



NORTHLAND FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

AGENDA

PLACE:	NORTHLAND FISH & GAME OFFICE UNIT A5, 7–11 NELL PLACE, WHANGAREI
DATE:	<u>Friday 26 July 2024</u>
MEETING STARTS:	7.00pm
DINNER:	6.00pm

Welcome/Apologies

Annual or One Year Agenda Pg 1

Confirmation of Minutes of Meetings held at Whangarei on the 17 May 2024 Pg 2
Matters Arising from Minutes

Managers' Report Pg 8
Field Officers Reports Pg 15

NZFGC Update

Final approval of draft 2024-2025 budget Separate Paper
Final approval of draft Operational Work Plan 2024-25 Separate Paper

Consultation on National Compliance Policy Separate Paper

Health & Safety Report Pg 19
Executive Limitations Report Pg 21
Financial Reports Separate paper
Correspondence Schedule Pg 23

Other Business

NORTHLAND FISH & GAME ANNUAL OR ONE-YEAR AGENDA

Meetings	Council process	Regular agenda items	Annual items	Ad hoc items
Thursday 25 January 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routine – Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising, agenda items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managers Operational & Financial Reports ▪ Urgent General Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Finalising Game Notice ▪ Evaluation of Council’s Governance Review ▪ Confirm trout order for 2025 liberation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Friday 8 March 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routine – Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising, agenda items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managers Operational & Financial Reports ▪ Urgent General Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Draft Budget -Items to be considered for following year business plan ▪ Report from Chairman on governance review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Friday 17 May 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routine – Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising, agenda items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managers Operational & Financial Reports ▪ Urgent General Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Budget & Licence Fee Recommendations ▪ Anglers Notice – issues requiring NZC consideration ▪ Draft OWP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Friday 26 July 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routine – Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising, agenda items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managers Operational & Financial Reports ▪ Urgent General Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Budget and OWP – final sign-off ▪ Managers Annual Performance Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Friday 20 September 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routine – Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising, agenda items. Final meeting of current council before elections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managers Operational & Financial Reports ▪ Urgent General Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meeting programme - dates & venues for next year’s meetings. ▪ Managers performance review report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Friday 8 November 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routine – Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising, agenda items. Inaugural meeting of new council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managers Operational & Financial Reports ▪ Urgent General Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Induction for new councillors to Northland Fish and Game Council ▪ Governance training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Wednesday 11 December 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routine – Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising, agenda items. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managers Operational & Financial Reports ▪ Urgent General Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chairman and Managers Annual Report ▪ Financial Statement for year ended 31 August 2024 ▪ Draft Game Notice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪

NORTHLAND FISH & GAME COUNCIL
UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD AT THE NORTHLAND FISH & GAME OFFICE
NELL PLACE, WHANGAREI
7.00PM THURSDAY 17th MAY 2024

PRESENT:

Chairman: Phil Durham

Councillors: Cameron Shanks, Mark Bell, John Skeates Darryl Reardon, John McEntee

Staff: Craig Deal (Manager), Rachael Quin (Administrator)

Member of the public: Noel Birchall

Conservation Board: Penny Smart (via teleconference)

The Chairman welcomed the councillors and members of the public. The Conflict-of-Interest register was circulated around the table for all councillors to sign and declare any conflicts.

APOLOGIES: Russell Daniels, Kelvin Ellis

It was moved: **That apologies are accepted.**

Cameron Shanks / Mark Bell **CARRIED**

Previous Minutes

Cr. Bell corrected his statement regarding spend to focus on licence sales (page 4).

It was resolved: **That the amended minutes of the meeting held on the 8th March 2024 are confirmed as true and correct.**

John McEntee / Cameron Shanks **CARRIED**

Matters Arising

None.

Managers' Report

1411 Conservation Board Liaison

No response from DOC Kauri Coast regarding taking over the resource consent for Awakino wetland weir. The management agreement expires 2028.

1500 Compliance

The manager commented on disappointing level of compliance over opening weekend and resulting offence notices to process. A letter has been sent to police expressing appreciation for their support of Fish & Game rangers and an invitation to attend future ranging.

1800 Budget

The manager stated that the submitted draft budget will not be altered by NZ Council. A discussion was held on the lower than forecast licence sales and the effect that non-compliance is having on our budget. The council is in agreement with the manager that the cost of prosecution cannot influence decisions to bring offenders before the court. The results of prosecutions will be as widely publicised as possible.

Action: The manager will consult "in house" regarding legal advice and the Chairman will write to NZ Council outlaying our concerns regarding the level of non-compliance and the cost of prosecutions.

It was moved: **That the Managers report be received.**

Mark Bell / John McEntee

CARRIED

Field Officers Reports

The recent botulism outbreak has highlighted the lack of awareness by Whangarei District Council of their responsibility and obligation to report these to Fish & Game.

Action: The manager to find a Whangarei District Council contact involved with botulism outbreaks.

Noel Birchall attended the duck night at the Kerikeri Hunting & Fishing store and spoke on behalf of Fish & Game. The Chairman attended the duck night at Whangārei Hunting and Fishing.

It was moved: **That the Field Officers reports be received.**

Cameron Shanks / Darryl Reardon

CARRIED

NZFGC Update

Cr. Reardon attended the recent National Council meeting #168 and tabled the Summary report, Future Finance Purpose document and the Future Structure Working Group Recommendations to NZFGC.

Action: Councillors are to read the recommendations and if necessary, a special meeting will be called. Manager is to distribute these reports via email after the meeting.

The draft Compliance Policy was circulated to regions. Feedback is due in July.

Action: The manager is to circulate the policy and obtain compliance feedback from the rangers.

A discussion was held on the response to the Minister's letter to Fish and Game Councils. It was noted as a positive step that NZ Council now have direct access and communication with the Minister.

The Chairman read out his letter of response to Minister McLay sent on behalf of Northland Fish and Game Council.

Action: Manager to forward Chairmans letter to councillors for comment.

Election

Noel Birchall suggested the public are emailed prior to the election outlining the role and its importance along with a nomination form. The manager stated that there will be a national campaign along those lines.

The Chairman proposed that confirmed minutes and upcoming meeting agendas are emailed to current and lapsed Northland licence holders.

It was moved: *That recent confirmed minutes and agenda are emailed to current and lapsed Northland licence holders.*

Cameron Shanks / Mark Bell *CARRIED*

Anglers Notice Confirmation

The manager stated there are no proposed changes to the draft Northland region anglers' notice.

It was moved: *That the Anglers Notice be approved.*

Darryl Reardon / Cameron Shanks *CARRIED*

Action: Manager to send the Anglers Notice to NZC for publishing in the gazette.

Licence Fee Recommendation 2024-25

The manager suggested it be on record that no increase to the licence fee has a greater impact on smaller regions with less reserves. It was agreed that the Chairmans letter to Minister McLay spoke to this. Councillors discussed rising costs and that the licence fee should be increased at least by CPI.

It was moved: *The Northland Fish and Game council proposes that the licence fees be raised by at least the CPI to at least keep pace with rising costs.*

LEQ Feedback

Forecasted LEQ licence sales figures were anticipated to be slightly higher than what might be sold considering the decline in sales over the most recent seasons.

It was moved: That the forecasted licence sales figures are accepted.

Darryl Reardon / Mark Bell

CARRIED

Cr. Reardon left the meeting at 9.27pm.

Draft Operational Work Plan (OWP) 2024-25

The manager referred to the Banding Program memorandum and outlined the benefits, requesting permission from council to assess feasibility. Its scientific value was discussed. Cr. Skeates requested models and results from other studies.

Action: Manager will provide information on how banding data is used to inform regulations in other regions, to assist in deciding on banding proposal before final approval of OWP 2024-25 at next meeting.

It was moved: That the manager has approval to scope out feasibility of commencing a Northland banding program.

Cameron Shanks / John McEntee

CARRIED

The manager pointed out the changes to draft OWP regarding works and management, media, and prosecutions.

It was moved: The Annual Operational Work Plan 2024-25 be accepted.

Mark Bell / John McEntee

CARRIED

Health and Safety Report

Northland Fish & Game is required to give a Health & Safety report at each council meeting detailing:

- The implementation and adherence to Health & Safety policy/manual
- Any new issues or hazards that have arisen and how these have been addressed
- Progress with any ongoing issues
- Outcomes of audits and reviews required in the Health & Safety manual

- Any near misses or injuries

It was moved: **That the Health and Safety Report is received.**

Cameron Shanks / Mark Bell **CARRIED**

Executive Limitations Report

It was moved: **That the Executive Limitations Report is received.**

Mark Bell / John Skeates **CARRIED**

Financial Reports

Financial report ending 31 March 2024. Licence sales YTD circulated to the councillors.

Action: The manager is to analyse the overall cost of conducting a field officers vehicle replacement to report to the chair.

It was moved: **That the Financial Report is adopted.**

John McEntee / John Skeates **CARRIED**

General Business

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Phil Durham
Chairman

To: All Councillors
From: Craig Deal
Date: 15 July 2024
Subject: Managers Report

The following is an account of activities that management has been involved in since the 17 May 2024 meeting.

1110 Species Monitoring

See memo for information regarding the utility of a duck banding program in setting harvest regulations.

National shoveler survey is scheduled for 5th August 2024.

1119 Trout Population Assessment

Effort is being made to survey streams for trout spawning activity. Maps of spawning areas are instrumental in engagement in the resource management process. A survey of the inflow into Wilsons Dam has shown no evidence of trout or redds. A recent investigation by John Macpherson has discovered the likelihood of trout in the Oruru stream near Peria. We do not have this stream listed as a fishery.

1122 Hunter Survey

Hunter survey continues in accordance with national procedure.



A Northland hunter after a successful paradise duck hunt in the Hikurangi area

1160 Releases

A request has been received from an individual wanting to release reared pheasants onto a property near Poroti. I am looking into the legal and procedural requirements for this to occur and will be providing advice. I will put it to the councils approval once the application is finalised.

Trout liberations occurred 22 May. 300 yearling rainbows went into each reservoir without casualty.

1171 Anglers Notice

The Anglers Notice has been submitted to New Zealand Fish and Game Council in the form approved by Council at the last meeting.

1181 Game Bird Dispersal

Requests for permits to disturb and kill nuisance game birds have ceased.

1210 Resource Management Act

A hearing was attended for the regional councils Long Term Plan. The proposed plan has been made public and has no mention of the Freshwater Plan. It appears as though it is not a priority currently for NRC considering the horizon has been pushed out by the new government, and it is likely that the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management is going to be amended anyway.

Hearings for the Far North District Plan will be attended over the period through to September. Main arguments were for permitted activity to allow wetland restoration and maintenance, and permissions for maimai to be built and maintained in, on and near water.

A hearing was attended by John, Mischa and myself in Kaikohe over the consent renewal for the Kaitaia Wastewater Treatment Plant. The main issue for us was to get a botulism management plan incorporated into the consent conditions. FNDC have agreed to do this.

A submission was entered for the resource consent application by Meridian Energy to build a solar farm at Marsden Point. The application is requesting to drain 17ha of wetland which is known foraging habitat for all manner of waterfowl. This goes against the recently set National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES-F). Our submission is opposing the application on the grounds that it does not meet the requirements of the NES-F in that regional councils cannot allow the destruction of wetlands.

1220 Works and Management

1221 Jack Bisset Wetland

The report for the monitoring visit by QEII staff has been received and forwarded to councillors. More predator control was recommended due to the likelihood of breeding bittern. More control work on Chinese privet was also recommended. This was targeted in a working bee in March, and will be targeted at the next working bee. Unused budget for a culvert repair has been used to purchase 8 self-resetting predator traps at a cost of \$4,460.80. This will allow persistent and targeted predator control as the waterfowl breeding season nears. This will go some way to fulfilling the request from the QEII monitoring report for more intensive predator control to protect the bittern population.

1225 Flaxmill Wetland

The QEII Trust monitoring report has been received and forwarded to councillors.

1226.1 Underwood Wetland

The culvert repair works came in at a cost of \$1817.00. The access track will receive another topping of lime rock before the end of the financial year.

1227 Te Hiku Forest Predator Project

Kaitaia Field Officer is liaising with Summit Forestry to scope the possibility of using the money from the predator control fund (about \$5000.00) to get self resetting traps for cat control in Te Hiku Forest.

Permit returns in previous years have noted a high level of cat sightings and the predator control that Summit was supposed to be contracting out is not occurring.

1228.01 Awakino Wetland

I am in the process of surrendering the resource consent for Awakino Wetland. Both of the activities on the consent are now permitted activities.

1232 Advice to Property Owners

Staff visited a property off the Whananaki Road to provide advice for a private wetland development and possibly support a GBHT application.

1310 Access

The Whau Valley fishing tuition day has been scheduled for 5th October 2024. This will enable anyone who buys a full season licence to get full years use out of it. Rough concept is to discuss the various methods that can catch fish in the dam followed by demonstration and coaching. 9am – midday.



A brace of cock pheasant from a forestry block on the Northland Forests Permit. The forest blocks are hunting well for pheasant this season

1330 Newsletters

Both Barrels articles have been published for May and June.

The regional supplement for the Fish Magazine was submitted with associated photographs.

1411 Conservation Board Liaison

I have asked if DOC Kauri Coast would like to take over the resource consent for the Awakino wetland weir before I surrender it, but have not received a response.

1412 Mana Whenua Liaison

I introduced myself to the team from Lake Omapere Trust at the hearings for the regional councils Long Term Plan. The project manager for the clean up project is an acquaintance from the military.

1413 Regional/District Council Liaison

No response was received from NRC regarding the black swan letter that I sent in.

1423 Fish and Game website updates and maintenance

The new Fish and Game website is working well. Edits are made as required.

1431 Media Liaison

The results from the regional bittern survey have been released. The survey was funded by NRC and coordinated by Kiwi Coast. Whangarei field officer managed sound recorders at 5 NFGC properties (Underwood, Jack Bisset, Greenheart, Kawakawa and Flaxmill). Bittern were detected at all except Kawakawa. Greenheart had the highest number of calls recorded for the region, and Jack Bisset and Flaxmill also falling within the top ten. I am working with Kiwi Coast and the QEII Trust to draft a joint press release to celebrate and publicise this result.

1440 Public Promotions

The competition offering a free full season licence to be drawn from a pool of all anglers that submit weight and length for trout caught in Northland was drawn in early July so that the result could be published in the fishing edition of the magazine.



Button the spaniel after a successful pond stalk

1453 Office Habitat Print and Poster Material

The habitat print for this year has been framed.

1455 Information to Licence Holders and Members of the Public

Many queries regarding hunting access, licencing and hunting regulations have been fielded by staff over the last month.

A request has been received recently regarding the establishment of a pheasant preserve. The request was for information regarding how to go about establishing a preserve. Advice has been given regarding the legalities surrounding such operations. If the proposal has merit then staff will support the property owner/s in preparing an application for Council's approval.

1500 Compliance

An incident in which a hunter from Auckland posted a video of himself shooting two paradise shelduck on the ground with a .22 magnum near Wellsford was followed up on and an interview was conducted to gather facts. No further ranging was done during the game season due to the difficulty being experienced dealing with the offending from opening weekend.

1531 Prosecutions

There has been ongoing difficulty in implementing the New Zealand Fish and Game prosecution policy for the offending detected during the special paradise duck season and the opening weekend of the main game season.

With all factors considered there will be seven individuals prosecuted for offences, and one formal warning issued.

Request to go into "Public Excluded" session to discuss legal advice received.

1600 Licensing

As of 5 July 2024 fish sales were 1% above expectation for this time of the season. Game sales were down 1.9%. Overall licence sales nationally were down 1.6% for Fish and 2.2% for Game.

This coming fishing season will be the first without regulation books being handed out with all licence purchases. Regulations will be made available through:

- The Fish and Game website
- The issue of a card with a QR code that leads to the regulations website
- The printing of smaller regulation cards for each region that will be made available on request

1630 Commission

Commission is being paid by way of a credit on invoices issued to agents.

1710 Council Elections

Council elections will be held in October this year. A national advertising campaign to draw quality candidates has commenced.

1810 Strategic Planning

NZFGC is working on guidelines for the development of Sportsfish and Game Management Plans. Once this is approved by NZFGC I will commence the process of early stakeholder engagement to develop a new plan for Northland Fish and Game.

1821 Annual OWP/Budget

The Minister for Hunting and Fishing has approved a modest increase of \$3 on each of the Fish and Game licences. 24-25 Fish licence will be priced at \$156 and 25-26 Game licence will be priced at \$116.

This will mean that \$173,042 will need to be drawn from reserves across the regions, rather than \$432,783 as would have been the case without any increase to licence fees.

Detailed budgets from NZC are yet to be released to inform how much Northland will receive in grants in the 24-25 financial year and how much will need to be drawn down from the reserves to meet the budgeted shortfall.

Northland has been forecast to sell 454 Fish LEQ and 1,537 Game LEQ in 24-25. Sales in 22-23 were 455 and 1,552, and for 23-24 were 454 and 1,552. This may be difficult to achieve for game licences, as this season we are trending below expectation.

Final copies of both OWP and budget have been included with the agenda for this meeting for final approval. Once approved the OWP will be sent to the Minister For Hunting and Fishing in lieu of a current Sportsfish and Game Management Plan.



Button the spaniel delivering a duck to hand

1840 National Liaison

Along with the licence fee the Minister was also requested to make regulation changes by way of adding waters to the Designated Waters scheme and changing some waters to "Controlled Fisheries". The requests to change waters to "Controlled Fisheries" were approved, whilst all requests to bring waters into the Designated Waters scheme were declined.

List MP Priyanca Radhakrishnan (Labour spokesperson for conservation) is coming to visit the region to view wetlands on 02 Sept. She will be taken to Underwood and Jack Bisset if time allows.

The following national policies are approved by NZFGC and can now be adopted by regions:

- Drug and Alcohol policy
- Drug and Alcohol procedure
- Bullying and Harassment policy
- Bullying and Harassment procedure
- Governance Code of Conduct

Feedback is due for the updated National Compliance Policy

1900 Administration

The office has been open for all the required hours during the reporting period and has served the public and licence holders.

I have ordered a 2024 Mitsubishi Triton to replace John Macphersons vehicle.

The Councils assets are well maintained and fully insured.

Recommendation

That the Northland Fish and Game Council receive this report.



Craig Deal
Manager
15 July 2024

To: All Councillors
From: Graham Gallagher
Date: 15/07/2024
Subject: Field Officer Report (Whangarei)

1111 Trend counts and population monitoring

John and I conducted the annual pukeko trend counts. This will aid in our knowledge of this species and is giving us some baseline data to interpret at a later date.

1172 Regulations

Nothing to report

1181 Game bird dispersal

Nothing to report

1220 Works and Management Wetland Summary

The bund wall at the Flaxmill has been repaired. We were able to utilise some drain cleanings from the neighbouring property. This has repaired the small breach as approximately 20 metres had slumped badly after cyclone Gabrielle.

A culvert on the Underwoods main track was replaced. The culvert structure was constructed of timber which has rotted away. The new road was just slapped overtop this substandard structure.

A plastic pipe was installed and the roadway rehabilitated.

The weir boards were replaced in the control structures. This will lead to the water level rising over time. However, when this water level is reached there will be no access to the far flats.

The mowing at the Wairua has been completed and all tracks are now open for hunter access. The Department of Conservation appears to not have been in that wetland since the cyclone. All the tracks were cleared by Fish and Game staff. No trapping/predator control is occurring.

1231/2 Landowner advice / NZGBHT applications

I visited two properties in Mangawhai for consideration for habitat funding. I am awaiting their applications. The farmland surrounding Mangawhai area is being developed by mostly lifestyle blocks. This could potentially impact hunters' ability to hunt on these properties in the future as the sprawl continues.

1313 Ballots/Permits

Stand holders have complied with the audit requests. The two maimais that were above 1.5m have been lowered.

1331 Media

'Both Barrels' articles are being prepared for the upcoming game season. A social media plan is being developed. Articles for the upcoming fishing magazine are being prepared.

1510 Ranging/Compliance

An operational plan for the game season was developed. Police assisted us with ranging operations over opening weekend. See managers report for details.

1923 Staff Training

Nothing to report

Maritime/Moss

Maritime drills and checks are being completed in a timely manner.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Gallagher', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Graham Gallagher
Field Officer

To: All Councillors
From: John Macpherson
Date: 15 July 2024
Subject: Field Officer Report (Kaitaia)

Ranging

Ranging was very productive with the Police from Kamo coming out with us. All the Hunters encountered were happy that Police were out with us. One property we visited, the owner had an issue with the Police over a separate issue which got quite heated, we navigated the situation and left with no major issues. All other people seemed to be having a very successful opening. The Hunters that put in the effort prior to the season seemed to do the best overall.

Surveys

Surveys have become an excellent means of catching up with our Licence holders, on average Hunters have been happy with the number of birds available, and particularly the condition of the birds. What used to take 1-2 minutes a survey now takes on average 5 minutes, and in some instances up to ½ an hour a call.

People have had their dog pass away and don't know where to find another dog, others have pups and can't find homes for, so being able to put these people together has been a real bonus. Some people have major ongoing medical issues and are missing the season but want to know how the hunters are doing in general, are there many birds are they in good condition, have any had bands, and so it goes. A lot of the Licence holders now answer their phone with (hello John how is everything going).

If a Banding program was to be done in the region, we have 3 potential properties, one in the Dargaville area, one in the Towai area, and one in the Awanui area, all coming from conversations during the Survey.

One person has shown an interest in Honorary Ranger work, so I've contacted Graham, forwarding his information.

Assisted Hunters with how to register their firearms, who to contact, what information they would need prior to getting in touch, and what the contact phone number was.

Permits

Following up on permits is ongoing, the last 9 permits issued have been for Pukeko in residential or lifestyle blocks where the use of a shotgun is not possible, or shooting birds in flight is way too dangerous. Two people have made contact wanting permits, believing the season to be closed for Paradise Shelduck and Swan, I've sent excerpts of the regs so they can get hunters to come shooting, I also sent excerpts of occupier rights to another property owner with a manager on site, and asked one gentleman to email in his concerns and issues with the number of Mallards, trend counts, and our statutory obligations around compliance work.

Meetings

DOC meetings remain informative, we have been discussing Avian Influenzas and I've been involved with discussions around an action response plan.

I've met the new sole charge Police officer for the Houhora Police Station. Tane will start in early August, I will have a catch up with him mid-August.

Met with Darcy Albert and Abby Brown from TePaki Ngati Kuri, both are keen for hunters to keep coming North and chasing Geese.

John Sturgis from Rangiputa, on the Karikari peninsular has been trying to manipulate DOC and Fish and Game. I've had meetings with DOC and conversations with Craig, making sure they are up to speed with this individual.

Geese are still an ongoing issue on Rangiputa and adjoining Awanui / Rangaunu Harbour.

Customs came into the Office for a meet and greet, they are a very small team operating out of Opuia, with the recent major drug busts in the North over the last few years they were interested in meeting other agencies that were in contact with people/hunters/fishers/ to keep their eyes open for suspicious boats, harbour activity and general coastline, Te Hiku Forest etc.

Have had meetings with Ventia and land owners affected from the Botulism and general poor condition of the Kaitaia Oxidation ponds. Compiled an information sheet in preparation for the meeting with FNDC, consulted with Craig and Mischa in preparation for the meeting in Kaikohe.

Arbor Day planting behind Lake Ngatu with DOC, Summit, Bushlands Trust, Paparore School, the day went extremely well, we fed approx. 150 people, and my bread buttering skills have improved immensely, another great day out watching our next generation coming through.



John Macpherson
Field Officer (Kaitaia)

To: The Chairman

From: Craig Deal

Date: 15 July 2024

Subject: Health and Safety Report

The following is an account of Health and Safety matters dealt with by staff over the reporting period.

HEALTH AND SAFETY – June/July 2024

Background

As part of its commitment to Health and Safety and providing a safe workplace the Council requires a report at each meeting detailing;

1. implementation and adherence to Health and Safety policy / manual
2. any new issues and updates
3. progress with any ongoing issues
4. outcomes of audits and reviews required in the Health and Safety manual
5. any near misses or injuries and any new hazards and how these have been addressed

Update

1. Development of policy / manual	Status
Policy and Manual is in place.	Current.
2. New issues and information	
Nil	
3. Ongoing issues	
Nil	
4. Audits, reviews, and meetings	
H&S Meetings Vehicle inspections Annual Audits and Reviews Training	Monthly meetings held. Carried out monthly. Boat maintenance has been completed Review of Injury/medical emergency procedure completed. Annual checks and reviews are due and are being completed before the end of the month. 4WD training completed 23 May 2024 (Graham) Chainsaw training for John and Graham booked 1-2 August 2024

5. Near misses, injuries, and hazards

Incident with unknown person entering the office and immediately heading upstairs. Very vague when asked what they were doing. Said they were looking for somebody from Spencers (next door premises). Not credible. Later on when locking up the workshop fire exit was found to be left open. It is suspected that the individual may have been scouting the office for a burglary.

Discussed the issue at next Monday meeting and subsequent H+S meeting. New SOP is that the front door stays locked when only one person is in the office. This will allow them to screen people before letting them in. Incident closed.



Craig Deal
Manager
15 July 2024

Executive Limitations Reports

Northland Fish and Game Council Meeting 26 July 2024.

Prepared by: Craig Deal, Manager

Report frequency: Reports as required by ML 4.4.1

General Comment

The policy ML 4.4.1 requires the Manager to report bi monthly on Financial Planning and Budgeting; Financial condition and activities: Protection of Assets, Programmes and services and Public Affairs. These are regular reports and they are primarily aimed at certification by me that I have complied with the Executive Limitations Policies, or identifying any occasions where I have, either not been able to comply with the policies or there are issues that I believe need to be brought to the Councils attention the format of this report is therefore to certify compliance and note any exceptions.

EL 1 Financial Planning and Budgeting

Level Two

EL 1.2 Financial Planning for any financial year or the remaining part of financial year shall not deviate materially from the Councils strategic Ends policies, risk financial harm or fail to be derived from a multi year plan.

Report

The budget and Operational Work Plan for 2023-2024 Financial year is underway. All planned expenditure is within the allocations in the budget and Operational Work Plan for the year. Prosecutions from compliance operations over opening weekend 2024 are likely to create a significant cost pressure in 24-25 financial year. There may have to be re-allocation of funds from other projects, or reserves to cover the costs.

EL 2 Financial Condition

Level Two

EL 2.2 With respect to the actual and ongoing financial condition and activities the Manager shall not cause or allow the development of financial harm or material deviation of expenditures from Councils priorities.

Report

Expenditure has been in accordance with the Council priorities and the Councils financial position is sound. A new vehicle for Kaitaia field officer has been purchased on the All of Government scheme at 25% discount of recommended retail price. There is currently \$20,460 in the Asset Replacement Reserve. Sale of the field officers current vehicle will result in the new vehicle purchase being roughly cost-neutral.

EL 6 Protection of Assets

Level Two

EL 6.2 The Manager shall not allow the Councils assets to be unprotected, inadequately maintained or unnecessary placed at risk.

Report

All of the Councils assets are regularly maintained and serviced by appropriate and experienced personnel. All assets are kept in secure locations and are fully insured against theft, loss or damage. The new vehicle is expected to be delivered in early August which will allow the renewal of the interest policy (01 Sept 2024) to incorporate the new vehicle.

EL 14 Programmes and Services

Level Two

EL 14.2 The Manager shall not allow programmes and services to be established which are not thoroughly researched prior to commencement and carefully managed, monitored and reviewed.

Report

No programmes or services have been entered into which do not align with the organisation's purposes or priorities.

EL 15 Public Awareness

Level Two

EL 15.2 The Manager shall not approve or in any way support any action or activity or statements to the news media that are derogatory or in any way damaging to Fish and Game New Zealand

Report

No actions or statements that might generate media attention have been made or supported in this reporting period and the reputation of Fish and Game remains intact.



Craig Deal
15 July 2024

CORRESPONDENCE

September 2023 to August 2024

Inward

No.	DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	FILED
1789	31/08/2023	Barrie Barnes, NZFGC Chair	Upcoming cost optimisation and resource allocation	Saved in Agenda file for October 2023 meeting
1790	7/09/2023	Liam Jenkins, Compliance Monitoring, NRC	Monitoring Report for Resource Consent AUT.037288.01.01	email to Craig Deal. Saved in 1212 Consents
1791	15/09/2023	Barrie Barnes, NZFGC Chair	Letter to regional councillor re unfounded claims and Wildlife Act	email to all councillors and Craig Deal 19/09/2023
1792	14/09/2023	Peter Allen, Councillor	Resignation from Northland Fish & Game Council	email to Craig Deal 14/09/2023
1793	26/09/2023	Corina Jordan, NZC CE	National Anglers Survey 21/22 report	email to Craig Deal 26/09/2023
1794	6/09/2023	Maryse Ropiha, EA, NZFGC	NZC Meeting 165 August 2023 update	email to Craig Deal 06/09/2023
1795	13/11/2023	Simon Reid, Councillor, WDC	Hikurangi Repo Project, response to managers request	email to Craig Deal 13/11/2023
1796	12/01/2024	Steve Mabbott	Certificate of Survey	Maritime - Gamekeeper folder
1797	9/02/2024	Nicky Fitzgibbon, Biosecurity Manager, NRC	Update re gold clam response and request for an update and plan re black swans	email to Craig Deal 18/12/2023 and 09/02/2024
1798	20/02/2024	Barrie Barnes, NZFGC Chair	Letter to Councils re Base Funding for 2024-25	email to Craig Deal 22/02/2024
1799	2/05/2024	Corina Jordan, NZC CE	2024-25 Licence Fee Consultation to Regional Councils	email to Craig Deal 29/04/2024
1800	21/05/2024	Trina Upperton, QEII National Trust	QEII covenant monitoring report on Flaxmill Wetland	email to Craig Deal 21/05/2024
1801	28/05/2024	John Sturgess	Letter re Mai mai on Lake Rotokawai on Kari Kari	email to Craig Deal 29/05/2024
1802	29/05/2024	John Sturgess	Response to manager re Mai mai on Lake Rotokawai, bittern conservation	email to Craig Deal 29/05/2024
1803	4/06/2024	John Sturgess	Response to manager re Mai mai on Lake Rotokawai, bittern conservation and trespassing	email to Craig Deal 04/06/2024
1804	3/07/2024	Kieran Pullman, Field rep, QEII National Trust	Jack Bisset wetland post-monitoring letter	email to Craig Deal 03/07/2024

CORRESPONDENCE

September 2023 to August 2024

Outward

No.	DATE	SENT TO	SUBJECT	FILED
904	25/08/2023	Willow-Jean Prime, Minister of Conservation	Advising John McEntee filled council vacancy December 2022	Northland - Documents\1700 COUNCILS\Councillors
905	27/09/2023	Peter Allen	Response to email from Peter Allen advising resignation	Craig Deal emails
906	7/11/2023	Simon Reid, Councillor, WDC	Requesting involvement in Hikurangi Repo Project	Craig Deal emails
907	20/12/2023	Minister of Conservation	Advising appointment of Kelvin Ellis to council December 2023	Northland - Documents\1700 COUNCILS\Councillors
908	xx/03/2024	Barrie Barnes, NZC Chair	Response from Phil Durham to letter re base funding 2024-25 3% saving recommendation	Northland - Documents\1800 PLANNING & REPORTING\NZC Correspondence
909	18/03/2024	NZ Council	Letter re Budget 2024-25	Northland - Documents\1800 PLANNING & REPORTING\Budget 2024-2025
910	25/03/2024	Far North District Council.	Resource consent application, Kaitaia Wastewater Treatment Plant	1400 Public Interface/1430 Advocacy\Consents
911	25/03/2024	Northland Regional Council	Resource consent application, Kaitaia Wastewater Treatment Plant	1400 Public Interface/1430 Advocacy\Consents
912	28/03/2024	Northland Regional Council	Submission on Regional Draft Freshwater Plan	1211 Regional Plans
913	18/04/2024	Northland Regional Council	Submission on Te Mahere Roa Long Term Plan 2024-2034	1211 Regional Plans
914	16/05/2024	Superintendent Matt Srhoj	Letter re police support to ranging operations	
915	29/05/2024	John and Andrea Sturgess	Response to email re maimai on Lake Rotokawai	Craig Deal emails
916	30/05/2024	John Sturgess	Response to bittern conservation claims	