,170)    |                       |
| <b>Adjusted Budget</b>  | \$ 172,753     | \$ (46,170)    |                       |

**Balance Sheet**  
**Eastern Fish and Game Council**  
**As at 31 August 2021**

|  | 31 Aug 2021           | 31 Aug 2020           |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>  |                       |                       |
| <b>Bank</b>  |                       |                       |
| Investments  | \$760,162.98          | \$405,177.27          |
| Petty Cash   | \$132.40              | \$0.00                |
| Waikaremoana Fund Investments                            | \$475,375.43          | \$467,437.53          |
| Westpac Call Account                                     | \$23,726.55           | \$231,717.87          |
| Westpac Current Account                                  | \$33,328.28           | \$31,090.56           |
| <b>Total Bank</b>  | <b>\$1,292,725.64</b> | <b>\$1,135,423.23</b> |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                                    |                       |                       |
| Accounts Receivable                                      | \$40,875.49           | \$125,509.53          |
| Inventory - Fish Stock                                   | \$171,007.00          | \$161,122.00          |
| Petty Cash & Licence Float                               | \$0.00                | \$200.00              |
| Prepayments and Accrued Income                           | \$5,139.57            | \$14,755.51           |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>                              | <b>\$217,022.06</b>   | <b>\$301,587.04</b>   |
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                                      |                       |                       |
| Accum Dep Land & Buildings                               | -\$701,567.23         | -\$673,740.05         |
| Accum Dep Motor Vehicles                                 | -\$126,823.59         | -\$119,540.21         |
| Accum Dep Office Equipment                               | -\$48,540.17          | -\$42,170.54          |
| Accum Dep Plant & Equipment                              | -\$152,353.57         | -\$144,248.57         |
| Buildings  | \$1,043,849.38        | \$1,043,849.38        |
| Land   | \$102,000.00          | \$93,500.00           |
| Motor Vehicles   | \$351,510.30          | \$347,591.97          |
| Office Equipment   | \$57,105.20           | \$54,075.20           |
| Plant & Equipment  | \$193,768.74          | \$183,866.13          |
| Tree Plantation  | \$0.00                | \$91,600.00           |
| <b>Total Fixed Assets</b>                                | <b>\$718,949.06</b>   | <b>\$834,783.31</b>   |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                                      | <b>\$2,228,696.76</b> | <b>\$2,271,793.58</b> |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                                       |                       |                       |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>                               |                       |                       |
| Accounts Payable   | \$36,944.48           | \$23,372.63           |
| Accruals and Prepaid Licences                            | \$106,397.06          | \$196,432.50          |
| Business Credit Card                                     | \$370.74              | \$63.33               |
| Employee Entitlements                                    | \$99,051.59           | \$100,298.77          |
| GST  | -\$12,103.05          | \$3,762.70            |
| PAYE Clearing  | \$31,742.64           | \$28,390.98           |
| Staff Social Club  | \$3,729.32            | \$3,078.22            |
| <b>Total Current Liabilities</b>                         | <b>\$266,132.78</b>   | <b>\$355,399.13</b>   |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                                 | <b>\$266,132.78</b>   | <b>\$355,399.13</b>   |
| <b>Net Assets</b>  | <b>\$1,962,563.98</b> | <b>\$1,916,394.45</b> |
| <b>Equity</b>  |                       |                       |
| Accumulated Funds  | \$1,193,406.53        | \$1,192,782.31        |
| Asset Replacement Reserve                                | \$92,797.00           | \$86,785.00           |
| Back Country Fisheries Reserve                           | \$127,266.65          | \$133,206.65          |
| Breeding Programme Reserve                               | \$5,000.00            | \$5,000.00            |
| Current Year Earnings                                    | \$46,169.53           | \$26,320.22           |
| Fish for Gold Reserve                                    | \$10,500.00           | \$7,000.00            |
| Hatchery Water Reticulation Reserve                      | \$23,640.00           | \$0.00                |
| Waikaremoana Sportsfish Habitat Enhancement Fund Reserve | \$463,784.27          | \$465,300.27          |
| <b>Total Equity</b>                                      | <b>\$1,962,563.98</b> | <b>\$1,916,394.45</b> |

**Table 3 Profit and Loss - Council**

Eastern Fish and Game Council for the 2 months ended 31 August 2021

| <b>Income</b>                                    | <b>Jul 2021</b>  | <b>Aug 2021</b>  | <b>YTD Actual</b> | <b>YTD Budget</b> | <b>Total Budget</b> | <b>Var YTD</b>  | <b>Var</b> | <b>YTD %</b> |
|--|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|
| Licence Income                                   | 8,584            | 1,633            | 1,310,617         | 1,184,799         | 1,184,799           | 125,818         |            | 11%          |
| Non-Resident Licence Levy Revenue                | 162              | 11               | 4,222             | 0                 | 0                   | 4,222           |            | 0%           |
| Other Income                                     | 6,780            | 31,525           | 258,994           | 168,580           | 168,580             | 90,414          |            | 54%          |
| <b>Total Income</b>                              | <b>15,526</b>    | <b>33,169</b>    | <b>1,573,833</b>  | <b>1,353,379</b>  | <b>1,353,379</b>    | <b>220,454</b>  |            | <b>16%</b>   |
| <b>Operating Expenses</b>                        |                  |                  |                   |                   |                     |                 |            |              |
| Depreciation                                     | 5,750            | 5,786            | 71,951            | 72,326            | 72,326              | (375)           |            | -1%          |
| Trout Inventory Revaluation                      | 0                | (9,885)          | (9,885)           | 0                 | 0                   | (9,885)         |            | 0%           |
| <b>1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT</b>                   |                  |                  |                   |                   |                     |                 |            |              |
| 1110 Population Monitoring                       | 258              | 7,545            | 36,098            | 46,450            | 46,450              | (10,352)        |            | -22%         |
| 1120 Harvest Assessment                          | 360              | 720              | 2,580             | 2,400             | 2,400               | 180             |            | 7%           |
| 1140 Hatchery Operations                         | 11,717           | 1,573            | 71,681            | 74,550            | 74,550              | (2,869)         |            | -4%          |
| 1180 Game Bird Control                           | 0                | 0                | 0                 | 500               | 500                 | (500)           |            | -100%        |
| <b>Total 1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT</b>             | <b>12,335</b>    | <b>9,838</b>     | <b>110,359</b>    | <b>123,900</b>    | <b>123,900</b>      | <b>(13,541)</b> |            | <b>-11%</b>  |
| <b>1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MANAGEMENT</b>        |                  |                  |                   |                   |                     |                 |            |              |
| 1210 Resource Management Act                     | 0                | 0                | 0                 | 200               | 200                 | (200)           |            | -100%        |
| 1220 Works & Management                          | 0                | 1,000            | 15,706            | 18,000            | 18,000              | (2,294)         |            | -13%         |
| 1230 Assisted Habitat                            | 199              | 1,346            | 20,522            | 10,700            | 10,700              | 9,822           |            | 92%          |
| <b>Total 1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MNGMNT</b>      | <b>199</b>       | <b>2,346</b>     | <b>36,228</b>     | <b>28,900</b>     | <b>28,900</b>       | <b>7,328</b>    |            | <b>25%</b>   |
| <b>1300 PARTICIPATION</b>                        |                  |                  |                   |                   |                     |                 |            |              |
| 1310 Access                                      | 45               | 206              | 3,178             | 5,700             | 5,700               | (2,522)         |            | -44%         |
| 1340 Other Publications                          | 0                | 0                | 2,196             | 2,000             | 2,000               | 196             |            | 10%          |
| 1350 Training                                    | 0                | 41               | 81                | 800               | 800                 | (719)           |            | -90%         |
| 1370 Huts  | 106              | 116              | 1,530             | 1,450             | 1,450               | 80              |            | 6%           |
| <b>Total 1300 PARTICIPATION</b>                  | <b>151</b>       | <b>363</b>       | <b>6,985</b>      | <b>9,950</b>      | <b>9,950</b>        | <b>(2,965)</b>  |            | <b>-30%</b>  |
| <b>1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE</b>                     |                  |                  |                   |                   |                     |                 |            |              |
| 1420 Communication                               | 0                | 0                | 0                 | 500               | 500                 | (500)           |            | -100%        |
| 1440 Public Promotions                           | 0                | 0                | 91                | 4,500             | 4,500               | (4,409)         |            | -98%         |
| 1450 Visitor Facilities/Education/Interpretation | 1,000            | 85               | 1,295             | 500               | 500                 | 795             |            | 159%         |
| <b>Total 1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE</b>               | <b>1,000</b>     | <b>85</b>        | <b>1,387</b>      | <b>5,500</b>      | <b>5,500</b>        | <b>(4,113)</b>  |            | <b>-75%</b>  |
| <b>1500 COMPLIANCE</b>                           |                  |                  |                   |                   |                     |                 |            |              |
| 1510 Ranging                                     | 57               | 42               | 927               | 1,000             | 1,000               | (73)            |            | -7%          |
| 1520 Ranger Training                             | 0                | 336              | 914               | 1,000             | 1,000               | (86)            |            | -9%          |
| 1530 Compliance                                  | 3,929            | 0                | 5,094             | 5,000             | 5,000               | 94              |            | 2%           |
| <b>Total 1500 COMPLIANCE</b>                     | <b>3,986</b>     | <b>378</b>       | <b>6,934</b>      | <b>7,000</b>      | <b>7,000</b>        | <b>(66)</b>     |            | <b>-1%</b>   |
| <b>1600 LICENSING</b>                            |                  |                  |                   |                   |                     |                 |            |              |
| 1610 Licence Prod/Distribution                   | 0                | 0                | 576               | 600               | 600                 | (24)            |            | -4%          |
| 1630 Commission                                  | 376              | 126              | 50,685            | 53,316            | 53,316              | (2,631)         |            | -5%          |
| <b>Total 1600 LICENSING</b>                      | <b>376</b>       | <b>126</b>       | <b>51,261</b>     | <b>53,916</b>     | <b>53,916</b>       | <b>(2,655)</b>  |            | <b>-5%</b>   |
| <b>1700 COUNCIL</b>                              |                  |                  |                   |                   |                     |                 |            |              |
| 1720 Council Meetings                            | 0                | 462              | 4,679             | 6,000             | 6,000               | (1,321)         |            | -22%         |
| <b>Total 1700 COUNCIL</b>                        | <b>0</b>         | <b>462</b>       | <b>4,679</b>      | <b>6,000</b>      | <b>6,000</b>        | <b>(1,321)</b>  |            | <b>-22%</b>  |
| <b>1800 PLANNING/REPORTING</b>                   |                  |                  |                   |                   |                     |                 |            |              |
| 1810 Management & Strategic Planning             | 0                | 0                | 0                 | 8,500             | 8,500               | (8,500)         |            | -100%        |
| 1830 Reporting/Audit                             | 0                | 9,550            | 15,590            | 9,750             | 9,750               | 5,840           |            | 60%          |
| 1840 National Liaison                            | 43,177           | 0                | 172,723           | 172,809           | 172,809             | (86)            |            | 0%           |
| <b>Total 1800 PLANNING/REPORTING</b>             | <b>43,177</b>    | <b>9,550</b>     | <b>188,313</b>    | <b>191,059</b>    | <b>191,059</b>      | <b>(2,746)</b>  |            | <b>-1%</b>   |
| <b>1900 ADMINISTRATION</b>                       |                  |                  |                   |                   |                     |                 |            |              |
| 1910 Salaries                                    | 64,829           | 107,467          | 840,699           | 879,056           | 879,056             | (38,357)        |            | -4%          |
| 1920 Staff Expenses                              | 4,795            | (680)            | 20,295            | 23,000            | 23,000              | (2,705)         |            | -12%         |
| 1930 Staff Houses                                | 575              | 174              | 10,682            | 13,060            | 13,060              | (2,378)         |            | -18%         |
| 1940 Office Premises                             | 1,657            | 1,160            | 17,886            | 18,750            | 18,750              | (864)           |            | -5%          |
| 1950 Office Equipment                            | 154              | 1,427            | 3,174             | 3,600             | 3,600               | (426)           |            | -12%         |
| 1960 Communications/Consumables                  | 831              | 958              | 13,563            | 18,357            | 18,357              | (4,794)         |            | -26%         |
| 1970 General                                     | 102              | 244              | 12,872            | 11,058            | 11,058              | 1,814           |            | 16%          |
| 1980 General Equipment                           | 511              | 4,077            | 18,776            | 16,000            | 16,000              | 2,776           |            | 17%          |
| 1990 Vehicles                                    | 3,894            | (330)            | 38,406            | 44,700            | 44,700              | (6,294)         |            | -14%         |
| <b>Total 1900 ADMINISTRATION</b>                 | <b>77,348</b>    | <b>114,496</b>   | <b>976,353</b>    | <b>1,027,581</b>  | <b>1,027,581</b>    | <b>(51,228)</b> |            | <b>-5%</b>   |
| Loss on Forestry Revaluation                     | 0                | 83,100           | 83,100            | 0                 | 0                   | 83,100          |            | 0%           |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>                  | <b>144,322</b>   | <b>216,645</b>   | <b>1,527,664</b>  | <b>1,526,132</b>  | <b>1,526,132</b>    | <b>1,532</b>    |            | <b>0%</b>    |
| <b>Net Profit</b>                                | <b>(128,797)</b> | <b>(183,476)</b> | <b>46,170</b>     | <b>(172,753)</b>  | <b>(172,753)</b>    | <b>218,923</b>  |            | <b>-127%</b> |

**4. Recommendation**

**4.1 That the payments for July and August 2021 totalling \$282,501.62 be approved.**

|                                  |                     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>July - Current account</i>    | <i>\$111,082.59</i> |
| <i>August - Current account</i>  | <i>\$168,390.15</i> |
| <i>July/August - Credit Card</i> | <i>\$3,028.88</i>   |
| <i>Total</i>                     | <i>\$282,501.62</i> |

## 10.4 LICENCE SALES REPORT

17 October 2021

### 1. 2020-2021 Fish Licence Sales - Complete Season

- 1.1 Fish Licence sales for the complete 2020-2021 season comparison against the 2019-20 season are summarised in *Table One*.
- 1.2 Fish Licence sales for the 2020-21 Season ended 2.0% ahead of the 2019-20 season results. Nationally for the same period the 2020-21 sales were reporting to be at 0.2% ahead of the prior season.
- 1.3 The reduced Fish Licence sales target of 8,150 LEQs for the 2020-21 Season was exceeded by 1,049 LEQs YTD (12.9%).
- 1.4 The significant loss of Non-Resident participation was offset by increased resident type licence sales across most categories.

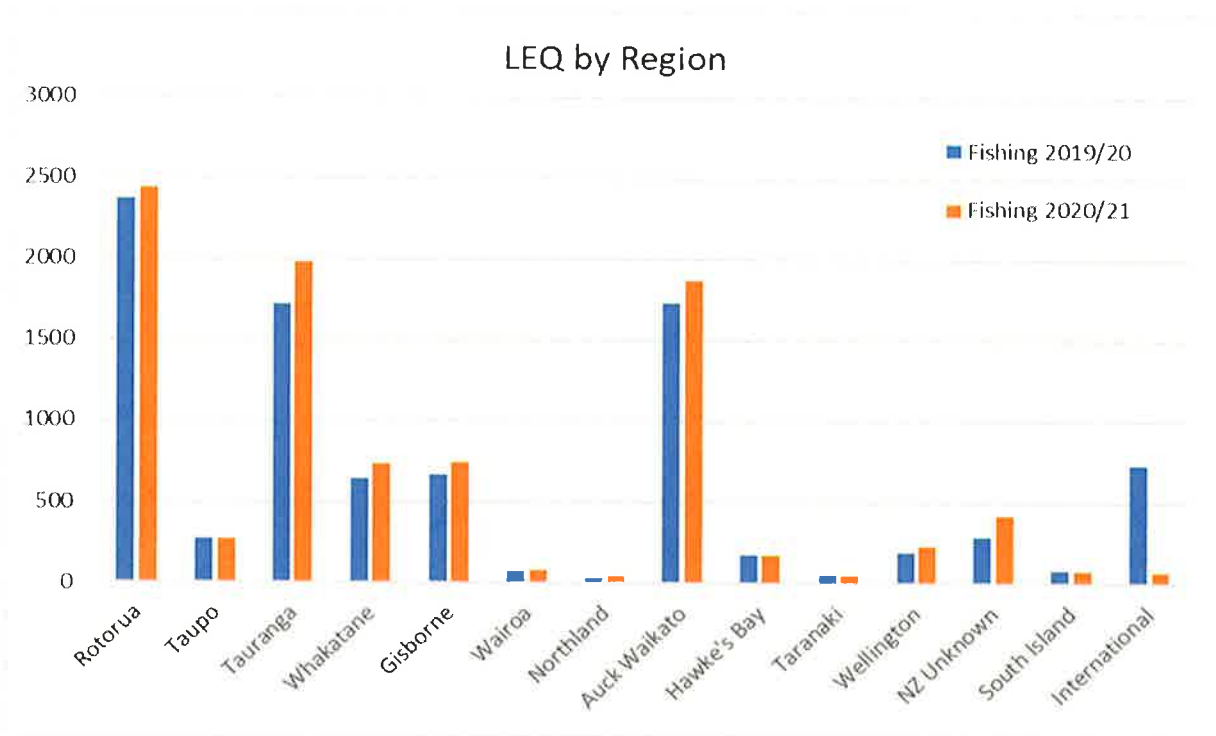
**Table One Fish Licence Sales 2020-21 vs 2019-20 Season results to 30 September 21**

| Licence Category                     | Agency Online | Public Online & Call Centre | Total 2019-20      | Agency Online | Public Online & Call Centre | Total 2020-21      | Inc/Dec on prior Season |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Fish Adult</b>                    |               |                             |                    |               |                             |                    |                         |
| Family                               | 1353          | 1127                        | 2480               | 1220          | 1423                        | 2643               | 163                     |
| Season                               | 1047          | 914                         | 1961               | 1053          | 1239                        | 2292               | 331                     |
| Season Non-Resident                  | 253           | 244                         | 497                | 24            | 38                          | 62                 | -435                    |
| Loyal Senior                         | 263           | 183                         | 446                | 273           | 250                         | 523                | 77                      |
| Local Area Adult                     | 1105          | 561                         | 1666               | 983           | 682                         | 1665               | -1                      |
| Winter Adult                         | 174           | 294                         | 468                | 240           | 324                         | 564                | 96                      |
| Long Break Adult                     | 32            | 46                          | 78                 | 24            | 35                          | 59                 | -19                     |
| Short Break Adult                    | 417           | 646                         | 1063               | 432           | 845                         | 1277               | 214                     |
| Day                                  | 1423          | 2258                        | 3681               | 1493          | 2702                        | 4195               | 514                     |
| Day Non-Resident                     | 708           | 646                         | 1354               | 20            | 129                         | 149                | -1,205                  |
| <b>Total Adult</b>                   | <b>6775</b>   | <b>6919</b>                 | <b>13694</b>       | <b>5762</b>   | <b>7667</b>                 | <b>13429</b>       | <b>-265</b>             |
| <b>Fish Junior</b>                   |               |                             |                    |               |                             |                    |                         |
| Season                               | 215           | 176                         | 391                | 218           | 227                         | 445                | 54                      |
| Season Non-Resident                  | 27            | 12                          | 39                 | 2             | 2                           | 4                  | -35                     |
| Day                                  | 163           | 204                         | 367                | 150           | 262                         | 412                | 45                      |
| Day Non-Resident                     | 26            | 17                          | 43                 | 3             | 5                           | 8                  | -35                     |
| <b>Total Junior</b>                  | <b>431</b>    | <b>409</b>                  | <b>840</b>         | <b>373</b>    | <b>496</b>                  | <b>869</b>         | <b>29</b>               |
| <b>Fish Child</b>                    |               |                             |                    |               |                             |                    |                         |
| Season Non-Resident                  | 11            | 10                          | 21                 | 0             | 0                           | 0                  | -21                     |
| Day Non-Resident                     | 22            | 9                           | 31                 | 0             | 3                           | 3                  | -28                     |
| <b>Total Child</b>                   | <b>33</b>     | <b>19</b>                   | <b>52</b>          | <b>0</b>      | <b>3</b>                    | <b>3</b>           | <b>-49</b>              |
| <b>Total Fish</b>                    | <b>7,239</b>  | <b>7,347</b>                | <b>14,586</b>      | <b>6,135</b>  | <b>8,166</b>                | <b>14,301</b>      | <b>-285</b>             |
| <b>Whole Season Equivalent (LEQ)</b> |               |                             | 9,023              |               |                             | 9,199              | 176                     |
| <b>Variance between Seasons</b>      |               |                             |                    |               |                             |                    | 2%                      |
| <b>\$ (excl GST)</b>                 |               |                             | <b>\$1,043,492</b> |               |                             | <b>\$1,063,903</b> | <b>\$20,412</b>         |

### Summary 2020-2021 Complete Season Actual vs Total Budget

|                                   |              |               |                    |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|
| 2020-21 Annual Budgeted FISH LEQs | <b>8,150</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>\$942,605</b>   |
| 2020-21 Actual                    | <b>9,199</b> | <b>112.9%</b> | <b>\$1,063,903</b> |
| <b>Variance to budget</b>         | <b>1,049</b> | <b>12.9%</b>  | <b>\$121,298</b>   |

1.5 A summary of LEQ by Eastern Sub Region and nationally by Region is shown below. Good growth can be seen across most areas offsetting the fall in international sales. The NZ Unknown categories relates primarily to “Day” licence sales where address information is not required.



**Graph 1** LEQ by Eastern Sub Region, NZ Region 2020-2021 vs 2019-20

## 2. 2021-2022 Fish Licence Sales

- 2.1 Early season Fish Licence sales for the 2021-2022 season comparison against the 2020-21 season YTD are summarised in *Table Two*.
- 2.2 Fish Licence sales for the 2021-2022 Season YTD are 4.8% below the 2020-21 season results. Nationally for the same period the 2021-22 sales were reporting to be level the prior season.

**Table Two Fish Licence Sales 2021-22 vs 2020-21 YTD results to 17 October 2021**

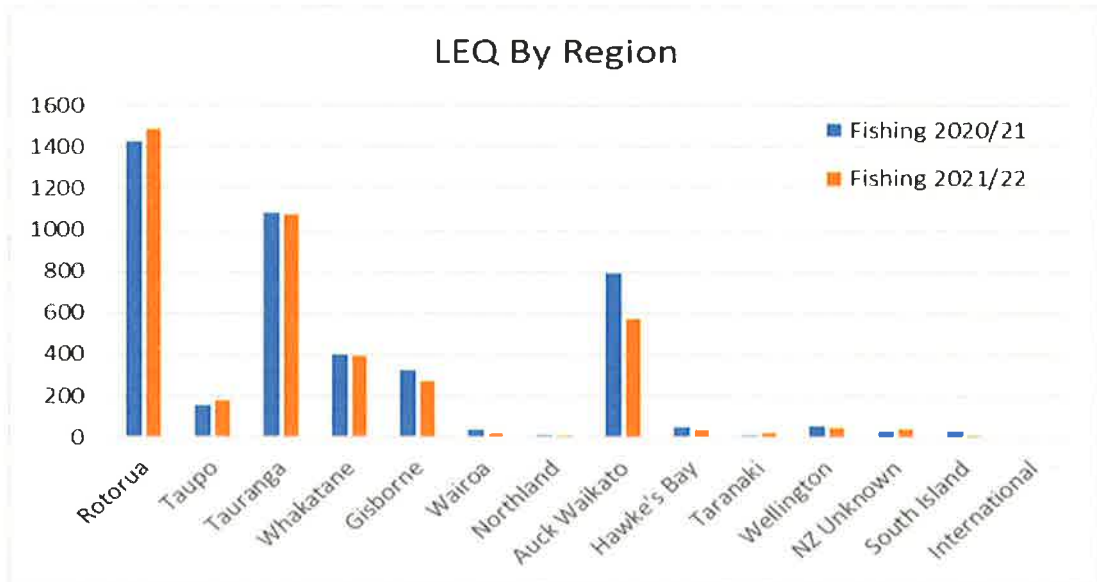
| Licence Category                     | Agency Online | Public Online & Call Centre | Total YTD 2020-21 | Agency Online | Public Online & Call Centre | Total YTD 2021-22 | Inc/Dec on prior Season |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Fish Adult</b>                    |               |                             |                   |               |                             |                   |                         |
| Family                               | 819           | 722                         | 1541              | 750           | 712                         | 1462              | -79                     |
| Season                               | 611           | 571                         | 1182              | 591           | 560                         | 1151              | -31                     |
| Season Non-Resident                  | 7             | 9                           | 16                | 1             | 11                          | 12                | -4                      |
| Loyal Senior                         | 234           | 191                         | 425               | 214           | 198                         | 412               | -13                     |
| Local Area Adult                     | 596           | 268                         | 864               | 593           | 236                         | 829               | -35                     |
| Winter Adult                         | 0             | 0                           | 0                 | 0             | 0                           | 0                 | 0                       |
| Long Break Adult                     | 0             | 0                           | 0                 | 1             | 0                           | 1                 | 1                       |
| Short Break Adult                    | 58            | 111                         | 169               | 27            | 62                          | 89                | -80                     |
| Day                                  | 159           | 220                         | 379               | 84            | 245                         | 329               | -50                     |
| Day Non-Resident                     | 2             | 16                          | 18                | 0             | 5                           | 5                 | -13                     |
| <b>Total Adult</b>                   | <b>2486</b>   | <b>2108</b>                 | <b>4594</b>       | <b>2261</b>   | <b>2029</b>                 | <b>4290</b>       | <b>-304</b>             |
| <b>Fish Junior</b>                   |               |                             |                   |               |                             |                   |                         |
| Season                               | 76            | 70                          | 146               | 75            | 65                          | 140               | -6                      |
| Season Non-Resident                  | 1             | 1                           | 2                 | 0             | 2                           | 2                 | 0                       |
| Day                                  | 20            | 20                          | 40                | 7             | 19                          | 26                | -14                     |
| Day Non-Resident                     | 0             | 0                           | 0                 | 1             | 0                           | 1                 | 1                       |
| <b>Total Junior</b>                  | <b>97</b>     | <b>91</b>                   | <b>188</b>        | <b>83</b>     | <b>86</b>                   | <b>169</b>        | <b>-19</b>              |
| <b>Fish Child</b>                    |               |                             |                   |               |                             |                   |                         |
| Season Non-Resident                  |               |                             | 0                 | 0             | 0                           | 0                 | 0                       |
| Day Non-Resident                     |               |                             | 0                 | 0             | 2                           | 2                 | 2                       |
| <b>Total Child</b>                   | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>                    | <b>0</b>          | <b>0</b>      | <b>2</b>                    | <b>2</b>          | <b>2</b>                |
| <b>Total Fish</b>                    | <b>2,583</b>  | <b>2,199</b>                | <b>4,782</b>      | <b>2,344</b>  | <b>2,117</b>                | <b>4,461</b>      | <b>-321</b>             |
| <b>Whole Season Equivalent (LEQ)</b> |               |                             | 4,408             |               |                             | 4,195             | -213                    |
| <b>Variance between Seasons</b>      |               |                             |                   |               |                             |                   | -4.8%                   |
| <b>\$ (excl GST)</b>                 |               |                             | \$509,762         |               |                             | \$499,726         | -\$10,036               |

### Summary 2021-2022 Season YTD Actual vs Total Budget

|                                   |               |               |                   |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 2021-22 Annual Budgeted FISH LEQs | 8,554         | 100.0%        | \$1,019,001       |
| 2021-22 Actual                    | 4,195         | 49.0%         | \$499,726         |
| <b>Variance to budget</b>         | <b>-4,359</b> | <b>-51.0%</b> | <b>-\$519,275</b> |

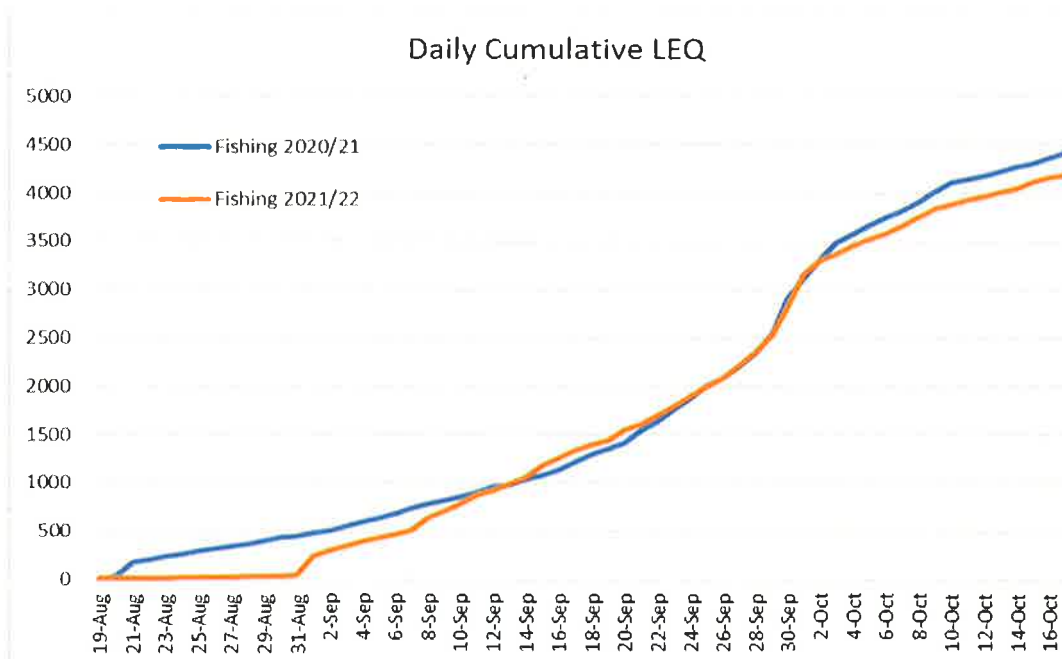


2.3 A summary of LEQ by Eastern Sub Region and nationally by Region for the 2021-22 Season compared with the 2020-21 Season is shown below. The decline in early season sales is most evident in Auckland/Waikato and Gisborne based anglers. The level 4 and more recently level 3 lockdown in the Auckland area meant that many anglers who would have normally purchased early in the season for opening were not able to come down. Similarly those Gisborne anglers that would normally fish Lake Waikaremoana were unable to access the lake due to Covid related restrictions imposed by Te Uru Taumatua.



**Graph 2 LEQ by Eastern Sub Region, NZ Region 2021-2022 vs 2020-21**

2.4 Daily cumulative LEQs are shown below where we can see early season sales were impacted by the delay in advertising due to the national lockdown which occurred in August. Pre-opening sales were further impacted by anglers unable to participate in the region for the opening period.



**Graph 3 Daily Cumulative LEQ 2021-22 vs 2020-21**

### **3. 2021 Game Licence Sales to 30 September 2021**

- 3.1 Game Licence sales for the 2021 season comparison against the 2020 season to 30 September are summarised in *Table Three*.
- 3.2 Game Licence sales to 30 September are reporting to be 10.6% ahead of the 2020 season results for the same period.
- 3.3 102.7% of the annual game licence sales target has been achieved for the 2021 Game Bird season. Very few sales will occur between now and the end of the season.

**Table three Game Licence Sales 2020-21 vs 2019-20 Season results to 30 September 21**

| Licence Category                              | Agency Online | Public Online & Call Centre | Total 2019-20 | Agency Online | Public Online & Call Centre | Total 2020-21 | Inc/Dec on prior Season |
|---|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Game</b>                                   |               |                             |               |               |                             |               |                         |
| Adult Season                                  | 1993          | 679                         | 2672          | 2481          | 470                         | 2951          | 279                     |
| Junior Season                                 | 188           | 69                          | 257           | 229           | 64                          | 293           | 36                      |
| Child Season                                  | 100           | 35                          | 135           | 107           | 19                          | 126           | -9                      |
| Adult Day                                     | 45            | 81                          | 126           | 66            | 85                          | 151           | 25                      |
| Junior Day                                    | 4             | 8                           | 12            | 1             | 3                           | 4             | -8                      |
| <b>Total Game</b>                             | <b>2,330</b>  | <b>872</b>                  | <b>3,202</b>  | <b>2,884</b>  | <b>641</b>                  | <b>3,525</b>  | <b>323</b>              |
| <b>Whole Season Equivalent (LEQ)</b>          |               |                             | 2,750         |               |                             | 3,041         | 291                     |
| <b>Variance between Seasons \$ (excl GST)</b> |               |                             | \$224,776     |               |                             | \$248,562     | 10.6%<br>\$23,786       |

#### **Summary 2020-2021 Complete Season Actual vs Total Budget**

|                                   |           |             |                |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|
| 2020-21 Annual Budgeted GAME LEQs | 2,962     | 100.0%      | \$242,194      |
| 2020-21 Actual                    | 3,041     | 102.7%      | \$248,562      |
| <b>Variance to budget</b>         | <b>79</b> | <b>2.7%</b> | <b>\$6,368</b> |

- 4.0 Total Licence Sales Performance against Budget for Complete Season 2020-2021**
- 4.1 The annual Fish and Game Bird licence sales targets were reduced for the 2020-21 Season in order to offset potential losses in non-resident licence revenue resulting from the border closures and uncertainties around international travel. The national budget process determined that in order to fund Operational Work Plans using reduced sales targets for the 2020-21 operational year there would be a requirement for Regions to fund the shortfall from their regional reserves. Any sales achieved over and above the sales target means fewer funds need to be drawn from reserves to fund the work plan.
- 4.2 The shortfall for Eastern Region budgeted to be funded from reserves was \$112,798. Sales results to 30 September 2021 show that licence revenue was ahead of the reduced sales targets by a total of \$127,666. This surplus has offset the requirement to draw on the Region's reserves to fund the 2020-21 Operational Work Plan.

## **11. 2022 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS**

**Ref: 1.07.03**

**5 October 2021**

### **1. Purpose**

To review the 2021 Eastern Game Season Conditions (see Appendix 1) and highlight the 2022 game season issues needing further consideration at Council's December meeting.

### **2. Introduction**

Issues relating to game season regulations for the upcoming season need to be identified at this meeting of Council. From time to time Council reviews its policies and criteria for setting regulations (see resolutions Appendix 2). Council has previously determined that where it could, it would set mallard and grey duck (grey/mallard) regulations based on predicted population sizes of game bird populations ("threshold management"), with three sets of regulatory constraints, these being restricted, intermediate, and relaxed conditions. If for example, the Eastern mallard population was predicted to be equal to, or below 350,000 birds then a restricted set of conditions would apply. If it was projected it will be above 350,000 and below 450,000 birds an intermediate set would apply, and if it was predicted likely to be greater than 450,000 birds this would trigger a relaxed set of conditions (see Figure 3).

Paradise shelduck and black swan regulations are also based on their respective population status. Criteria for setting regulations for these species are given in Appendix 2.

National monitoring of shoveler populations indicates the population continues to be stable so there is no reason to depart from historic regulations (one-month season and two bird daily limit).

Game season conditions for the season following are generally proposed at Council's meeting in December, and confirmed or refined by staff for recommendation to the Minister of Conservation at the end of January once additional population information is available from summer monitoring programmes.

### **3. Issues**

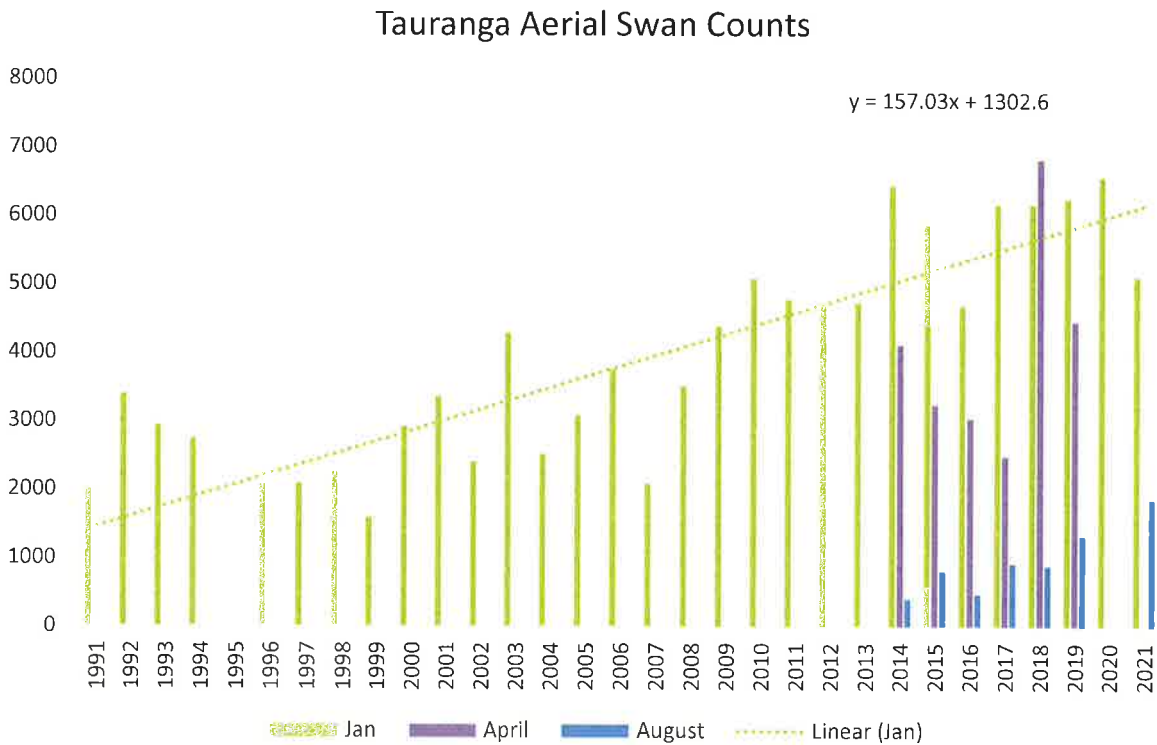
In addition to any other issues Council might wish to discuss, there are six topics that require Council's consideration and input for next season as follows:

#### *1. Special black swan season*

A special black swan season has been gazetted for the weekend of 26–27 February 2022 in Area A1 where there has for many years been an unlimited daily bag. The special season was proposed in 2018 following rapidly increasing numbers on Tauranga Harbour (Figure 1).

The Western Bay of Plenty Fish and Game Club usually organises a shoot over the special season in February with the aim of reducing numbers on the harbour, but have not had much luck with the weather in recent years.

Council needs to consider whether it wishes to hold another special season in February 2023 and if so, should it extend for a longer period than just one weekend.

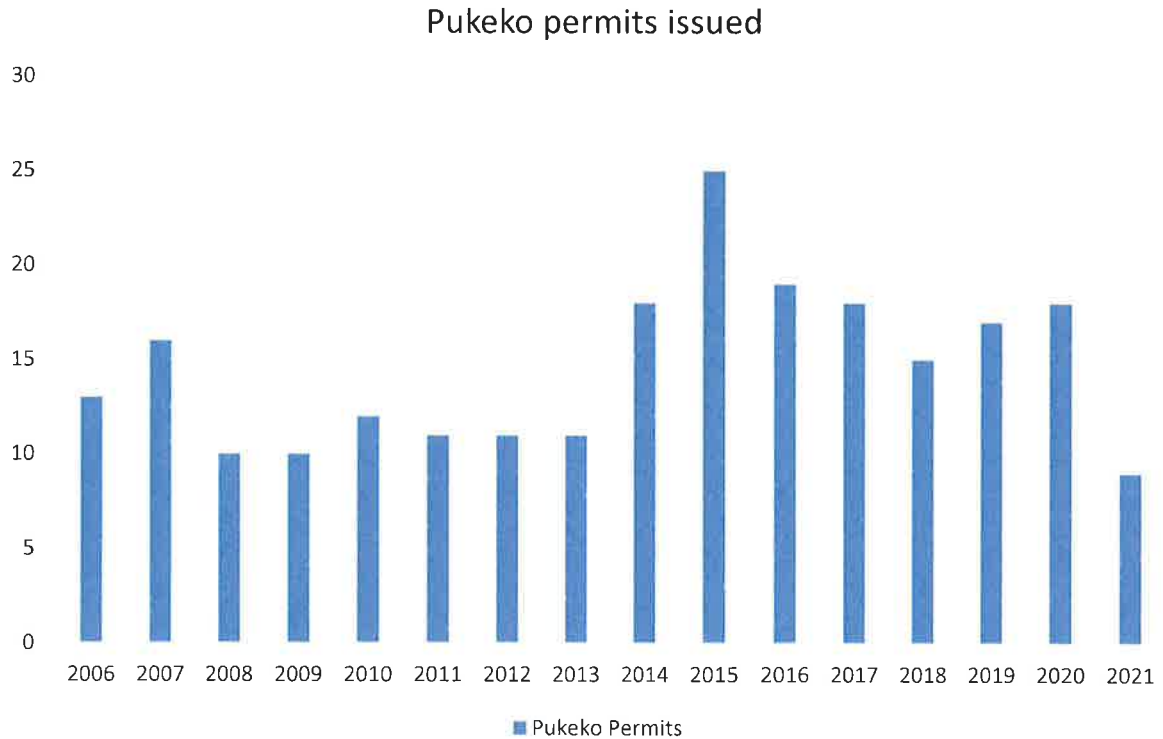


**Figure 1. Black swan counts on Tauranga harbour 1991–2021 (grey columns). April and August counts are shown in yellow and blue respectively. Counts are made from a Cessna 172 aircraft flying at 300’ using two observers. The 2021 count was delayed because of Covid-19 lockdown and did not occur until 13 September.**

2. *Special pukeko season*

A special season for pukeko was held on the weekend of 27–28 February 2021 with a daily bag limit of 10 across the entire region. Another special season for pukeko has been gazetted for the weekend of 26–27 February 2022 in all areas with once again, a daily bag limit of 10 birds. The special season was initially proposed to alleviate crop damage, reduce mallard and grey duckling predation, and was based on the limited harvest recorded during the game bird season (2019 season: 3,047; 95% CI 1,273–7,292). It is unclear if hunters choose to participate.

In recent years (2015–2020) the number of permits issued to disturb pukeko has been fairly stable (Figure 2). Council needs to decide if it wishes to hold another special season in 2023 and if so should it be extended beyond one weekend only.



**Figure 2. Number of pukeko permits to disturb issued by year.**

**3. *Brown quail***

In 2020 and 2021 there was no open season for brown quail in the Eastern Region. This came about because of a perceived decline in the population. There has been no reported harvest (hunter survey) for many years and they have disappeared from the few pockets staff know of. Council needs to consider if a closed season should continue for the 2022 season. We have had no comment from hunters regarding closure of the season over the past two years.

**4. *Upland Game Property***

Paid shoots are prohibited under the Wildlife Act. Nevertheless, they have long occurred under the guise of either an expensive lunch or the provision of accommodation. In recognition of this and our inability, or unwillingness to prevent this from occurring, Fish & Game elected to ‘turn a blind eye’ to these operations approximately twenty years ago and gazette them as upland game properties (or pheasant preserves as they are commonly referred to) with special conditions. Following a legal opinion in 2018 reaffirming the illegality of this activity, pheasants and red-legged partridge within the boundaries of most of the upland game properties within the Eastern Region were removed from Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Act, and were deemed to be species that could be hunted or killed subject to Minister’s notification under Schedule 3 of the Act. This was enacted via gazette notice (9 July 2019). That notice allowed for pheasant hunting outside of the normal game bird notice on these properties until 6 May 2022. One designated upland game property within the Eastern Region, the Pirini Family Trust, declared that it did not charge to hunt the pheasants it released on its property and opted to continue to operate under Schedule 1 of the Act. This meant that it remained under the jurisdiction of Fish &

Game and needed to be notified as such in the Second Schedule of the game season conditions gazette for the year concerned. We are aware that the property has been sold and the Pirini Family Trust no longer releases or hunts pheasants on the property meaning the operation does not need to, nor will be notified in 2023 game season gazette notice.

5. *Queens Birthday weekend*

Council asked that the inclusion of Queens birthday weekend for the mallard season during a short (4-week season) be reviewed. Last game bird season (2021) was a four week long season with a start date of 1 May which meant that the season finished on 30 May. Queens Birthday fell on 7 June this year meaning if it had been included the season would have been of five weeks duration. Advice is sought from Council as to whether it would like staff to draft an addition to its existing game season policies to provide for inclusion of Queens Birthday when a short season is implemented for consideration at its next (December) meeting.

6. *Hunting in the wetland reserves*

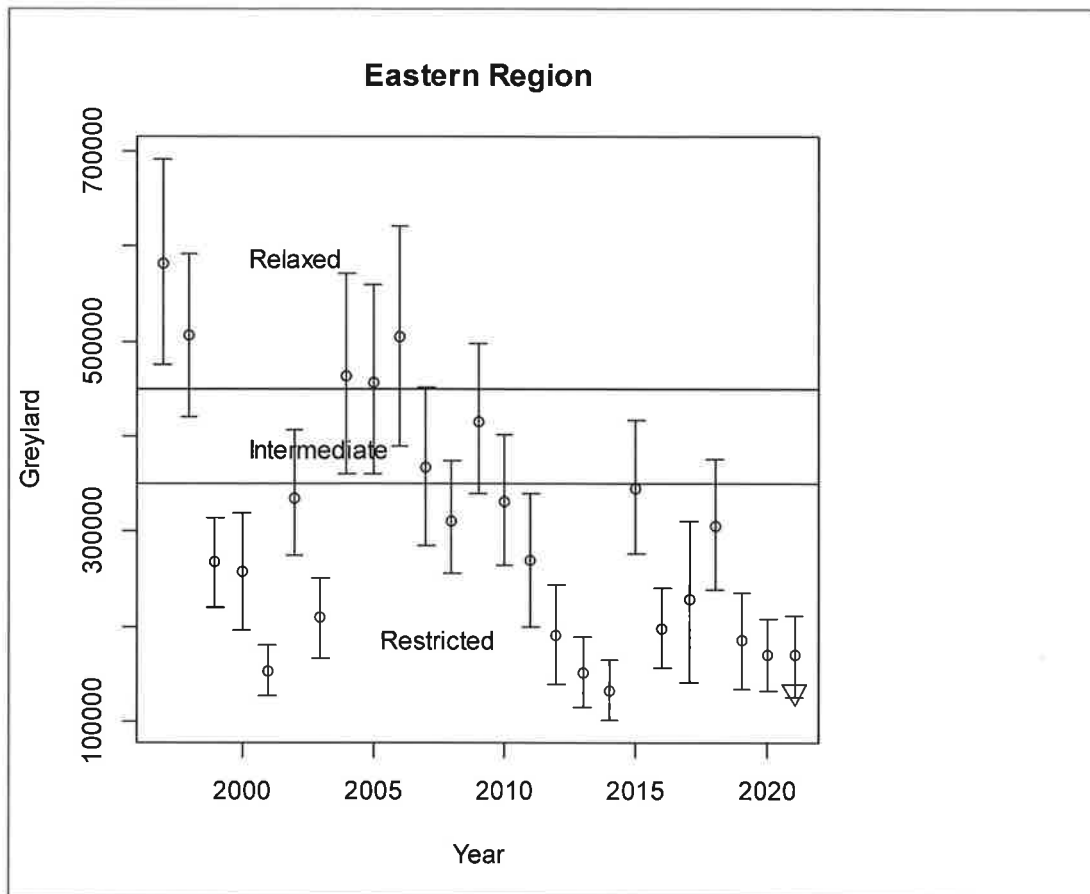
Hunting in Eastern managed wetland reserves finishes at the end of the mallard season. This is to try and promote early nesting of mallard as the early nesters tend to be more successful (more fecund). Further our research suggests females have better survival rates with shorter seasons. The issue is that the reserves provide opportunity for pukeko hunting. Council needs to decide if they want to revisit this policy or get further comment from staff at its December meeting.

After today's meeting, clubs will be invited to comment on any issues they wish to raise for consideration at Council's next meeting on 9 December 2021.

**3. Additional Information**

**3.1 Threshold Approach and Mallard and Grey Duck Population Estimates**

Refer to the management report in this agenda (mallard monitoring pp 20-22).



**Figure 3. Estimated greylard population size (mean  $\pm$  95% Bayesian Confidence Interval) in the Eastern Region 1997–2021. The red inverted triangle shows the predicted population size prior to the season. The solid horizontal lines show the threshold limits demarking the three different levels of regulation constraint (restricted, intermediate and relaxed).**

**4. Recommendation:**

- 4.1 That Council considers the proposed threshold levels and criteria for regulation setting and identifies any variants for ratification at its December 2021 meeting.**
- 4.2 That Council identifies any other game season condition matters it would like further information on, or consultation with hunters about, before its December 2021 meeting.**

# Appendix 1

## FIRST SCHEDULE 2021 GAME SEASON

### Hunting conditions generally common to all fish and game regions

#### 1 Bag limits

- (1) No person shall possess on any one day, more than the number of game birds specified as the daily bag limit for the Fish and Game Region in which the game is taken, except on Sunday 2 May 2021, when that person may have in his or her possession twice the number of game birds specified as the daily bag limit for Saturday 1 May 2021.
- (2) A person may possess more game than specified in clause 1(1) of this Schedule, if all such game is labelled with the following details:
- (a) The name and address of the person by whom the game was taken;
  - (b) The number of the licence to hunt or kill game held by the person by whom the game was taken;
  - (c) The name of the Fish and Game Region by which that licence was issued;
  - (d) The name of the Fish and Game Region in which the game was taken; and
  - (e) The date on which the game was taken.

#### 2 Waiver of Restrictions on Baiting for Waterfowl

A person may hunt or kill game of the family Anatidae (waterfowl) during the open season for game in all Fish and Game Regions, except Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region, where food has been cast, thrown, placed or planted any time during the year.<sup>4</sup> In the Second Schedule, Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region, Special Condition 4(9), applies to restrictions on baiting.

#### 3 Magazine Shotguns

A person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, in any Fish and Game Regions with any magazine shotgun of a calibre 10 gauge or less, which includes magazine extensions that comply with the Arms Act 1983,<sup>5</sup> other than in the:

- a. Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region;
- b. Eastern Fish and Game Region;
- c. Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Region;
- d. Wellington Fish and Game Region;
- e. Nelson/Marlborough Fish and Game Region;
- f. West Coast Fish and Game Region.

For these six Regions special conditions in the Second Schedule apply.

#### 4 Shot Size

No person shall use, in any shotgun used for the purposes of hunting and killing game, any cartridge containing any shot size having a larger retained, per-pellet energy at 90 metres than lead BB.

#### 5 Use of Lead Shot Prohibited

- (1) No person may possess lead shot, or use lead shot, while hunting or killing waterfowl within 200 metres of open water with any gun, except those using a .410 cartridge. Non-toxic alternative shot must be used, including steel.



- (2) For the purposes of this requirement, “waterfowl” means any of the following game species:

Black swan (*Cygnus atratus*);

Grey duck (*Anas superciliosa*) and any cross of that species with any other species, variety, or kind of duck;

Mallard duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and any cross of that species with any other species, variety, or kind of duck;

Paradise shelduck (*Tadorna variegata*) also known as Paradise duck;

Australasian shoveler duck (New Zealand shoveler) (*Anas rhynchotis*);

Pukeko (*Porphyrio porphyrio melanotus*).

- (3) For the purposes of this requirement, “open water” means either:

(a) any area of land or seabed covered permanently or seasonally by water wider than 3 metres; or

(b) any area which is temporarily covered by water wider than 3 metres at the time of such possession or use, and that is contiguous to an area referred to in paragraph (3)(a).

## 6 Camouflaged Rowboats

A person may hunt or kill game within the following Fish and Game Regions, from unmoored camouflaged rowboats, subject to the excluded periods for the regions specified below:<sup>6</sup>

Northland – no excluded period

Auckland/Waikato – excluding 1 and 2 May 2021

Eastern – excluding 1 and 2 May 2021

Hawke’s Bay – excluding 1 and 2 May 2021

Taranaki – no excluded period

Wellington – excluding 1 and 2 May 2021

Nelson/Marlborough – no excluded period

West Coast – no excluded period

North Canterbury – excluding 1 and 2 May 2021

Central South Island – excluding 1 and 2 May 2021

Otago – excluding Clutha River 1 to 9 May 2021 inclusive

Southland – excluding the Mataura, Aparima, Oreti, Waiau and Waimatuku rivers and their tributaries 1 to 31 May 2021 inclusive and excluding that part of the Oreti River below the Dunn’s Road bridge for the whole season.

## 7 Restriction on Taking of Game

No person shall use any vehicle propelled by mechanical power (including motorised watercraft) to chase or kill game, except in such circumstances and at such times as authorised by the Conservation Act 1987 and Wildlife Act 1953.<sup>7</sup>

## 8 Pegging Day

- (1) Stand claimants who claimed and occupied a stand during the 2019 Game Season (provided they purchased a 2020 Game Season licence before 23 May 2020) or 2020 Game Season may claim that stand at any time prior to pegging day (up to 10.00 a.m. on 28 March 2021) following the purchase of the 2021 game licence. If you are in the Auckland/Waikato Region, then the above mentioned applies only to Adult Whole Season Licence Holders and does not apply to Junior Licence Holders as it does in all other Fish and Game Regions.

- (2) Otherwise, unclaimed stands can only be claimed any time after 10.00am on 28 March 2021 in all Fish and Game Regions.
- (3) A stand may be claimed by planting on it a stake having either a board or identifying label attached, plainly identifying the name of the claimant and the number of his/her licence. The hunting stand claim tag provided with the licence must be completed with the name of the claimant and affixed to the board or identifying label.
- (4) The licence holder claiming a stand must be present in person at the stand when marking it up.
- (5) No one can claim more than one stand.
- (6) A stand cannot be claimed closer than 90 metres to a stand already claimed by another person without that person's consent.
- (7) Any stand not occupied by the claimant within one hour after the opening hour of hunting, on any day, can be occupied by another licence holder for the remainder of the day.

### **9 Conditions**

These conditions will expire at the end of the open season for game specified under the Second Schedule for each Fish and Game Region.

## SECOND SCHEDULE 2021 GAME SEASON

### EASTERN FISH AND GAME REGION<sup>11</sup>

#### 1 Game That May be Hunted or Killed—Duration of 2021/2022 Season

| Species                    | Season<br>(dates inclusive) | Duration | Daily Bag Limit | Hunting Area   |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------------|--|
| Grey/mallard duck          | 1 May to 30 May 2021        |          | 6               | All areas  |
| NZ shoveler duck           | 1 May to 30 May 2021        |          | 2               | All areas  |
| Paradise shelduck          | 1 May to 27 Jun 2021        |          | 6               | Area A1, A2  |
|                            | 1 May to 27 Jun 2021        |          | 10              | Area B2 and that part of B1, which lies south of the true right bank of the Uawa River Mouth, Tolaga Bay |
|                            | 1 May to 11 Jul 2021        |          | 20              | That part of B1, which lies north of the true right bank of the Uawa River Mouth, Tolaga Bay             |
| Pukeko                     | 1 May to 29 Aug 2021        |          | 10              | All areas  |
|                            | 26 Feb and 27 Feb 2022      |          | 10              | All areas  |
| Black swan                 | 1 May to 29 Aug 2021        |          | No limit        | Area A1  |
|                            | 26 Feb and 27 Feb 2022      |          | No limit        | Area A1  |
|                            | 1 May to 27 Jun 2021        |          | 5               | Area A2  |
|                            | Closed season               |          | 0               | Area B1 & B2   |
| Bobwhite (Virginian) quail | 1 May to 29 Aug 2021        |          | No limit        | All areas  |
| Brown quail                | Closed season               |          | 0               | All areas  |
| California quail           | 1 May to 29 Aug 2021        |          | No limit        | Area A1 & A2   |
|                            | 1 May to 29 Aug 2021        |          | 5               | Area B1 & B2   |
| Cock pheasant              | 1 May to 29 Aug 2021        |          | 5               | All areas excluding upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 7 for this Region |
|                            |                             |          |                 |  |
| Pheasant, both sexes       | 1 May to 29 Aug 2021        |          | No limit        | Upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 7 for this Region                     |
| Red legged partridge       | 1 May to 29 Aug 2021        |          | No limit        | Upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 7 for this Region                     |

## **2 Definition of Areas**

The following descriptions refer to Management Units within the Eastern Region (described on Infomap 242B-2 Land Information New Zealand). The Management Units are defined using both District Council and Eastern Region Fish and Game boundaries. The coastal boundaries of Management Units A1, B1 and, B2 follow the coastline as per Infomap 242-2.

- (1) **Area A1:** Tauranga District, Western Bay of Plenty District, that part of the South Waikato District within the Eastern Fish and Game region and east of State Highway 1, Rotorua District, Kawerau District, Whakatane District and Opotiki District.
- (2) **Area A2:** Those parts of the South Waikato District west of State Highway 1 within the Eastern Fish and Game region, Taupo District and Ruapehu District, which lie within the Eastern Fish and Game region.
- (3) **Area B1:** Gisborne District.
- (4) **Area B2:** That part of Wairoa District within the Eastern Fish and Game region.

## **3 Shooting Hours**

6.15am to 6.15pm in all areas for all species during their respective seasons.

## **4 Decoy Limit**

No limit.

## **5 Special Conditions**

- (1) No person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, within the Eastern region with any magazine shotgun unless the shotgun:
  - (a) has a magazine of any type adjusted with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun; or
  - (b) the magazine is pinned in accordance with Regulations made under this Act; so that the magazine shotgun is incapable of holding more than 2 shells in the magazine, with no more than 3 shells in the magazine and chamber combined, at any one time.
- (2) No maimai shall impede the use of navigable channels in the Tauranga Harbour, Ohiwa Harbour, Little Waihi Estuary, Lake Aniwhenua and Lake Taupo.
- (3) A person who erects a maimai in the Little Waihi Estuary, Lake Aniwhenua, Ohiwa Harbour, Stump and Waihi Bays of Lake Taupo must dismantle and remove it within 2 weeks of the close of the season (ie by 13 September 2021).
- (4) A licensed game bird hunter who has a Department of Conservation permit to take or kill wildlife for the purpose of hawking may hunt with an Australasian Harrier (*Circus approximans*) to take game birds. This is subject to the season length and bag limit for game birds specified in clause 1 of this notice for this Region and subject to any condition imposed by the Director-General of Conservation under such a permit.
- (5) No person shall within the Eastern Fish & Game Region, in or on any public place, or in or on any private land without consent of the land occupier, with intent:
  - (a) deposit any type of litter, including carcasses or parts thereof, of any shot game.
  - (b) having deposited any type of litter, including carcasses or parts thereof, of any shot game, leaves it after having been deposited.
  - (c) for the purposes of this regulation litter includes any refuse, animal or game remains, or waste matter or items of any type used in the course of hunting, which is abandoned or intended to be abandoned.
- (6) The use of drones to disturb game birds is not permitted

## **6 Hunting From a Boat Under Power**

No person may possess a firearm that can be rapidly deployed in or on any unmoored vessel, except (1) where the unmoored vessel is not being propelled at the time by a motorised device, or (2) the firearm is needed to retrieve wounded game. For the purpose of this subclause a firearm is considered unable to be rapidly deployed if it has been dismantled or secured in a case, gunslip or other secure compartment.

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

**Pirini Family Trust:** The property is located 8 kilometres up the Bush Road from Pongokawa. It is bounded by Pongakawa River, Rotoehu Forest and Bush Road, Sections 4, 5 and 7 SO 7437 Block IX Waihi South Survey District. The property is leased by N. Raven.

## Appendix 2

### GAME SEASON CONDITION POLICIES

#### 2.1 Mallard and Grey Duck (greyland)

- (i) *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that Council re-affirms the threshold approach to setting mallard and grey duck harvest regulations (where grey duck are treated as mallard due to the difficulty in distinguishing between the species). [15/11/12.2]*
- (ii) *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that the threshold levels are set at 350,000 and 450,000 such that at or below 350,000 a set of restricted conditions apply; above 350,000 and, at or below 450,000 a set of intermediate harvest regulations apply; and above 450,000 a relaxed set of conditions apply. [15/11/12.3]*
- (iii) *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that restricted conditions shall comprise a 4-week season (including Queens Birthday when appropriate) with a bag limit of 6 mallard and grey duck; intermediate conditions shall comprise a 6-week season with a bag limit of 8 mallard and grey duck; and relaxed conditions shall comprise an 8-week season with a bag limit of 10 mallard and grey duck. [15/11/12.4]*

#### 2.2 Other Species

- (i) *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that paradise shelduck and black swan thresholds and regulations remain the status quo and subject to January monitoring results. [15/11/12.5]*
- (ii) *Agreed (Ian Pirani/Lindsay Lyons) that Council authorises staff to make a decision on Game Season Regulations outside of policy when an issue has been flagged. [12/10/8.2]*

Rationale for (v) as per October 2012 Council minutes:

“Cr Barry Roderick commented on the greyland population estimates being the lowest in 8 years and the mystery, last summer, with a very high ratio of juveniles in the traps. Matt McDougall said that in the last decade something had occurred in some years that's throwing us off track. Last year he was concerned over the reduced adults in the traps and those concerns were later vindicated by harvest results. Council discussed the policy for setting the season regulations and the short time frame available before these are presented to the Minister for approval. Rob Pitkethley said that in 4 out of 5 years the modelling policy would be used, but in the occasional year staff would like the ability to alter the policy direction if unusual results suggested something else was occurring. Staff were seeking guidance on how this unusual process could work and Cr Steve Scragg said that he would be comfortable with Matt McDougall and Rob Pitkethley making the appropriate call and providing confirmation by email to Council.”

- (iii) *Agreed (Alan Baird/Adam Rayner) that Council supports changing the “Intermediate” regulations for black swan from a daily bag limit of 2 to 5 birds (i.e,*

*when the population is assessed at 1,000-3,000 birds) to provide more incentive to hunt swan once the mallard season finishes. [18/11/10.15]*

### **2.3 Threshold Criteria for Paradise shelduck**

**Table 1: Eastern Paradise Shelduck threshold levels**

| LONG TERM POPULATION TREND         | SEASON       |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Negative i.e. population declining | Restricted   |
| Zero i.e. population stable        | Intermediate |
| Positive i.e. population growing.  | Relaxed      |

**Table 2: Eastern Paradise Shelduck season conditions (Season per Table 1)**

| SEASON                 | Area  | Specific Conditions |           |
|------------------------|---|---------------------|-----------|
|                        |   | Length (weeks)      | Bag Limit |
| Restricted             | A1 & A2   | 4                   | 4         |
|                        | B2 & B1 South of true right bank Uawa River Mouth             | 4                   | 4         |
| Intermediate           | A1, A2  | 8                   | 6         |
|                        | B2 & B1 South of the true right bank Uawa River Mouth         | 8                   | 10        |
| Relaxed                | A1, A2, B2 & B1 South of the true right bank Uawa River Mouth | 10                  | 10        |
| Fixed Season condition | B1 North of the true right bank Uawa River Mouth              | 10                  | 20        |

### **2.4 Threshold Criteria for Black Swan**

**Table 3: Eastern Black Swan threshold levels**

| POPULATION SIZE                    | TREND    | SEASON       |
|------------------------------------|----------|--------------|
| Low (below 1,000)                  | Negative | Restricted   |
| Low (below 1,000)                  | Zero     | Restricted   |
| Low (below 1,000)                  | Positive | Restricted   |
| Moderate (between 1,000 and 3,000) | Negative | Intermediate |
| Moderate (between 1,000 and 3,000) | Zero     | Intermediate |
| Moderate (between 1,000 and 3,000) | Positive | Relaxed      |
| Greater than 3,000                 | Negative | Relaxed      |
| Greater than 3,000                 | Zero     | Relaxed      |
| Greater than 3,000                 | Positive | Relaxed      |

**Table 4: Eastern Black Swan season conditions (Season per Table 3)**

| SEASON       | SPECIFIC CONDITIONS (LENGTH AND DAILY BAG).  |
|--------------|--|
| Restricted   | No season.   |
| Intermediate | 8-week season with a 5-bird limit for Management Units A1, A2 and B1.<br>6-week season with a 4 bird limit for Management Unit B2. |
| Relaxed      | 16-week season with a no-bird limit.   |

## 12. WAIKAREMOANA SPORTS FISH HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND

Ref: 2.01.07.01

13 October 2021

### 1. Purpose

To provide an end of year summary of expenditure of funds from the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund during the 2020-2021 year.

### 2. Background

In 1999 ECNZ made a commitment to create a trust known as the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Trust ("Trust") as part of its consent for the Waikaremoana Power Scheme before its transfer to Genesis. The Trust was set up in response to concerns about the environmental, recreational, social, cultural and economic effects of the Waikaremoana Power Scheme ("WPS"). Due to Inland Revenue issues and the Trust being subject to taxes on interest, the Trust was disbanded soon after its formation, and the settlement was paid to Fish & Game to form the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund ("Waikaremoana Fund").

The objective of the Trust and now the Waikaremoana Fund is:

*"To sustain and enhance habitat for sports fish within the Wairoa River catchment and enhance access of the public to recreational sports fish therein".*

In addition to this key objective, there are a number of additional purposes that include:

- *To undertake research that furthers the objectives of the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund;*
- *Identify and evaluate areas in the catchment worth protection, restoration, enhancement, etc.;*
- *Carry out creel surveys;*
- *Carry out trials and monitoring on improving sports fish habitat;*
- *To create, improve, maintain signage and access to sports fisheries.*

The Fund contained an initial investment of \$250,000. When the Fund was established in 2000 the Council agreed that the principal should be protected with an inflation-based adjustment and spending from the Fund should be maintained within the interest generated.

The table below shows expenditure on projects and work areas since 2001. The items highlighted in yellow are projects undertaken/expenses incurred in 2018-2019.

| Work Area   | Amount funded (\$) |
|---|--------------------|
| Information & access pamphlets                                    | 6,177              |
| Signage & Information panels                                      | 7,046              |
| 2002 Angler Creel Survey  | 4,130              |
| Contributions to Access through jetties, gangplanks, carparks etc | 13,333             |
| Habitat studies (Lake & River (2) Inventories, Wildlands reports) | 9,521              |
| 2007 Angler Creel Survey  | 5,376              |
| Fish research (River fish age/source otolith analysis)            | 928                |
| Buoy construction share and installation                          | 21,577             |



|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Buoy maintenance/servicing expenses  | 6,752            |
| 2012 Angler Creel Survey   | 5,944            |
| Lagarosiphon Project   | 1,000            |
| Water Quality Monitoring Report  | 4,990            |
| Waikaremoana Buoy Maintenance  | 250              |
| 2014-15 Wairoa Catchment Access Investigations                                 | 5,204            |
| 2015-16 Survey Project   | 13,521           |
| Waikaremoana Buoy  | 2,560            |
| 2015-16 Wairoa Access work and brochure  | 2,920            |
| 2016-17 Survey, Monitoring and Access  | 12,010           |
| Waikaremoana Buoy  | 2,459            |
| Lowrance Transducer/Transceiver - Parera                                       | 7,129            |
| 2017-18 Survey and Monitoring  | 5,061            |
| 2018-19 Survey, Monitoring, Access and 1/3 <sup>rd</sup> share of Buoy repairs | 10,885           |
| 2019-20 Survey, Monitoring and Access  | 5,208            |
| 2020-21 Surveys, Access, Buoy Maintenance & Repairs                            | 6,930            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>\$160,912</b> |

### **3. Discussion**

#### **Overview of 2020-2021 Expenditure**

At its meeting in June 2020, Council approved funding of up to \$8,000 for the 2020-2021 OWP year from the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund for ongoing survey and monitoring of key spawning tributaries at Waikaremoana, the continuation of access related work within the Wairoa catchment, and buoy maintenance [20/06/11.3].

Of the \$8,000 funding approved for expenditure during the 2020-2021 OWP year if required, \$6,930 was ultimately drawn down from the Fund. The additional c.\$1k funding that had been approved was not utilised due to unprogrammed income having been generated from a contract with Genesis Energy in the latter part of the year for survey work. Reports on other activities undertaken at Waikaremoana during the year were reported in the bi-monthly Operational Reports provided in Council's 2020-21 agendas.

### **4. Recommendation**

#### ***4.1 That Council receives this update.***

## **13. 2020-2021 DRAFT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

**Ref: 8.03.04**

**13 October 2021**

### **1. Purpose**

To review the draft Statement of Service Performance report and draft Financial Statements for the 2020-2021 Performance (Annual) Report.

### **2. Background**

The finalised Performance Report for the 2020-2021 year will be presented to the public annual general meeting to be held on 9 December 2021 as per the requirement of Sections 26W and 26ZD(7) of the Conservation Act 1987.

The annual Performance Report contains a Statement of Service Performance (SOSP) so that readers can assess the performance of the Council against the targets set out in the 2020-2021 Operational Work Plan (OWP). The Performance Report aligns with the OWP to clearly show actual outcomes against targets identified in the annual work planning process.

The purpose of this paper is to enable early consideration of the material being developed for inclusion in the Performance Report. A draft of the SOSP has been prepared, along with draft unaudited Financial Statements, and these will have been circulated to Councillors prior to this meeting.

The reports will be revised after Council consideration and feedback from the independent external Auditor then compiled into the final Performance Report. This then needs to be approved at Council's 9 December 2021 meeting held immediately prior to the public annual general meeting where it will be presented to the public.

### **3. Addition of New Restricted Reserve**

In the final hours of Christmas day/early hours of Boxing Day 2019 a significant flooding event occurred at the hatchery site after torrential rain. The raceway water supply line was broken and left inoperative. The top rearing ponds were filled with debris, and flooding above the hatchery building resulted in debris accumulating behind the hatchery and washing through the loading bay and workshop area of the property.

The cost of immediate restoration of the water supply and clean up occurred within the 2019-2020 operational year with direct costs limited to some \$3,200. The real cost was in staff effort in the clean-up over the following weeks/months which required many man hours manually removing debris and sediment that had filled ponds and accumulated at the rear of the hatchery building. An insurance claim was lodged and accepted by Council's insurance provider offsetting the direct expenditure but also providing for the staff hours involved in the clean-up and restoration of the site. This portion of the claim (\$23,640) was subsequently accrued into the 2020-2021 financial year with the intention of utilising the funds to establish contingency water supply options to limit the potential loss of fish stock in the event of future flooding/erosion/sedimentation disasters.

Considerable effort over recent months has been put into identifying and assessing emergency water supply options, and a solution identified. Sourcing of materials and implementation planning is well underway but on the ground works are still a matter of several weeks away.

To date the Council has been fortunate with its insurance provider having covered three events, two related to landslips and this latest event a result of significant flooding. Following the landslip events, the remedial works undertaken then (exposed supply pipes lowered and buried, and shear points established to enable emergency redirection of water flow if required) greatly improved the security of the water supply below the headboxes. These measures have proven to be effective and this area was not damaged in the 2019 flooding event. However, following the earlier landslip events the insurer specifically excluded the area involved to just above the hatchery building for landslip coverage.

With weather events becoming increasingly unpredictable it is important that an alternate emergency water supply(ies) can be established to capture and redirect water should existing structures become damaged. Also prudent, is the establishment of a cash reserve to self-insure such events in the future.

A new reserve called “Hatchery Water Reticulation Reserve” has been incorporated into the draft 2020-2021 Financial Statements for the initial purpose of funding the proposed establishment of an emergency water supply, but also for the purpose of self-insuring the area against events of this nature in the future. The amount of \$23,640 has been transferred to open this reserve and it is suggested that future budgets provide for a small contribution to this reserve each year. As the budget is already confirmed for the 2021-2022 financial year the first instalment would need to be provided for in the 2022-2023 operational year.

**4. Recommendation:**

- 4.1 That Council supports the establishment of the proposed “Hatchery Water Reticulation Reserve” and approves the transfer of the insurance proceeds received from the 2019-2020 flooding event of \$23,640 to open the reserve.***
- 4.2 That Council receives the draft reports comprising the Statement of Service Performance and Financial Statements for the 2020-2021 year, and provides any feedback it might have on the drafts before the Performance Report for the 2020-2021 year is completed.***

## 14. DATES FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2022

Ref: 7.02.01

15 October 2021

### 1. Purpose

To set Council's 2022 meeting dates and venues, and provide feedback to the NZC on its draft 2021/22 Meeting and Budget Timetable.

### 2. Background

The Council is required to meet on at least six occasions between 1 February and 31 December each year. Due to a need to supply regional feedback to the New Zealand Council on important matters such as regulation and licence fee setting, the timing of these meetings needs to fit within a national schedule. Meetings are generally held at bi-monthly intervals in February, April, June, August, October and December to consider, amongst other items, the topics listed in the table below. Meetings have for some time been scheduled to take place on Thursday afternoons from 12 to 3pm at Eastern Fish and Game Council's offices in Rotorua.

Council needs to determine what dates it will meet on in 2022 taking into account the provisional 2021/22 Annual Timetable prepared by the NZC which is appended to this agenda item. Council may also wish to review the venue and time at which it meets.

The NZC has requested feedback on its draft schedule by 19 November 2021.

*Proposed meeting dates if Council continues to meet on a Thursday; proposed venue; and key issues for discussion. These are compatible with NZC's draft Meeting and Budget Timetable for 2021/22.*

|            | <b>Date</b>             | <b>Venue</b> | <b>Key Topics</b>   |
|------------|-------------------------|--------------|---|
| <b>1</b>   | <i>10 February 2021</i> | Rotorua      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Council Priorities</li></ul>  |
| <b>2</b>   | <i>7 April 2020</i>     | Rotorua      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• OWP - first draft plus bids proposed for contestable funds</li></ul>                          |
| <b>3</b>   | <i>9 June 2021</i>      | Rotorua      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Licence Fees</li><li>• OWP - second draft</li></ul>   |
| <b>4</b>   | <i>11 August 2021</i>   | Rotorua      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Finalise OWP</li></ul>  |
| <b>5</b>   | <i>6 October 2021</i>   | Rotorua      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Game Conditions - initial consideration</li><li>• Annual Performance Report - draft</li></ul> |
| <b>6</b>   | <i>8 December 2021</i>  | Rotorua      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Game Conditions - finalise recommendations</li></ul>  |
| <b>AGM</b> | <i>8 December 2021</i>  | Rotorua      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Present Annual Performance Report</li></ul>   |

### 3. Recommendation

**3.1** *That Council decides on the time, dates and locations at which it meets in 2022.*

**3.2** *That Council advises any feedback it wants communicated to the NZC on its draft meeting and budget timetable for 2021/22.*



**02 September 2021**

**TO: Regional Council Chairs and Managers**

**MEETING & BUDGET TIMETABLE 2021-22  
IMPORTANT DATES**

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**1. NZC Recommendation**

At the 154<sup>th</sup> meeting of the New Zealand Council the following decision was made. *That NZC:*

*1. Agree that the proposed NZC meeting dates for 2021-22 become:*

- *December 4<sup>th</sup> 2021 in Wellington*
- *February 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 2022 in Wellington*
- *April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> 2022 in Wellington*
- *June 16<sup>th</sup> 2022 by zoom at 7.00-9.00pm*
- *August 23<sup>rd</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> 2022 by zoom at 7.00pm- 9.00pm*
- *November 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> 2022 in Wellington*

*2. Agree that a Governors forum be held:*

- *February 19<sup>th</sup> in Wellington – (NZC & Chairs)*

*3. Agree that that managers meeting be held:*

- *28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 with joint meeting Friday 29<sup>th</sup>*

*4. Agree to consult with the regions on the proposed dates.*

*Note: These dates may be subject to change due to the Review.*

A meeting was also discussed for the 7<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> of October for the current New Zealand Council. This would be by zoom from 7pm to 9pm. This meeting will only be held if required.

**2. Background**

Each year a meeting schedule and key dates document is prepared for the New Zealand Council. This Document is then distributed to the Regional Councils for Consultation.

In the 2021/22 year, the budget for meetings for the NZC and managers has been significantly reduced in order to reduce costs. Of the 5 meetings that have been proposed for the NZC – 2

are Zoom meetings and the 3 are face to face. The meetings proposed are the minimum set out for the year. There will, however, be additional zoom meetings (dates to be finalised) relating to decision following the review.

Managers' meetings (by zoom) have been set a few weeks following an NZC meeting. The budget round Managers meeting held in April will be a face to face meeting with a joint meeting with the NZC set for 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022. Please note the intention for the managers meeting is to have a formal agenda and minutes taken.

Every effort has been made to hold these meetings at a time when decisions need to be made with regards licence fee recommendations and regulations.

### **3. Feedback**

Feedback is required on the attached schedule by **19<sup>th</sup> November 2021**.

Within this feedback can Regions please notify me of the meeting dates proposed for your Regional Council's for the 2021-22 year.



Carmel Veitch  
**CFO – NZC**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021**

## 2021/22 Annual Budget & Meeting Timetable – DRAFT Sent for Consultation 20 Sept 2021

Colour Key:

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
|  | Public Holidays      |
|  | NZ Council Meetings  |
|  | Meetings of Managers |
|  | NZGBHT Board         |
|  | Governors Meetings   |

| Month          | Date & Day   | Subject  |
|----------------|--|--|
| September 2021 | 1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday                            | New Financial Year for Fish & Game   |
| October 2021   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday                               | Sport Fishing Opening  |
|                | 7 <sup>th</sup> or 14 <sup>th</sup> Thursday         | NZ Council meeting by ZOOM 7-9pm (if required)                                 |
|                | 25 <sup>th</sup> Monday                              | Labour Day   |
|                | 26 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday                             | New Councillors take office  |
| November 2021  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Monday                               | High country sports fishing opening (Otago)                                    |
|                | 6 <sup>th</sup> Saturday                             | High country sports fishing opening (North Canterbury and CSI)                 |
|                | 11 <sup>th</sup> Thursday                            | Managers meeting 10-12.30 by Zoom  |
|                | 16 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday                             | Last day to have new Council meeting   |
| December 2021  | 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday                             | NZ Council meeting in Wellington – 1 <sup>st</sup> meeting of the new Council  |
|                | 25 <sup>th</sup> Saturday                            | Christmas Day  |
|                | 26 <sup>th</sup> Sunday                              | Boxing Day   |
|                | 27 <sup>th</sup> Monday                              | Christmas Day observed   |
|                | 28 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday                             | Boxing day observed  |
|                | 31 <sup>st</sup> Friday                              | All Annual meetings must be completed  |
|                | 31 <sup>st</sup> Friday                              | All Variance report and Reserves Schedules to CV - Finance                     |
| January 2022   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday                             | New Year's Day   |
|                | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday                               | New Year's Day observed  |
|                | 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday                              | Day after New Year's Day   |
|                | 21 <sup>nd</sup> Friday                              | CV to return summary of Variance Reports to Managers with queries              |
|                | 28 <sup>th</sup> Friday                              | Final Day for regulation details from Fish & Game Councils for Game Notice     |
| February 2022  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday                            | World Wetland Day, release of 2022 Habitat Stamp                               |
|                | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday                             | Managers meeting 10-12.30 by ZOOM  |
|                | 4 <sup>th</sup> Friday                               | Final circulation of Variance Reports to Managers                              |
|                | 4 <sup>th</sup> Friday                               | Draft Game Notice submission to DOC officials                                  |
|                | 7 <sup>th</sup> Monday                               | Waitangi Day – observed  |
|                | 18 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> Friday & Sunday | NZ Council meeting in Wellington   |
|                | 19 <sup>th</sup> Saturday                            | Governors – NZC and Chairs. Planning morning and Governance training afternoon |
|                | 15 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday                             | Adjust submission following consultation with DOC & submit to MOC              |
|                | 25 <sup>th</sup> Friday OR following week            | Publish Game Notice in NZ Gazette  |
| March 2022     | 10 <sup>th</sup> Thursday                            | Game Bird hunting licences go on sale  |
|                | 14 <sup>th</sup> Monday                              | Magazine Out (Game)  |

| Month                    | Date & Day  | Subject   |
|--------------------------|---|---|
|                          | 23 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday                              | Final date for receipt of draft budgets and contestable fund applications         |
| April 2022               | 8 <sup>th</sup> Friday                                  | Circulation of budgets, contestable funding applications and budget summaries     |
|                          | 10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday                                 | Mark-up or Pegging Day  |
|                          | 15 <sup>th</sup> Friday                                 | <b>Good Friday</b>  |
|                          | 17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday                                 | <b>Easter Sunday</b>  |
|                          | 18 <sup>th</sup> Monday                                 | <b>Easter Monday</b>  |
|                          | 25 <sup>th</sup> Monday                                 | <b>Anzac Day observed</b>   |
|                          | 28 <sup>th</sup> Thursday                               | <b>Meeting of Managers in Wellington</b>  |
|                          | 29 <sup>th</sup> Friday                                 | <b>Joint NZ Council &amp; Managers Meeting in Wellington</b>                      |
|                          | 30 <sup>th</sup> Saturday                               | <b>NZ Council Meeting in Wellington</b>   |
| May 2022                 |   |   |
|                          | 7 <sup>th</sup> Saturday                                | GameBird Season Opening   |
| June 2022                |   |   |
|                          | 6 <sup>th</sup> Monday                                  | <b>Queen's Birthday</b>   |
|                          | 15 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday                              | Final date for receipt of Fish & Game regional responses to licence fee proposals |
|                          | 16 <sup>th</sup> Thursday evening                       | <b>NZ Council Meeting – ZOOM 7pm to 9pm</b>                                       |
|                          | 20 <sup>th</sup> Monday                                 | Draft licence fee submission to DOC officials                                     |
|                          | 24 <sup>th</sup> Friday                                 | Final Day for regulation details from Fish & Game Councils for Anglers Notice     |
|                          | 24 <sup>th</sup> Friday                                 | Matariki  |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday | Final Day for submissions for NZGBHT Grant applications |   |
| July 2022                | 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday                                  | Draft Anglers Notice submission to DOC officials                                  |
|                          | 7 <sup>th</sup> Thursday                                | <b>Managers meeting 10-12.30pm by ZOOM</b>  |
|                          | 8 <sup>th</sup> Friday                                  | Adjust Anglers Notice submission following DOC consultation & submit to MOC       |
|                          | 12 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday                                | Send out grant submissions to GBHT Board members                                  |
|                          | 20 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday                              | GBHT Board Zoom 11am  |
|                          | 26 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday                                | Publish Anglers Notice in NZ Gazette  |
| August 2022              | 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday                                | Managers meeting 10-12.30pm ZOOM  |
|                          | 18 <sup>th</sup> Thursday                               | Sports Fishing Licences go on sale  |
|                          | 26 <sup>th</sup> Monday                                 | Magazine out (Fish)   |
|                          | 19 <sup>th</sup> Friday                                 | <b>GBHT Board Meeting in Christchurch</b>   |
|                          | 23 <sup>rd</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday & Thursday  | <b>NZ Council Meeting by Zoom 7pm to 9pm</b>                                      |
|                          | 31 <sup>st</sup> Monday                                 | <b>End of Financial Year Fish &amp; Game</b>                                      |
| September 2022           |   |   |
|                          | 8 <sup>th</sup> Thursday                                | <b>Managers meeting 10-12.30pm by ZOOM</b>  |
| October 2022             | 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday                                | Sport Fishing Opening   |
|                          | 24 <sup>th</sup> Monday                                 | <b>Labour Day</b>   |
| November 2022            |   |   |
|                          | 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday                                 | Back country sports fishing opening (Otago)                                       |
|                          |   |   |
|                          | 5 <sup>th</sup> Saturday                                | Back country sports fishing opening (North Canterbury and CSI)                    |
|                          | 25 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup> Friday - Saturday   | <b>NZ Council Meeting – Wellington</b>  |



**Recommendation:**

1. Agree that the proposed NZ Council meeting dates for 2021/22 become:
  - 7<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021 by zoom 7-9pm – (existing Council– if required)
  - December 4<sup>th</sup> 2021 in Wellington – 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of New Council
  - February 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> In Wellington 2022
  - April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> 2022 in Wellington
  - June 16<sup>th</sup> 2022 by ZOOM at 7.00-9.00pm
  - August 23<sup>rd</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> 2022 by zoom at 7.00pm- 9.00pm
  - November 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> 2022 in Wellington
2. Agree that a Governors forum be held:
  - February 19<sup>th</sup> in Wellington – (NZC & Chairs)
3. Agree that that managers meeting be held:
  - 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 with joint meeting Friday 29<sup>th</sup>
4. These dates may be subject to change due to the Review.
5. Agree that these dates go out to Regions for consultation.

Notes:

- the June dates of 16<sup>th</sup> June will require regional Fish and Game Council June meeting dates to fall prior to 16<sup>th</sup> June to feed into a NZ Council recommendation.
- that a licence fee submission to the Minister of Conservation should be prepared in anticipation of a 16<sup>th</sup> June recommendation and sent Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June.

## **15. REGIONAL STRUCTURE REVIEW**

**Ref: 8.04.00**

**18 October 2021**

### **1. Purpose**

To review feedback from Eastern Fish and Game Councillors on the matters raised by the NZC's Regional Structure Review Project Team.

### **2. Background**

The email dated 15 October 2021 from the Eastern Region Manager to all Councillors refers, along with the consultation document from the Chair of the Regional Structure Review Project Team which was attached to that and is appended below.

Cr Ngahi Bidois has collated and summarised the responses he has received to date from outgoing and incoming Councillors, and these have been emailed to you for consideration prior to being forwarded on to the Review Team

13 October 2021

To: All Chairs and Chief Executives of Fish and Game Councils and NZ Fish and Game Council

### **Input into review of future regional structure of Fish and Game Councils**

The Structure Review project team is currently seeking feedback on the Ministerial Governance Review regarding the future regional structure of Fish and Game Councils.

At this point we are looking at doing the consultation in at least three stages:

- initial feedback sought on the questions below from an operational and governance perspective (followed by a zoom meeting with a representative delegation of council/staff to provide clarity);
- a second chance in mid-November to respond to initial feedback and deliberations; and progress will be reported to the NZ Council meeting in December 2021;
- A draft report will developed by mid-February and further feedback sought.

We will come back to you if there are any changes to this timetable.

### **Background**

The Ministerial Governance Review confirmed the appropriateness of the regional based system. However the Review also recommended that the organisational configuration be changed to a total of six fish and game regions (three in the North Island and three in the South Island). The principal drivers for the recommendation were efficiencies in operational activities, improved effectiveness, and prudent allocation of resources.

The six-region NZ model appeared to be set rather arbitrarily but this is the option that is currently on the table. The Implementation Group has asked us to objectively develop the best proposed structure for moving forward based on an open slate.

This is your chance to provide your input for defining a modern, sustainable configuration for the next 20 years. The Minister has asked that the Implementation Group and now the Structure Review project team to provide recommendations on this, therefore we are seeking your Council's feedback. We need your knowledge and expertise to update the overall organisational structure while retaining the strengths of local involvement.

With these factors in mind, can you please respond to the questions below.

- 1. What does your Council consider the best regional organisational structure moving forward for the next 20 years:**
  - a. for the overall organisation (i.e. number of regions and broad boundaries)**
  - b. with particular reference to your region?**

**In both cases please provide feedback from an operational perspective and governance perspective.**

The Implementation Group has requested the Structure Review project team to provide supporting objective evidence as to why a particular alternative is preferred to the six-region structure recommended to the Minister. These are alluded to in the Terms of Reference - you already have a copy of this document.

**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:**

- **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**

In reviewing the regions, there is an appreciation of the unique character of regions that are important to retain.

**3. What are the key elements or principles that you want to see retained in your region?**

- **e.g. Focus on wetland ownership and management**
- **e.g. Visibility in community/relevance**

While the Structure Review project team can come up with suggested permutations that work in theory – there may be practical or other considerations that need to be taken into account that would not make certain configurations practical.

**4. Can you provide views on what constraints or impediments to amalgamations that should be taken into account.**

### **Next Steps**

We are keen to get your feedback on the questions set out above within two weeks (i.e. by 28 October 2021).

We recognise this is very tight but as you can see the timeframes given to the Structure Review project team are ambitious.

There will be further opportunities for you to express your views (including a meeting with each region) – but early feedback on the above questions will help us to distill the key elements for consideration as we look at potential options.

The project team also appreciates that these topics have no doubt been well debated within your region so it's a further chance to formalise your views. It is also acknowledged that the positions of your existing Council might differ from the Council declared after the election – but you will have an opportunity in mid-November to refine governance positions.

It is anticipated and encouraged to have an operational and governance perspective from each Council – so it would be entirely appropriate to have commentaries of different focus and potentially separate responses.

There is still an opportunity to shape the organisation moving forward into the next decades – and this is it.

Please send your feedback to the project team chair at [david@concept.co.nz](mailto:david@concept.co.nz)

David Hunt  
Chair  
Structure Review Project Team

## **16. SPECIES MONITORING REPORTS**

**Ref: 1.01.06, 1.01.08**

**14 October 2021**

### **1. Purpose**

To receive the report summaries for the 2020-21 Summer Creel Survey, and the 2021 National Shoveler Count.

### **2. Background**

The Council annually resources a number of key species management programmes to assess and monitor sports fish and game populations and the success rate and degree of satisfaction of users of the sports fish and game resource. The information collected from these programmes enables the Council to make informed decisions on species management to ensure sustainable populations are maintained for recreational harvest, for staff to use to advocate for habitat protection, and for other agencies such as Regional Councils to assess the effects of environmental changes on biological systems. A copy of the full reports for the 2020-21 Summer Creel Survey and the 2021 National Shoveler Count (less appendices) are available in this meeting's Papers for Information.

### **3. Report Summaries**

#### **3.1 Executive Summary for the 2020-2021 Rotorua Lakes Summer Creel Survey**

The Council runs a number of long term species monitoring programmes that are used to assess the state of the fisheries in key lakes and develop strategies or responses to various issues and external factors that may be affecting the fisheries. The creel surveys are great examples of angler and fishery surveys that provide a wide range of information on high-use fisheries, and allow us to effectively monitor the effect of management actions and provide sound data for informed decision making on angler issues. Fishery monitoring provides a valuable top-down assessment of productivity changes in lakes and accordingly has relevance to other agencies' water quality actions in the Rotorua lakes. The summer creel survey is a key species monitoring tool for Council, and provides us with an opportunity to monitor angler participation and satisfaction and undertake compliance work in addition to monitoring the fishery itself.

#### **Lake Rotoiti**

Anglers fishing Lake Rotoiti over the 2020-21 summer experienced poorer catch rates compared to the 2019-20 summer. Catch rates equalled the past ten-year average (0.30 fish/hr). Deeper fishing methods were most successful with jigging (62% use) producing highest catch rates followed by lead line trolling (22% use). Overall, the 2020-21 average sized fish was smaller and lighter than the 2019-20 fish but a lower percentage of older fish were encountered. The spring released rising 2-year-olds were larger compared to their same aged counterparts from the 2019-20 summer. Angler satisfaction was significantly lower than that recorded during the 2019-20 summer ( $P < 0.001$ ) but nevertheless 92% of anglers stated they were satisfied with their summer's fishing on Lake Rotoiti.

### **Lake Tarawera**

Lake Tarawera anglers surveyed over the 2020-21 summer experienced catch rates that were significantly better than those recorded during the 2019-20 summer ( $P=0.008$ ). The average fish measured was slightly shorter (1mm) and lighter (10g) but in better condition than the average 2019-20 summer fish. The largest fish on average were caught jigging (49% use) followed by lead line trolling (22%) and downrigger trolling (14% use). Angler satisfaction was better than that recorded during the 2019-20 summer with 93% of anglers interviewed stating they were satisfied with their 2020-21 summer's fishing on Lake Tarawera.

### **Lake Rotorua**

Anglers fishing Lake Rotorua over the 2020-21 summer experienced higher catch rates than anglers who fished the 2019-20 summer. Spin fishing proved most rewarding (2% use) followed by shallow trolling (50% use) and fly fishing (9% use). The average sized rainbow trout caught during the 2020-21 summer was 1mm shorter but significantly heavier (100g,  $P<0.001$ ) and in significantly better condition than the average 2019-20 summer fish ( $P<0.001$ ). Anglers' satisfaction was up on that recorded during the 2019-20 summer with 100% of anglers interviewed advising they were satisfied with their 2020-21 summer's fishing on Lake Rotorua.

### **Lake Okataina**

Lake Okataina anglers surveyed over the 2020-21 summer experienced poorer catch rates compared to those observed over the 2019-20 summer. Downrigger trolling, which made up 6% of use, produced the best catch rates, followed by jigging (60% use) and then lead line trolling (33% use). The average fish caught over the 2020-21 summer was of the same length but significantly lighter than those recorded during the 2019-20 summer ( $P=0.001$ ). Angler satisfaction remained unchanged with all anglers surveyed stating they were satisfied with their angling during the 2020-21 summer on Lake Okataina.

## **3.2 Summary for the 2021 National Shoveler Count**

Fish and Game New Zealand conducted a national count of kuruwhengi, shoveler duck (*Anas rhynchos*) on 9 August 2021. This is the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual count (2000 – 2021) aimed at monitoring change in the New Zealand population. Count day coincided with a strong, cold southerly storm across the country causing difficult counting conditions for surveyors. These poor weather conditions may have contributed to the lower-than-normal total count. A total of 10,342 shoveler duck were counted at 244 sites (cf. 2020, 11,325 shoveler at 240 sites) and was the lowest total count since 2010.

Population change was examined using two methods: (i) a variant of the Route Regression method (Geissler and Sauer 1990), and (ii) totals from 75 sites that have been counted each year for the 22 years. Over the 22 years the population at all the sites counted appears to have been stable, (percentage change = -0.2%; 95% Bayesian Credible Interval (BCI) -1.2 – 0.8;  $n=242$ ). Short term (2020-2021) modelling indicates the population has decreased (mean = -17.7%; -33 – 1.2, 95% BCI;  $n=228$ ). The 2021 total count for sites that have been counted every year ( $n=75$ ) was 16% below the average (period 2000 – 2019), but was similar to last year's count (5,297 cf. 5,201 in 2020). The long-term trend at these 75 sites indicates no linear change over the last 22 years ( $\beta_{yr}=70.38$ ,  $t=1.45$ ,  $P=0.163$ ).

Sex ratios were examined using a chi-squared test. Males were significantly more numerous ( $P < 0.0001$ ) with a ratio of 1.69 males to female. This sex imbalance is consistent with counts in previous years (1.58 males to females).

The influence of count day weather on the shoveler count ( $n=4142$ ; 2000–2021) was examined but the results were inconclusive.

The survey is an index of population change. Count sites were not randomly selected so inference about national shoveler populations is left to the reader. In future staff are encouraged to record shoveler habitat (name and grid reference, i.e. where shoveler are observed). This data could form the basis for a shoveler habitat database to improve survey design.

**4. Recommendation**

**4.1 *That Council receives the summaries for the 2020-21 Summer Creel Survey and the 2021 National Shoveler Count.***



## **17. LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS**

### **17.1 Reports from Other Agencies**

- Department of Conservation
- Te Arawa Lakes Trust

### **17.2 Report from New Zealand Council**

## 19. PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

Ref: 7.02.03, 9.01.03

17 October 2021

### 1. Purpose

To confirm the minutes of Council's Public Excluded Session at its meeting on 5 August 2021.

### 2. Background

Council went into a Public Excluded Session on 5 August to:

- (i) discuss Eastern Fish and Game Council's self appraisal of its performance and other confidential matters.
- (ii) To complete the manager's performance review.

### 3. Recommendations

**3.1** *That pursuant to Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the public be excluded at ... pm from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely to confirm the minutes for its Public Excluded Session on 5 August 2021.*

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

| <b>GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED</b>   | <b>REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER</b>                | <b>GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION</b> |
|--|---|---|
| Minutes relating to discussion on the Council's performance review and other related matters, and review of the Manager's performance. | Good reason to withhold exists under section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 | Section 48(1)(a)(ii)  |

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

| <b>ITEM</b>  | <b>REASON UNDER ACT</b> | <b>SECTION</b>   | <b>PLAIN ENGLISH REASON</b>  |
|--|-------------------------|--|--|
| Protect the privacy of natural persons.  | Sec. 9(2)(a)            | Information provided identifies a particular person or can easily be connected with a particular person.   | Once the person to whom the information relates consents to its disclosure.      |
| Protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence ... where the making available of the information would be likely to | Sec 9(2)(ba)(i)         | Disclosing the information would jeopardise the relationship with the supplier because the supplier may no | Not unless there is a public interest in disclosure of the specific information. |

|  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied. |  | longer trust the Council to hold its information in confidence. |  |
|--|--|---|--|

**Note:**

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

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

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

## **20. FAREWELL TO DEPARTING COUNCILLORS AND AN HONORARY RANGER**

**Ref: 7.02.03**

**17 October 2021**

### **1. Purpose**

To acknowledge the commitment and contribution of those members of Council whose term in office has now concluded, and the resignation of a longstanding Honorary Ranger.

### **2. Background**

The changeover in Council has resulted in the departure of five Councillors. Barry Roderick has served on Council for seven terms (21 years) since 2000, and was Chair of the Council from 2005 to 2014. David Woolner has been a Councillor since 2015 and Chair for the past three years. Laurance Tamati and Alan Baird have also been members of Council for the past six years commencing 2015, and Adam Rayner for the past three years.

Mike Jarvie has been an honorary ranger for the Eastern Fish and Game Council for more than 16 years having received his warrant in May 2005 and been an active honorary until September this year.

### **3. Recommendation**

***3.1 That Council acknowledges and records its appreciation for the contributions Crs Barry Roderick, David Woolner, Laurance Tamati, Alan Baird, and Adam Rayner have made to Fish & Game NZ, and the Eastern Region in particular as members of Council; and for the contribution Mike Jarvie has made as an Eastern Region Honorary Ranger.***