



**EASTERN
FISH AND GAME COUNCIL**

***MEETING
AGENDA***

11 August 2022

AGENDA

The 197th Meeting of the Eastern Fish and Game Council

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

Date: Thursday, 11 August 2022

Commences: 11.00 AM

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R = resolution required, D = for discussion/advice, I = for information only

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE 196th MEETING OF THE EASTERN FISH
AND GAME COUNCIL, HELD AT THE ROTORUA OFFICES OF FISH & GAME
NEW ZEALAND ON THURSDAY 9th JUNE 2022 AT 12.00PM**

Present

Crs Ngahi Bidois, Murray Ferris, Jay Tapsell, Kevin Coutts, Debbie Oakley, Ken Coombes, Lindsay Lyons, Mike Jarvie, Alan Simmons, and Mark Sceats.

IN ATTENDANCE

Arash Alaeinia, Andy Garrick, Kate Thompson, Matthew Osborne, Anthony Van Dorp, Matt McDougall, Eben Herbert (Eastern Fish & Game); Carmel Veitch (New Zealand Fish and Game Council); and Barry Roderick.

1.0 WELCOME AND KARAKIA

1.1 Cr Ngahi Bidois (Chairman) opened the meeting at 12.10pm and invited Cr Jay Tapsell to perform the opening karakia. Ngahi then welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished to acknowledge the momentous occasion of farewelling Andy Garrick and welcoming Arash Alaeinia.

APOLOGIES

2.1 Apologies were received from Crs Geoff Thomas and Scott Nicol.

2.2 *Agreed (Mark Sceats/Debbie Oakley) that the apologies for the 196th meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [22/06/2.2]*

3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (7 APRIL 2022)

3.1 *Agreed (Mike Jarvie/Murray Ferris) that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 April 2022 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [22/06/3.1]*

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 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 7 April 2022.

6.0 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR GENERAL BUSINESS

- Cr Murray Ferris - Acknowledgement
- Cr Lindsay Lyons - Meeting duration

7.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

7.1 Councillors were asked to inform the chair of any conflicts of interest. No conflicts of interest were recorded.

8.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

8.1 *Health and Safety Report* – Arash Alaeinia commented on the good report and the positive history in terms of Health & Safety. After discussions with Andy, he acknowledged that there is opportunity for ongoing improvement to systems and processes which he was keen to continue.

8.2 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Lindsay Lyons) that Council receives the Health and Safety report. [22/06/8.2]*

- 8.3 *Finance Report – No questions*
- 8.4 *Agreed (Debbie Oakley/Mark Sceats) that Council receives the Finance Report and approves payments for March and April 2022 totalling \$212,442.08. [22/06/8.4]*
- 8.5 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Mike Jarvie) that Council approves the request for a new credit card facility to be applied for in the name of Arash Alaeinia, Chief Executive, with an approved spending limit of \$3,000. [22/06/8.5]*
- 8.6 *Agreed (Debbie Oakley/Mark Sceats) that Council approves the replacement of Andy Garrick with Arash Alaeinia, Chief Executive as signatory to Westpac and Bank of New Zealand bank accounts. [22/06/8.6]*
- 8.7 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Mike Jarvie) that Council approves the other signatories to the Westpac and Bank of New Zealand bank accounts being Kate Thompson, Office Manager, Nerida Evans, Office Administrator, and Carmel Veitch, Accountant. [22/06/8.7]*
- 8.8 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Jay Tapsell) that the signing rules for the Council's bank accounts and online banking facilities will comprise a combination of any two of the named signatories. All signatories will, however, be authorised to make enquiries on bank accounts and term investments independently. [22/06/8.8]*
- 8.9 Andy Garrick provided a brief background to the ballot holder Habitat Management Fee and its purpose in contributing to some of the habitat works required in the reserves where the ballot holder's hunt. He advised that this year some of the required habitat work in the reserves had been undertaken by another agency which meant that the habitat fees collected were not utilised. He said that because those fees were collected in good faith from licence holders, we felt it appropriate to carry over/accrue the unspent portion into a dedicated reserve for works in the year following and this could provide additional resourcing for work that could not have otherwise been undertaken in one year with the limited funds available.
- 8.10 Cr Mike Jarvie queried what would occur if the fees collected were not used in the year following? Andy Garrick advised that it is unusual not to have used them this year but there were some projects that require considerably more than we derive from the habitat fees in one year and next year there may well be a project that warrants the additional funds available.
- 8.11 Cr Lindsay Lyons commented on several hides not currently being utilised and whether it was worth spraying in these areas? Matt McDougall responded advising that these unused hides were not included in the spray programme.
- 8.12 Cr Debbie Oakley questioned whether Council should consider applying a maximum level for this reserve, for example \$10,000. Andy Garrick suggested that if this situation arises again next year, then this is something that could be contemplated then as he didn't believe it would be a regular occurrence. Ngahi Bidois suggested that Council reconsider this suggestion next year if unspent funds were to increase.
- 8.13 Arash Alaeinia queried the sum collected each year. Kate Thompson advised approximately \$6,000 was collected each year and currently a very small amount was carried over unofficially. She supported the establishment of a reserve so that licence holders who pay the habitat fee can see that it's not being absorbed within the general funds and that their contributions were being put back into the maintenance of the balloted reserves as they were originally intended.
- 8.14 *Agreed (Mark Sceats/Mike Jarvie) that Council supports the establishment of a 'Dedicated Reserve' for Ballot Holder Habitat Fees to ensure that unspent funds from one season are earmarked for habitat works in future seasons. [22/06/8.14]*

- 8.15 *Management Report* – Cr Mike Jarvie wished to know whether damage to the floodgate in the Awaiti reserve by contractors had been repaired at their cost? Andy Garrick was unable to answer as John Meikle was dealing with the issue, but he understood it was the Regional Council undertaking the work there. Cr Ngahi Bidois asked Andy to follow up on this for Mike’s information.
- 8.16 Cr Mark Sceats asked if staff could provide an update on the situation at Waikaremoana. Anthony Van Dorp advised that he and Matt Osborne had been undertaking work in Waikaremoana this week and noted that angler use appeared to be very light presently, but the fishing was very good. Mark queried why anglers were not returning. Anthony was not aware but commented on the Hopurahine access road which was currently in a poor state needing some maintenance but advised that access via Mokau was alright. He said that over summer there had been reduced angler numbers and believed the camping restrictions and issues with the huts were likely to be contributing factors.
- 8.17 *Licence Sales Report* – Cr Murray Ferris felt that the licence sales performance was looking pretty good considering the potential for negative impacts from Covid. Cr Ngahi Bidois also commented on the number of Auckland anglers that he had encountered at the Awahou Stream mouth recently.
- 8.18 Cr Ngahi Bidois confirmed that Council had received the Management and Licence Sales reports.

9.0 2022-23 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN

- 9.1 Arash Alaeinia informed Council that this 2nd draft of the 2022-23 Operational Work Plan once accepted at today’s meeting would be shared with other stakeholders for comment before final consideration and approval was needed at the August meeting of Council.
- 9.2 Cr Lindsay Lyons highlighted an issue with the wording of the second priority bullet point which reads “Increasing revenue – through increasing participation (as opposed to increasing licence fees) and developing alternative sources of income”. While the intention of the wording was to look at other sources of revenue in preference to increasing licence fees it was acknowledged that it is not clear and highlights the expectation that licence fees will not increase for which there are no guarantees. Arash Alaeinia suggested removing the words “as opposed to increasing licence fees” from the priority to remove this ambiguity.
- 9.3 *Agreed (Mike Jarvie/Murray Ferris) that Council approves the second draft of the 2022-23 Operational Work Plan subject to the proposed amendment to the ‘Increasing Revenue’ priority detailed above, and approves its circulation to other parties for comment. [20/06/9.3]***

10.0 2022-2023 LICENCE FEES

- 10.1 There was considerable debate over the proposal to increase licence fees. Matters discussed included the following:
- Perceived value of the licence to hunters of this Region who are subject to more restrictive season conditions than other Regions e.g. many of those in the South Island.
 - It’s difficult to justify the same fees across an organisation where environments and resources are so different- though it was noted that licences purchased in one region can be used in all others with the exception of the Taupo fishery.

- Will more opportunity through more relaxed regulations, make licence holders hunt more?
 - We cannot be compared with South Island regions where hunter density is low and duck numbers high, it is the total opposite in the Eastern Region where the resource is very limited.
 - Positive comments on social media about local management of duck populations and successful opening weekend.
 - Would be useful to consider family and local area Game Bird licences, and how these might impact revenue.
 - Targeting the wrong market with these licence prices, we should be aiming to get the younger generation into the sport.
 - The younger generation will readily pay \$145 for a sweatshirt.
 - Inflation is at an all-time high, as seen with price increases at the supermarkets.
 - People are hurting now and may start buying shorter term licences, or not buy a licence at all on principle.
 - The cost to those who buy a Taupo and Fish & Game licence.
 - Fish & Game licences cover all of NZ and there is a local area licence available at a reduced fee for those who wish to fish in one Fish & Game region only.
- 10.2 Cr Lindsay Lyons expressed concern over the level of the licence fee increase considering some significant financial reserves he was aware of being held in regions across the country. He felt it more appropriate to cut costs rather than increase licence fees.
- 10.3 Cr Debbie Oakley advised that once the responses were received from all regions the New Zealand Council was then tasked with making the final decision based on those responses and what is best for the organisation. She compared the organisation to a business where presently there is insufficient income to support the activities. The costs will not go down unless we remove something, so what are we going to stop doing to reduce costs? We need to understand that we are running a business, we need to create more income, to continue or try to create other revenue opportunities but now we need to consider how we are going to meet our expense budgets. The recommendation to the Minister needs to be supported with a very strong reason to increase licence fees.
- 10.4 Arash Alaeinia commented on the work put into establishing the proposed fees, noting that the increase is not about increasing profit it is about maintaining the work that we are currently doing and being able to continue doing that. He said life has become more expensive, than five years ago. People that are interested in an activity will pay if they feel they are getting value for money. We need to create an environment where people enjoy the experience, so they are prepared to come back. He asked that Council make an informed decision based on the environment we are in and the realities of other events happening in the world that we are also a part of.
- 10.5 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Mark Sceats) that Council supports the proposed licence fees for 2022-2023 of \$145 (GST inclusive) for the Adult Whole Season Fishing Licence, and \$107 (GST inclusive) for the Adult Season Game licence (which includes \$5 for the Game Bird Habitat Trust), with proportional changes to remaining licence fee categories including a \$5 fee being added to the sea run salmon endorsement. [22/06/10.5] Motion passed 4 in favour 3 against and 3 abstained. Crs Alan Simmons and Lindsay Lyons asked for their vote against this motion to be recorded.***
- 10.6 Council went on to consider the proposal to draw \$500,000 from regional reserves to fund the implementation of the Ministerial Review. Cr Murray Ferris understood that

from the outset the Department of Conservation said Fish & Game needed to undertake this review and that Mervyn English had indicated that the department could pay for it so questioned now why Fish & Game was not going back to the Department of Conservation to fund this? Cr Debbie Oakley advised that there was no formal paper written on this proposal as it was a last-minute addition to the New Zealand Council agenda. Realising that with a new CE coming on board and limited staff numbers in the New Zealand Council office, the question came about 'who was going to undertake this work?' Debbie commented that the Department of Conservation had been approached to fund the implementation work, but that request had been declined.

10.7 Cr Lindsay Lyons informed Council that the Director-General of Conservation had originally approved \$500,000 to get the review underway but acknowledged that wouldn't be sufficient to complete the process. He suggested that the New Zealand Council write to the new Director-General, Penny Nelson, advising that we are initiating this review as per the Minister's request and now require additional funding to progress the implementation of the review.

10.8 ***Agreed (Mark Sceats/Ken Coombes) that Council supports the NZC's proposal to draw \$500,000 from regional reserves to fund the implementation of the Ministerial Review. [22/06/10.8] Motion passed 8 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstained.***

10.9 ***Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Mike Jarvie) that Council requests that the New Zealand Council write to Penny Nelson, Director-General of the Department of Conservation seeking funding for the ongoing costs relating to the implementation of the Fish and Game Governance Review which we understand to be in the order of \$500,000. [22/06/10.9]***

10.10 The proposal to increase the non-resident licence fee was considered and the following comments were made:

- When non-resident licences were introduced, many non-residents started using residential addresses to avoid the higher fee.
- Lodges may be able to extract those sorts of fees but for small guides attracting everyday anglers from overseas will be a real struggle.
- South Island regions where the pressure on fisheries from international anglers is significant are using it as a tool to restrict numbers and it will do that. We don't have that pressure up here.
- One of our operational work plan objectives is to investigate ways to increase licence sales to non-resident anglers. Increasing the licence fee is not going to do that.
- This is approximately a 35% increase for international anglers. 40% of our tourism market is from Australia. Kiwis can go to Australia and not face any penalty for being an overseas angler.

10.11 Andy Garrick understood the focus to be on back country waters in the South Island which were popular with resident and non-resident anglers alike. He noted that no work had been done to identify what effects this increase might have on other regions' fisheries, e.g. Eastern's lakes' fishery.

10.12 ***Agreed (Ken Coombes/Kevin Coutts) that Council does not support the NZC's proposal to increase the non-resident licence fee to \$250 for the 2022-2023 Season and recommends that this proposal is reviewed by the licence working group to determine potential impacts on revenue before an increase of this level is considered. [22/06/10.12]***

10.13 Arash Alaeinia informed Council that there are currently no designated waters in the Eastern region and no plans to create any are being considered at this time. The

proposal on the table for a Designated Waters Licence was again an approach by South Island regions, not to increase revenue but, to reduce pressure on sensitive waters.

10.14 Andy Garrick added that it is recognised that there are pressure sensitive fisheries that warrant some additional controls, there is a process underway which has had a lot of resources and effort go into it to do this, and this needs to be seen through to completion.

10.15 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Kevin Coutts) that Council does not support the NZC's proposal to introduce a Designated Waters Licence available as a free season endorsement for resident anglers and as a day licence costing \$50 for non-resident anglers; and does not have any Eastern region waterways if wishes to recommend be classified as a Designated Water for the 2022-2023 Season. [22/06/10.15]*

11.0 ANGLERS NOTICE REVIEW

11.1 No additional feedback or correspondence had been received since the April meeting of Council regarding the 2022-2023 Anglers Notice.

11.2 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Mark Sceats) that Council confirms its recommendations relating to the 2022-2023 Anglers Notice made at its April meeting and approves these being forwarded to the New Zealand Council office for communication to the Minister of Conservation. In doing so this concludes the Anglers Notice Review process for the 2022-2023 Season. [22/06/11.2]*

12.0 SENSITIVE EXPENDITURE POLICY UPDATE

12.1 Council received the updated Sensitive Expenditure Policy. Kate Thompson pointed out two further adjustments to be undertaken, the first to Appendix V where any reference to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council will be replaced with Eastern Fish and Game Council, and the second to Appendix VI where numbers 5 and 6 referring to reimbursement of phone, stationery, and postage expenses for the New Zealand Council Chair should be removed.

12.2 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Mark Sceats) that Council approves the 2022 Sensitive Expenditure Policy update including the two further changes noted above relating to reference to the New Zealand Council, and reimbursement of expenses to the New Zealand Council Chair. [22/06/12.2]*

13.0 LIAISON OFFICER REPORTS

13.1 *Report from the New Zealand Council*

Cr Debbie Oakley provided an update from the New Zealand Council (NZC).

- Carina Jordon, new CEO for the New Zealand Council commences 1 August 2022.
- Wildlife Act to be rewritten, Greg Duley and Brian Anderton nominated for panel.
- The Remuneration Committee continues its work with Strategic Pay with current focus on aligning regions with appropriate and consistent pay scales.
- Interviews to occur for the role of Communications Manager for the New Zealand Council replacing Steve Doughty.
- Next meeting for NZC is via zoom on 16 June 2022 where main task is to ratify 2022-23 budgets.
- The Review Implementation Strategy Group is working on a public consultation document on the Ministerial Review prepared for the Minister. An update will be provided to the Minister about the review progress to date and changes required to legislation to enable the merging of regions.
- Governance training was undertaken at last NZC meeting in Wellington, and it is intended to roll this out to all regional Fish and Game Councils.

- Discussions about 3-year organisational plans and budgeting.
- Review distribution of licence revenue and where reserves sit. Need a strategic plan for this which will go out for consultation.
- Appointment of replacement for Andy Garrick on the Taupo Fishery Advisory Committee. NZC Chair Ray Grubb had volunteered for this, and it was decided that Matt Osborne (EFGC) should also be involved.
- Consistency in Policies within the organisation e.g. Sensitive Expenditure Policy

Cr Ngahi Bidois thanked Debbie Oakley for all of her hard work and her representation of Eastern Fish & Game at the New Zealand Council table, and Carmel Veitch for her role as well.

14.0 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

14.1 *Agreed (Ngahi Bidois/Ken Coombes) that pursuant to Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the public be excluded at 2.05pm from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely, to approve draft meeting minutes and analyse structural review options for the Eastern Fish & Game Council. [22/06/14.1]*

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

GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED	REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER	GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION
Confirmation of public excluded minutes from Council meetings on 9 December 2021 and 7 April 2022.	Good reason to withhold exists under section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982	Section 48(1)(a)(i)
Critically assess structural review options for the Eastern Fish & Game Council.	Good reason to withhold exists under section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982	Section 48(1)(a)(ii): That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would likely to result in disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.

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:

ITEM	REASON UNDER ACT	SECTION	PLAIN ENGLISH REASON
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 prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the	Sec 9(2)(ba)(i)	Disclosing the information would jeopardise the relationship with the supplier because the supplier may no longer trust the Council to	Not unless there is a public interest in disclosure of the specific information.

same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.		hold its information in confidence.	
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Note:

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

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

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

14.2 *Agreed (Kevin Coutts/Murray Ferris) that Council moves the planned discussion on the structural review options for Eastern Fish and Game Council out of Public Excluded to the full public meeting. [22/06/14.2]*

14.3 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Kevin Coutts) that Council moves out of public excluded at 2.15 pm. [22/06/14.3]*

14.4 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Jay Tapsell) that the public be re-admitted to the meeting at 2.16pm. [22/06/14.4]*

15.0 STRUCTURAL REVIEW

15.1 Cr Ngahi Bidois provided an overview of the process to date and detailed how the proposal for the seven regions, rather than the recommended six regions, had come about i.e. Eastern Region to stand alone rather than form part of the proposed mega region with the current Auckland\Waikato and Northland regions.

15.2 Ngahi informed Council that when he attended the NZC meeting in Wellington in April, he had advised them that he had no mandate to speak on behalf of the Eastern Council as the Council had not been fully consulted on the outcomes proposed in this final report. He had been given the impression that there was still time to do this by the NZC Chair and in fact there were months left to do this. Ngahi confirmed that the New Zealand Council supported the seven-region scenario being put out for consultation.

15.3 Cr Kevin Coutts questioned why this was not discussed at the April meeting. Cr Debbie Oakley informed Council of the dates and very tight timelines and said that in hindsight a draft may have been able to be discussed at the April meeting. She added that Andy and the team had done a very good summary from this Region’s point of view and Ngahi had provided feedback to the NZC on this Council’s preferred options. Debbie confirmed that we are now looking at seven regions but that this was not a fait de compli and explained the next steps in supplying recommendations to the Minister, after which it will go out for consultation with other stake holders.

15.4 Arash Alaeinia suggested that Council review the item put together by Andy Garrick provided in the Public Excluded Agenda which captured everything already discussed and would help to give focus and a framework for the discussion. The discussion needed to be robust, give reasons for decisions, and deliver the best outcomes for Fish & Game licence holders into the future.

15.5 Cr Debbie Oakley had liaised with a couple of the members of the review panel and provided Council with some context as to how the initial six region proposal was arrived at particularly regarding distribution of income and balancing out the levies and grants system. She understood that the proposal to incorporate Eastern Region with Auckland/Waikato and Northland was the most controversial. Debbie advised that there were some areas that were concentrated on in the review which may not actually

be the case going forward particularly if licence revenue were to be centralised or a different approach taken to the reserves policy. Debbie felt the focus should be on activity and work carried out in the Regions rather than revenues as we know that licences can be purchased anywhere and not necessarily where participants undertake most of their fishing and hunting. Looking at the stand-alone regions reviewed alongside Eastern they are all similar in activity levels, Eastern would still be a large region if it was to stand alone.

15.5 *Agreed (Ngahi Bidois/Lindsay Lyons) that Council extends the meeting end time to 3.30pm. [22/06/15.5]*

15.6 Cr Ngahi Bidois asked for Councillors view and requested that discussion is kept concise advising he would give all the opportunity to speak.

15.7 Cr Lindsay Lyons had recently been speaking with a member of the Hawke's Bay Council advising that some were keen to meet with the Eastern Council regarding the proposal to merge with Eastern. Cr Murray Ferris felt that Hawke's Bay was a much easier fit, commenting on the manageability of the distances involved with an Auckland Waikato/Northland/Eastern merger.

15.8 Cr Ngahi Bidois advised that Northland Council had indicated to him that there was no interest in merging with Eastern. Cr Kevin Coutts questioned whether the iwi from Eastern, Auckland/Waikato and Northland could work together? Ngahi believed that this would be an area to work on. Cr Barry Roderick then questioned the iwi relationships with Hawkes Bay. Ngahi could not comment on Ngāti Kahungunu of Hawke's Bay but understood them to be very peaceful people.

15.9 Cr Murray Ferris questioned what might occur if the Hawke's Bay and Eastern merger was considered the best fit for our licence holders, but the iwi groups didn't concur, would this mean the Minister would not support this? Ngahi believed that the process with iwi would be tough but had faith in our new CE to help foster working relationships.

15.10 Cr Alan Simmons came back to Fish & Game because of support from anglers unhappy about the process. While the merger of regions was not of great importance to them, the proposed voting and appointment structure is going to be the big issue. After consultation with several anglers and organisations such as the Federation of Freshwater anglers he said it is their preference to see Eastern stand alone or to work with the Hawke's Bay region. He was concerned about how little involvement the ordinary angler has had in this process and the unhelpful rumours surfacing as a result. Alan supported Eastern as a standalone region and the option for merging with Hawke's Bay. Cr Ngahi Bidois confirmed that everyone, anglers included, would have opportunity to give feedback on the proposals. Cr Murray Ferris had also had comments from anglers and advised it's our role to minimise the options to be put back in front of licence holders.

15.11 Cr Lindsay Lyons said we need to bear in mind that next year is an election and the mandate for the National Party was to change the whole of Fish and Game putting the organisation under a Sports Federation of New Zealand. Lindsay believed we needed to get things into place to demonstrate that we are willing to change and see that change through now.

15.12 Cr Ngahi Bidois commented on the discussion of chairs who noted that Ngahi was new to his role, Eastern had just appointed a new CEO, and Eastern has a good team so should be given a bit of space to move forward.

15.13 Matthew McDougall asked whether the numbers have been done for the various merger proposals, in terms of overheads and cost savings? Cr Debbie Oakley advised that the

review was primarily about governance, there was no expectation to see immediate changes on the ground. Matthew felt that the duplication of costs would be one of the key things that the New Zealand Council should be considering when determining the number of regions there should be. Debbie confirmed that there will be zero budgeting meaning starting from scratch. Carmel Veitch understood that the Hunt report had utilised figures from annual reports and amalgamated them, there had been no consideration of additional costs or cost savings. She said there will be new expenses associated with paying Governors and travel expenses are likely to be higher, there had also been no consideration if offices will close for example. Andy Garrick agreed there has been a glaring omission in the analysis to date in that there has been no in-depth analysis of financial implications or logistical implications of the various merger options. The Hunt report focuses on two criteria - current activity levels and current licence revenue, both of which could change in the future. What happens if the canal fisheries collapse, what about the effects of global warming on habitats and resources, there is going to be change, we need to be looking into the future. This is why he had suggested that one of the critical things we do before debating structural changes was to agree on what the principal criteria should be to evaluate the merits of the various amalgamation options.

- 15.14 Cr Ken Coombes believes that Eastern is a good region that runs on its own, why should we change something that is not broken.
- 15.15 Cr Jay Tapsell said it was still early in the process and a lot of consultation was yet to occur.
- 15.16 Cr Mark Sceats felt that it was good to get that seventh region option whether it is to be Eastern stand alone or merging with Hawke's Bay. He said there were a lot of pros for the merger with Hawke's Bay as set out in feedback document put together by Andy Garrick and Kate Thompson in December last year.
- 15.17 Cr Mike Jarvie thoughts are initially for Eastern region to stand alone and if required bring in Hawke's Bay. That option makes sense because they are right beside each other, have worked together before, and boundaries haven't changed.
- 15.18 Cr Ngahi Bidois opened the floor for comments from the Public.
- 15.19 Barry Roderick always felt Eastern should go with Hawke's Bay, we use to work with them, had personality issues at governor level but we had a good relationship with staff, it's a natural fit.
- 15.20 Matt McDougall's final comment was that he was surprised we were not doing the basics first, in terms of financial and logistical implications. Personally, he had no issue with working with any of the other regions.
- 15.21 *Agreed (Mark Sceats/Alan Simmons) that at this juncture, subject to consultation with the public at large, it is our preference for Eastern region to stand alone but if we are to amalgamate then it should be with the Hawke's Bay region. [22/06/15.21]***
- 15.22 Council also believed that the potential financial implications needed to be well understood before any final decisions were made.

- 15.23 Cr Ngahi Bidois thanked Carmel Veitch and Cr Debbie Oakley and for all of the work they have been doing behind the scenes and acknowledged Debbie for representing the Region very finely at the national level.
- 15.24 Cr Lindsay Lyons asked about the offer of the Hawke's Bay Council meeting with Council at some stage? Cr Ngahi Bidois felt that we have heard through Lindsay some of the views of the Hawke's Bay Council and our position is going to go to the Implementation Steering Group and following that anything that happens will be a matter of consultation.
- 15.25 Andy Garrick advised that the next stage is to communicate this Council's resolution back to the Steering Group and it would be beneficial to advance the reasons why Councillors decided it's in the best interest of licence holders of the future for Eastern to stay on it's own, why it's not a good idea to merge with Auckland Waikato/Northland, and why merging with Hawke's Bay is a secondary consideration.
- 15.26 Cr Debbie Oakley suggested that Arash Alaeinia could put together a background document to support the Council's view utilising some of the information already on hand and submitted by Andy Garrick and Kate Thompson. Cr Ngahi Bidois suggested that the Executive could also contribute as necessary.

16.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

- 16.1 Cr Mike Jarvie wished to acknowledge Anthony Van Dorp for his work and preparation of the submission he had prepared for proposals under Arms Act. He felt it was very clear, concise and to the point.
- 16.2 Cr Lindsay Lyons asked if Council could meet an hour earlier if we have a large agenda such as today's. After much discussion it was agreed that future meetings would start at 11.00am, lunch at 12.30 for half hour, and close at 2.30pm unless the agenda requires an extension of time.
- 16.3 While we acknowledged Andy Garrick's contribution to Fish & Game prior to lunch, Cr Debbie Oakley wished to have it officially minuted Council's thanks to Andy for his service to Fish & Game. Cr Ngahi Bidois also wanted to minute that we welcome Arash to Fish & Game and we look forward to working with him as a Council.

17.0 MEETING CLOSED

- 17.1 The meeting closed at 3.26pm with a closing karakia by Cr Ngahi Bidois.

.....
Ngahi Bidois
Chairman

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

2.0 APOLOGIES

- 2.2 *Agreed (Mark Sceats/Debbie Oakley) that the apologies for the 196th meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [22/06/2.2]*

3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (7 APRIL 2022)

- 3.1 *Agreed (Mike Jarvie/Murray Ferris) that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 April 2022 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [22/06/3.1]*

8.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

- 8.2 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Lindsay Lyons) that Council receives the Health and Safety report. [22/06/8.2]*
- 8.4 *Agreed (Debbie Oakley/Mark Sceats) that Council receives the Finance Report and approves payments for March and April 2022 totalling \$212,442.08. [22/06/8.4]*
- 8.5 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Mike Jarvie) that Council approves the request for a new credit card facility to be applied for in the name of Arash Alaeinia, Chief Executive, with an approved spending limit of \$3,000. [22/06/8.5]*
- 8.6 *Agreed (Debbie Oakley/Mark Sceats) that Council approves the replacement of Andy Garrick with Arash Alaeinia, Chief Executive as signatory to Westpac and Bank of New Zealand bank accounts. [22/06/8.6]*
- 8.7 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Mike Jarvie) that Council approves the other signatories to the Westpac and Bank of New Zealand bank accounts being Kate Thompson, Office Manager, Nerida Evans, Office Administrator, and Carmel Veitch, Accountant. [22/06/8.7]*
- 8.8 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Jay Tapsell) that the signing rules for the Council's bank accounts and online banking facilities will comprise a combination of any two of the named signatories. All signatories will, however, be authorised to make enquiries on bank accounts and term investments independently. [22/06/8.8]*
- 8.14 *Agreed (Mark Sceats/Mike Jarvie) that Council supports the establishment of a 'Dedicated Reserve' for Ballot Holder Habitat Fees to ensure that unspent funds from one season are earmarked for habitat works in future seasons. [22/06/8.14]*

9.0 2022-23 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN

- 9.3 *Agreed (Mike Jarvie/Murray Ferris) that Council approves the second draft of the 2022-23 Operational Work Plan subject to the proposed amendment to the 'Increasing Revenue' priority detailed above, and approves its circulation to other parties for comment. [20/06/9.3]*

10.0 2022-2023 LICENCE FEES

- 10.5 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Mark Sceats) that Council supports the proposed licence fees for 2022-2023 of \$145 (GST inclusive) for the Adult Whole Season Fishing Licence, and \$107 (GST inclusive) for the Adult Season Game licence (which includes \$5 for the Game Bird Habitat Trust), with proportional changes to remaining licence fee categories including a \$5 fee being added to the sea run salmon endorsement. [22/06/10.5] Motion passed 4 in favour 3 against and 3 abstained. Crs Alan Simmons and Lindsay Lyons asked for their vote against this motion to be recorded.*
- 10.8 *Agreed (Mark Sceats/Ken Coombes) that Council supports the NZC's proposal to draw \$500,000 from regional reserves to fund the implementation of the Ministerial Review. [22/06/10.8] Motion passed 8 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstained.*
- 10.9 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Mike Jarvie) that Council requests that the New Zealand Council write to Penny Nelson, Director-General of the Department of Conservation seeking funding*

- for the ongoing costs relating to the implementation of the Fish and Game Governance Review which we understand to be in the order of \$500,000. [22/06/10.9]*
- 10.12** *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Kevin Coutts) that Council does not support the NZC's proposal to increase the non-resident licence fee to \$250 for the 2022-2023 Season and recommends that this proposal is reviewed by the licence working group to determine potential impacts on revenue before an increase of this level is considered. [22/06/10.12]*
- 10.15** *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Kevin Coutts) that Council does not support the NZC's proposal to introduce a Designated Waters Licence available as a free season endorsement for resident anglers and as a day licence costing \$50 for non-resident anglers; and does not have any Eastern region waterways if wishes to recommend be classified as a Designated Water for the 2022-2023 Season. [22/06/10.15]*
- 11.0** ANGLERS NOTICE REVIEW
- 11.2** *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Mark Sceats) that Council confirms its recommendations relating to the 2022-2023 Anglers Notice made at its April meeting and approves these being forwarded to the New Zealand Council office for communication to the Minister of Conservation. In doing so this concludes the Anglers Notice Review process for the 2022-2023 Season. [22/06/11.2]*
- 12.0** SENSITIVE EXPENDITURE POLICY UPDATE
- 12.2** *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Mark Sceats) that Council approves the 2022 Sensitive Expenditure Policy update including the two further changes noted above relating to reference to the New Zealand Council, and reimbursement of expenses to the New Zealand Council Chair. [22/06/12.2]*
- 14.0** PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION
- 14.1** *Agreed (Ngahi Bidois/Ken Coombes) that pursuant to Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the public be excluded at 2.05pm from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely, to approve draft meeting minutes and analyse structural review options for the Eastern Fish & Game Council. [22/06/14.1]*
- 14.2** *Agreed (Kevin Coutts/Murray Ferris) that Council moves the planned discussion on the structural review options for Eastern Fish and Game Council out of Public Excluded to the full public meeting. [22/06/14.2]*
- 14.3** *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Kevin Coutts) that Council moves out of public excluded at 2.15 pm. [22/06/14.3]*
- 14.4** *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Jay Tapsell) that the public be re-admitted to the meeting at 2.16pm. [22/06/14.4]*
- 15.0** STRUCTURAL REVIEW
- 15.5** *Agreed (Ngahi Bidois/Lindsay Lyons) that Council extends the meeting end time to 3.30pm. [22/06/15.5]*
- 15.21** *Agreed (Mark Sceats/Alan Simmons) that at this juncture, subject to consultation with the public at large, it is our preference for Eastern region to stand alone but if we are to amalgamate then it should be with the Hawke's Bay region. [22/06/15.21]*

7. CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

Ref: 7.02.01

29 July 2022

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

In 2016 the Eastern Fish and Game Council adopted a revised policy and rules for dealing with Conflicts of Interest and these include providing 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 matter¹ 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;
- (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

¹ “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.

- (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.

8. OPERATIONAL REPORTS

8.1 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Ref: 9.01.07

26 July 2022

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.

May - July 2022

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 to the office and contractors are required to sign our desk register, and our hazard register is updated as required.
Tail Gate forms completed for:
May/June/July 2022 Tarawera Outlet Drift dives
May 2022 Electric fishing – Upper Wairakei stream
June/July 2022 Escapement counts – Hopuruhine/Waiotukupuna
June 2022 Cleaning & water blasting spouting – Brick house
2021-2022 Budget for Health & Safety \$2,000

2. Monitoring and Reporting	
Work Place Accident Register	30/06/2022
Number of Workplace injuries in 2021-2022 year	1
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
Total Number of Workplace injuries since 1 Sept 1995	51
Total number of lost work injuries since 1 Sept 1995	4
Total number of days since last lost work injury	406
Days from prior lost work injury to lost work injury on 21/3/21	245
Days from prior lost work injury to lost work injury on 19/7/20	1,053
Days from prior lost work injury to lost work injury on 31/8/17	1,363
Total number of days since formal register commenced 1/09/95 to first lost work injury on 7/12/13	6,672

3. Risk Management (identification and treatment)

COVID 19

Site reopened to public 4 April 2022. Masks to continue to be worn indoors and when in close contact with others. Covid tracing signs removed and access to reception still to be limited to two people at a time.

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

- 23 May 2022 Spawning streams – poaching activity likely
- 30 May 2022 Take care driving in wet/winter conditions
- 6 June 2022 Care on roads, Arborist to remove trees pond 7 – cordoned off
- 13 June 2022 General discussion, care on roads, poaching occurring spawning streams, walkway slippery off netting – MS to make signage
- 20 June 2022 Take care intersection to PV Road – KT reported dangers to Waka Kotahi safety audit team, discussion Te Wairoa trap safety, reduce clutter in office
- 27 June 2022 Netting completed on boardwalk
- 3 July 2022 No new hazards identified, suggestion for monthly H & S meeting
- 11 July 2022 Accident register located at reception desk, AA will email re Te Wairoa trap safety and seeks feedback, check vehicles over
- 18 July 2022 Care on roads, check over first aid kits & fire extinguishers in vehicles, care when ranging – sometimes what looks innocent is anything but
- 25 July 2022 Repair to boardwalk netting required, extra care around spawning streams & closed waters, gang presence has increased, ensure protective vests are worn at all times

4. Training Programme

Nil

5. H&S Incidents

On the afternoon of 30 May 2022 during a heavy downpour gravel washed into the raceway water intake. Staff worked to clear the blockage for approximately three hours. In reduced light Lloyd Gledhill tripped on an alarm cable which resulted in a fall into the stream bed below, bruising a rib and spraining a thumb. In the short term the alarm cable was lifted above head height and hazard tape fitted and has since been put underground.

6. Recommendation

That Council acknowledges it has received this report.

8.2 FINANCE REPORT

Ref: 8.03.01

27 July 2022

1. Purpose

To inform the Council of the year-to-date financial position and approve payments for the months of May and June 2022.

Tables within this report:

Table 1	Variance Report to 30 June 2022
Table 2	Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2022
Table 3	Profit and Loss to 30 June 2022
Tables 4 & 5	Bank Transactions May and June 2022
Table 6	Credit Card Transactions 1 May to 30 June 2022

2. YTD Profit and Loss

The Profit & Loss statement for the period ending 30 June is provided in Table 3.

Income

Fish and Game licence revenues are reporting to be ahead of budget YTD (\$15,210 and \$21,361 respectively). A more up to date and detailed picture of licence sales performance YTD can be found within the licence sales report.

Revenue from other sources over the period totalled \$44,436 and was made up of the following: hatchery income (\$6,776), fishing competitions (\$642), reserves mowing (\$198), rentals (\$7,762), fines from prosecutions collected through the courts (\$599), and funds were received from diversion processes for expense recovery and junior education programmes (\$200 and \$700 respectively). Contract revenue was invoiced to from Genesis Energy (\$15,000), New Zealand Fish & Game (\$5,479), Hawke's Bay Fish & Game (\$2,996), and covid subsidies were applied for and approved for staff requiring to self-isolate (\$2,159). Interest was received on general reserves (\$1,377), and on the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement funds (\$548).

Species Management

The Population Monitoring expenditure relates to expenses associated with the Genesis Energy contract at Waikaremoana, and reimbursement of fuel expense for the Gisborne banding project. The Population Monitoring budgets are reporting to be \$6,395 over budget YTD and this is due to several factors including increased costs associated with flights for trend counts, wages and fuel for the banding project, and the early purchase of bands which will be accrued forward at year end. Within the Harvest Assessment budget, expenses are reported for Game Bird Hunter surveys.

The most significant expense for the Hatchery for the period was for fish food (\$14,460), followed by materials purchased for the emergency water supply (\$1,154), and a contribution to the cost of trees felled on the hatchery grounds (\$1,000). Various minor maintenance and equipment purchases are reported as are the usual expenses associated with fuel, rates, electricity, and oxygen. The Hatchery operations budgets are overspent \$15,288 YTD due primarily to unbudgeted expenses associated with the hatchery emergency water reticulation works (funded by insurance proceeds), and the refurbishment of Fort Knox (funded by a donation). Fuel and vehicle maintenance expenses are also higher than budgeted.

Habitat

There were no Habitat expenses reported within the period. Within budget YTD.

Participation

Access spending in May related to the restocking of small angler access marker signs. Expenses were also incurred for hut maintenance and electricity. Within budget YTD.

Public Interface

A small expense is reported for raffle books for the duck hunter's night and for a further small supply of Fish & Game cookbooks for future promotions. The visitor facilities budget (grounds maintenance) contributed to the cost of felling trees on the property (\$500). The Public Interface output is overbudget YTD by \$707 and this is primarily due to timing and will reduce before year end.

Compliance

Compliance expenses are reported relating to travel reimbursement for opening weekend ranging, a gun case, and the 0800 Poaching service and cell phone. Legal fees for prosecutions are also reported. Within budget YTD.

Licensing

The Licensing cost includes agent commissions and the fees associated with the Public Online and 0800 sales. Within budget YTD.

Council

Expenses are reported within the Council budgets relating to catering and travel reimbursement for the June meeting of Council. The Council budgets are overspent \$1,855 YTD due to increased travel expenses for meetings related to the employment of the new CE.

Planning

Levies were paid as budgeted and minor costs are reported for CE meetings with various stakeholders. Within budget YTD.

Administration

Salaries	Recruitment costs for the staff vacancy have been transferred to the employment budget under the Staff Expenses area following which the salaries area is over budget YTD (\$19,838). This variance will reduce by year end as the annual leave accrual will be lower than that recorded 31/8/2021 with staff retirement.
Staff Expenses	Staff expenses were significant for the period and include the recruitment costs (\$15,475), FBT (\$11,537), Health & Safety costs relating to tree removal (\$2,000), and Council's farewell gift to Andy Garrick (\$466). Minor expenses are reported for flu vaccines, staff clothing and meal expenses for Waikaremoana work. The staff expenses area is over budget YTD (\$11,647) due primarily to the unanticipated recruitment costs. Savings will be made in the staff training budget this year and additional incomes from staff contracts will offset the balance.
Staff Houses	The HRV and AC units in the brick house were serviced and ventilation units installed into the bathroom and kitchen in the timber house. Expenses for the staff quarters included service fees for the gas bottles, smoke alarms, a heater, mattress protectors, and laundering of mattress protectors. Within budget YTD.

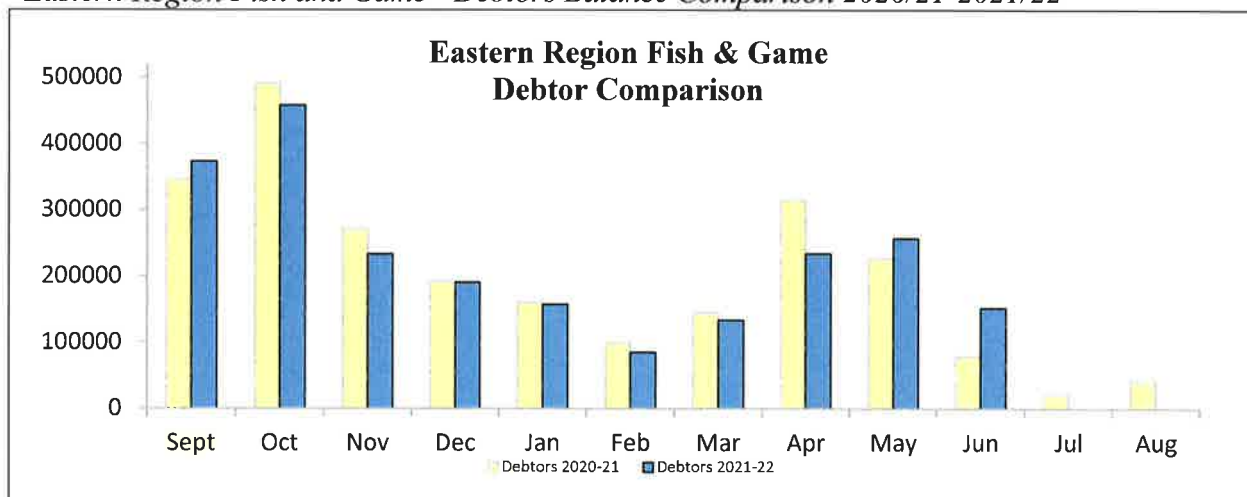
Office Premises	The usual expenses relating to electricity, cleaning, rubbish removal, and alarm monitoring were incurred. The Office Premises area is over budget \$63 YTD.
Office Equipment	Office Equipment expenses include a cell phone, headset, keyboard & mouse. The phone system and eftpos lease costs are also reported. Over budget YTD \$1,149 due to equipment requirements for new staff.
Communications/ Consumables	Standard communications expenses are reported for the period including phones, broadband, stationery, and photocopying. Additional expenditure was incurred relating to post-paid envelopes and IT services. Within budget YTD.
General	Minor expenses are reported for the Survey Monkey subscription, morning teas, and bank fees. Over budget \$778 YTD due to increased insurance costs.
General Equipment	Equipment purchases for the period include: waders, life jackets, tools, and a PTO switch for the mower. Field equipment and boat fuel expenses are also reported. Within budget YTD.
Vehicles	Vehicle expenses for the period included scheduled servicing of two vehicles, and fuel/RUCs. The Vehicles' budgets are overspent by \$6,153 and this relates to increased fuel/RUC's costs.

Cash Position: As at 30 June 2022

\$ 864,943 (includes \$86,785 Asset Replacement Reserve)
 \$ 464,638 (Waikaremoana SFHEF – Restricted Reserve)
\$1,329,581 Total

Debtors: Outstanding Debtors \$151,987 as at 30 June 2022 (\$79,209 as at 30 June 2021).

Eastern Region Fish and Game - Debtors Balance Comparison 2020/21-2021/22



Debtors outstanding as at 30 June relate primarily to licence sales. Various contracts were invoiced in June totalling approximately \$27,000. No concerns.

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.

Table 1 2021/2022 REPORT OF VARIANCES BETWEEN TOTAL BUDGET AND YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME

as at 30 June 2022															
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			
	1110	Species Monitoring	\$ 39,450	\$ 32,545	2,150	1,886	\$ 136,855	\$ 131,434	\$ 8,000	\$ 18,959	\$ 168,305	\$ 145,020	\$ 23,286	\$ 86.2	
	1120	Harvest Assessment	\$ 2,900	\$ 381	793	643	\$ 50,477	\$ 44,769	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,377	\$ 45,150	\$ 8,227	\$ 84.6	
	1140	Hatchery Operations	\$ 75,020	\$ 85,358	3,564	3,438	\$ 226,862	\$ 239,524	\$ 56,500	\$ 49,731	\$ 245,382	\$ 275,152	\$ (29,770)	\$ 112.1	
	1160	Releases	\$ -	\$ -	234	121	\$ 14,895	\$ 8,396	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,895	\$ 8,396	\$ 6,499	\$ 56.4	
	1170	Regulations	\$ -	\$ -	133	43	\$ 8,466	\$ 2,996	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,466	\$ 2,996	\$ 5,470	\$ 35.4	
	1180	Control	\$ 500	\$ 568	36	29	\$ 2,292	\$ 1,986	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,792	\$ 2,553	\$ 238	\$ 91.5	
		TOTAL - SPECIES MANAGEMENT	\$ 117,870	\$ 118,852	6,910	6,158	\$ 439,847	\$ 429,106	\$ 64,500	\$ 68,680	\$ 493,217	\$ 479,268	\$ 13,949	\$ 97.2	
	1210	Resource Management Act	\$ 200	\$ -	1,412	1,169	\$ 89,879	\$ 81,449	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 90,079	\$ 81,449	\$ 8,630	\$ 90.4	
	1220	Works & Management	\$ 18,000	\$ 10,526	934	822	\$ 59,453	\$ 57,277	\$ 12,150	\$ 6,881	\$ 65,303	\$ 60,922	\$ 4,381	\$ 93.3	
	1230	Assisted Habitat	\$ 2,700	\$ -	770	334	\$ 49,013	\$ 23,273	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 51,713	\$ 23,273	\$ 28,440	\$ 45.0	
	1240	Assess & Monitor	\$ -	\$ -	72	70	\$ 4,583	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,583	\$ -	\$ 4,583	\$ 0.0	
	1250	Lake Waikaremoana	\$ -	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.0	
		TOTAL - HABITAT PROTECTION & M	\$ 20,900	\$ 10,526	3,188	2,325	\$ 202,928	\$ 161,999	\$ 12,150	\$ 6,881	\$ 211,678	\$ 165,644	\$ 46,034	\$ 78.3	
	1310	Access	\$ 10,700	\$ 6,947	702	548	\$ 44,685	\$ 38,150	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55,385	\$ 45,097	\$ 10,288	\$ 81.4	
	1330	Newsletters/Information	\$ -	\$ -	318	174	\$ 20,242	\$ 12,124	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,242	\$ 12,124	\$ 8,118	\$ 59.9	
	1340	Other Publications	\$ 2,000	\$ -	44	1	\$ 2,801	\$ 70	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,801	\$ 70	\$ 4,731	\$ 1.5	
	1350	Training	\$ 800	\$ 7	826	401	\$ 52,578	\$ 27,907	\$ 7,000	\$ 4,622	\$ 46,378	\$ 23,292	\$ 23,086	\$ 50.2	
	1360	Club Relations	\$ -	\$ -	32	22	\$ 2,037	\$ 1,533	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,037	\$ 1,533	\$ 504	\$ 75.3	
	1370	Huts	\$ 1,450	\$ 1,174	46	34	\$ 2,928	\$ 2,352	\$ 400	\$ 652	\$ 3,978	\$ 3,104	\$ 874	\$ 72.2	
		TOTAL - ANGLER & HUNTER PARTIC	\$ 14,950	\$ 8,128	1,968	1,179	\$ 125,270	\$ 82,135	\$ 7,400	\$ 5,274	\$ 132,820	\$ 84,989	\$ 47,831	\$ 64.0	
	1410	Liaison	\$ -	\$ -	72	23	\$ 4,583	\$ 1,603	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,583	\$ 1,603	\$ 2,980	\$ 35.0	
	1420	Communication	\$ 500	\$ 780	116	42	\$ 7,384	\$ 2,892	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,884	\$ 4,212	\$ 3,672	\$ 46.6	
	1440	Public Promotions	\$ 4,500	\$ 332	122	25	\$ 7,766	\$ 1,759	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,266	\$ 2,091	\$ 10,174	\$ 17.1	
	1450	Visitor Facilities/Education	\$ 500	\$ 545	454	88	\$ 28,899	\$ 6,132	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,399	\$ 6,677	\$ 22,722	\$ 22.7	
		TOTAL - PUBLIC INTERFACE	\$ 5,500	\$ 1,657	764	178	\$ 48,631	\$ 12,386	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54,131	\$ 14,043	\$ 40,089	\$ 26.9	
	1510	Rangling	\$ 1,000	\$ 910	956	782	\$ 60,853	\$ 54,472	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 61,853	\$ 55,382	\$ 6,471	\$ 89.5	
	1520	Ranger Training	\$ 1,000	\$ 493	108	50	\$ 6,875	\$ 3,449	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,875	\$ 3,942	\$ 3,932	\$ 50.1	
	1530	Compliance Prosecutions	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,849	336	192	\$ 21,388	\$ 13,379	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,341	\$ 20,388	\$ 11,887	\$ 8,501	\$ 58.3	
		TOTAL - COMPLIANCE	\$ 7,000	\$ 3,252	1,400	1,023	\$ 89,115	\$ 71,300	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,341	\$ 90,115	\$ 71,211	\$ 18,904	\$ 79.0	
	1610	Licensing	\$ 600	\$ -	134	94	\$ 8,530	\$ 6,550	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,130	\$ 6,550	\$ 2,580	\$ 71.7	
	1620	Agent Servicing	\$ -	\$ -	158	55	\$ 10,057	\$ 3,798	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,057	\$ 3,798	\$ 6,260	\$ 37.8	
		TOTAL - LICENSING	\$ 600	\$ -	292	149	\$ 18,587	\$ 10,347	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,187	\$ 10,347	\$ 8,839	\$ 53.9	
	1710	Council Elections	\$ -	\$ -	4	1	\$ 255	\$ 70	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 255	\$ 70	\$ 185	\$ 27.4	
	1720	Council Meetings	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,855	477	279	\$ 30,363	\$ 19,458	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,363	\$ 26,313	\$ 10,050	\$ 72.4	
		TOTAL - COUNCILS	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,855	481	280	\$ 30,617	\$ 19,528	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,617	\$ 26,383	\$ 10,235	\$ 72.0	
	1810	Management Planning	\$ 8,500	\$ -	240	77	\$ 15,277	\$ 5,365	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,777	\$ 5,365	\$ 18,412	\$ 22.6	
	1820	Annual Planning	\$ -	\$ -	66	57	\$ 4,201	\$ 3,954	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,201	\$ 3,954	\$ 247	\$ 94.1	
	1830	Reporting/Audit	\$ 9,750	\$ -	429	264	\$ 27,307	\$ 18,361	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,057	\$ 18,361	\$ 18,697	\$ 49.5	
	1840	National Liaison	\$ 100	\$ -	242	103	\$ 15,404	\$ 7,177	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,504	\$ 7,177	\$ 8,327	\$ 46.3	
		TOTAL - PLANNING/REPORTING	\$ 18,350	\$ -	977	500	\$ 62,190	\$ 34,857	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,540	\$ 34,857	\$ 45,682	\$ 43.3	
		TOTAL	\$ 191,170	\$ 149,270	15,980	11,792	\$ 1,017,186	\$ 821,668	\$ 90,050	\$ 84,186	\$ 1,118,306	\$ 886,742	\$ 231,564	\$ 79.3	

		EXTERNAL COSTS		NETABLE INCOME		NET COST		NET COST		%
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Variance	
1910	Salaries	\$ 925,841	\$ 760,710	\$ 11,700	\$ 30,159	\$ 914,141	\$ 730,551	\$ 183,590	\$ 79.9	
1920	Staff Expenses	\$ 26,000	\$ 35,247	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 26,000	\$ 35,247	\$ (9,247)	\$ 135.6	
1930	Staff Houses	\$ 13,060	\$ 7,325	\$ 50,000	\$ 45,204	\$ (36,940)	\$ (37,879)	\$ 939	\$ 102.5	
1940	Office Premises	\$ 18,750	\$ 15,989	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,750	\$ 15,989	\$ 2,761	\$ 85.3	
1950	Office Equipment	\$ 4,100	\$ 4,819	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,100	\$ 4,819	\$ (719)	\$ 117.5	
1960	Communications/Consumables	\$ 18,307	\$ 14,680	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,307	\$ 14,680	\$ 3,627	\$ 80.2	
1970	General	\$ 11,278	\$ 10,808	\$ 1,500	\$ 8,024	\$ 9,778	\$ 2,784	\$ 6,994	\$ 28.5	
1980	General Equipment	\$ 17,700	\$ 12,441	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,700	\$ 12,441	\$ 5,259	\$ 70.3	
1990	Vehicles	\$ 45,350	\$ 43,027	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,350	\$ 43,027	\$ 2,323	\$ 94.9	
	Administration	\$ 1,080,386	\$ 905,044	\$ 63,200	\$ 83,387	\$ 1,017,186	\$ 821,658	\$ 195,528	\$ 80.8	
	Total Overhead Net Cost					\$ 1,017,186	\$ 821,658			
	Total Outputs Staff Hours					15,980	11,792			
	Internal Cost Per Hour					63.65	69.68			

2021/2022 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		NET COST		%	
			Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Variance		
	1	Species Management	\$ 117,870	\$ 118,852	6,910	6,158	\$ 439,847	\$ 429,106	\$ 64,500	\$ 68,690	\$ 493,217	\$ 479,268	\$ 13,949	\$ 97.2		
	2	Habitat Protection & Management	\$ 20,900	\$ 10,526	3,188	2,325	\$ 202,928	\$ 161,999	\$ 12,160	\$ 6,881	\$ 211,678	\$ 166,644	\$ 45,034	\$ 78.3		
	3	Angler & Hunter Participation	\$ 14,950	\$ 8,128	1,968	1,179	\$ 126,270	\$ 82,136	\$ 7,400	\$ 6,274	\$ 132,820	\$ 84,989	\$ 47,831	\$ 64.0		
	4	Public Interface	\$ 5,500	\$ 1,657	764	178	\$ 48,651	\$ 12,386	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54,131	\$ 14,043	\$ 40,089	\$ 25.9		
	5	Compliance	\$ 7,000	\$ 3,262	1,400	1,023	\$ 89,116	\$ 71,300	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,341	\$ 90,116	\$ 71,211	\$ 18,904	\$ 79.0		
	6	Licensing	\$ 600	\$ -	292	149	\$ 18,587	\$ 10,347	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,187	\$ 10,347	\$ 8,839	\$ 53.9		
	7	Councils	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,856	481	280	\$ 30,617	\$ 19,528	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,617	\$ 26,383	\$ 10,236	\$ 72.0		
	8	Planning, Reporting	\$ 18,350	\$ -	977	500	\$ 62,190	\$ 34,887	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,540	\$ 34,857	\$ 45,682	\$ 43.3		
	9	Administration														
		Total Overhead Staff Hours			7,156	6,633										
		TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 191,170	\$ 149,270					\$ 18,426	\$ 1,017,186	\$ 821,658	\$ 90,060	\$ 84,186	\$ 1,118,306	\$ 886,742	\$ 231,564
									% year complete	% of OWP budget spent	83%	79%				

Licence Income 2021-2022

2021-22 Fish Licence Income	\$ 1,019,001	\$ 1,015,210
Less Commission	\$ -	\$ -
Net Fish Licence Income	\$ 973,146	\$ 1,015,210
2022 Game Licence Income	\$ 229,867	\$ 251,229
Less Commission	\$ -	\$ -
Net Game Licence Income	\$ 219,523	\$ 251,229
Total Licence Income	\$ 1,248,868	\$ 1,266,438
Total Commission	\$ -	\$ -
Total Net 2021-22 Licence Revenue	\$ 1,192,669	\$ 1,217,536

OWP Bulk Fund	\$ 1,118,306	\$ 886,742	79%
Adjustment to OWP budgets - National Approved Budget	\$ -	\$ (4,412)	
less Interest	\$ (2,797)	\$ -	
Plus NZ Fish & Game Levies	\$ 134,951	\$ 101,251	
Less Licence Revenue	\$ (1,248,868)	\$ (1,266,438)	
Plus Commission Expense	\$ 56,199	\$ 48,902	
Plus Gain Loss on Sale/Revaluation	\$ (8,154)	\$ -	
Depreciation	\$ 70,861	\$ 60,901	
Subtotal	\$ 120,498	\$ (173,054)	
Adj to OWP budgets - Waikarameana Fund	\$ -	\$ (643)	
Less Waikarameana Fund Interest	\$ (4,174)	\$ -	
Plus Waikarameana Fund Expenses	\$ 8,000	\$ -	
Adj to OWP budgets - Non Res Reserve - Lake Tarawera project	\$ -	\$ -	
Adjusted Budget	\$ 124,324	\$ (173,697)	

Table 2	Balance Sheet	
	Eastern Fish and Game Council	
	As at 30 June 2022	
	30 Jun 2022	31 Aug 2021
Assets		
Bank		
Investments	\$707,005.68	\$760,162.98
Petty Cash	\$237.30	\$132.40
Waikaremoana Fund Investments	\$464,637.99	\$475,375.43
Westpac Call Account	\$104,827.11	\$23,726.55
Westpac Current Account	\$53,831.44	\$33,328.28
Total Bank	\$1,330,539.52	\$1,292,725.64
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	\$151,987.02	\$40,875.49
Accounts Receivable – Hawke’s Bay & External parties	-\$585.25	\$0.00
Accounts Receivable - Staff Recovery	\$690.07	\$0.00
Inventory - Fish Stock	\$171,007.00	\$171,007.00
Prepayments and Accrued Income	\$0.00	\$5,139.57
Total Current Assets	\$323,098.84	\$217,022.06
Fixed Assets		
Accum Dep Land & Buildings	-\$724,756.55	-\$701,567.23
Accum Dep Motor Vehicles	-\$153,972.02	-\$126,823.59
Accum Dep Office Equipment	-\$52,433.82	-\$48,540.17
Accum Dep Plant & Equipment	-\$159,023.13	-\$152,353.57
Buildings	\$1,043,849.38	\$1,043,849.38
Land	\$102,000.00	\$102,000.00
Motor Vehicles	\$426,076.22	\$351,510.30
Office Equipment	\$61,185.20	\$57,105.20
Plant & Equipment	\$196,178.90	\$193,768.74
Total Fixed Assets	\$739,104.18	\$718,949.06
Total Assets	\$2,392,742.54	\$2,228,696.76
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$23,174.94	\$36,944.48
Accruals and Prepaid Licences	\$80,561.00	\$106,397.06
Business Credit Card	\$958.84	\$370.74
Employee Entitlements	\$92,407.36	\$99,051.59
Game Bird Habitat Stamp Levy Clearing	\$12,066.10	\$0.00
GST	\$15,891.13	-\$12,103.05
PAYE Clearing	\$28,483.74	\$31,742.64
Rounding	\$0.06	\$0.00
Staff Social Club	\$2,938.30	\$3,729.32
Total Current Liabilities	\$256,481.47	\$266,132.78
Total Liabilities	\$256,481.47	\$266,132.78
Net Assets	\$2,136,261.07	\$1,962,563.98
Equity		
Accumulated Funds	\$1,235,589.34	\$1,193,406.53
Asset Replacement Reserve	\$92,797.00	\$92,797.00
Back Country Fisheries Reserve	\$131,253.37	\$127,266.65
Breeding Programme Reserve	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Current Year Earnings	\$173,697.09	\$46,169.53
Fish for Gold Reserve	\$10,500.00	\$10,500.00
Hatchery Water Reticulation Reserve	\$23,640.00	\$23,640.00
Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund Reserve	\$463,784.27	\$463,784.27
Total Equity	\$2,136,261.07	\$1,962,563.98

Table 3

Profit and Loss
Eastern Fish and Game Council
For the 2 months ended 30 June 2022

Income	May 2022	Jun 2022	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Total Budget	Var YTD	Var YTD %
Licence Income	123,733	22,684	1,262,451	1,229,867	1,248,868	32,584	3%
Non-Resident Licence Levy Revenue	830	390	3,987	0	0	3,987	0%
Other Income	13,807	30,629	172,628	131,379	168,375	41,249	31%
Total Income	138,369	53,703	1,439,066	1,361,246	1,417,243	77,820	6%
Operating Expenses							
Depreciation	6,181	6,181	60,901	59,050	70,861	1,851	3%
1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT							
1110 Population Monitoring	52	381	32,545	26,150	39,450	6,395	24%
1120 Harvest Assessment	0	360	381	2,400	2,900	(2,019)	-84%
1140 Hatchery Operations	16,324	5,021	85,358	70,070	75,020	15,288	22%
1180 Game Bird Control	0	0	568	500	500	68	14%
Total 1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT	16,376	5,762	118,852	99,120	117,870	19,732	20%
1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MANAGEMENT							
1210 Resource Management Act	0	0	0	0	200	0	0%
1220 Works & Management	0	0	10,526	17,000	18,000	(6,474)	-38%
1230 Assisted Habitat	0	0	0	1,700	10,700	(1,700)	-100%
Total 1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MANAGEMENT	0	0	10,526	18,700	28,900	(8,174)	-44%
1300 PARTICIPATION							
1310 Access	420	0	6,947	10,450	10,700	(3,503)	-34%
1340 Other Publications	0	0	0	1,000	2,000	(1,000)	-100%
1350 Training	0	0	7	700	800	(693)	-99%
1370 Huts	172	131	1,174	1,250	1,450	(76)	-6%
Total 1300 PARTICIPATION	592	131	8,128	13,400	14,950	(5,272)	-39%
1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE							
1420 Communication	0	0	780	500	500	280	56%
1440 Public Promotions	104	10	332	0	4,500	332	0%
1450 Visitor Facilities/Education/Interpretation	0	500	545	450	500	95	21%
Total 1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE	104	510	1,657	950	5,500	707	74%
1500 COMPLIANCE							
1510 Ranging	111	216	910	850	1,000	60	7%
1520 Ranger Training	0	0	493	500	1,000	(7)	-1%
1530 Compliance	150	200	1,849	4,170	5,000	(2,321)	-56%
Total 1500 COMPLIANCE	261	416	3,252	5,520	7,000	(2,268)	-41%
1600 LICENSING							
1610 Licence Prod/Distrib	0	0	0	0	600	0	0%
1630 Commission	5,574	872	48,902	55,344	56,199	(6,442)	-12%
Total 1600 LICENSING	5,574	872	48,902	55,344	56,799	(6,442)	-12%
1700 COUNCIL							
1720 Council Meetings	28	1,674	6,855	5,000	6,000	1,855	37%
Total 1700 COUNCIL	28	1,674	6,855	5,000	6,000	1,855	37%
1800 PLANNING/REPORTING							
1810 Management & Strategic Planning	0	0	0	0	8,500	0	0%
1830 Reporting/Audit	0	0	0	300	9,750	(300)	-100%
1840 National Liaison	33,738	38	101,251	101,314	135,051	(63)	0%
Total 1800 PLANNING/REPORTING	33,738	38	101,251	101,614	153,301	(363)	0%
1900 ADMINISTRATION							
1910 Salaries	54,597	96,282	760,710	740,872	925,841	19,838	3%
1920 Staff Expenses	27,218	2,771	35,247	23,600	26,000	11,647	49%
1930 Staff Houses	749	974	7,325	12,375	13,060	(5,050)	-41%
1940 Office Premises	746	702	15,989	15,926	18,750	63	0%
1950 Office Equipment	224	1,526	4,819	3,670	4,100	1,149	31%
1960 Communications/Consumables	2,546	908	14,680	15,920	18,307	(1,240)	-8%
1970 General	180	215	10,808	10,030	11,278	778	8%
1980 General Equipment	262	670	12,441	15,500	17,700	(3,059)	-20%
1990 Vehicles	4,825	2,890	43,027	38,850	45,350	4,177	11%
Total 1900 ADMINISTRATION	91,348	106,938	905,044	876,743	1,080,386	28,301	3%
Total Operating Expenses	154,202	122,523	1,265,369	1,235,441	1,541,567	29,928	2%
Net Profit	(15,833)	(68,820)	173,697	125,805	(124,324)	47,892	38%

8.3 MANAGEMENT REPORT

22 July 2022

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

1112 Datawatch

During the ten months following the season opening on 1 October, a total of 698 datawatch tags have been returned and entered into the database. The distribution is as follows:

Lake Hawkston (HB)	0
Lake McLaren	2
Lake Okareka	19
Lake Okataina	136
Lake Rerewhakaaitu	21
Lake Rotoehu	10
Lake Rotoiti	80
Lake Rotoma	30
Lake Rotorua	23
Lake Tarawera	374
Lake Tutira (HB)	3

data entered to 18 July 2022

The total number of tags returned and entered in the database is 64 returns behind the same approximate date during the 2020-21 season. The majority of lakes are very similar in numbers of returns to the July 2021 totals, however Rotoiti and Tarawera each sit at around 30 tag returns down. Lake Tutira (Hawkes Bay) is showing the effects of no releases since 2018 with only 3 tagged fish reported.

Datawatch draw

The Datawatch licence draw to entice, and reward returns of datawatch tags and information was undertaken on 17 June 2022. This was to facilitate the winners being advertised in the Fish & Game magazine supplement which has a deadline prior to the historical draw time of early August. This year we were able to reward 10 winners who have been offered a whole season adult licence for the upcoming 2022-23 angling season.

The winners were:

Jack Grainger	Tauranga
Kevin Campbell	Paeroa
Eddie Bowman	Rotorua
Terry Beckett	Auckland
Chris Taylor	Rotorua
Barry Young	Onerahi
Greg Magness	Auckland
Graham Geater	Rotorua
Bruce Adams	Tauranga
Brent Christie	Tauranga

1113 Lake Waikaremoana

Lake Waikaremoana Monitoring Buoy Update

The monitoring buoy sensor chains were reinstated on 24 June 2022. The information is coming through clearly at this point. We will work with Limnotrack and HBRC to reinstate public access to the buoy information, which is valuable to anglers and boaties, through the HBRC website.

Waikaremoana Winter Survey and Spawning Monitoring

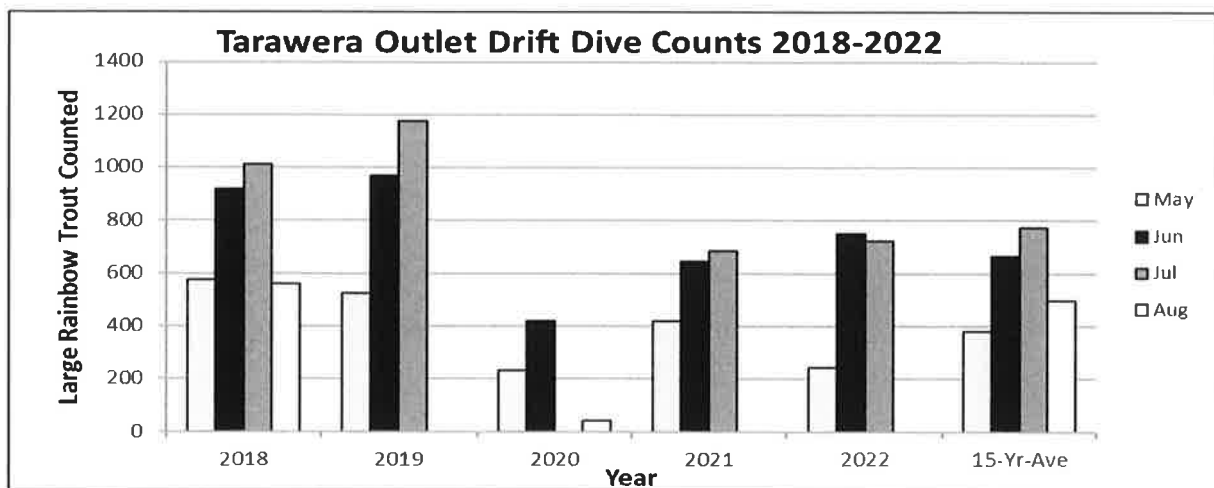
Staff have undertaken 3 angler creel/ spawning monitoring surveys at Waikaremoana over the 2022 winter to date. Conditions have differed from the 2020 and 2021 winters with regular and intense rainfall events arriving in the catchments. The lake has been at a very high level backing up into lower stretches of the tributaries. Trout numbers encountered in June and July have been higher in the Hopuruahine and Marauti stream stretches surveyed, steady in the Waitokupuna, and slow to build in the Mokau Stream. Winter angling in the Hopuruahine Stream upstream of the landmark prior to the end June closure was very good and several anglers were surveyed. Anglers have also been engaged in an angler diary programme with a steady supply of returns received. Fish size and condition has remained at a high level with anglers very satisfied with their experiences. Shore and tributary based angling produced 1.22 fish per hour while boat fishing on the lake is providing 0.55 fish per hour. Rainbow trout have averaged 492mm, 1.57kg and condition factor in the 47's. Brown trout 508mm, 1.9kg and condition factor in the 52's. It is possible that the amount of sediment entering the lake with storm runoff could affect the food web (we know the fine papa material can remain suspended for a 3-month period) by restricting algal growth through lack of light. However, spring and summer storms are more likely to produce negative effects on the food chain via the thermocline retaining turbidity in the top waters and being the time algae is more rapidly growing.

1114 Lake Tarawera

Tarawera Outlet Drift Dive Survey

The uppermost portion (1km) of the Tarawera River including the spawning sanctuary was drift dived by Fish & Game staff on 21 July when a total of 723 large size class trout were counted. This is ahead of the 2021 count and slightly behind the long-term July average.

The May 2022 count was behind May 2021 and below the 15-year May average (380), but the June count (750) was ahead of the past 2 winters and bettered the long-term average (667).



The final Tarawera Outlet drift dive for the 2022 winter will be undertaken in late August.

Lake Tarawera Fishery Research Update

No further updates have been received.

Wairua Hut angling data

A total of 45.5 hours of angling pressure was recorded from the Wairua Stream mouth over the 2021-22 hut booking period. Several bookings were made but not taken due to weather conditions. Those that made the effort enjoyed the facility and opportunity. A healthy average catch rate of 0.75 fish per hour or one fish caught per every 1.33 hours fishing was recorded. A number of anglers also utilised the hut facility and fished at other areas of the lake than at the stream mouth equating to a total hut user effort of 121.5 hrs of data captured.

1115 Other Lake Fisheries Investigations

Ngongotaha Trap-run

Ngongotaha Stream trap run (June 2022)

The Ngongotaha fish trap facility was not operated during the month of June.

Ngongotaha Stream trap run (July 2022)

At the time of report writing (July) the trap is yet to be operated due to weather and high river flow.

Angler Diaries

The angler diary program was operated during the 2021-22 season through use of the online Survey Monkey website and physical angler diary sheets. A total of 111 angler days were captured between 29-6-2021 and 15-6-2022 which included both river/ stream (16 entries) and lake (95 entries) data. The draw for a \$100 Kilwell voucher occurred on 15 June 2022. The winner is to be advertised in the upcoming 2022-2023 Fish and Game New Zealand magazine fishing supplement.

1116 Waterfowl Monitoring

Waterfowl Monitoring and Management Workshop

Eastern Region hosted a three-day waterfowl monitoring and management workshop of North Island Fish and Game staff. The principal aim was to get regions working together in a more consistent and collaborative manner. The workshop proved very successful and included staff training in mark recapture recovery analysis, monitoring techniques and harvest regulation management. DoC staff from the banding office in Wellington also attended for a session.

With a number of statutory reviews on the horizon it is very important that Fish and Game can show coordinated and robust species management. One of the key outcomes of the workshop was to prepare national waterfowl management reports. Black swan will probably be first on the list.

The workshop was very well received and proved very informative, particularly to the newer staff.

Tauranga Harbour Swan

Fish and Game conducted a count of black swan on Tauranga Harbour and estuaries down to and including, Ohiwa Harbour. This was conducted by request of the EBOP staff but also fitted in with our long-term monitoring of this species. A full report is provided in PFI.

Shoveler survey

The National shoveler survey is planned for August the 8th weather permitting. Regions and helpers have been sent survey sheets and instructions.

1121 Lake Fisheries Creel Surveys

2021-2022 Summer Creel Survey

The 2021-22 summer survey has been analysed and the report is being written.

1123 Game Bird Hunter Survey

The first five periods of the hunter survey have been completed (included within the Papers for Information). Very preliminary results indicate the mallard harvest (20,000) was on par with the previous three years.

1141 Hatchery Operations

A large run of fish into the Te Wairua stream has kept staff busy monitoring and collecting brood fish for the breeding program. 74 quality crosses, producing over 300,000 ova have been taken to date, putting the ova take ahead of schedule for the season. Another ten or so crosses will be taken before trapping finishes at the end of August.

Final autumn liberations to the Rotorua lakes were completed and fish were collected by Auckland Waikato Fish & Game Region and ova delivered to Taranaki Fish & Game Region (as outlined in the table below).

Fish locations at 21st July 2022:

Location	Type	Age	Qty (approx)	Comment
Hatchery	Rt	Ova	50K	2023 season liberations
Hatchery	Rt	Fry	50K	2023 season liberations
Tank B	Rt	0+	200	Brook
Tank D	Rt	0+	1,000	Akl/Wai F&G liberation spring 2022
Tank E	Rt	1+	10	Best of brood, 1+ for 2023
Tank F	Bt	0+	1,050	0+ for 2022 liberation
Pond 2	Rt	0+	12,000	0+ for 2022 spring liberation
Pond 4	Rt	1+	1,000	2022 spring liberation, Akl/Wai
Pond 5	Rt	1+	8,000	2022 spring liberation
Pond 6	Rt	1+	8,000	2022 spring liberation
Pond 7	Rt	1+	8,000	2022 spring liberation
RW1	Rt	1+	800	Rising 1+ for Akl/Wai
RW2	Rt	1+	5,000	Rising 1+ for KF programmes
Kids	Rt		2,000	2+ for Eastern KF programme 2022

1143 Te Wairoa Trap

The trapping season at the Fish & Game fish trap (Te Wairoa Stream) at Lake Tarawera started on the 1st of April following trap installation. At the 13th of July 2022 we have trapped 2,396 fish. This compares to 2,020 fish during the 2021 run to the same date.

The average size of the trout running this winter is 552mm and 2.07kg compared with 536mm and 1.93kg to the same period during the 2021 run. Wild origin fish have made up 38% of the run to the 13th of July 2022 compared to 29% over the same period in 2021. The wild fish this winter on average have been 519mm long and 1.77kg in weight. They are significantly larger (18mm, P<0.001) and significantly heavier (160g, P<0.001) on average than the 2021 wild fish. The hatchery marked fish up to 13th of July 2022 have been on average 565mm long and 2.20kg in weight, which is significantly longer (15mm, P<0.001) and significantly heavier (140g, P<0.001) than the fish running the Te Wairoa Stream during the 2021 winter to the same point.

1161 Sports Fish Liberations

Liberations, Eastern Region 18 May – 21 July 2022

Water	Date	Mark	Tag	Species	Age	Number
Rotoma	19/5/22	Rpad	-	Tiger	1+	715
Rotoma	19/5/22	Rpad	-	Rt	1+	2,000
Rerewhakaaitu	27/5/22	Rpad	-	Rt	1+	2,500

Fish were also collected by Auckland Waikato Fish & Game and the University of Waikato, and ova was shipped to Taranaki Fish & Game.

HABITAT PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE

Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Fish and 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 is continuing. No new developments

Waikato Regional Council

In March 2018 Auckland/Waikato and Eastern Fish and Game Council's 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. A/W Fish and Game Council, with support from Eastern, have appealed a number of matters. Waikato Healthy Rivers plan has since stalled due to the recent and upcoming national legislation. There is some concern over the legitimacy of OVERSEER for nitrogen modelling which has been raised through the healthy rivers process. Discussion among the Fish and Game RMA group on this topic is starting.

Gisborne District Council

Following the conclusion of the Gisborne Freshwater Plan, the Motu Catchment Plan process is now underway. Fish and Game has so far had some input in identifying values, and we expect to have a greater involvement in its development during the year. Additionally, stakeholder consultation is scheduled to begin shortly on the Regional Policy Statement, Freshwater Plan amendments, and the Waiapu, Waimata, Uawa, Waipaoa, Wharehika and Hangaroa catchments.

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

Public notification of the draft Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy has been revoked. The purpose of the revocation is to ensure further engagement opportunities are provided. The Department intended to re-notify the draft in 2021. There have been no new developments in this space.

Various Fish and Game regions are currently collaborating on a submission to amend some parts of the NES-Freshwater 2020 that are unacceptable. 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.

RMA staff have been involved in putting together a paper on keeping Fish and Game relevant in legislation. This is in response to the suite of resource management, conservation, and wildlife management legislation which is currently under review.

Following on from Fish and Games involvement in the Indigenous Biodiversity Strategy, NZ Council have recently made a submission on the exposure draft of the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity.

In 2021 Fish and Game submitted on and attended a hearing on the Western BOP District Council Long Term Plan. The Plan allocates funding to create a new cycle/walkway along the stop bank adjoining the Kaituna Wildlife Management Reserve. Fish and Game is concerned that this proposal may have significant impacts on the wildlife values and use of the wetland and have opposed its creation. The WBOPDC has since indicated that it will be happy to meet with Fish and Game to discuss our concerns. No new developments to report.

The Department of Conservation is currently in the early stages of a Wildlife Act review process. Fish and Game staff have been collaborating at a national level as a precursor to having an input into the process.

1212 Consent Applications

Date	Authority	Applicant	Type	Resource Involved	Action
5 Jul 22	BOPRC	K&S Watkins	WP- pasture irrigation renewal	Tarawera River & Awakaponga wetland	Approved

Consents of Note:

1/ BOPRC Diquat consent variation application to spray aquatic pest weeds in the Rotorua lakes. Discussions have been occurring for twelve months (with new consent only granted in 2019) to modify some conditions related to percentages of areas to be sprayed each single application. In principle we are not opposed to spraying aquatic pest plants but have major reservations about severe littoral zone habitat and associated food source loss for trout with large percentages being sprayed. We are also seeking clarification regarding what is a new incursion versus eradication processes within BOPRC's procedures. Our reservations may be addressed to some degree with Te Arawa's cultural monitoring but information may not be available until well past permissions for this variation are sought. Once a final outcome is obtained we will update the Council.

Catfish Incursion Lakes Rotoiti and Rotorua

During winter, the catch per unit effort for catfish drops markedly compared to summer.

Control through netting is currently underway at;

- Te Weta Bay (Lake Rotoiti), less than 10 catfish caught per week, nets checked daily by volunteers and kura.
- Nets reintroduced at Lake Rotorua just inside Ohinemutu Village. This location historically (2019/2020) has seen a number of large catfish caught, however last year only 5 caught at this location. At the start of May (checked by Rotorua Primary School), over 60 catfish ranging from juveniles to 30cm+ adults were caught. This showed clear signs of a decent population residing in the Lakefront. However since this initial catch, numbers have dropped right off again (a combination of storms, winter hiding patterns etc).
- With the recent purchase of the vessel 'Koura', TALT have taken over the BOPRC netting contract previously held by the late Geoff Ewert. Around 40 nets at a time will be set in various locations around the eastern side of Lake Rotoiti in areas inaccessible by foot to increase our capacity in catfish netting and monitoring. The first week of this netting contact (end of May) saw nearly 1700 catfish caught and removed, which were significant numbers for that time of year.
- The first High School has joined the 'Catfish Killas' programme, where a group of year 11 outdoor education students were taught the ecological and cultural impacts of catfish and other pests on the lake and took them out to Te Weta Bay to check the nets. Getting the programme into high schools is a huge step for TALT in trying to contact and educate all schools (kura) across Te Arawa, even into NZQA.
- TALT have also recently hosted Te Tūkōhu Ngāwhā- their first Maturanga Maori Science Fair. The winning project was done by Alex Malcom, who designed a trap which will be used to monitor catfish populations in their natural habitats. The trap is designed in a way that when a catfish enters the trap, a laser will be triggered which will turn on a camera which will take real-time images of the catfish. It was an extremely impressive project, read more about it here. <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/rotorua-daily-post/news/rotoruas-inaugural-te-tukohu-ngawha-science-and-design-fair-features-impressive-exhibits/QHWYKCBKWKRRNF5TBNAL7VXYHM/>
- More schools are expected to join the netting programme into Term 3 in preparation for the spawning season to begin.

1221 Reserves Management

Planning is currently underway for the summer maintenance programme – including mowing, pest plant spraying, water reticulation works and water control structure repairs.

Meetings are scheduled to meet with BOPRC and DOC to consider “global” resource consents to undertake enhancement and maintenance activities within wetland reserves that are no longer permitted under the new rules of the NES. Also to be discussed is what activities we can undertake regarding maintenance within their plan now.

1231 Respond to Landowner Requests for Assistance

No new landowner requests have been received since the last Council meeting.

A NZGBHT funding application was lodged to assist the Burt Wetland in Te Puke and we are currently working with BOPRC consents staff to ascertain what resource consents are required now as a result of the new rules under the NES.

Two other landowners require site visits in the Gisborne district which will be undertaken in August.

1232 Habitat Projects

Environmental Code of Practice

The BOPRC Rivers and Drainage division have approached us for comment regarding review of their “environmental code of practice” concerning habitat enhancements. This is a result of an independent audit undertaken on their river works of which Fish & Game had input. Initial discussions look encouraging, but a practical approach must be undertaken considering the scope of their mandate, assets and finances received.

Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust

Matt McDougall is the Councils representative on the Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust (WCEET). The Trust met to review 26 applications for funding. Over \$450,000 was granted for a variety of habitat projects many of which will benefit sports fish and game.

Climate change workshop – Fisheries

Matt McDougall attended his second climate change workshop run on behalf of Environment Bay of Plenty. The workshop aimed to identify threats to fisheries (salt and freshwater), both wild and aquaculture. At this stage it is not clear how the information will be incorporated into the planning process – it is more of an exercise in determining possible impacts and severity. What is clear is the impacts could be wide and severe.

ANGLER AND HUNTER PARTICIPATION

1311 Maintain & Enhance Access

Recreational access into Timberlands forests is continuing weekends only. This includes Rotoehu Forest for hunting, and Kaingaroa Forest for fishing and hunting, and through Waimangu Forest for access to Lake Rotomahana.

Ongoing liaison with Walking Access Commission and with landowners/managers regarding angler access.

1312 Signage

Sign maintenance and enhancement is ongoing with replacements as required.

1331 Electronic Newsletters

Reel Life E-zine is not published during winter. Both Barrels was produced for May, June and July.

1332 Fish & Game Publications

Articles and photos were supplied for the 2022-2023 Fish and Game New Zealand magazine which will be distributed to 2021-2022 whole season fish licence holders in August 2022.

1333 Fish & Game Website

Updates or changes to the Eastern Web site included Council agendas and minutes, a new children's fishing page was created.

1334 Social Media

Facebook continues to attract good traffic with over 1,500 organic followers. Our Instagram page is increasing in popularity with almost 292 followers.

1341 Information Pamphlets

A stocktake of current pamphlets has been carried out. A new pamphlet has been created which combines the old Ruakituri and Wairoa fisheries pamphlets. Copies will be available from August.

1351 Junior Angler/Hunter Programmes

The Children's Fishing days will recommence this year with the first due to take place in August in conjunction with the Rotorua Anglers Association.

1352 Angler/Hunter Training

No angler/hunter training was held for the reporting period. Preparation for the children's fishing event scheduled for August is underway.

1354 Fishing Competitions

Nine fishing competition permits were processed for the period.

1361 Fish & Game Club Communications

No club visits were conducted during the reporting period.

1371 Fish & Game Huts

Routine maintenance as required. No issues to report at present.

PUBLIC INTERFACE

1411 Statutory Liaison and Political Awareness

Taupo Fishery Advisory Committee (TFAC)

Matt Osborne attended the TFAC meeting on 20 July 2022. Issues discussed were future licensing and revenue, Anglers Notice processes and species monitoring.

1421 Public Communications

Daily post interview with Andy Garrick and Arash Alaeinia were conducted as retiring CE and new CE for EF&G.

COMPLIANCE

1511 Ranging

Compliance work continues focusing on winter angler surveys and spawning area monitoring, including at Waikaremoana as well as the Rotorua area. There have been some incidents of attended involving fishing in closed waters, and some evidence of poaching in closed spawning streams in the Rotorua area. Staff visits to these areas continue.

Two incidents involving works near spawning streams are being investigated and monitored: firstly the removal of trees at a location alongside the Upper Uthina Stream and effects during and subsequent to rainfall from a development at the Upper Mangakakahi Stream in Rotorua. Staff are working with both Rotorua Lakes Council and BOPRC regarding these matters.

No further issues relating to the remainder of the game season have arisen.

Contacts Year to Date 2021-2022.

2184 anglers and hunters have been checked for compliance YTD. Overall compliance is in excess of 98 %.

Contacts: Year 2021-2022

Month	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Last 5 yr average
September	21	21	46	16	51	31
October	836	893	726	724	718	779
November	69	20	126	16	66	59
December	390	309	237	287	182	281
January	195	442	246	404	352	328
February	137	307	265	155	140	132
March	199	180	23	164	93	140
April	178	124	7	153	238	116
May	226	252	143	297	203	224
June	172	168	162	124	141	153
July	80	63	75	45		66
August	33	54	20	22		32
Total	2536	2833	2076	2407	2184	2407

National CLE Liaison Role

CLE and prosecution advice provided to various regions on request. Coordination of ranger safety and communications (CERT) training nationally with 4 refresher courses now planned across the country before end of Nov. 2022.

1521 Ranger Training

Ongoing staff compliance refresher training sessions carried out. A ranger's training day is scheduled for August, and we will host a CERT training day here in November, with several regions planning to send staff and honorary rangers to attend at that day.

Rangers

Honorary Rangers continue to contribute around the region as they are able to.

1531 Prosecutions

Prosecutions have been proceeding well with most matters dealt with being resolved via diversion processes. Some further matters have been resolved via Court with satisfactory outcomes resulting.

Offences 2021-2022 Year:

23 persons dealt with for 28 offences as tabled below.

Offence table 2021-2022 year to mid July 2022

Offence name	Number of offences
Fishing without licence	10
Fishing in closed waters	2
Fishing with more than 1 rod	2
Gives false details	1
Possession of spear	7
Possession of lead shot ammunition while hunting waterfowl	2
Total number of offences	28

Offences Pending Resolution

11 separate offences are pending resolution, by 5 offenders details as per the table below. All these persons have warrants for arrest either in lieu of summons or for failing to appear in Court and are for matters which took place from 2016 to 2019.

The table below shows offences currently pending resolution:

Offence name	Numbers
Fish without licence	6
Illegal tackle	1
Possess net-spear-gaff	1
Fish closed waters	1
False details	2
Total number of offences	11

LICENSING

1621 Licence Agent Support

Agent requests for licence corrections, brochures, and information was attended to as and when required. Staff continue to visit key licence agents in Rotorua, and other area's as the opportunity arises.

PLANNING AND REPORTING

1812 R3 Programme

Work has started to promote 'Fishing' at the Rotorua I'site and to have them enabled as a fishing licence agent. This project would see information on 'how to fish', rental of fishing gear, options for cooking/preparing of the caught trout and promoting fishing guides/charters. Fishing is part of RotoruaNZ's new top 3 focuses these being mountain biking, fishing and wellness.

1841 NZ Fish & Game Liaison

Kate Thompson continued to provide regular updates of licence sales and other information requests to the New Zealand Council and regions. She has also provided ongoing input to discussions regarding the licence system upgrade, and provided assistance with User Acceptance Testing (UAT).

8.4 LICENCE SALES REPORT

28 July 2022

1. 2021-2022 Fish Licence Sales

1.1 Fish licence sales for the 2021-22 season compared with the 2020-21 season YTD to 28 July are summarised in Table One. Fish licence sales are currently reporting to be 6.6% below 2020-21 season results.

Table One: Fish Licence Sales 2021-22 vs 2020-21 YTD results to 27 July 2022

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	
Fish Adult								
Family	1,220	1,423	2,643	1,111	1,433	2,544	-99	
Season	1,053	1,239	2,292	979	1,164	2,143	-149	
Season Non-Resident	24	38	62	14	38	52	-10	
Loyal Senior	273	250	523	269	267	536	13	
Local Area Adult	983	682	1,665	894	626	1,520	-145	
Winter Adult	235	320	555	180	312	492	-63	
Long Break Adult	24	35	59	12	24	36	-23	
Short Break Adult	411	832	1,243	275	713	988	-255	
Day	1,427	2,607	4,034	1,060	2,540	3,600	-434	
Day Non-Resident	20	128	148	32	124	156	8	
Total Adult	5,670	7,554	13,224	4,826	7,241	12,067	-1157	
Fish Junior								
Season	217	226	443	189	231	420	-23	
Season Non-Resident	2	2	4	0	5	5	1	
Day	145	250	395	115	219	334	-61	
Day Non-Resident	3	5	8	2	8	10	2	
Total Junior	367	483	850	306	463	769	-81	
Fish Child								
Season Non-Resident	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	
Day Non-Resident	0	3	3	0	4	4	1	
Total Child	0	3	3	0	6	6	3	
Total Fish	6,037	8,040	14,077	5,132	7,710	12,842	-1235	
Whole Season Equivalent (LEQ)			9,155				8,549	-606
Variance between Seasons								-6.6%
\$ (excl GST)			\$1,058,778				\$1,018,419	-\$40,359

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	8,549	99.9%	\$1,018,419
Variance to budget	-5	-0.1%	-\$582

Estimate of Complete Season 2021-22 vs Total Budget 2021-22 based on current YTD variance

2021-22 Budgeted LEQ's	8,554	100.0%	\$1,019,001
2020-21 Complete Season LEQ's	9,199		\$1,063,903
2021-22 Est. year end based on current variance	8,590	100.4%	\$1,023,331
Est Shortfall/Surplus 2021-22 Season vs Budget	36	0.4%	\$4,330

- 1.2 The YTD results are just 5 LEQ's shy of the target for the Season. Assuming sales track similarly to last season it is expected the sales target will be met and exceeded by approximately 36 LEQ's.
- 1.3 Although the decline on 2020-2021 results appears to be across all categories the short-term categories have seen higher percentage reductions with long break, short break and day licences falling 39%, 21% and 11% respectively. On completion of the season, we will aim investigate these declines further.

2. 2022 Game Licence Sales

- 2.1 Game licence sales for the 2022 Game Bird Hunting season compared with the 2021 season to 27 July are summarised in Table Two.
- 2.2 Game licence sales are currently reporting to be just 0.8% behind the 2021 season results for the same period.
- 2.3 Game licence sales targets were also set conservatively and as a result the Game licence sales to 27 July 2022 have exceeded the budget by 265 LEQs (9.6%) YTD.

Table Two: Game Licence Sales 2021-22 vs 2020-21 YTD results to 27 July 2022

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
Game							
Adult Season	2,481	470	2,951	2,480	458	2,938	-13
Adult Day	67	87	154	33	81	114	-40
Junior Season	229	64	293	243	49	292	-1
Junior Day	1	3	4	2	2	4	0
Child Season	107	19	126	111	13	124	-2
Total Game	2,885	643	3,528	2,869	603	3,472	-56
Whole Season Equivalent (LEQ)			3,042			3,019	-23
Variance between Seasons							-0.8%
\$ (excl GST)			\$248,611			\$251,981	\$3,370

Summary 2021-2022 Season YTD Actual vs Total Budget

2021-22 Annual Budgeted Game LEQs	2,754	100.0%	\$229,867
2021-22 Actual	3,019	109.6%	\$251,981
Variance to budget	265	9.6%	\$22,114

8.5 CHIEF EXECUTIVE REVIEW & UPDATE

Two months into the new role, I find that the organisation has a strong team culture matched with extensive knowledge and experience. I am extremely pleased by the Kaupapa that all staff display and have found many people complimenting me on the attitude and professionalism of the team.

R3 & Marketing - During this first 60 days I have engaged in kickstarting an R3 program that had been created 2 years ago to create a sales and marketing point at the I-site.

Investigating sponsorship and promoted 'koha' donations on site that would also lead into new signage at the office building to inform the public of our work.

Health & Safety – although this area is tracking well, there is room for review and improvements of our process and collation of action and activities.

Business Continuity – with the heavy rain fall and threat of slips that could affect our hatchery, there is a real need to develop a proper procedure that is practical that will support the organisation to continue in the event of a major incident.

Rental Properties – The house on site has been rented after last tenant vacated. The property needed some minor work before it could be re-rented. Ray White have taken on the management of this property and had a tenant waiting to move in once work was completed. The house at the entrance was recently inspected and there are some minor maintenance works that is needed. We are arranging for a rental appraisal, as no rent increase has been applied since the current tenant moved in 2.5 years ago. Once the appraisal has been carried and tenant consulted, we will be asking Ray White to manage the rental. The cottage is in desperate need of repair, which currently we do not have the funds. I am looking into options for best return on the land until an appropriate plan is formed.

Networks and Contacts – I have joined our organisation to the Chamber of Commerce and Firestation and attended networking events. In Spring we will host a BA5 (Business After 5) social and networking event here to promote our work, team and site. I am also compiling a list of contacts in local and regional government, stakeholders, iwi, angling clubs, commercial enterprises, active working groups and local parliamentarians that I should meet and start a relationship. I have established a monthly meeting with DoC Area Manager for Rotorua. I was also able to present to the Te Arawa Lakes Trust's Komiti Taiao (Environmental Committee) at their last hui on zoom which Cr Ngahi Bidois also attended.

Wages & Salaries – There is work being carried out by the Strategic Pay Review team and a report is due by October. The reality of our situation is that our valued staff are financially disadvantaged with a no CPI increase 2 years ago and CPI increase this year will be in September at 5.6% and YTD CPI is at 7.9%. Our budget for next year has not considered the continuing rise of inflation and has no consideration for possible salary increases after the ISG report. I am mindful that this is an area of concern for our organisation's wellbeing on many levels.

Amalgamation – I responded to the Implementation Strategy Review Team with our Councils resolution and appropriate reports to add context to the Councils decision with the pros and cons for staying independent and amalgamating with Hawke's Bay Region as our 2nd choice.

9. 2022-2023 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN

Ref: 8.02.01

29 July 2022

1. Purpose

To approve the final draft of the Operational Work Plan prepared for the 2022-2023 year after addressing any changes that might have been proposed since this draft was approved at Council's June meeting.

2. Background

During Council's February meeting there were no resolutions taken on amending priorities or Council direction for the 2022-2023 operational year. At the April meeting Council supported staff recommendations for two applications for contestable funding and two proposals to use Eastern Region's general reserves be forwarded to the NZ Council. These applications were subsequently submitted to and approved by regional Fish & Game managers and the NZ Council subject to Ministerial approval of Fish & Game's proposed licence fees for 2022-2023 which were considered at the June meeting. The items proposed to be provided for from the Region's general reserves were approved by the New Zealand Council on the following basis:

- \$10,000 for increases in fuel costs. The NZC elected to cover this from licence income across the board for all regions.
- \$2,994 to offset loss of interest income. The NZC approved a different approach to interest where it will in future be budgeted alongside licence revenue each year to avoid impacting regional budgets when interest rates fluctuate annually. The interest budget was removed in its entirety from the OWP.

A PDF draft of the 2022-2023 OWP (including approved funding bids) was forwarded to all Eastern Fish & Game councillors ahead of Council's last meeting. At that meeting (June 2022), one final adjustment was proposed to amend the wording of the "Increasing Revenue" priority and the revised draft was approved for circulation to other parties for comment (resolution [22/06/9.3]).

Copies of the second draft were sent to clubs and stakeholders after the meeting (clubs for whom we have a current address, Department of Conservation, Te Uru Taumatua, Te Arawa Lakes Trust) with a request that any comments they might have be returned to us by Friday 22 July. No submissions or feedback has been received to date, nor are staff proposing any additional amendments.

The minister approved the proposed licence fees for the 2022-2023 Season on 27 June 2022.

3. Recommendations

3.1 That Council approves the proposed Operational Work Plan and budget for the 2022-2023 year, and

3.2 Council delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to approve expenditure during the year as set out in the Council approved Operational Work Plan and budget.

10. PRESENTATION

Assessing Population size of the Mallard by Matt McDougall

11. F&GNZ COMMUNICATION STRATEGY 2022

NZ Council has asked for feedback from the Regional Councils on the draft Communications Strategy by the 17th October.

12. LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS

12.1 Conservation Boards

- Bay of Plenty Conservation Board

12.2 Reports from Other Agencies

- Department of Conservation

12.3 Report from New Zealand Council

- Cr Debbie Oakley

13. PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

Ref: 9.01.01

28 July 2022

1. Purpose

To approve minutes from Council’s public excluded session 9 June 2022.

2. Resolutions

2.1 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 review draft meeting minutes of the Public Excluded session for the Council Meeting of 9 June 2022.

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

GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED	REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER	GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION
Confirmation of public excluded minutes from Council meetings on 9 June 2022.	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:

ITEM	REASON UNDER ACT	SECTION	PLAIN ENGLISH REASON
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 prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.	Sec 9(2)(ba)(i)	Disclosing the information would jeopardise the relationship with the supplier because the supplier may no longer trust the Council to hold its information in confidence.	Not unless there is a public interest in disclosure of the specific information.

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

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

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

2.2 That Council moves out of public excluded at ... pm.

2.3 That the public be re-admitted to the meeting at ... pm.