



Council Meeting Agenda

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

25 May 2024

To request Agenda items please phone the office on 021 2700239 or email
taranaki@fishandgame.org.nz

**Saturday 25 May 2024
10:00am
TET Multi Sports Centre,
Portia Street,
Stratford**

AGENDA TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL MEETING

Saturday 25 May 2024

TET Multi Sports Centre, Portia Street, Stratford

Commencing at 10:00am

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Agenda Item 1 **Welcome and Karakia**

Summary

Welcome to Councillors and public.

Karakia – Opening

Let us look after the water	Kia tiaki tatou i te wai
that flow from Mount Ruapehu and Mount Taranaki	ka rere mai i Maunga Ruapehu me Taranaki Maunga
For the health of the fish and birds	Mo te oranga o nga ika me nga manu
and hunters and anglers	me nga kaiwhakangau me nga kaihao
Let us work together with unity to make good decisions	kia mahi tatou me te kotahitanga ki te whakatau pai

Present and In Attendance

Summary

Record noted of all those who attend meeting in full or in part.

Agenda Item 2 **Apologies**

Summary

Confirm apologies notified to Chairman from those Councillors and public for non-attendance or lateness.

Decision Required

Recommendation/Action

Move motion accepting apologies from those that inform the Council of their non-attendance or lateness to meeting.

Agenda Item 3 **Conflict of Interest**

Summary

Consider the Conflicts of Interest Register to ensure it clearly identifies any perceived or actual conflicts of interest of members in general.

Confirm that there are no additional conflicts of interest to declare –either in general or specific items in the current agenda.

Confirm how the Council will handle any new conflicts of interest identified – including speaking rights, voting rights, exclusion from meeting on specific items, or exclusion of receiving any specific material relating to that item identified.

Decision Required

Recommendation/Action

Move motion accepting any additions to the Conflicts of Interest Register that are declared.

Councillor	Conflict of Interest Identified	Date Declared
Chris Donald	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member of Inglewood Rod, Gun and Recreation Club 	14 June 2014
David Potroz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member of Inglewood Rod, Gun and Recreation Club. Application from brother to Hunting & Habitat Scheme 	14 June 2014 9 December 2023
Paul Blewman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None noted 	
Alan Flynn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None noted 	
John Nancarrow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None noted 	
Romon Sargeson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None noted 	
Craig McEwen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None noted 	
Gerard Karalus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None noted 	

As at 15 February 2024

Agenda Item 4 **Minutes of Meeting of 16 March 2024**

Summary

Consider the unconfirmed and draft Minutes of the Meeting of 16 March 2024 of the Taranaki Fish and Game Council.

Confirmation by two members of the Council present at that meeting that they are a true and correct record of that meeting.

Note any specific additions or alterations required for clarity or correctness.

Decision Required

Recommendation/Action

Move motion accepting confirming that the Minutes of the Meeting of 16 March 2024 are a true and correct reflection of the meeting (subject to any amendments noted).

that the Taranaki Fish and Game Council adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2024 be considered as a true and correct record of that meeting.

TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL,
HELD AT CENTENNIAL RESTROOMS MEETING ROOM, STRATFORD ON 16 MARCH 2024
COMMENCING AT 10:00AM

1. The Chairman, Chris Donald called the meeting to order at 10:00am and invited a Karakia from Councillor Alan Flynn.

The Chairman welcomed Councillors and staff to the meeting

PRESENT

Chairman Chris Donald, and Councillors Romon Sargeson, David Potroz, Craig McEwen Gerard Karalus, John Nancarrow and Alan Flynn.

IN ATTENDANCE

Staff: Phil Teal (Chief Executive), Jill Steedman (Secretary).

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Paul Blewman and Allen Stancliff (Senior Fish & Game officer)

MOVED MCEWEN / POTROZ
THAT THE APOLOGIES RECEIVED, BE ACCEPTED
CARRIED

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no additions noted to the Conflicts of Interest register that had already been declared at previous meetings.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING 15 FEBRUARY 2024

After brief discussion it was

MOVED SARGESON / FLYNN
THAT THE TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM ON 15 FEBRUARY 2024 AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD, INCLUDING THE RATIFICATION OF ALL RESOLUTIONS MADE AT THIS MEETING.
CARRIED.

5. MATTERS ARISING

Action List Summary

Councillor's discussed the management of raupo encroachment on open water at Hawken's Wetland and that the aerial control spraying of raupo may be required and, in addition, an annual spring spraying to keep under control.

It was noted that there had been no issues with Taranaki Fish & Game Council's recommendations for the 2024 Game season.

6. NZ COUNCIL BUSINESS

NZ Fish and Game Council appointee, Gerard Karalus gave a summary of the latest NZ Council meeting held on 16 & 18 February 2024;

➤ NZ Fish and Game Council had resolved that all regional Fish and Game Councils would be requested to make savings to their Annual Baseline funding by 3%.

- ✎ In addition, there was indication that the Minister was not keen on any increases to the licence fees. Councillor Karalus noted that all Councils must show responsibility in terms of cost efficiency and potential control of costs.
- ✎ Councillor Karalus noted the issues around declining licence sales particularly evident in the current year – where price sensitivity and cost of living increases may becoming evident.
- ✎ Chairman Donald concurred that there were concerns on how to sustain existing operations with the current licence sales, and maintain governance stability and succession – given cultural changes in club support, mentor introductions, and generational passing down of responsibilities.
- ✎ A verbal update on a Taranaki and Wellington Amalgamation was given by Taranaki Chairman Chris Donald.

- ✎ Councillor Karalus confirmed that governance training was provided to NZ Council but regional Chairs didn't participate due to their own wide ranging discussions.

MOVED KARALUS / POTROZ

THAT THE NZ FISH AND GAME COUNCIL APPOINTEE'S VERBAL REPORT BE RECEIVED CARRIED

7. CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Chairman noted his attendance at the Governors / Chair's forum held on 17 February 2024, with Alan Strong of North Canterbury Fish & Game Council chairing the meeting. He presented a summary of what changes Taranaki Fish and Game Council with Wellington Fish and Game Council in utilising shared resources – but was disappointed with the progress in change of approach by other regions. Councillor Sargeson concurred that Taranaki region had already made substantial cuts in operational costs and was not progressing as a 'business as usual' approach. He considered that there were too many strategic alliances within Fish and Game, and the organisation needs a formal directive to move forward - else risk politicians stepping in to determine outcomes, direction, and/or form of the organisation.

Chairman Donald noted the importance of all Fish & Game staff and voiced his support for our National Appointee and Chief Executive. He noted that in considering the request by NZ Council to undertake an across the board 3% cut in operational expenditure, that Taranaki region had already done sufficient in recent years. He noted that they had undertaken material cuts in response to Covid response risk management in 2020-2022 that were not reinstated – and had undertaken a shared resources response to the Ministerial review on Fish and Game Governance recommendations.

Chairman Donald noted that the concept was suggested that regional Chairs have a representative membership to make up the NZ Council, but he saw inevitable conflict in being able to separate representation of regional parochial interests from acting in the national interest.

He noted that the legislative changes required to formally amalgamate Taranaki and Wellington Fish and Game, by the removal of the boundary, could be achieved by a formal request to the Minister – if it is non-controversial and internally supported.

A joint Special Meeting with Wellington Fish & Game Council should be arranged well before the up-coming council elections in November 2024 – to confirm direction of change to amalgamation and consider transitional arrangements.

MOVED DONALD / POTROZ
THAT A SPECIAL MEETING BETWEEN TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL AND WELLINGTON FISH & GAME, BE HELD BEFORE COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER 2024.
CARRIED

MOVED DONALD / SARGESON
THAT THE CHAIRMAN'S VERBAL REPORT BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

8. INTER-REGIONAL BUSINESS

Mr Teal confirmed that while Taranaki & Wellington Fish and Game Councils were operating with shared resources that they were still operate as separate business units.

He noted that there were options being actively considered for employing a short-term role to cover staff time resources in Taranaki while a staff member was on sabbatical leave.

MOVED SARGESON / POTROZ
THAT THE VERBAL REPORT ON INTER-REGIONAL BUSINESS, BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

9. DRAFT 2024 / 2025 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN & BUDGET

The draft 2024/2025 Operational Work Plan and Budget was considered – with focus on the draft budget and NZ Council's request for a 3% cut of all regional expenditure.

It was noted that the draft budget was not inclusive of the recommended 3% saving – given the direction from the Chairman regarding Taranaki's previous continued commitment to cost savings and shared resources.

Discussion ensued and it was agreed that contestable fund applications would focus on two items:

1. salary increases that result from the annual remuneration review by Strategic Pay in line with the Remuneration Policy;
2. funds to cover the management services agreement with Wellington Council which is currently being covered by an offset in not paying for a salary of staff member on sabbatical leave.

The Chairman will write a letter to the NZC noting the importance for governor's to provide a political oversight and governance perspectives in considering budgeting and contestable fund applications.

MOVED SARGESON / MCEWEN
THAT THE DRAFT 2024 / 2025 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN & BUDGET, BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

Councillor's Karalus and McEwen asked that their landline phone numbers be taken of the contact list, as they are no longer in use.

10. STRATEGIC MATTERS

a. Regional Strategic Statements

The draft regional strategic statements were considered – in particular how they were aligned with the NZ Council NZ-wide strategy documents.

MOVED SARGESON / NANCARROW
THAT THE TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL, CONFIRM THE PRESENTED STRATEGIC
STATEMENTS
CARRIED

Break for Lunch 12:30
Reconvened 1:00

b. Risk Management Review

Mr Teal provided an overview of a high profile media item of avian flu risk and that Fish & Game were developing an High Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) response.

After discussion it was agreed that the risk register would be scheduled as a particular agenda item every six months (or as required) – rather than a standing agenda item for each meeting.

c. Iwi Engagement

Mr Teal noted his intention to develop an education programme to upskill staff and governors on tikanga and processes for engagement.

d. 5 Year Strategic Plan

After discussion it was agreed that five year strategic plan would be included in every second agenda for review and discussion on the progress of current projects and inclusion of any new projects.

e. Sports Fish & Game Bird Management Plan

Mr Teal noted that a template for preparing Sports Fish and Game Bird Management Plans was being developed by NZ Council. Progress on developing and consultation on reviewing regional plans would be deferred until this is agreed and template approved.

11. POLICY AND LEGISLATION

a. Wildlife Act Review

There has been no update from the new Government as to the priority or timetable in progressing this review. It was intended that a formal review process would have started in March 2024 from the previous Government.

b. Resource Management Act Review

Mr Teal conformed that the Natural and Built Environment Act 2022 (NBEA 2022) was repealed in December 2023 reverting back to the Resource Management Act 1991

The Government had introduced the Fast Track Consenting Bill into Parliament in early March 2024.

The Government is making changes to resource management laws with the first steps taken to establish a new fast-track consenting one-stop shop regime.

c. Arms Act Review

The Government announced in February 2024 that firearms legislation will be reviewed. This includes rewriting the Arms Act 1983, transferring responsibility for that act to the Ministry of Justice, and transferring the Firearms Safety Authority to another department such as the Department of Internal Affairs.

The Government's coalition agreement also included a review of the Firearms Registry and its use in improving public safety and the repeal and replacement of Part 6 of the Arms Act relating to shooting clubs and ranges.

d. Organisational Policies

Mr Teal confirmed that he was continuing to liaise with NZ Council and regions regarding defining best practice policy for operational and governance applications.

He further noted that he was proactively considering regional operational and governance policies and being actively reviewed.

12. HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Health and Safety Summary Report for January and February 2024 were considered.

MOVED KARALUS / NANCARROW

THAT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2024, BE RECEIVED

CARRIED

13. SPECIES MANAGEMENT

a. 2024 Trout Release Schedule

Councillors discussed the proposed release of 200 Hawera Hatchery reared trout into Lake Ngangana, noting the habitat at the moment will not sustain 200 and thought that this should be reduced, and the balance liberated elsewhere.

MOVED NANCARROW / SARGESON

THAT THE TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL RECEIVE THIS PROPOSED 2024 RELEASE SCHEDULE.

CARRIED

14. HABITAT ADVOCACY & MANAGEMENT

a. Regional Planning Advocacy

Horizons Regional Council are continuing with the Oranga Wai consultation – the next generation of Regional Plan changes to reflect NPS FM 2020 – focusing on water quantity and water quality parameters. The timetable to complete the Plan Change revision for public notification has been unofficially put back from the December 2024 deadline.

Horizons Regional Council are continuing with their Plan Change 2 of the Regional Plan (One Plan) to introduce an additional tool – Nitrogen Loss Risk Scorecard - to deal with nitrogen leaching from intensive farm use. This is in addition to using Overseer modelling which provides an estimate of nitrogen leaching loss at root level – but is subject to regular review (and improvement) with empirical trials to verify estimates. Uncertainty in the model estimates are typically in the order of 20-30% so the absolute number must be used with caution in regulatory frameworks.

Taranaki Regional Council have also embarked on reviewing their regional plan to give effect to the NPS FM 2020 – but the deadlines have been indeterminately relaxed.

b. Resource Consent Advocacy

There was nothing to report on material resource consent applications or submissions.

c. Habitat Enhancement Projects

Mr Teal confirmed that there would be continued financial support for riparian fencing projects on the Manganui o te Ao River.

15. PARTICIPATION

a. Access Management

Mr Teal confirmed that access point descriptions for rivers in the Taranaki region had been included on new website mapping.

He also noted that preparation had been undertaken to secure access for hunters to hunt upland game in the forestry blocks.

b. Information to Clients

Mr Teal provided a summary of actions that had been undertaken in providing information to licence holders:

1. A weekly angling email newsletter – the Lower North Island Low Down – has been posted weekly and would continue until early April.
2. The Fish and Game website has been updated and released in February 2024, with appropriate updates made to the regional pages.
3. Preparation had been completed for the 2024 Fish and Game NZ - Game Season Magazine
4. Preparation had been completed for the 2024 Game Season Regional Newsletter that would cover both the Taranaki and Wellington regions – with delivery scheduled for mid-April.

c. Licence Holder Engagement

Mr Teal confirmed that several articles had been published regarding information on the Summer Paradise Shelduck season for the Taranaki region.

16. PUBLIC AWARENESS / COMMUNICATIONS

a. Iwi Engagement

Allen Stancliff attended a meeting on the Whanganui River Strategy – Te Awa Tupa.

b. Public Awareness

Mr Teal outlined the regional contributions to the NZ Council co-ordinated “Re Wilding” campaign.

c. Communication

Press releases were distributed regarding the Special Summer Paradise Shelduck hunting season in February.

d. Promotions

Liaised with Reel Recovery co-ordinator Craig Caldwell and provided short break licences for those participating in the retreat held in March at Raetihi.

17. LICENCE SALES

- a. Discussion ensued on the lower number of fishing licences sold compared to last year up until 19 February 2024 - gLEQ sales down 5.6% compared to previous year (854 c.f. 906).

It was then

MOVED KARALUS / MCEWEN THAT THE LICENCE SALES REPORT TO 19 FEBRUARY 2024, BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

b. Bi-monthly report from licencing operational group

Mr Teal provided an overview of the Licence Management System and noted that ESL as a provider worked well during January and February without any significant issues.

MOVED SARGESON / NANCARROW
THAT THE BI-MONTHLY REPORT FROM LICENCING OPERATIONAL GROUP, BE RECEIVED.
CARRIED

18. WORK PLAN & BUDGET PROGRESS REPORT TO 29 FEBRUARY 2024

Councillors discussed the operational report noting the clarity of project reporting with the most up-to-date information and comparing to the full YTD progress of a project.

MOVED SARGESON / NANCARROW
THAT THE WORK PLAN AND BUDGET PROGRESS REPORT TO 29 FEBRUARY 2024, BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

19. PROFIT & LOSS AND BALANCE SHEET

After consideration and brief discussion it was

MOVED KARALUS / SARGESON
THAT THE INCOME STATEMENT, AND BALANCE SHEET TO 29 FEBRUARY 2024, BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

20. CORRESPONDENCE

After brief discussion it was

MOVED POTROZ / SARGESON
THAT THE INWARD & OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE SCHEDULES TO 29 FEBRUARY 2024, BE RECEIVED
CARRIED

21. CONSERVATION BOARD LIAISON

Mr Teal noted that there had not been any DOC attendees nor Conservation Board members at Council meetings, and he will request the DOC Conservation Board to provide meeting timetables and agendas.

22. GENERAL BUSINESS

Councillors discussed the consequences of producing images that could be negative to Fish & Game with the use of AI.

Opening and closing Karakia should be revised and simplified.

Councillor Karalus noted that he has submitted on Taranaki Regional Council's LTP and urged other councillors to think about doing the same with that Council and other District Councils.

Councillor Donald advised council on the success of the Inglewood Rod, Gun and Recreation Club's annual clay shoot, noting 110 entrants enjoyed a very successful day.

23. CLOSURE

The next ordinary meeting was confirmed to be held in Stratford on 25 May 2024.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 2:20 pm.

APPROVED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

CHAIRMAN _____

DATE _____

Agenda Item 5 **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Summary

a. Action List Summary

Consider the Action List from the Minutes of the Meeting of 16 March 2024 and consider the actions undertaken – including completed actions, partially completed actions, and actions pending.

Specifically consider the application to NZ Council for Constestable Funding for the Fish and Game Budget process.

b. Other Matters Arising

Consider any other items that are noted in the Minutes where further updates and clarification are sought – where they are not addressed in other agenda items for the meeting.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

Note any specific clarifications relating to follow-up actions undertaken that relate to items discussed at the previous meeting.

Actions from 16 March 2024 Meeting

Action	Responsibility	Status
Check on progress of spraying/clearing raupo on Hawken's Lagoon	Allen/Phil	Completed
Inform NZ Council of draft budget and contestable fund applications and justification	Phil/Chris	Completed
Arrange a Special meeting with Wellington Fish and Game Council in May or June to reengage on a Councillor to Councillor basis	Phil/Chris	Partially Complete - . Agreed in principle
Develop a simple karakia that is able to be used for Council meetings	Phil	Completed

Actions from previous Meetings

Action	Date	Responsibility	Status
Taranaki Fish and Game Council to develop Strategic Statements for Annual Reporting requirements and that it would reflect the Fish and Game Organisational Strategy 2023-2028 .	15 February 2024	Phil/Governors	Completed
That the Taranaki and Wellington Liaison Working Group meet to largely align the two Council's Strategic Priority Statements	15 February 2024	Phil/Governors	Partially complete – agreed in principle
Acknowledge Inglewood Rod, Gun and Recreation Club letter regarding fishing regulations and inform that the issue will be included in the fishing regulation agenda item at Council's June 2024 meeting. It was noted that a discussion document would need to be developed by staff well in advance of that meeting.	15 February 2024	Phil/Allen	Completed
Consider the possibility for Wellington and Taranaki Fish and Game Councils to hold a meeting at the same location.	9 December 2023	Phil	Partially complete – agreed in principle
Taranaki Fish and Game Council write a letter of support to NZ Council for a proactive approach in representations to Government for the Wildlife Act review in order to get the best outcomes for Fish and Game	9 December 2023	Phil/Chris	Completed
NIWA National Angler Survey Report - Angler Usage report be distributed to Councillors in electronic format,	14 October 2023	Phil T, Jill S	Partially Completed

REGION: TARANAKI
SCHEDULE A : BUDGET 2024-2025

Code	Project/Category Item	External Costs	Hours	Internal Costs	Income	Net Cost	%
1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT							
1110 SPECIES MONITORING							
1111	Fish Population Assessment	\$ 500	200	\$ 18,426	\$ 200	\$ 18,726	29.6
1112	Gamebird population monitoring	\$ 15,000	320	\$ 29,482	\$ -	\$ 44,482	70.4
		\$ 15,500	520	\$ 47,908	\$ 200	\$ 63,208	
1120 HARVEST ASSESSMENT							
1121	National Hunter Survey	\$ -	20	\$ 1,843	\$ -	\$ 1,843	36.6
1123	Special Game Bird Season	\$ -	40	\$ 3,685	\$ 500	\$ 3,185	63.4
		\$ -	60	\$ 5,528	\$ 500	\$ 5,028	
1140 HATCHERY OPERATIONS							
1141.0	Hatchery	\$ 10,000	60	\$ 5,528	\$ -	\$ 15,528	100.0
		\$ 10,000	60	\$ 5,528	\$ -	\$ 15,528	
1160 RELEASES							
1161	Kids Fishing Days	\$ 6,000	150	\$ 13,819	\$ -	\$ 19,819	119.5
1162	Other Liberations	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ 3,238	\$ (3,238)	-19.5
		\$ 6,000	150	\$ 13,819	\$ 3,238	\$ 16,581	
1170 REGULATIONS							
1171	Season Regulations	\$ -	50	\$ 4,606	\$ -	\$ 4,606	100.0
		\$ -	50	\$ 4,606	\$ -	\$ 4,606	
1180 GAME BIRD CONTROL							
1181	Game Bird Control	\$ 2,000	120	\$ 11,056	\$ 750	\$ 12,306	100.0
		\$ 2,000	120	\$ 11,056	\$ 750	\$ 12,306	
1200 SPORTS FISH AND GAME HABITAT							
1210 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT Water take consents etc							
1211	RMA Consents	\$ -	500	\$ 46,065	\$ -	\$ 46,065	100.0
		\$ -	500	\$ 46,065	\$ -	\$ 46,065	
1230 ASSISTED HABITAT Works and Management on land not owned/controlled by Council							
1231	Sports Fish Habitat Management & Enha	\$ -	100	\$ 9,213	\$ -	\$ 9,213	22.0
1232	Game Bird Habitat Management & Enha	\$ -	150	\$ 13,819	\$ -	\$ 13,819	33.0
1233	Taranaki Hunting & Habitat Scheme Proj	\$ 15,000	150	\$ 13,819	\$ 15,000	\$ 13,819	33.0
1234	Manganuioteao River Riparian Project	\$ 5,000	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	11.9
		\$ 20,000	400	\$ 36,852	\$ 15,000	\$ 41,852	
1240 ASSESSING & MONITORING							
1241	Sports Fish Habitat Monitoring	\$ -	20	\$ 1,843	\$ -	\$ 1,843	20.0
1242	Game Bird Habitat Monitoring	\$ -	80	\$ 7,370	\$ -	\$ 7,370	80.0
		\$ -	100	\$ 9,213	\$ -	\$ 9,213	
1300 PARTICIPATION							
1310 ACCESS							
1311	Angler Access	\$ -	80	\$ 7,370	\$ -	\$ 7,370	78.3
1312	Hunter Access	\$ -	15	\$ 1,382	\$ -	\$ 1,382	14.7
1313	Access Permits - Upland Game	\$ -	5	\$ 461	\$ -	\$ 461	4.9
1315	Signage	\$ 200	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200	2.1
		\$ 200	100	\$ 9,213	\$ -	\$ 9,413	
1320 SATISFACTION SURVEY							
1321	Satisfaction Survey	\$ -	40	\$ 3,685	\$ -	\$ 3,685	100.0
		\$ -	40	\$ 3,685	\$ -	\$ 3,685	
1330 NEWSLETTERS							
1331	Fish & Game Magazine	\$ -	40	\$ 3,685	\$ -	\$ 3,685	13.2
1333	Regional Newsletter	\$ 5,500	100	\$ 9,213	\$ -	\$ 14,713	52.7
1335	Regional Webpages and Ezines	\$ 4,000	60	\$ 5,528	\$ -	\$ 9,528	34.1
		\$ 9,500	200	\$ 18,426	\$ -	\$ 27,926	

1350 TRAINING								
1351	Angler support	\$	500	0	\$	-	\$ 500	50.0
1352	Hunter support	\$	500	0	\$	-	\$ 500	50.0
		\$	1,000	0	\$	-	\$ 1,000	
1360 CLUB RELATIONS								
1361	Fish & Game Club Communications	\$	-	10	\$	921	\$ 921	100.0
		\$	-	10	\$	921	\$ 921	
1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE								
1410 LIAISON Conservation Boards, DoC								
1411	Liaison	\$	-	30	\$	2,764	\$ 2,764	29.7
1412	Iwi Liaison	\$	1,000	60	\$	5,528	\$ 6,528	70.3
		\$	1,000	90	\$	8,292	\$ 9,292	
1420 COMMUNICATION Organisations/Groups - Conservation,iwi, farmers, local auth.								
1421	Information to Clients	\$	-	100	\$	9,213	\$ 9,213	100.0
		\$	-	100	\$	9,213	\$ 9,213	
1430 ADVOCACY Angler/hunter interests								
1431	Advocacy	\$	500	100	\$	9,213	\$ 9,713	100.0
		\$	500	100	\$	9,213	\$ 9,713	
1440 PUBLIC PROMOTIONS								
1441	Hunting & Angling promotions	\$	3,300	140	\$	12,898	\$ 16,198	100.0
		\$	3,300	140	\$	12,898	\$ 16,198	
1500 COMPLIANCE								
1510 RANGING								
1511	Ranging	\$	500	72	\$	6,633	\$ 7,133	100.0
		\$	500	72	\$	6,633	\$ 7,133	
1520 RANGER TRAINING								
1521	Training	\$	1,000	40	\$	3,685	\$ 4,685	100.0
		\$	1,000	40	\$	3,685	\$ 4,685	
1530 COMPLIANCE								
1531	Compliance	\$	1,000	150	\$	13,819	\$ 13,819	85.5
1532	Diversion	\$	500	20	\$	1,843	\$ 2,343	14.5
		\$	1,500	170	\$	15,662	\$ 16,162	
1600 LICENCING								
1620 AGENT SERVICING								
1621	Licence Agent Support	\$	500	50	\$	4,606	\$ 5,106	100.0
		\$	500	50	\$	4,606	\$ 5,106	
1700 COUNCILS								
1710 COUNCIL ELECTIONS								
1711	Election	\$	-	0	\$	-	\$ -	
		\$	-	0	\$	-	\$ -	
1720 COUNCIL MEETINGS								
1721	Meetings	\$	9,500	280	\$	25,796	\$ 35,296	100.0
		\$	9,500	280	\$	25,796	\$ 35,296	
1800 PLANNING/REPORTING								
1810 MANAGEMENT/STRATEGIC PLANNING								
1811	Management Plan	\$	100	40	\$	3,685	\$ 3,785	50.7
1812	Staff Management	\$	-	40	\$	3,685	\$ 3,685	49.3
		\$	100	80	\$	7,370	\$ 7,470	
1820 ANNUAL OPERATIONAL WORKPLAN								
1821	Business & Operational Planning	\$	-	40	\$	3,685	\$ 3,685	100.0
		\$	-	40	\$	3,685	\$ 3,685	
1830 REPORTING/AUDIT								
1831	OSH	\$	500	65	\$	5,988	\$ 6,488	47.8
1832	Audit/Financial Statements	\$	7,076	0	\$	-	\$ 7,076	52.2
		\$	7,576	65	\$	5,988	\$ 13,564	
1840 NATIONAL LIAISON								
1841	Managers / National Office Liaison	\$	100	160	\$	14,741	\$ 14,841	100.0
		\$	100	160	\$	14,741	\$ 14,841	
TOTAL OUTPUTS COST		\$	89,776	3697	\$	340,604	\$ 20,688	\$ 409,692

OVERHEAD COSTS

ADMINISTRATION

1910 SALARIES

1911	Staff Salaries	\$	270,789			\$	270,789	95.4	
1912	Management Contract	\$	8,791		\$	-	\$	8,791	3.1
1914	Kiwisaver	\$	8,124				\$	8,124	2.9
1916	Wellington F&G Admin	\$	-		\$	4,000	\$	(4,000)	-1.4
		\$	287,704			\$	4,000	\$	283,704

1920 STAFF EXPENSES

1921	ACC Levy	\$	600			\$	600	16.9	
1922	Fringe Benefit Tax	\$	1,250				\$	1,250	35.2
1923	Staff Training	\$	1,500				\$	1,500	42.3
1924	Staff expenses	\$	200			\$	200	5.6	
		\$	3,550			\$	-	\$	3,550

1940 OFFICE PREMISES

1941	Rent	\$	22,200			\$	22,200	100.0	
		\$	22,200			\$	-	\$	22,200

1950 OFFICE EQUIPMENT

1951	Purchases (Under \$2,000)	\$	500			\$	500	25.0	
1954	Eqpmt Maintenance	\$	1,500				\$	1,500	75.0
		\$	2,000			\$	-	\$	2,000

1960 COMMUNICATIONS/CONSUMABLES

1961	Telephone/fax	\$	3,000			\$	3,000	57.1	
1962	Postage	\$	1,000				\$	1,000	19.0
1964	Stationery	\$	1,200				\$	1,200	22.9
1966	Photocopying	\$	50				\$	50	1.0
		\$	5,250			\$	-	\$	5,250

1970 GENERAL

1972	Subscriptions	\$	1,000			\$	1,000	32.8	
1974	Office General - Petty Cash	\$	300				\$	300	9.8
1975	Insurance - General	\$	1,650		\$	-	\$	1,650	54.1
1978	Bank Charges	\$	100				\$	100	3.3
		\$	3,050			\$	-	\$	3,050

1980 GENERAL EQUIPMENT

1981	Purchases (Under \$2,000)	\$	4,000			\$	4,000	80.0	
1983	Equipment Maintenance/MSA	\$	500				\$	500	10.0
1984	Equipment /PPE / Clothing replacement	\$	500				\$	500	10.0
		\$	5,000			\$	-	\$	5,000

1990 VEHICLES

1991	Wanganui Vehicle	\$	7,500			\$	7,500	47.3	
1993	New Plymouth Vehicle	\$	7,500				\$	7,500	47.3
1994	Trailer side x side	\$	200				\$	200	1.3
1995	Polaris	\$	250				\$	250	1.6
1997	Trailer / Hatchery	\$	400				\$	400	2.5
		\$	15,850			\$	-	\$	15,850

TOTAL OVERHEADS COST

\$ 344,604 \$ 4,000 \$ 340,604

TOTAL OVERHEADS NET COST

\$ 340,604

TOTAL OUTPUTS STAFF HOURS

3697

INTERNAL COST PER HOUR

\$ 92.13

OVERHEAD STAFF HOURS

Administration	Hours	0
Leave		0
Training/Staff Liaison		0

TOTAL OVERHEAD STAFF HOURS

0

SCHEDULE B : PROJECT SUMMARY : BUDGET

2024-2025

Code	Project/Category Item	External Costs	Hours	Internal Costs	Income	Net Cost	%
1110	Population Monitoring	\$ 15,500	520	\$ 47,908	\$ 200	\$ 63,208	53.9
1120	Harvest Assessment	\$ -	60	\$ 5,528	\$ 500	\$ 5,028	4.3
1130	Fish Salvage	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0
1140	Hatchery	\$ 10,000	60	\$ 5,528	\$ -	\$ 15,528	13.2
1150	Game Farm	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0
1160	Releases	\$ 6,000	150	\$ 13,819	\$ 3,238	\$ 16,581	14.1
1170	Regulations	\$ -	50	\$ 4,606	\$ -	\$ 4,606	3.9
1180	Control	\$ 2,000	120	\$ 11,056	\$ 750	\$ 12,306	10.5
	Species Management Expend	\$ 33,500	960	\$ 88,445	\$ 4,688	\$ 117,257	
1210	RMA	\$ -	500	\$ 46,065	\$ -	\$ 46,065	47.4
1220	Works/Management	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0
1230	Assisted Habitat	\$ 20,000	400	\$ 36,852	\$ 15,000	\$ 41,852	43.1
1240	Assessing/Monitoring	\$ -	100	\$ 9,213	\$ -	\$ 9,213	9.5
	Habitat Protection & Management	\$ 20,000	1000	\$ 92,130	\$ 15,000	\$ 97,130	
1310	Access	\$ 200	100	\$ 9,213	\$ -	\$ 9,413	21.9
1320	Satisfaction Survey	\$ -	40	\$ 3,685	\$ -	\$ 3,685	8.6
1330	Newsletters	\$ 9,500	200	\$ 18,426	\$ -	\$ 27,926	65.0
1340	Other Publications	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0
1350	Training	\$ 1,000	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	2.3
1360	Club Relations	\$ -	10	\$ 921	\$ -	\$ 921	2.1
1370	Huts	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0
	Angler/Hunter Participation	\$ 10,700	350	\$ 32,245	\$ -	\$ 42,945	
1410	Liaison:Consv.Bds/DoC	\$ 1,000	90	\$ 8,292	\$ -	\$ 9,292	20.9
1420	Communication int. Organisations	\$ -	100	\$ 9,213	\$ -	\$ 9,213	20.7
1430	Advocacy	\$ 500	100	\$ 9,213	\$ -	\$ 9,713	21.9
1440	Public Promotions	\$ 3,300	140	\$ 12,898	\$ -	\$ 16,198	36.5
1450	Visitor Fac/Education/Interpretation	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0
	Public Interface	\$ 4,800	430	\$ 39,616	\$ -	\$ 44,416	
1510	Ranging	\$ 500	72	\$ 6,633	\$ -	\$ 7,133	25.5
1520	Ranger Training	\$ 1,000	40	\$ 3,685	\$ -	\$ 4,685	16.7
1530	Compliance	\$ 1,500	170	\$ 15,662	\$ 1,000	\$ 16,162	57.8
	Compliance	\$ 3,000	282	\$ 25,981	\$ 1,000	\$ 27,981	
1610	Licence Prod/Distribution	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0
1620	Agent Servicing	\$ 500	50	\$ 4,606	\$ -	\$ 5,106	100.0
	Licensing	\$ 500	50	\$ 4,606	\$ -	\$ 5,106	
1710	Cncl Elections	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0
1720	Cncl Meetings	\$ 9,500	280	\$ 25,796	\$ -	\$ 35,296	100.0
	Councils	\$ 9,500	280	\$ 25,796	\$ -	\$ 35,296	
1810	Management/Strategic Planning	\$ 100	80	\$ 7,370	\$ -	\$ 7,470	18.9
1820	OWP/Budget/Lic Fee setting	\$ -	40	\$ 3,685	\$ -	\$ 3,685	9.3
1830	Annual/Other Reporting	\$ 7,576	65	\$ 5,988	\$ -	\$ 13,564	34.3
1840	National Liaison	\$ 100	160	\$ 14,741	\$ -	\$ 14,841	37.5
	Planning/Reporting	\$ 7,776	345	\$ 31,785	\$ -	\$ 39,561	
	PROJECT BUDGET	\$ 89,776	3697	\$ 340,604	\$ 20,688	\$ 409,692	
OVERHEADS							
		External Costs			Income	Net Cost	%
1910	Salaries	\$ 287,704			\$ 4,000	\$ 283,704	83.3
1920	Staff Expenses	\$ 3,550			\$ -	\$ 3,550	1.0
1930	Staff Houses	\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	0.0
1940	Office Premises	\$ 22,200			\$ -	\$ 22,200	6.5
1950	Office Equipment	\$ 2,000			\$ -	\$ 2,000	0.6
1960	Communications/Consumables	\$ 5,250			\$ -	\$ 5,250	1.5
1970	General	\$ 3,050			\$ -	\$ 3,050	0.9
1980	Gen Equipment	\$ 5,000			\$ -	\$ 5,000	1.5
1990	Vehicles	\$ 15,850			\$ -	\$ 15,850	4.7
	Administration	\$ 344,604			\$ 4,000	\$ 340,604	

REGION: TARANAKI							
SCHEDULE C : OUTPUTS BUDGET SUMMARY - 2024-2025							
Code	Output	External Costs	Hours	Internal Costs	Income	Net Cost	%
1	Species Management Expend	\$ 33,500	960	\$ 88,445	\$ 4,688	\$ 117,257	28.6
2	Habitat Protection & Management	\$ 20,000	1000	\$ 92,130	\$ 15,000	\$ 97,130	23.7
3	Angler/Hunter Participation	\$ 10,700	350	\$ 32,245	\$ -	\$ 42,945	10.5
4	Public Interface	\$ 4,800	430	\$ 39,616	\$ -	\$ 44,416	10.8
5	Compliance	\$ 3,000	282	\$ 25,981	\$ 1,000	\$ 27,981	6.8
6	Licensing	\$ 500	50	\$ 4,606	\$ -	\$ 5,106	1.2
7	Councils	\$ 9,500	280	\$ 25,796	\$ -	\$ 35,296	8.6
8	Planning/Reporting	\$ 7,776	345	\$ 31,785	\$ -	\$ 39,561	9.7
9	Administration						0.0
	Total Overhead Staff Hours		0				
	TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 89,776	3697	\$ 340,604	\$ 20,688	\$ 409,692	
	Plus Asset Replacement Fund/Capital					\$ -	
	Plus other Capital items eg principle repayments on Loans					\$ -	
	Plus Reinstatement of Reserves			ARF		\$ 10,000	
	TOTAL APPROVED BUDGET					\$ 419,692	
	Made up from:						
	Bulk Funding					\$ 419,692	
	Contestable Pool Funding - Ongoing					\$ -	
	Contestable Pool Funding - One off					\$ -	
	Regional Reserve Funding - One off					\$ -	
	Plus Reinstatement of Reserves					\$ -	
	TOTAL BUDGET	2024-2025				\$ 419,692	

1. Progressing to Amalgamation and Shared Resources Business Model

Taranaki and Wellington Fish and Game Councils are actively progressing a shared resources arrangement (with the intention of amalgamation) for the long-term benefit of the organisation.

There were resources set aside for the implementation of the Ministerial Review recommendations to assist the two regions progress this. There have been additional costs associated with this process, but we have absorbed these to-date as we work through the new arrangements.

The progression of this business model should be actively supported (politically and financially) and Taranaki Fish and Game consider that it would be inequitable to make additional budget cuts given they are already making a significant contribution to the wider organisation in the most cost-efficient way.

2. Budget Savings Already Made During COVID and Not Reinstated

Taranaki Fish and Game Council took what it considered a responsible response to the NZ Council request for a financially conservative approach during COVID in 2020 and 2021. This included ending a lease on the public facing office at the Whanganui base, and operating from a modest shared office space in New Plymouth.

Taranaki Council has continued with those arrangements and retained the cost savings to the organisation – absorbing costs due to inflation. The lowered base funding was retained and cost increases absorbed. Taranaki Council consider that as a small region that they have already undertaken our fair share of savings – and base level of funding for core function has been reached.

In essence, Taranaki made a 5% cost reduction in operational and overhead expenditure three years ago and it has not been reinstated. It would be inequitable to expect Taranaki Fish and Game region to make a further 3% cut in budget when other regions that have not retained this prudent financial management approach and had their base funding reinstated their base funding budget to pre-COVID. It is also understood that some regions made '5% budget savings' by reducing their Asset Replacement Fund Reserve contribution by in response to COVID budgeting and reinstated it the following year – i.e. the operational budget remained unchanged.

3. Identifying Additional Budget Cuts

a. Core Functions – no extension projects

A review was undertaken on base core funding requirements – no material savings are possible without reducing core service or removing core functions. Taranaki Council consider that eroding core functions and outcomes sought by regions is not an appropriate approach.

b. External project costs. We have already removed and critiqued projects that are not part of core function. There are few opportunities to make material savings in the external project budget for core function projects - most costs are now associated with staff time resources.

- c. Additional sources of income – any regular sources of income to offset costs are being actively pursued
- d. Personnel - Obligations as a Good Employer (see below)

4. Obligations As A Good Employer

a. Appropriate Remuneration of Staff

We must keep good faith with the staff on the implementation of the remuneration review outlined in the Remuneration Policy. This provides for internal parity in the first instance, and external equity using an annual comparison to the general market assessment to ensure we are appropriately remunerating staff. This takes into account any existing CPI adjustments that are still in effect in contracts.

Appropriate remuneration has already been identified as a key principle to consider, and will reiterate the rhetoric of the importance of staff.

A contestable fund application will be made for appropriate staff remuneration adjustments.

b. Adjusting Capacity With Shared Resources

As a good employer we must provide for capacity for staff to ensure their wellbeing is maintained. We cannot simply keep loading additional time commitments onto the Chief Executive and other staff without addressing the capacity issue. Under the Shared Resources Agreement and contracts, Wellington Council provides management services to Taranaki Council but acknowledge that there is a need for Wellington Council to adjust workload accordingly with the shared resources arrangement to accommodate this.

This readjusting of staff resource allocations takes into account an anticipated minimum of 400 hours of time (8 hours per week) for the Chief Executive to deal directly with responsibilities for two governance engagements, additional regional local government engagement, and iwi engagement (at a time of active treaty settlement implementation). Taranaki Council recognise that the responsibilities for managing two entities cannot be managed within the same time allocation without adjusting from responsibilities and staff resources.

The re-allocation of staff resources requires that Wellington needs to back fill that additional time with staff resources – work previously undertaken by the Chief Executive – and then subsequently delegated to the other staff.

For Taranaki Fish and Game Staff remuneration review in 2023 allocated the increase in base funding – which reflected that Taranaki staff were significantly below the guidelines independently developed for Fish and Game by *Strategic Pay* and adopted in the Fish and Game Remuneration Policy.

A contestable fund allocation to cover shared services was not undertaken in 2023/2024 due to the sabbatical provided to a Fish and Game Officer – and this has been allocated to

the shared resources costs for this current financial year. The employment arrangement is reinstated for next financial year and there is now a need to cover the funding of shared resources.

Taranaki Council has essentially been operating with only an acting Manager for 3 years (in addition to his role as senior field officer) and absorbing the cost increases accordingly.

A contestable fund application for continued provision shared services by Taranaki Fish and Game Council as essential.

5. Increased Base Workload Demand Anticipated

Rather than focusing on realigning workloads to make staff resources more efficient or reducing core services - there will be even more demands.

There will be an increase in Mana Whenua engagement in general interactions given implementation of Treaty Settlements, and specifically in the development of the two Sports Fish and Game Bird Management plans. For the two regions 38 Iwi organisations (not including over 200 hapu groups).

6. Proposed Amalgamation - Expectation of Material Savings in Short Term Unrealistic

Modest potential financial efficiencies are likely to be more evident in the long-term when amalgamations of regions and/or functions are pursued – unless there are staff redundancies that don't service core functions. There is likely to be readjustments of remuneration arrangements on retirement (appropriate remuneration within Rem Policy guidelines and aligning with experience). We believe that NZ Council should be looking at material savings from other regions going through those circumstances – i.e. senior staff – replacement with less experienced staff.

7. Conclusion

Taranaki Fish and Game Council are seeking an equitable and supportive stance by the NZ Council and wider organisation to the progression of a more efficient and enduring long-term business model. As two of the regions prepared to embrace change and not continue on as Business as Usual (BAU), then there needs to be consideration of what those regions need to be supported.

CONTESTABLE FUND APPLICATION

For Budget year 2024 25

Taranaki	<i>App No.</i>
Code: 1911	
Is this a New Project?	Existing Project
As a good employer, we have agreed with staff on a process defined in the Remuneration Policy to have an annual review of general market remuneration rates. There needs to be an adjustment of remuneration for staff that is consistent across the organisation - advice from HR Business Partner is that 3% provision should be made in the budgets. This change in general market assessment will be confirmed in May 2024.	\$ 8,124
	\$ 8,124
Summary from 2022 23 Variance Report	
Budget 2022 2023 for "B" level Project Category (Net Costs)	\$232,957
Actual Spend for 2022 2023 "B " level project Category (Net Costs)	\$241,103
Variance to Budget -Under/(Over)	(\$8,146)
1. Variance - 2022 2023 Y/E Rpt for 'B' level Project Category	103.5%
+ / - 10% CRITERIA MET / CRITERIA NOT MET (Circle)	Use Drop Down here
Total Budget 2022 2023 (Direct Costs) (excluding ARF and Interest)	\$355,641
Actual Spend 2022 2023 (per Variance report- Direct Costs)	\$362,036
Variance to Total Budget - Under/(Over)	(\$6,395)
2. Variance - 2022 2023 Y/E Rpt Total Expenditure	101.8%
+ / - 10% CRITERIA MET / CRITERIA NOT MET (Circle)	Criteria Met
Reserves Information - Forecast Reserves 31/8/24	
Reserves as a Percentage to Budget	43%
Total Reserves over 20% of Budget	\$ 96,082
Total Reserves over 30% of Budget	\$ 54,112
Total Reserves over 50% of Budget	NIL
SUMMARY	
Contestable Funding Application \$ - Direct Cost	\$ 8,124
(Less) Anticipated Income	\$ -
Net Funding Applying for	\$ 8,124
<i>Funding sought for 2024 2025 (One Off)</i>	\$ -
<i>Funding sought as increase to Base Fund (Ongoing)</i>	\$ 8,124
<i>Funding from Reserves (R) or Licence Fee (L)?</i>	Use Drop Down here

CONTESTABLE FUND APPLICATION

For Budget year 2024 25

National

App No.

Code: 1912 Continuation of Management Contract

Is this a New Project?

Existing Project

See attached explanation: 1. Progressing to Amalgamation and Shared Resources Business Model
Taranaki and Wellington Fish and Game Councils are actively progressing a shared resources arrangement (with the intention of amalgamation) for the long-term benefit of the organisation.

There were resources set aside for the implementation of the Ministerial Review recommendations to assist the two regions progress this. There have been additional costs associated with this process, but we have absorbed these to-date as we work through the new arrangements.

The progression of this business model should be actively supported (politically and financially) and Taranaki Fish and Game consider that it would be inequitable to make additional budget cuts given they are already making a significant contribution to the wider organisation in the most cost-efficient way.

b. Adjusting Capacity With Shared Resources

As a good employer we must provide for capacity for staff to ensure their wellbeing is maintained. We cannot simply keep loading additional time commitments onto the Chief Executive and other staff without addressing the capacity issue. Under the Shared Resources Agreement and contracts, Wellington Council provides management services to Taranaki Council but acknowledge that there is a need for Wellington Council to adjust workload accordingly with the shared resources arrangement to accommodate this.

This readjusting of staff resource allocations takes into account an anticipated minimum of 400 hours of time (8 hours per week) for the Chief Executive to deal directly with responsibilities for two governance engagements, additional regional local government engagement, and iwi engagement (at a time of active treaty settlement implementation). Taranaki Council recognise that the responsibilities for managing two entities cannot be managed within the same time allocation without adjusting from responsibilities and staff resources.

The re-allocation of staff resources requires that Wellington needs to back fill that additional time with staff resources – work previously undertaken by the Chief Executive – and then subsequently delegated to the other staff.

For Taranaki Fish and Game Staff remuneration review in 2023 allocated the increase in base funding – which reflected that Taranaki staff were significantly below the guidelines independently developed for Fish and Game by Strategic Pay and adopted in the Fish and Game Remuneration Policy.

A contestable fund allocation to cover shared services was not undertaken in 2023/2024 due to the sabbatical provided to a Fish and Game Officer – and this has been allocated to the shared resources costs for this current financial year. The employment arrangement is reinstated for next financial year and there is now a need to cover the funding of shared resources.

Taranaki Council has essentially been operating with only an acting Manager for 3 years (in addition to his role as senior field officer) and absorbing the cost increases accordingly

\$ 21,209

\$ 21,209

Summary from 2022 23 Variance Report

Budget 2022 2023 for "B" level Project Category (Net Costs)

\$0

Actual Spend for 2022 2023 "B" level project Category (Net Costs)

\$0

Variance to Budget -Under/(Over)

\$0

1. Variance - 2022 2023 Y/E Rpt for 'B' level Project Category

0.0%

+ / - 10% CRITERIA MET / CRITERIA NOT MET (Circle)

Use Drop Down here

Total Budget 2022 2023 (Direct Costs) (excluding ARF and Interest)

\$2,205,600

Actual Spend 2022 2023 (per Variance report- Direct Costs)

\$1,944,842

Variance to Total Budget - Under/(Over)

\$260,758

2. Variance - 2022 2023 Y/E Rpt Total Expenditure

88.2%

+ / - 10% CRITERIA MET / CRITERIA NOT MET (Circle)

Criteria Not Met

Reserves Information - Forecast Reserves 31/8/24	
Reserves as a Percentage to Budget	24%
Total Reserves over 20% of Budget	\$ 123,356
Total Reserves over 30% of Budget	Nil
Total Reserves over 50% of Budget	Nil
SUMMARY	
Contestable Funding Application \$ - Direct Cost	\$ 21,209
(Less) Anticipated Income	\$ -
Net Funding Applying for	\$ 21,209
<i>Funding sought for 2024 2025 (One Off)</i>	\$ -
<i>Funding sought as increase to Base Fund (Ongoing)</i>	\$ 21,209
<i>Funding from Reserves (R) or Licence Fee (L)?</i>	Use Drop Down here

Summary

NZ Council Appointee to cover key issues from NZ Council Meeting and business conducted.

- a. NZ Council Meeting – 18 and 19 April 2024
- b. Other NZ Council Business
 - Budget Reduction Request for Regions
 - Briefing of Meeting with Minister of Hunting and Fishing
 - Cost Optimisation Project Progress

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

Council to move motion to receive the report from the Taranaki Council appointee to NZ Council on NZ Fish and Game Council business for the previous period – including meetings and key issues/actions.



13 March 2024

NZC CEO Update to Regional Managers

Summary of Fish & Game National Council Meeting #167 (16 & 18 February 2024)

Tēnā koutou,

As we head into the new year, with our first NZC meeting of 2024 held on 16 and 18 February in Wellington, I trust this update finds each of you well. This year is going to be a huge one for Fish & Game and it's important that we have a clear direction and focus on the important mahi ahead.

We have a new Government, and Minister for Hunting and Fishing, and will continue to work closely with them on legislative reforms that meet Fish & Game licence holder aspirations, ensure fishing and hunting thrive, and deliver enduring outcomes that benefit all New Zealanders.

Last year we finalised Fish & Game's Organisational Strategy and Business Implementation Plan setting out the priorities which will guide us as we go forward. We must carefully consider what we need to do and how we can best achieve our objectives as we plan and budget for the coming year. Let's continue our collaborative efforts to steer Fish and Game towards an impactful future.

Below, you'll find a comprehensive summary of the topics and decisions from our latest NZC meeting. Your engagement and feedback in these matters are invaluable, and I encourage you to review the summary closely.

Executive Overview:

Annual Budget and Contestable Funding Process:

In the context of spending reductions taking place across Government departments and indications from the Minister and that there is low appetite for increasing license fees NZC had an extensive discussion and gave careful consideration to the 2024/25 Budget and Contestable Funding process.

NZC resolved that all Regional Councils are requested to make savings to their Annual Baseline funding by 3% in their 2024/25 budget. These savings will be added to the contestable funding pool. This will ensure contestable funding of \$845,715 is available for the upcoming CFs application process in April to fund priority areas. In the absence of a 3% saving in baseline funding across the regions, the contestable funding budget would be around \$480,000. It is noted that the RM budget of around \$400,000 has historically come from the Contestable Funding budget.

With licence fees expected to remain at the current levels and the LEQ forecasts set out below reducing costs will be essential to ensure we can continue to deliver our priorities on behalf of licence holders.

NZC recognises the importance of providing clear direction to Managers and Regions to assist in preparing budgets and CF applications. Last year we agreed to maintain staff salaries in line with market baseline and this will be a priority in considering CF applications for the 2024/24 financial year.

It was agreed that Regional Chairs are invited to participate in a Joint NZC meeting on the 19 April 2024 morning meeting via zoom to help provide an overview of CF applications from the regional perspective. The Managers to meet the day before on the 18th April, as historically been the case to make a recommendation to the NZC on the CF applications

Statutory managers of freshwater sports fish, game birds and their habitats

New Zealand Council

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2024/25 Licence Fee & Forecast: The Licence Working Party (LWP) brought forward their licence sales forecast, presenting outcomes to the February NZC meeting. An overview was shared of forecasting methodologies for the Fish and Game seasons. This forecast including methodology was unanimously recommended by the Managers as well. NZC has approved the Licence Fee forecast, however, will review and approve the final forecast that the LWP prepare for the April meeting.

LEQ for Game Licence Sales is 31,298. Total LEQ for Fish Licence Sales is 72,435.

The LWP Licence Fee forecasts by region are as follow:

Table 1: Game LEQ Forecast 2025	Actual Game 2022	Actual Game 2023	Extrapolated Game 2025
Nothland	1582	1544	1525
Auckland Waikato	6309	6512	6512
Eastern	3024	2853	2768
Hawke's Bay	1916	1750	1667
Taranaki	1114	1082	1066
Wellington	3409	3289	3229
Nelson Marlborough	900	860	840
North Canterbury	2428	2551	2551
West Coast	370	364	361
Central South Island	2235	2263	2263
Otago	4080	3988	3942
Southland	4727	4625	4574
	32094	31681	31298

Table 2 Fish LEQ Forecast 2024 25	Actual Fish 2022-23	Estimated Total 2023-24	Extrapolated 2024-25
Nothland	455	471	471
Auckland Waikato	3550	3690	3690
Eastern	8643	8449	8352
Hawke's Bay	2525	2227	2078
Taranaki	1034	958	920
Wellington	2990	2949	2929
Nelson Marlborough	4410	4270	4200
North Canterbury	11084	10853	10738
West Coast	2253	2165	2121
Central South Island	12946	12633	12477
Otago	15828	15685	15614
Southland	9084	8926	8847
	74802	73276	72435

Detailed Information and Decisions:

RMA/Legal Fund Update & Applications:

NZC discussed Wellington Fish & Game Council's (WFGC) predicted PC2 Environment Court case cost overrun and the decision at an NZC Emergency Workshop held on 21 December 2023 which agreed that this be funded from the RMA Fund. It is noted that the WFGC has covered the initial costs

of the PC2 case of \$120,000 out of their reserves. Current reserves predictions for the region are 26%, meaning that the region has limited funds to further costs associated with PC2.

The PC2 case is nationally important and precedent setting. The case is testing regulatory frameworks, and in particular the adoption of a scorecard approach for intensive agriculture where freshwater impacts are significant. It is likely the Primary Sector and Regional Councils will look to adopt this approach across other parts of New Zealand.

NZC resolved that the decision agreed at the NZC Emergency Workshop held on 21 December 2023 to support the WFGC Emergency Application to the RMA fund for Horizons PC2 Case cost overrun of \$107,770 to be funded from the RMA fund be ratified.

Research Fund Applications:

Three research proposals were considered for a contribution study into the economic value and wider benefits of sport fishing in Aotearoa New Zealand. This is an important study area for Fish & Game to support a range of insight activity, advocacy work and future policy and legislative considerations.

Proposals from NZIER, the Cawthron Institute, and Deloitte were presented. The merits of each proposal were considered including scope, affordability, expertise available, methodologies and timing for the provision of findings.

As of 31 December 2023, there were \$218,860 committed funds from the Research Fund. There was an available balance of \$64,430 to fund new research applications in the 2023/24 fiscal year.

The Managers had recommended the Cawthron project \$160,000 if this could be funded through the Research budget and over successive years.

NZC agreed to progress the NZIER – Economic Contribution of Freshwater Angling research subject to the Research Sub-Committee finalising the terms and conditions of the proposal and that the cost remain within the available \$64,430 available to fund research applications within the 2023/24 budget. The decision was based on the merits of the proposal, as well as budget restriction considerations.

Verbal Update on Taranaki and Wellington Amalgamation:

Chris Donald, Chair – Taranaki F&G, provided an update to NZC on the voluntary amalgamation between Taranaki F&G and Wellington F&G, including an overview of the ambitions of the project, key achievements and next steps. Key learnings from the project were also shared at the Chairs forum on Saturday.

Ranger & Maritime Compliance:

NZC received an update report on the proposed National Health and Safety Policy, the National Health and Safety Policy for Rangers and Managers declaration and provided feedback.

The aim of the process is to review and embed current best practice and achieve consistency across the organisation through updated policies, templates and operational plans. There has been comprehensive review of all policies and SOPs relating to ranger team activity and ongoing consultation with a further Managers workshop to take place ahead of presenting draft policies the NZC April meeting.

Communications Update:

NZC received an update on communications and public awareness work. Advocacy, social licence and brand are key focus areas and the report [Communications Report Feb24.pdf](#) has been developed to highlight progress and achievements in these areas. Our ReWild campaign [Fish & Game ReWild Campaign Report 2024.pdf](#), has been successful in achieving reach and positive brand perception since its launch in November 2023, with 6 million impressions across all channels. Feedback and analytics of content performance on a range of channels and campaigns was also shared achieved.

Staff Development Fund Application:

Council received the Staff Development Grant Update Report from Steve Dixon on the Recirculating Aquaculture Systems Course attended in September 2023 at the National Conservation Training Centre.

Council agreed to support the Staff Development Fund application for Ian Hadland's attend the 'Council to Advance Hunting and Shooting Sports R3 Symposium' to be held in Alabama, USA on 29 May – 1 June 2024 to the value of \$5,049.

Budget Amendment for 2023/24:

NZC approved the reallocation of \$20,000 from the Advocacy budget to the Marketing and Social Licence Budget.

Fish & Game Audit Findings:

Grant Thornton presented an unqualified audit report for the year ended 31 August 2023 with no uncorrected misstatements, control deficiencies or recommendations identified and no concerns raised in relation to control procedures and fraud risk. Based on audit procedures performed, the Auditor was satisfied of appropriate performance reporting as part of the financial report. NZC noted the positive reflection of this on the team and thanked all those involved in the audit process

Finance Reports:

Carmel Veitch, CFO, presented and responded to questions on the a financial reports:

- **National Finance Report** [National Finance Report Dec23.pdf](#)
For the period ended 31 December 2023, the combined NZC and National Budget presented a surplus of \$393,747 against a total full year budget deficit of \$515,074. An overview and additional clarifications were provided on funding and expenditure items
- **National Variance Report** [National Variance Report - 31 Aug.pdf](#)
The report detailed variance to budgets for each Council with clarification of variances provided and process for monitoring and addressing them on an ongoing basis.
- **National and Regional Reserves Reports** [National And Regional Reserves 31 Aug23.pdf](#)
NZC received the report on reserves position for each Council following the financial audit. No Council required a top up of reserves for the year ended 31 August 2023. ARF management continues to be of concern for some Councils. Reserves as at 31 August were \$8.255 million. NZC is budgeted to require a top up of \$10,444 in the year ended 31 August 2024. A correction was noted in relation to WF&G, who had to replace two vehicles taking their reserve percentage from 33% to 22%.

Risk management:

NZC received and discussed the NZC Risk Register. Discussion took place in relation a range of risk areas pertinent to NZC including environmental, social, organisational, financial, political and legislative risk.

Policies:

DRAFT POLICIES for Regional Consultation:

Deadline for Feedback is Friday 31 May 2024 in time for the 18th NZC June Meeting.

Health and Safety Policies: NZC approved the draft National Health and Safety Policy for Rangers [draft H & S policy for rangers.docx](#) and National Health and safety Policy [Draft National H&S Policy.docx](#) and Managers declaration and to be shared for regional consultation. These had been revised into two separate policies a management declaration following consultation.

Protected Disclosures Policy & Procedures: Council agreed the draft Protected Disclosures Policy and Procedures for regional consultation. [Draft Protected Disclosures policy.docx](#)

Draft Funding Application Form and Research Application Process Sequence:

NZC received an update from the Research Sub-Committee (RSC) and discussed the Draft Terms of Reference for the RSC, Draft Funding Application Form and Research Application Process Sequence. [Draft Funding Application Form.docx](#) and [Research Applications Process Sequence.docx](#) These propose updates to the process for Research Fund applications to provide greater consistence and clearer processes for considering and submitting applications.

Future Structures:

The Future Structures Working Group (FSWG) has been continuing to finalise recommendations which are due to presented to the April NZC meeting ahead of wider consultation. A range of areas are being considered relating to: Council size and composition; iwi representation; management support across regions; NZC support for regions which may wish to amalgamate; numbers of wards; voting rights associated with different licences; election regulations; appointments to NZC

Future Funding:

The Future Funding Working Group (FFWG) has been developing proposals in relation to future funding with the aim of making recommendations within the scope of existing regulations. Recommendations are being developed for NZC consideration in April ahead of wider consultation in the areas of: Licence sale income; separation and centralisation of certain costs and funds; external revenue streams; the approach to budgeting and split between different sources of funding; contestable fund terms and criteria; career development; audit processes. Suggestions were also discussed in relation to the most appropriate consultation process.

Decisions from Part II (Public Excluded) moved to Part I:

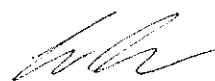
Resolution - That NZC request that Regional Councils make savings to the Annual Baseline funding by 3% for 2024/25 budget.

Resolution - That NZC delegate authority to the Executive Committee to agree a final decision on the appointment of a Governance Advisor.

Chairs Report Discussion took place in relation to the introduction of Guide Licencing. It was confirmed that the Chair had raised this with the Minister at their meeting on 17 January alongside other important issues. Consistency with requirements for guides in other areas, Health & Safety, relationships with other organisations, and the responsibility for resource management were considered. Further work was needed to develop proposals and consider consultation processes. In terms of taking this matter forward it was confirmed that there would be further discussion with DOC and with the Minister at the upcoming meeting in March.

If you have further queries or need more details on any of these points, please feel free to contact me directly. We value your ongoing commitment and look forward to your continued participation in achieving our common objectives.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Corina Jordan
Chief Executive Officer
New Zealand Fish and Game Council

Agenda Item 7 Public Forum

Summary

Invite public for an opportunity to speak to any issues – this may be up to 5 minutes allotted per speaker but is at the Chairman's discretion to allow more time

No Decision Required

Recommendation/Action

Note any issues brought to the attention of Council during the Public Forum

Agenda Item 8 **Regional Business - Governance**

Summary

a. Chairman's Report for Previous Period

Chairman to provide an overview report of key issues since the previous meeting.

This will focus on issues relevant to governance functions but provide an overview of key operational outcomes where appropriate.

An overview will be provided regarding the response to the Minister of Hunting and Fishing regarding a request for details on financial and operational resources.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

Council to move to receive the report presented by the Chairman for the previous period since the last meeting of Council.

Hon Todd McClay

Minister of Agriculture
Minister of Forestry
Minister for Hunting and Fishing
Minister for Trade
Associate Minister of Foreign Affairs



28 March 2024

Paul Dewar
Chair, Wellington Fish and Game Council
p.dewar@gmail.com

Taranaki

Dear Paul Dewar

I am very pleased to be writing to you as Minister for Hunting and Fishing. This new portfolio is recognition that hunting and fishing are highly valued activities across New Zealand. I want to support and represent the interests of recreational hunters and fishers, and will be working closely with Hon Tama Potaka, Minister of Conservation, to ensure we make the most of opportunities to deliver great outcomes for both conservation and hunting and fishing.

I am responsible for all matters relating to freshwater sports fishing and game bird hunting, as well as recreational and commercial hunting of deer, tahr, chamois, and feral pigs on public conservation land. I have statutory responsibility for Fish & Game New Zealand, and I have committed to supporting and strengthening this organisation to better reflect the interests of game bird hunters and fishers in decision making.

It is my expectation that Fish and Game Councils will operate in line with the core function set out in section 26Q of the Conservation Act 1987: "...to manage, maintain, and enhance the sports fish and game resource in the recreational interest of anglers and hunters."

Regional councils should therefore be focused on ensuring licence holders have every opportunity to fish and hunt, including good monitoring of fish and game bird health and populations, the enforcement of regulations, and habitat maintenance.

All recommendations to me should be based upon sound, evidence-based assessments of sports fish and game bird populations, licence holder preferences and expectations, and long-term sustainability outcomes. Your council should have a clear and consistent process for consulting with licence holders.

To help me get a full picture of how each of the Fish and Game Councils are operating and enable me to deliver on my commitments for Hunting and Fishing, I would appreciate you providing me with the following information:

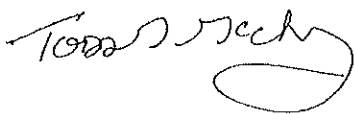
1. The number of FTE staff employed by your council and total cost of salaries each year from 1 September 2017 to year end 31 August 2024 (will need forecasting for this year)
2. A breakdown of staff costs and roles between back office administration and front line field staff, including the number of FTE staff being paid over \$100k, each year from 2017 to 2024 (forecasted to year-end 2024)

3. Any public campaigns, advocacy, cases, and legal proceedings taken by your council each year from 2017 to 2024, and the total cost and number of staff hours spent on these (forecasted to year-end 2024)
4. The number of employment disputes, complaints, awards and dismissals each year from 2017 to the present
5. A breakdown, by year between 2017 to 2024, of forecast and actual expenses, income, assets, and cash reserves
6. A description of your monitoring and reporting activities each year over 2017-2024 from both a financial and fish/bird population health perspective, including:
 - The number of hours of field work undertaken per year in support of game birds
 - The number of hours of field work undertaken per year in support of sports fish
 - The number of hours of enforcement work undertaken each year by paid staff in relation to (a) game birds and (b) sports fish
 - The number of hours of enforcement work undertaken each year by honorary staff in relation to (a) game birds and (b) sports fish
7. The number of external complaints you have you received between 2017 to the present and the general nature of the complaints
8. A description of how you have been cooperating with surrounding regional fish and game councils

I would be grateful for this information being sent to my office by 4 weeks from the date of this letter.

I am very much looking forward to working with you to get the best outcomes for freshwater sports fishing and game bird hunting and ensure that, together, we can make it easier for licence holders to hunt and fish. I would welcome the opportunity to come to your region and speak with you and your fellow councillors about the issues facing your region.

Warm regards,



Hon Todd McClay
Minister for Hunting and Fishing

cc Barrie Barnes, Chair New Zealand Fish and Game Council



24 April 2024

Hon Todd McClay
Minister of Hunting and Fishing

By email: t.mcclay@ministers.govt.nz

Dear Minister

Please find information requested on 28 March 2024 relating to the operations of Taranaki Fish and Game Council.

Shared Resources Arrangement - Update

Firstly, I would also like to update you on the progress of the co-operative and positive actions undertaken by two adjoining Fish and Game regions in the lower North Island to provide for long-term effectiveness and efficiencies at delivering services for licence holders.

Taranaki Fish and Game Council is currently progressing a transition arrangement of shared resources with Wellington Fish and Game Council with a view to fully integrate operational and governance functions between Wellington Fish and Game Council and Taranaki Fish and Game Council so that core services and representation will be for a region of larger size – i.e. a formal amalgamation.

The two regions are currently operating as two separate business units but have a shared operational services arrangement reflected in staff resourcing configurations.

This approach is our response to the recommendations emanating from the Ministerial Review into Fish and Game Governance (February 2021) to principally to rationalise governance within the organisation but also reduce duplication and focus on providing effective service to licence holders. This provides an increased shared mix of internal staff experience and skills to support services to licence holders and will ultimately lead to some (modest) administrative efficiencies. There has also been an increase in the effectiveness of service delivery across various functional areas such as communications and engagement with licence holders, critique of species monitoring programmes, rationalising consistent governance and operational policies, and sharing styles of engagement with mana whenua.

Unique Regional Attributes - Taranaki Region

Taranaki Fish and Game region operates like the other Fish and Game regions but there are some significant differences, which I wish to highlight:

- Taranaki region has self-sustaining trout populations including unique 'short run' Taranaki ring plain fisheries and the larger Whanganui River catchment with outstanding fisheries values.
- The landscape of Taranaki region is largely dominated by rural land use and consequently relatively sparsely populated with two urban centres of Whanganui and New Plymouth.

Statutory managers of freshwater **42** fish, game birds and their habitats

Taranaki Region

Email taranaki@fishandgame.org.nz www.fishandgame.org.nz

- Taranaki region operates a small, dedicated team of staff that are skilled and highly respected, that are supported by numerous volunteer contributors that assist in compliance, governance, and support in management of events such as children’s fishing promotions.

Provision of Specific Information

Provision of the requested information has been derived from audited Annual Performance Reports which have been submitted to the Minister of Conservation under s26X of the Conservation Act and s44a of the Public Finance Act 1989 – and presented to Parliament each year. These annual reports report on the financial year which ends on 31 August - meaning the data comes from annual reports up to the 2022/23 financial year are actual results and figures for the 2023/24 year are based on budget estimates.

Overhead costs are generally allocated back across project outputs for simplicity of accounting.

We would be happy to provide further breakdowns of costs/time if that is required.

I bring to your attention that in the 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 Financial Years overall budgets were reduced by 5% as a risk management response to potential declines in angler and hunter participation and revenues during COVID lockdowns in 2020 and 2021. These project and overhead budgets were not subsequently reinstated and has resulted in the cessation of non-essential work and the non-renewal of a public facing leased office in the Whanganui CBD.

Questions 1 & 2 Staff Related Information

- Number of FTE staff and total costs of salaries
- Staff costs and roles – with number of FTE staff being paid over \$100k

All staff are client facing (and by definition front office staff) responsible for licence holder service functions. There are components for all staff that involve report writing and developing information to service licence holders and for governance reporting requirements.

COMPOSITION OF STAFF

	TOTAL STAFF FTE	FIELD	MANAGER	OFFICE MANAGER	RMA	PAID OVER \$100,000	TOTAL COST
2017/18	2.8	1	0.8	1	0	1	245,441
2018/19	2.8	1	0.8	1	0	1	244,254
2019/20	2.8	1	0.8	1	0	1	240,223
2020/21	2.8	1	0.8	1	0	1	252,920
2021/22	3	1.5	0.5	1	0	1	232,914
2022/23	3	1.5	0.5	1	0	1	241,103
2023/24	3.2	2	0.2	1	0	1	*221,679

*Salary total for 23/24 is *budgeted* total. Salaries are consistent with and within the guidelines developed by an independent review of salary bands by *Strategic Pay* in 2023. As part of the Council’s good employer obligations, salaries were adjusted upwards towards midpoints for the roles. Total salary for 23/24 reflects the shared resources arrangement with Wellington region.

Question 3 Any public campaigns, cases, and legal proceedings

Public Campaigns: Taranaki Fish and Game Council has not initiated any campaigns per se, but has provided some supporting information to inform different processes being undertaken by central and regional government agencies.

Taranaki Fish and Game has focussed efforts on major strategic campaigns that pertain to participation, marketing and R3 campaigns (recruitment, retention, and reactivation) of licence holders, and habitat enhancement. These include:

- Promotion of wetland enhancement opportunities to rural landowners with supporting financial contributions through a dedicated reserve, facilitating access to Regional Council enhancement funds, and liaison with the NZ Game Bird Habitat Trust for funding options and project management.
- Actions to support the NZF&G Council ReWild campaign – designed to encourage participation into New Zealand's outdoors.
- Learn to fish events including take a kid fishing and support for local clay target events.

Engagement in RM Cases: Taranaki Fish and Game Council has not been involved in any specific legal proceedings that have necessitated higher court proceedings.

Taranaki Fish and Game Council does not keep specific records of the internal costs of other advocacy or campaigns, as they generally come under generic projects, RMA or habitat protection expenditure.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Forecast 2024
Total Hours	292	329.5	361.5	280.25	212.5	280.25	200

Staff are regularly involved in the development of regional planning tools and initiatives at the request of the Regional Council – with the expertise and on-ground practical knowledge being widely respected. Taranaki Fish and Game Council has participated in the regional planning processes for Taranaki Regional Council, Horizons Regional Council and six District Councils planning instruments. Taranaki Fish and Game Council has submitted on 6 regional plans (or plan changes) and 12 district plans from 2017/2018 until 2023/2024. There has not been a requirement for Taranaki Fish and Game Council to manage advocacy projects of national precedence that require funding from the Legal Fund co-ordinated by NZ Fish and Game Council.

Legal proceedings are also taken against offenders who have infringed against the Conservation or Wildlife Acts. It will be noted that most are resolved by Court-assisted diversion of offenders which reduces court time and expensive legal fees.

Table of Prosecutions

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Forecast 2024
Angler and hunter prosecutions							
Court Diversions completed	0	2	0	2	0	2	2
Full Court Prosecution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hours	101.5	171.25	164.25	137	83.75	97	90

Question 4 Summary of Employment Disputes, Complaints, Awards, and Dismissals

There have been no employment disputes requiring formal resolution.

Question 5 Financial Summary - Forecast and Actual Expenses, Income, Assets, and Cash Reserves

Taranaki Fish and Game Council has an operational target of managing for a general cash reserve to cover adequate cash flow requirements.

Taranaki Fish and Game Council has reserves that are either restricted or dedicated reserves that have encumbrances on their use by an external funding source or specific purpose of reserve.

CASH RESERVES

	Restricted	Dedicated	General	Total
2017/18	380,211	21,895	20,749	422,855
2018/19	369,552	31,168	51,142	451,862
2019/20	389,043	11,856	69,285	470,184
2020/21	359,060	11,856	96,708	467,624
2021/22	343,342	29,623	113,014	485,979
2022/23	333,379	29,515	150,505	513,399

NON-CURRENT ASSETS

	Land	Buildings	Plant & Equipment	Vehicles	Office Equipment
2017/18	0	3,797	12,125	88,851	6,905
2018/19	0	3,228	10,906	62,072	5,816
2019/20	0	0	9,810	77,047	4,926
2020/21	0	0	8,824	63,267	7,023
2021/22	0	0	9,361	52,380	6,290
2022/23	0	0	8,422	61,506	4,401

FORECAST AND ACTUAL EXPENSES & INCOME

	Budgeted expenses	Actual Expenses	Budgeted Income	Actual Income
2017/18	395,363	458,771	395,363	436,134
2018/19	431,468	408,402	431,468	426,033
2019/20	437,567	411,483	468,905	458,580
2020/21	398,123	401,247	360,360	398,939
2021/22	422,169	405,462	413,259	418,793
2022/23	386,372	382,340	400,345	427,788

	INCOME			Total
	Fish licence sales	Game licence sales	Other	
2017/18	95,556	90,202	250,376	436,134
2018/19	95,751	85,935	244,347	426,033
2019/20	93,097	81,229	284,255	458,580
2020/21	101,201	90,674	207,064	398,939
2021/22	101,150	92,757	224,887	418,713
2022/23	126,486	95,821	205,481	427,788

Question 6. Monitoring and Reporting Activities

As in other regions, work is divided into eight functional output areas which contain details of the monitoring programmes. These are reported annually, and relevant species and habitat reports are presented to governors.

A summary of the expenditure and hours for each output area is presented below. To assist with analysis, the following descriptions and details of the type of activity undertaken is as follows:

- **Species management:** Waterfowl trend counts, trout spawning surveys, fish population assessments using electric fishing surveys, gamebird harvest surveys of hunters, overseeing a small trout hatchery run by volunteers, setting regulations, management of nuisance gamebird aggregations.
- **Habitat protection:** input into pre-application and scrutiny of RM consents, submitting on regional planning documents, working with other statutory authorities to protect habitat, assisting landowners with their wetlands including issuing grants and advice.
- **Angler and hunter participation:** Identifying access points to waterways and wetlands and including signage and linking to electronic map, measuring angler and hunter satisfaction via surveys, running fishing events for novice and young anglers, liaising with angling and hunting clubs, generation and distribution of printed and online content to licence holders.
- **Public Interface:** Engagement with iwl, responding to public enquiries, raising public awareness of angling and hunting through the media, social media, newsletters, magazines and website.
- **Compliance:** Compliance and law enforcement activities in the field, coordination and training of honorary rangers, undertaking prosecution action against offenders to deter non-compliance with regulations.
- **Licencing:** Maintaining a licencing interface in the region through agents and supporting public online sales
- **Council:** Organisation of 6 meetings per year and development of agendas for these. Promote and conduct Council elections.
- **Planning and reporting:** Preparation of annual workplan, completion of annual report and audit, long term strategic plan development and implementation.

Question 6. Monitoring and Reporting Activities

<i>Breakdown of Total Cost and Hours by Output Area</i>												
	2017/18		2018/19		2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23	
	Total Cost	Hours	Total Cost	Hours	Total Cost	Hours	Total Cost	Hours	Total Cost	Hours	Total Cost	Hours
	\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
Species Management Habitat Protection	137,890	927	130,676	804	124,878	845	124,297	824	153,399	1,145	142,329	1,200
Angler & Hunter Participation Public Interface	129,649	578	80,359	555	90,076	492	76,012	459	78,106	465	52,078	497
Compliance	37,483	237	31,314	205	29,139	197	27,106	147	36,501	272	39,783	306
Licensing	47,267	404	45,092	369	49,419	393	56,765	464	28,675	270	40,759	404
Council	25,187	207	27,172	234	25,962	209	27,273	228	20,956	192	17,500	169
Planning & Reporting Total	15,300	51	11,088	27	12,015	34	12,824	33	13,424	43	10,626	17
	35,464	231	39,622	236	36,400	256	41,092	276	32,148	236	34,645	301
	30,531	224	43,080	325	43,535	332	35,875	257	42,254	360	44,620	421
	458,771	2,858	408,402	2,753	411,482	2,757	401,247	2,687	405,462	2,983	382,340	3,315

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Specifically: The number of hours of field work undertaken per year in support of (a) game bird management and (b) sports fish management

HOURS OF FIELDWORK		
	Sports Fish	Gamebirds
2017/18	378.5	834.25
2018/19	335	694.25
2019/20	313.25	659
2020/21	249.25	753
2021/22	496.5	901.5
2022/23	491.25	997.25

Compliance and Enforcement:

The number of hours of enforcement work undertaken each year by paid staff and honorary rangers in relation to (a) game birds and (b) sports fish

ENFORCEMENT WORK				
	Paid Staff (hours or contacts)		Honorary rangers (number of contacts)	
	Sports Fish	Gamebirds	Sports Fish	Gamebirds
2017/18	63.75	143	100	104
2018/19	72	161.5	58	87
2019/20	63	145.5	49	14
2020/21	68.25	160	41	108
2021/22	58.25	134	75	41
2022/23	51.25	119.75	68	115

Taranaki Fish and Game Council only retains records of the number of contacts Honorary Rangers have with licence holders.

Question 7 External Complaints

There have been no external complaints to Taranaki Fish and Game Council on the governance or operational activities from 2017/2018 to present.

Question 8 Interactions with Neighbouring Regions

Council staff have had considerable interactions with neighbouring regions in the recent past, but as noted above we have undertaken a formal approach to shared resources.

Reason for interactions

- To provide consistency in approach
- To reduce duplication of process
- To manage capacity - applying staff resources when required
- To manage capability – applying experience and expertise where required

Interactions Taranaki Fish and Game Council and Wellington Fish and Game Council

a. Shared Resources: Operational Services:

Ultimately the operational and staff resourcing would be for one regional Manager and two operationally focused Senior Fish and Game Officers (Operational Managers) (one based in Palmerston North and one based in New Plymouth). Fish and Game officers would provide services from current field bases to service catchments: Whanganui, Waimarino, Wairarapa, Taranaki, Manawatu, Rangitikei and Wellington.

Taranaki and Wellington regions are currently operating with shared resources which provides an increased shared mix of internal staff experience and skills to support services to licence holders.

This has seen an increase in effectiveness across functional areas:

- Licence holder communications
- R3 engagement and marketing - newsletter
- Resource Management support
- Iwi engagement – different approaches and effectiveness
- Critique of monitoring programmes
- effectiveness of undertaking species monitoring
- Financial management services
- Ranger compliance training interaction

Each Council is still operated as a separate business unit but they are actively aligning strategic directions and developing consistent policies and common administrative approaches.

b. Proposed Governance Configuration:

This has not been confirmed but the initial concept is to have a total of (up to) nine governors – with a configuration of three from Taranaki's existing wards and three from Wellington's existing wards, with the remainder being from the wider catchment and/or appointed. Changes to governance arrangements will require Ministerial approval.

Governors are currently meeting as a joint working group made up of three from each Council to progress amalgamation.

Interactions Taranaki Fish and Game Council and Eastern Fish and Game Council

- a. Field Operations – interactions in undertaking species monitoring
- b. Ranger Compliance training and management

Interactions Taranaki Fish and Game Council and NZ Fish and Game Council

- a. Administration Support – as required
- b. Ranger Compliance Training
- c. Expertise on game bird and sports fish management and research

In addition to cooperation with neighbouring regions, Taranaki staff also contribute around 350-400 hours annually to national working groups for gamebird research and public awareness. They also contribute to national submissions on topics of national importance.

Ministerial Review – Proactive Response to Change

Taranaki Fish and Game Council has participated fully in the Ministerial Review into Fish and Game Governance (February 2021) and has submitted feedback at every stage requested. As a result, it reduced its number of Councillors voluntarily from 12 to 8 before the last election.

Taranaki Fish and Game Council have been proactive and positive in embracing change to modernise operations and governance. This is reflected in its approach to have a shared resource arrangement and progress towards amalgamation with Wellington Fish and Game Council.

I trust that the information provided meets your requirements but offer our prompt assistance to provide any further clarification if needed.

We welcome your independent advice and perspectives on how to confirm Fish and Game as a relevant and fit for purpose organisation moving into the future.

Yours sincerely

Chris Donald

Chairman



Agenda Item 9 **Inter-Regional Business - Governance**

Summary

a. Shared Resources Update

Update on the progress of shared resources between Taranaki and Wellington Fish and Game Councils.

b. Regional Chairs' Forum Update

Brief report from the Chairman of any interactions of the Fish and Game Regional Chairs' Group including how the budget presentations to NZ Council were conducted at the NZ Council meeting on 18 April 2024.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

Council to move to receive the report presented by the Chairman for the previous period since the last meeting of Council.

Agenda Item 10 **Licence Fee Recommendation**

Summary

a. Consultation on the Licence Fee Recommendation made by NZ Fish and Game Council

Consider the consultation paper regarding the Licence Fee Recommendation:

- Indicating support / conditional support / oppose
- Consider and comment on the sustainability of the budgetary approach
- Suggestions for future budgeting process considerations and planning.

For Decision

Recommendation/Action

Council to provide feedback to NZ Council on the Licence Fee Recommendation.

CONSULTATION:	LICENCE FEE RECOMMENDATION 2024-25
TO:	Regional Chairs
CC:	Regional Managers, NZC and Administrators
AUTHOR:	Corina Jordan, CEO NZ Fish and Game Council
DATE:	29/04/2024
FEEDBACK DUE:	31/05/2024
FEEDBACK TO:	nzcouncil@fishandgame.org.nz
LINK TO REGISTER:	Consultation Register

Recommendations - Ngā taunaki

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council seeks consultation from Regional Fish and Game Councils on the following points:

1. That the 2024/25 adult whole season sports fish licence fee is set at \$153 and that the adult whole season game licence is set at \$113 (inclusive of a \$5 fee for the Game Bird Habitat Stamp), with all proportional changes to remaining licence fees and categories. (no change from 2023/24).
2. The sea run salmon licence endorsement of \$5 (as a cost-recovery mechanism). (no change from 2023/24).
3. That Designated Waters Licence, as a \$5 annual licence per Fish and Game region for resident anglers and as a day licence to non-resident anglers at a fee of \$40. (no change from 2023/24).

Discussion - Kōrero

Proposal

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council (NZC) is seeking to consult with Fish and Game regional councils on the '2024/25 licence fee recommendations and forecast LEO' for 2024/25.

The NZC met on the 19th and 20th of April 2024 to consider the 2024/25 budgets and licence fees. Following that meeting, NZC agreed to recommend maintaining the licence fee for a sports fish adult whole season licence at \$153 and to maintain the game adult whole season licence at \$113 for 2024/2025. In recommending these fees, NZC also recommended that all other licence categories increase to the agreed proportions. A full list of recommended licence fees and categories is detailed in the Schedule attached (**Appendix 2**).

Background

Legislation provides for the following:

- Section 26Q of the Conservation Act 1987 sets out the functions of Fish and Game Councils.
- **Subsection (1)(d)(a) requires councils:** *To assess the costs attributable to the management of sports fish and game;*
- **Section 26Q(1)(d)(ii) requires Fish and Game councils:** *To develop and recommend to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council appropriate licence fees to recover costs and game bird habitat stamp fees;*
- **Section 26C(1)(e) requires NZC:** *To recommend to the Minister of Conservation an appropriate fee for fishing and hunting licenses, after considering the views and recommendations of Fish and Game Councils;*
- **Section 26C(1)(ia) also requires NZC:** *To recommend to the Minister, after considering the views and recommendations (if any) of Fish and Game Councils and the New Zealand Game Bird Habitat Trust Board, an appropriate fee in respect of any game bird habitat stamp and the form of such stamps (the form of the stamp to be approved as part of the 2011 Game Notice).*

Operationally, the national policy of NZC specifies that all expenditure needs to be approved as part of the budget round, including capital expenditure and expenditure from reserves for all councils.

Policy

At the May 2020 NZC meeting, in response to COVID-19, the NZC set the minimum level of reserves at 20% of total budget for all councils. This level of general reserve is considered adequate to provide security against fluctuations in income and to ensure adequate operational cash flow.

The budget policy specifies that all expenditure from general and dedicated reserves needs to be notified/approved by NZC as part of the budget round, or by making an application for Exceptional Funding. There are consequences across all sectors of the organisation when any council's reserves are reduced in a manner inconsistent with this policy.

Budget Process

The method of increasing funding levels for individual councils is through a contestable funding application at the April budget setting meeting. Applications can be for either a one-off funding allocation for a specific project, or for ongoing additional funding. The latter in effect raises the total baseline funding level for that council.

The funding required to cover base funds and approved contestable funding is assessed against the expected licence sales for the year ahead (established from analysis of the last two-year sales trends, considering the implications of COVID-19 and border restrictions) to determine the licence fees.

This process is summarised in the following budget cycle:

Feb	All council budgets reviewed against audited actual expenditure. Budgets over or under 10% variance are reported against, reviewed, and discussed. The variance reports for the 2022/23 year are prepared and discussed. NZC set regional base funds for the 2024/25 year at \$11,867,408. NZC recommended to all Regions to make reductions of 3% from their Base funds.
March	Preparation of business and operational work plans for new financial year (NFY). Draft budgets developed by NZC and regional councils. Regions and NZC made savings of \$192,183.
April	Councils apply for 'new' contestable funding with applications circulated beforehand, reviewed against criteria, considered, and prioritised at the meeting
	NZC meet (by Zoom) with the Chairs of each region to consider the contestable funding applications.
April	NZC make recommendation on licence forecast, fees, having considered base funding levels and contestable fund applications, and send to regional councils for consideration.
May	Regional councils consider NZC licence fee recommendation. Due back to NZC (31 May).
June	NZC consider regional response and finalise licence fee recommendations for approval by the Minister of Conservation. (19 June)

The recommended licence fee is effectively set by dividing the sum of the proposed budgets of the 13 Councils by the number of the adult whole season licence equivalents that Fish and Game NZ expects to sell during the year (LEQ targets).

2024/25 Licence LEQ Forecast

The following table represents the approved forecast for the Licence sales for Fish and Game for the 2024/25 season. Total LEQ Fish 72,826 and Game 31,340.

The forecast which was recommended by the Licence Working Party.

	Actual 2021/22		Actual 2022/23		Est 2024	Budget 2023/24		Projected 24/25	
	Fish	Game	Fish	Game	Fish	Fish	Game	Fish	Game
Northland	217	1,582	455	1,552	454	370	1,552	454	1,537
Auckland/Waikato	3,231	6,309	3,550	6,518	3,658	3,729	6,201	3,658	6,518
Eastern	8,695	3,024	8,643	2,854	8,456	8,663	3,012	8,363	2,769
Hawkes Bay	2,476	1,916	2,525	1,750	2,335	1,879	1,916	2,690	1,667
Taranaki	861	1,114	1,034	1,086	987	938	1,113	964	1,072
Wellington	3,239	3,409	2,990	3,290	2,989	2,807	3,409	2,989	3,231
Nelson-Marlb	3,460	900	4,410	862	4,364	4,599	887	4,341	843
Nth Canterbury	10,980	2,428	11,084	2,557	10,964	11,148	2,381	10,904	2,557
West Coast	1,744	370	2,253	364	2,169	2,208	358	2,127	361
Central SI	11,638	2,235	12,946	2,267	12,536	12,937	2,233	12,331	2,267
Otago	14,923	4,080	15,828	3,989	15,549	15,614	4,029	15,410	3,944
Southland	8,099	4,727	9,084	4,625	8,758	9,167	4,672	8,595	4,574
NZC only									
National									
TOTAL	69,563	32,094	74,802	31,714	73,219	74,060	31,763	72,826	31,340

Following Components Featured in the 2024/25 Budget Discussions:

Contestable Funding Applications

59 contestable funding applications were received (90 last year), seeking additional funding of \$2,200,596 (last year \$2,965,090).

National Budget	# Applications	\$ from Licence fee	\$ from Reserves	CF for Salaries	CF for REM	CF for new Staff
Northland	2	12,974	-	10,974	10,974	-
Auckland/Waikato	0	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern	2	26,600	15,000	26,600	26,600	-
Hawkes Bay	2	154,000	-	54,000	54,000	-
Taranaki	2	29,333	-	29,333	8,124	21,209
Wellington	1	17,788	-	17,788	17,788	-
Nelson-Marlb	0	-	-	-	-	-
Nth Canterbury	5	103,748	30,000	31,748	31,748	-
West Coast	2	34,350	25,000	59,350	59,350	-
Central SI	3	237,500	29,601	190,000	-	190,000
Otago	3	120,000	23,000	115,000	-	115,000
Southland	5	19,427	136,775	75,702	10,427	65,275
NZC only	7	110,400	-	-	-	-
National	25	1,075,100	-	160,000	-	160,000
TOTAL	59	1,941,220	259,376	770,495	219,011	551,484
TOTAL Contestable Funding Applications		2,200,596				

Contestable Funding Recommendations from NZC Staff

The NZC staff made recommendations to the NZC in 3 Steps:

1. Step 1: Prioritisation for Regional Contestable fund applications for salaries and core functions;
2. Step 2: Recommendations for NZC and National Budgets for core functions;
3. Step 3: Recommendation of the Regional Contestable applications and the NZC and

National applications against the Fish & Game Organisational Strategy – strategic merit.

2024/25 NZC Contestable Funding Approval and 2024/25 Budgets

Budgets for all councils were received and circulated to the NZC for review prior to the April NZC meeting.

The Chairs of the Regions were invited to present their CFs to the NZC on Friday 19th April.

The NZC approved contestable funding applications at a total value of \$1,580,496. Of this, \$624,161 were ongoing from the Licence fee, \$596,959 were one off from the Licence fee and \$359,376 were one-off from reserves.

The attached Table 6 (Appendix 1) sets out the full list of approved contestable funding applications with the approval rating from the NZC staff and the final approval from the NZC. Any figures highlighted in yellow have been adjusted from the original application during the Contestable funding review process or at the NZC meeting.

Reasoning behind the decisions include:

1. Salaries for REM – have all been approved in principle – as the NZC believe our people are our greatest assets. However, the amounts sort in the CF's need to peer reviewed by the HR advisor to ensure the amounts are in line with the REM policy i.e. there is parity/ equity across the organisation for staff.
 - a. The process this year is that the market information from the March Strategic Pay survey will be available around mid May. Jane will then notify Chairs/ Managers of the new pay bands and will send out a spreadsheet to those who have asked for CF funds for remuneration. Jane will work with the Chair/ Manager to schedule a meeting to chat through regional recommendations for salaries. Pay parity can then be checked and the additional budget required can be confirmed.
 - b. Once this review has been completed, the relevant Regions will be notified of the final approval from the CF fund for Rem.
 - c. In future, as NZC has only approved a budget for one Strategic Pay report in the next financial year, we will use the September 2024 report to calculate the remuneration budget for the 25/26 financial year.
 - d. Strategic Pay will calculate new pay bands in early December from the September survey , so the HR/HS advisor can then send out a spreadsheet to Regions where you can identify where you think you will want to place your staff within the bands, and the required remuneration can be calculated well before the April NZC meeting.
2. All CF's from Regional reserves were approved.
3. Northland - \$2,000 for insurance was declined as the NZC feels this amount could be found within the present Northland budget, and due to significant organisational fiscal constraints.

4. Hawkes Bay \$100,000 has been approved from reserves as a one off. It is the intention of the HBFGC to ensure this project is self-sustaining in the following years.
5. Taranaki – Management Contract - \$21,209 – Approved as a one off and for the budget to be reconsidered in the following year.
6. North Canterbury – Put and Take Fishery – NZC approved \$5,000 as per the current year budget. The value of the put and take fishery project was noted as high against the Organisational Strategy, though unfortunately further funding could not be provided at this stage due to tight organisational fiscal constraints. Te Waihora Maimai \$9,000 was approved as a one off as the NZC have requested the North Canterbury Council to investigate alternative funding for this, for example a Maimai fee to those using the maimai's. The ARF figure was approved as per the current year budget \$20,000 (one off) with the NZC requesting all Regions ARF registers are reviewed against ARF policy to ensure all Regions are adequately funded.
7. Central South Island – Applied for 2 staff members – the NZC approved 1 staff member, after considering the regional needs to support the canals fisheries, and level of staffing across similar sized regions. This was the second year CSI had sought an additional field officer to support delivery of their operational plan and in particular to meet the needs of managing the canal fisheries;
8. Otago - \$5,000 for the Council Induction was not approved as this will be funded by the NZC budget. The new staff member was declined due to financial constraints, though as with North Canterbury's put and take fishery, the strategic value of this position was noted as high against the Organisational Strategy.
9. Southland – CF's from Reserves approved and the Parrie and swan counts costs were reinstated.
10. NZC - \$20,000 for NZC meetings not approved as they look to move to online and 1-day meetings to save money. Staff expenses reduced to \$10,000 due to financial constraints. Advocacy for Fish and Game \$37,500 was reinstated (as this was originally reduced with the 3% cuts). The NZC were committed to the Governance Advisor and approved \$20,000 for this as part of the commitment to undertake the non-legislative recommendations of the Ministerial Review, and in supporting the organisation through this period of change.
11. National – Many of the National CF applications were due to increased costs for providing core regional services and as such were approved – for example, the increase in office 365 and data costs, election costs, postage increases for the postage of the licences and increased costs of hosting face to face managers meetings.
 - a. The Health and Safety Risk management system was given a priority as the NZC considered that the implementation of a robust H & S system used by all of Fish and Game was vital.
 - b. Approval was given for the Website and Social media project \$30,000 which aims to

design and delivery extension resources for hunters and anglers as part of the commitment to adding value for Licence holders and in underpinning the organisations R³ program – initial focus on recruitment and reactivation.

- c. The NZC Staff submitted a CF for National Liaison (\$40k) and Marketing & Social Licence (80K). The NZC approved a total of \$30,000 across both projects with the direction to the CEO to use this funding either in National Liaison and or Marketing and Social licence. \$90,000 declined due to prioritisation of regional needs within tight fiscal constraints.
- d. The Research budget was reinstated to the \$100k (as this was originally reduced with the 3% cuts)
- e. A reduction in the National Base funding of \$50,000 was approved (this was part of the Regulations budget) to make additional funds available. The NZC made a decision to no longer print regulation guides, but to have these provided as a link and a PDF only.
- f. The \$50,000 reduction from the Regulations budget was approved to be used as a one off for the Scoping of the Digital licence for 2024/25.
- g. The HR/HS position that was funded as a one off in 2023/24 was approved but at .6FTE rather than the .8 FTE that was originally applied for.
- h. Governor Training and induction was approved at \$30,000.
- i. The application for a .5 FTE for research was declined.

12. There were two major projects that were considered by the NZC, that were not affordable within the Licence fee – these 2 projects were for the magazine \$235,000 and for the Regional RMA (Resource Management Act) Fund \$200,000. The NZC recognised the significance of these 2 projects – both have been approved as one offs for 2024/25 and will come from regional reserves.

The proposed budget for the 13 Fish and Game councils for 2024/25 (including funding from reserves) is \$13,255,720. Individual budgets are shown in the Table 3 below alongside the previous financial year (both shown as GST exclusive).

Table 3: National Approved Budget -DRAFT

	Base Funds 2024/25	Approved CF Licence Fee ongoing	Approved CF from Licence Fee - One off	Approved CF from Reserves - One off	Approved Budget 2024/25 (inc from Reserves)
Northland	581,107	10,974	0	0	592,081
Auckland/Waikato	881,824	0	0	0	881,824
Eastern	1,278,944	26,600	0	15,000	1,320,544
Hawkes Bay	380,624	54,000	0	100,000	534,624
Taranaki	419,692	8,124	21,209	0	449,025
Wellington	830,600	17,788	0	0	848,388
Nelson-Marlb	564,125	0	0	0	564,125
Nth Canterbury	973,187	36,748	29,000	30,000	1,068,935
West Coast	341,601	34,350	0	25,000	400,951
Central SI	850,235	95,000	23,750	29,601	998,586
Otago	1,240,967	0	0	23,000	1,263,967
Southland	803,632	19,427	0	136,775	959,834
NZC only	1,203,086	77,400	0	0	1,280,486
National 1	1,325,600	243,750	523,000	0	2,092,350
TOTAL	11,675,224	624,161	596,959	359,376	13,255,720

1

Research Fund Allocation

To avoid inflating the budget in any one year an allocation is made annually to the Research Fund. The annual Research Budget (\$155k) has been split between General Research (\$100k), the National Anglers Survey (\$30k) and the Research for PhD (Cawthron \$25k).

The National Research Budget was reduced by \$41,000 (to make the 3% savings) This was reinstated by the NZC within the CF approval process.

There were no applications to this Research Fund.

Staff Development Fund

A staff scholarship of \$10,000 is available annually for Fish and Game staff to apply for support from the organisation for national and international study, work experience or participation in events or conferences.

There were two applications to this fund for the 2024/25 year.

¹ National issues include the cost of shared services benefiting the organisation nationwide, such as the special editions of the FISH AND GAME magazine, the FISH AND GAME NZ website, licence administration system, administration of elections, ranger health & safety training, etc.

1. Hamish Stevens (CSI) \$2,500 – to attend the Biennial Bay Delta Science Conference in San Francisco
2. Beginner te Reo Māori online classes for 20x F & G staff \$6,600 (applied for by Maggie Tait)

Following the recommendations from the Managers, the application from Hamish Stevens was approved to the total value of \$2,500.

RMA/Legal Fund Allocation

The RMA/Legal fund receives budget allocations on a reimbursement basis. It covers payment of costs through a national fund rather than separate funding allocations in individual council's budgets where approved legal projects occur.

It was agreed that contestable funding of \$200,000 be allocated to the national legal pool fund for this 2024/25 year. This will be funded from reserves.

The NZC approved from the RMA fund

- \$10,215 to work on inputs control form the NPSFM (National Policy Statement Freshwater Management) project.
- \$30,000 for Hawkes Bay for Tranche 2.
- \$50,000 towards RMA reform and NPS _ FM.
- And 65,000 from Hawkes Bay Reserves for Tranche 2.

Licence Fee Recommendations

NZC Licence Fee Recommendation

At the February 2024 NZC meeting, the NZC indicated that they intended for the licence fee to remain at \$153 and \$113 as they believed that the minister would, be accepting of this price.

The NZC recommend that the 2024/25 licence fee be based on a sports fish adult whole season fee of \$153 and the game adult whole season licence \$113 (inclusive of the Game Bird Habitat Stamp) (GST inclusive) and for all other licence categories to increase proportionally. The Salmon licence \$5, the Designated Waters Licence \$5 for residents and \$40 for Non-residents. This represents no increase on last year.

The NZC recommended that the Sports Fish and Game licence categories be maintained at the same ratios as previous years.

Recommended licence fees are set out in the schedule 2 at the end of this letter.

Total income including interest is \$12,463,441. The Cost of Sales (COS) is the commission and bank transaction charges relating to the sale of licences is budgeted at 4.0% of licence income.

Table 4: Total Income Summary 2024/25

	TOTAL Licence Income \$		Net Licence		
	TOTAL F & G	Total COS \$	Income \$	Interest \$	Net Income
Northland	204,746	8,190	196,556	10,104	206,660
Auckland/Waikato	1,098,798	43,952	1,054,846	17,768	1,072,615
Eastern	1,372,688	54,908	1,317,780	34,340	1,352,120
Hawkes Bay	514,440	20,578	493,862	35,630	529,492
Taranaki	228,929	9,157	219,772	9,032	228,804
Wellington	701,100	28,044	673,056	10,984	684,040
Nelson-Marlb	656,710	26,268	630,442	7,419	637,861
Nth Canterbury	1,690,842	67,634	1,623,208	13,367	1,636,575
West Coast	316,886	12,675	304,211	15,470	319,681
Central SI	1,853,460	74,138	1,779,322	44,444	1,823,766
Otago	2,420,593	96,824	2,323,769	57,966	2,381,735
Southland	1,573,067	62,923	1,510,144	39,923	1,550,068
NZC only				40,025	40,025
National					
TOTAL	12,632,259	505,290	12,126,969	336,472	12,463,441

NZ Game Bird Habitat Stamp

The NZC recommended the Game Bird Habitat Stamp for 2023/24 remain at \$5.

Modification to Licence Categories and Ratios with whole Season Fees

The NZ Council agreed that the sports fish categories and ratios be maintained the same as previous years.

Overall Forecast Position and Use of Reserves

The recommendation for licence fee of \$153 and \$113, along with the recommendation of a total budget of \$13,255,720 creates an overall deficit of \$792,279.

Table 5: Overall Forecast Position for Fish and Game
For the Year ended 31 August 2025

Net Licence Sales				12,126,969
Interest				336,472
Total Income				12,463,441
Less Approved Budget				13,255,720
Total Surplus/(Deficit)				(792,279)

Approval for regions to use their reserves to cover one off projects for the year totals \$359,376. Additionally, regions are required to use their reserves to cover the shortfall of \$432,903. This latter amount represents an additional 3.36% use of reserves. (\$359,376 plus \$432,903 equals the total

deficit of \$792,279).

Forecasts as at April 2024 suggest one region, North Canterbury may fall below the 20% reserves and require a top up of \$12,247 in the 2025/26 contestable funding round. This forecast however, is based on Regions working within the 2023/24 budgets.

Conclusion

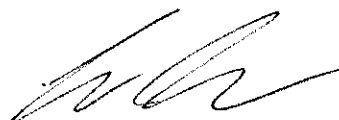
The NZ Council seeks consultation from Fish and Game regional councils on the following points:

1. **The licence fees and categories as set out in the appended schedule (Appendix 2) and specifically:**
 - a. **That the 2024/25 adult whole season sports fish licence fee is set at \$153 and that the adult whole season game licence is set at \$113 (inclusive of a \$5 fee for the Game Bird Habitat Stamp), with all proportional changes to remaining licence fees**
 - b. **The Licence LEQ of 72,826 (Fish) and 31,340 (Game)**

To enable the NZC to consider feedback and make recommendations to the Minister of Conservation at its 18 June 2023 meeting, responses to these changes are requested to be submitted by the close of business on **31 May 2024**.



Barrie Barnes
Chairman
New Zealand Fish and Game Council



Corina Jordan
Chief Executive
New Zealand Fish and Game Council

APPENDIX 1

Table 6 : Contestable Fund Applications Detail 2024-25 - 432,903
Summary of Decisions from NZC meeting

App No	Region	Base Funding	Project Description	L R C	Additional \$ Sought	\$ amount Adjusted	Staff Recommendation	NZC Recommendation	1 Not	2 Good To	3 Recommended	4 Essential Whole	5 Withdrawn	APPROVED Originating Licence Fee	APPROVED Restore Reserves	APPROVED Capital Ex	APPROVED from Reserves
	Northland	\$ 581,107															
NTH 001			1910 Salaries	L B	10,974	10,974	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTH 002			1984 Insurance	L B	2,000	2,000	1	1	2,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL Northland				12,974	12,974			2,000	0	0	0	0	10,974	0	0	0
	Auckland/Waikato		No CF bids		0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL Auckland/Waikato				0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Eastern																
	\$ 1,278,944				0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
EAST 001			1910 Salaries	L B	26,600	26,600	4	4	0	0	0	26,600	0	0	0	0	0
EAST 002			1114 Lake Tararua	R O	15,000	15,000	4	4	0	0	0	15,000	0	0	0	0	15,000
	TOTAL Eastern				41,600	41,600			0	0	0	41,600	0	0	0	0	15,000
	Hawke's Bay																
	\$ 380,624				0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HBAY 001			1910 Salaries	L B	54,000	54,000	4	4	0	0	0	54,000	0	0	0	0	0
HBAY 002			1464 Education Centre Development	R O	100,000	100,000	4	4	0	0	0	100,000	0	0	0	0	100,000
	TOTAL Hawke's Bay				154,000	154,000			0	0	0	154,000	0	0	0	0	100,000
	Taranaki																
	\$ 419,692				0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TARA 001			1912 Continuation of Management	L O	21,209	21,209	4	4	0	0	0	21,209	0	0	0	0	0
TARA 002			1911 Salaries	L B	8,124	8,124	4	4	0	0	0	8,124	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL Taranaki				29,333	29,333			0	0	0	29,333	0	0	0	0	0
	Wellington																
	\$ 830,600				0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WELL 001			1911 Salaries	L B	17,788	17,788	4	4	0	0	0	17,788	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL Wellington				17,788	17,788			0	0	0	17,788	0	0	0	0	0
	Nelson/Marlborough																
	\$ 584,125		No CF Bids	L B	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL Nelson/Marlborough				0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	North Canterbury																
	\$ 973,187				0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NC 001			1911 Salaries	L B	31,748	31,748	4	4	0	0	0	31,748	0	0	0	0	0
NC 002			1161 Put & Take Fishery	L B	23,000	5,000	4	4	0	0	0	5,000	0	0	0	0	0
NC 003			1222 Te Waihora Maimai Aqt	L O	9,000	9,000	4	4	0	0	0	9,000	0	0	0	0	0
NC 004			ARF Asset Replacement Fund	L O	40,000	20,000	4	4	0	0	0	20,000	0	0	0	0	0
NC 005			1112 Trout Fishery/Designated WA	R O	30,000	30,000	4	4	0	0	0	30,000	0	0	0	0	30,000
	TOTAL North Cant				133,748	95,748			0	0	0	95,748	0	0	0	0	30,000
	West Coast																
	\$ 341,601				34,350	34,350	4	4	0	0	0	34,350	0	0	0	0	0
WC 001			1910 Salaries	L B	34,350	34,350	4	4	0	0	0	34,350	0	0	0	0	0
WC 002			1910 Salaries	R O	25,000	25,000	4	4	0	0	0	25,000	0	0	0	0	25,000
	TOTAL West Coast				59,350	59,350			0	0	0	59,350	0	0	0	0	25,000

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Table 6 : Contestable Fund Applications Detail 2024-25 - 432.903

Summary of Decisions from NZC meeting

App No	Region Base Funding 2024/25	Project Code	Description	L R O C	B O C	Additional \$ Sought	\$ amount Adjusted	Staff Recommendation	NZC Recommendation	1	2	3	4	5	APPROVED Ongoing Licence Fee	APPROVED One Off Licence Fee	APPROVED Restore Reserves	APPROVED Capital EX	APPROVED from Reserves		
	Central South Island																				
	\$ 850,235																				
CSI 001		CAP	Electric Fishing Machine	R	C	29,601	29,601	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
CSI 002		1910	Salaries	L	B	190,000	95,000	4	4	0	0	0	95,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	29,601	
CSI 002		1912	Staff Expenses	L	O	47,500	23,750	4	4	0	0	0	23,750	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
			TOTAL Central South Island			267,101	148,351			0	0	0	148,351	0	95,000	23,750	0	0	0	29,601	
	Otago																				
	\$ 1,240,987																				
OTG 001		1700	Council Elections & Meetings	L	O	5,000	5,000	1	1	5,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTG 002		1911	Advocacy/PR/Strategic Relat	L	B	115,000	115,000	4	3	0	0	115,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTG 003		1321	Designated Waters Impleme	R	O	23,000	23,000	4	4	0	0	0	23,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23,000
			TOTAL Otago			143,000	143,000			5,000	0	115,000	23,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23,000
	Southland																				
	\$ 803,632																				
STH 001		1600	Salaries	L	B	10,427	10,427	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
STH 002		1115	Maintain Te Anau House	R	O	61,500	61,500	4	4	0	0	0	10,427	0	10,427	0	0	0	0	0	0
STH 003		1115	Maintain Angler Access Bright	R	O	10,000	10,000	4	4	0	0	0	10,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61,500
STH 004		1115	Parire and swan counts	L	B	9,000	9,000	4	4	0	0	0	9,000	0	9,000	0	0	0	0	0	10,000
STH 005		1710	Salaries from DW Reserve	R	O	65,275	65,275	4	4	0	0	0	65,275	0	65,275	0	0	0	0	0	65,275
			TOTAL Southland			156,202	156,202			0	0	0	156,202	0	19,427	0	0	0	0	0	136,775
	NZC																				
	\$ 1,203,086																				
NZC 001		1700	Governance Forum Chairs/N	L	B	3,000	3,000	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NZC 002		1700	NZC Chair Travel	L	B	7,000	7,000	4	4	3,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NZC 003		1700	NZC Meetings	L	B	20,000	10,000	2	2	0	10,000	0	7,000	0	0	7,000	0	0	0	0	0
NZC 004		1820	Financial Audit Fee	L	B	3,000	3,000	4	4	0	0	0	3,000	0	3,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
NZC 005		1920	Staff Expenses	L	B	20,000	10,000	4	4	0	0	0	10,000	0	10,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
NZC 007		1400	Advocacy for Fish & Game	L	B	37,400	37,400	4	4	0	0	0	37,400	0	37,400	0	0	0	0	0	0
NZC 009		1700	Governance Advisor	L	B	20,000	20,000	3	4	0	0	0	20,000	0	20,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
			TOTAL NZC			110,400	90,400			3,000	10,000	0	77,400	0	77,400	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 6 : Contestable Fund Applications Detail 2024-25 - 432,903
 Summary of Decisions from NZC meeting

App No	Region Base Funding 2024/25	Project Code	Description	L R O C	Additional \$ Sought	\$ amount \$ Adjusted	Staff Recommendation	NZC Recommendation	1 Net	2 Good To	3 Recommend	4 Essential	5 Withdrawn	APPROVED Licence Fee	APPROVED One Off Licence Fee	APPROVED Restore Reserves	APPROVED Capital EX	APPROVED from Reserves	
NAT 001	National \$1,325,600	164	Licence Audit Fee	L B	2,500	2,500	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 002		182	Maritime Compliance	L B	10,000	10,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	2,500	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 003		142	Information Technology - Nat	L B	18,000	18,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	10,000	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 004		1240	RMA Fund	L B	200,000	200,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	18,000	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 005		1711	Election Costs	L O	15,000	15,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	200,000	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 005		1711	Election Costs	L B	7,500	7,500	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	15,000	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 006		1332	Fish and Game Magazine	L O	235,000	235,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	7,500	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 007		1170	Reg Guides	L B	4,100	4,100	4	1	4,100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 008		1630	Licence Production	L B	40,000	40,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	40,000	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 009		1810	Managers meetings	L B	8,000	8,000	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	8,000	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 010		1820	Health & Safety - Risk Mngt S	L B	5,000	5,000	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 010		1820	Health & Safety - Risk Mngt S	L O	3,000	3,000	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	3,000	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 011		1423	Website and Social Media	L B	30,000	30,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	30,000	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 012		1430	National Liaison	L B	40,000	40,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	10,000	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 013		1442	Marketing and Social Licence	L B	80,000	20,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	20,000	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 014		1460	Research	L B	41,000	41,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	41,000	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 015		1815	Co-ordination HR - travel	L B	5,000	5,000	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 016		1820	Strategic Pay reports	L B	6,000	3,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	3,000	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 017		1820	Reduction of Baseline - Regu	L B	0	(50,000)	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	(50,000)	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 018		1830	Scoping of Digital Licence - L	L O	50,000	50,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 019		1835	Consultant Amalgamation - R	L O	10,000	10,000	4	1	10,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 020		1840	Cost optimisation follow up	L O	20,000	20,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	20,000	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 021		1850	Culture and PD for all F & G	L B	20,000	20,000	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NAT 022		1100	National H & Safety training	L B	5,000	5,000	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	0	0	0	0	0
NZC 006 NAT 023		1910	Sports Fish & Game bird sta	L B	5,000	5,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	0	0	0	0	0
NZC 008 NAT 024		1700	Salaries - HR/HS Advisor	L B	85,000	63,750	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	63,750	0	0	0	0	0
NZC 010 NAT 025		1910	Governor Training and induct	L B	30,000	30,000	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	30,000	0	0	0	0	0
NZC 010 NAT 025		1910	Salaries - Research	L B	75,000	75,000	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL National					1,075,100	885,850			\$ 24,100	\$ 10,000	\$ 220,000	\$ 1,580,496	\$ -	\$ 243,750	\$ 523,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 369,376	
TOTAL					\$ 2,200,596	\$ 1,834,596			\$ 24,100	\$ 10,000	\$ 220,000	\$ 1,580,496	\$ -	\$ 243,750	\$ 523,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 369,376	

APPENDIX 2

Schedule of FISH AND GAME NZ's proposed Licence & Fees for 2024/25 (inclusive of GST)

Sports Fish Licence		2023/24	2024/25	
Category of licence	Applicant Class	Current fee \$	Proposed fee\$	Fee difference
Whole season (1 Oct – 30 Sep)	Adult	153	153	Nil
	Junior	31	31	Nil
	Child	free	free	Nil
Family		198	198	Nil
Non-resident Whole season	Adult	264	264	Nil
	Junior	50	50	Nil
	Child	50	50	Nil
Winter (1 Apr – 30 Sep)	Adult	92	92	Nil
Loyal senior	Adult	130	130	Nil
Local area	Adult	122	122	Nil
Short break	Adult	55	55	Nil
Long-break	Adult	107	107	Nil
Day	Adult	24	24	Nil
	Junior	5	5	Nil
Non-resident Day	Adult	37	37	Nil
	Junior	22	22	Nil
	Child	22	22	Nil
Controlled period		free	free	Nil
Sea Run Salmon		\$5	\$5	Nil
Designated Waters-resident	Season	\$5	\$5	Nil
Designated Waters- non-resident	Day	\$40	\$40	Nil

Game Bird Licence*		2024	2025	
Category of licence	Applicant Class	Current fee \$	Proposed fee\$	Fee difference
Whole season (primarily 1st Sat in May to 31 Aug)	Adult	113	113	Nil
	Junior	26	26	Nil
	Child	5	5	Nil
Day (available from 2nd Monday of season)	Adult	26	26	Nil
	Junior	10	10	Nil

All licence category fees are set as a percentage of the fish or game adult whole season fee and rounded to the nearest \$, hence in some instances the fee difference remains nil.

*Game bird hunting licence fee includes the \$5 NZ Game Bird Habitat Stamp.

Notes:

- A junior means a person aged 12 years or over, but under 18 years at the start of the season.
- A child means a person aged under 12 years at the start of the season.
- Designated Waters, Sea Run Salmon and Controlled-Period licence entitles an adult or junior whole season or family fish licence holder to fish in specified waters or for specified species.
- Whole Season for sports fish extends from 1 October through to 30 September the following year.
- Whole Season for game birds can extend from the first Saturday in May to beyond the traditional closing dates for upland game hunting at the end of August due to special season conditions between February to April the following year for some species, e.g. Paradise shelduck and Pukeko.
- A Game Bird Habitat Stamp fee of \$5.00 (incl. GST) is payable on all categories of game hunting licence and is included in the fees shown in the game hunting licence table above.

Agenda Item 11 2024/2025 Draft Anglers Notice

Summary

a. Consider remits for changes to the Anglers Notice from Licence Holders and Fishing Clubs

Consider the request from Inglewood Rod and Gun and Recreation Club to change the fishing methods at Lake Mangamahoe - to include spin and bait fishing methods.

b. Confirm the draft 2024/2025 draft Anglers Notice

Consider the remaining season regulations for Taranaki region as drafted – with recommendations to be made to the Minister of Hunting and Fishing (via NZ Council).

c. Wider Regional Project: Simplification of Angling Regulations

For Awareness Only: Consideration is being given to simplification and rationalisation of angling regulations on a national basis – and specifically on an inter-regional basis for the lower North Island. No action required.

For Decision

Move recommendations to the Minister of Hunting and Fishing for the 2024/2025 Angling Notice

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

2024/25 DRAFT TARANAKI ANGLERS' NOTICE

Waiaua and Hangatahua (Stony) Rivers

In response to headwater erosion events in the Waiaua and Hangatahua (Stony) rivers, the Council amended the 2022/23 Anglers' Notice to set a zero-bag limit for brown trout in the Waiaua River and Lake Opunake with a 1-fish limit for rainbow trout and methods restricted to fly and spin fishing only; and a zero bag limit for brown trout in the Hangatahua (Stony) River. These regulations were retained for the 2023/24 season.

Brown trout populations in these rivers are still very much in recovery mode. While habitat in the Waiaua River has recovered well, the Hangatahua River had a minor headwater erosion event in early March 2024 with the river suffering from sand inundation and running grey with ash for several weeks. At the time of writing Opunake Lake and the Opunake power scheme is still shut down, meaning Opunake Lake has ongoing poor water quality. Two releases of hatchery rainbow trout yearlings (total 403 fish), plus a release of rainbow fry were made into the upper Waiaua River in 2022 and 2023, but so far there has been little return to anglers. It is therefore recommended that the current provisions remain in the 2024/25 Anglers' Notice.

Lake Mangamahoe - Review of Fly-fishing only regulation

An item included in this agenda discusses the issues and recommends that the current fly fishing only restriction remain at Lake Mangamahoe. Owing to the lake being a Wildlife Refuge, a water supply reservoir for New Plymouth and a reservoir for the Mangorei HEPS, there is a risk that relaxing the regulations and holding kids' trout fishing promotions there could result in loss of access to the fishery if there is too much disturbance of wildlife or a health and safety incident, such as someone drowning.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Taranaki Fish & Game Council retain the same Taranaki Anglers' Notice conditions for the 2024/25 season as 2023/24.

Allen Stancliff
Senior Field Officer
10 May 2024

Taranaki Fish and Game Region

The Taranaki region is defined here: *New Zealand Gazette*, 24 May 1990, No. 83, at page 1861

1. Definitions

For interpretation of terms, refer to the First Schedule of this Notice or the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983.

2. Additional Requirements

Note 1 1.1 First Schedule conditions apply

1.2 There are no restrictions on the hours of fishing

1.3 There is no minimum length for trout

1.4 There are no defined coarse fishing waters in the Taranaki Fish and Game Region

Note 2 In the Hangatahua (Stony) River, Waiaua River and Lake Opunake no brown trout may be taken.

Note 3 No licence holder shall fish for sports fish from a boat in Lake Mangamahoe, including the Waiwhakailho Inlet.

3.1 Open season, Permitted Methods, Daily Bag Limits - Region Defaults

Water	Multiple sections	Open season	Authorised fishing methods	Daily bag limit by species unless number shown			Refer Clause 2 Additional Requirements
				Trout	Salmon	Perch	
All lakes, rivers and streams not mentioned in clause 3.2 for this region		1 Oct - 30 Apr	FSB	2	1	No limit	Note 1

3.2 Open Season, Permitted Methods, Daily Bag Limits

Water	Multiple sections	Open season	Authorised fishing methods	Daily bag limit by species			Refer Clause 2 Additional Requirements
				Trout	Salmon	Perch	
Taranaki/ Whanganui							
Huatoki Stream	downstream of Brois Street Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2	1		Note 1
Kai Auahi (Kaiauai) Stream		1 Oct - 30 Apr	FS	2	1		Note 1
Kapuni Stream	upstream of State Highway 45 Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Apr	FS	2	1		Note 1
	downstream of State Highway 45 Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FS	2	1		Note 1
Kaupokonui Stream	downstream of State Highway 45 Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2	1		Note 1
Lake Kohata		1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB			No limit	Note 1
Lake Mangamahoe	excluding the Waiwhakaiho Inlet and Mangamahoe Stream	1 Oct - 30 Sep	F	2			Note 1, 3
	Waiwhakaiho Inlet upstream of the normal site of a landmark located just upstream of the confluence with Lake Mangamahoe	1 Oct - 30 Apr	F	2			Note 1, 3
	Mangamahoe Stream upstream of the walkway swing-bridge at the head of Lake Mangamahoe	1 Oct - 30 Apr	F	2			Note 1, 3

	Any tributary other than Waiwhakaiho Inlet and Mangamahoe Stream	1 Oct - 30 Sep	F	2	1	Note 1, 3
Lake Namunamu		1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2		Note 1
Lake Ngangana		1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2		Note 1
Lake Opunake		1 Oct - 30 Sep	FS	1		Note 1, 2
Lake Ratapiko		1 Oct - 30 Apr and 1 June - 30 Sep	FSB	2		Note 1
Lake Rotokare		1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB			Note 1
Lake Rotomanu		1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2		Note 1
Lake Rotorangi	downstream of Mangamingi Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2		Note 1
Lake Wiritoa		1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB			Note 1
Manganui River	downstream of Bristol Road Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2	1	Note 1
Mangaoraka Stream	downstream of State Highway 3 Devon Road Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2	1	Note 1
Patea River	downstream of Patea Dam	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2	1	Note 1
Hangatahua (Stony) River		1 Oct - 30 Sep	FS	2	1	Note 1, 2
Waiaua River	upstream of State Highway 45 Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Apr	FS	1	1	Note 1, 2
Waiaua River	downstream of State Highway 45 Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FS	1	1	Note 1, 2
Waingongo River	downstream of State Highway 45 Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2	1	Note 1
Waiongana Stream	downstream of State Highway 3 Devon Road Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2	1	Note 1

Waitara River	downstream of Manganui River confluence	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2	1	No limit	Note 1
Waiwhakaiho River	downstream of the normal site of a landmark that is at the end of Rimu Street extension walking track	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2	1		Note 1
<i>Te Ikapārua</i> (Warea) River	downstream of State Highway 45 Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2	1		Note 1
Whanganui River	downstream of Ohura River confluence excluding tributaries	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2	1	No limit	Note 1
Virginia Lake		Closed to fishing					
Waimarino							
Manganuioteao River	downstream of Ruatiti Road Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2	1		Note 1
	mainstem from Ruatiti Road Bridge upstream to confluence with Makatote River	1 Oct - 30 Jun	FSB	2	1		Note 1
Mangawhero River	downstream of Raetihi - Ohakune Road Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2			Note 1
Retaruke River	downstream of Oio Road Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2	1		Note 1
Sattlers Dam		1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2			Note 1
Tokiahuru Stream	downstream of State Highway 49 Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2			Note 1
Waitaiki Stream	downstream of State Highway 49 Bridge	1 Oct - 30 Sep	FSB	2			Note 1

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Taranaki Fish and Game Council

Review of Fishing Regulations at Lake Mangamahoe

In October 2023, the Council received a letter (attached) from the Inglewood Rod, Gun & Recreation Club (IRG&RC) requesting that the current fly fishing only restriction at Lake Mangamahoe be relaxed to allow lure/spin fishing with a spinning rod to encourage use by junior and less experienced anglers and to hold kids' trout fishing promotions there. The letter states that the lake is "currently underutilized" and allowing additional fishing options will encourage families to fish the lake.

Background

Lake Mangamahoe is a 24-hectare hydro reservoir for the Mangorei HEPS owned by Manawa Energy (formerly Trustpower Ltd.) which also serves as a water supply reservoir for New Plymouth City, Bell Block, Waitara and surrounds and is gazetted as a Wildlife Refuge pursuant to Section 14 of the Wildlife Act 1953. The lake was created in the early 1930's by the damming of Mangamahoe Stream. Up to 10,000 l/s of water is diverted from the Waiwhakaiho River into Lake Mangamahoe for water supply and hydro generation purposes via a river diversion weir and a 500m long concrete-lined tunnel.

The former Taranaki Acclimatisation Society saw the potential of Lake Mangamahoe as a trout fishery and obtained permission to stock the lake and opened it for fishing on 1st October 1932, on the basis that only flyfishing would be permitted and there would be no wading. This was because Lake Mangamahoe was one of the first water supply reservoirs in NZ to be opened to trout fishing and apparently there were concerns about what would happen (in terms of tapu etc.) if someone fell in while fishing and drowned.

The lake fishery and the inlet from the Waiwhakaiho River have remained restricted to flyfishing only (with fly rod, fly reel, fly line and artificial fly) throughout the fishery's 92-year history. No fishing from a boat is permitted, owing to its use as a water supply reservoir and a Wildlife Refuge. A two trout daily bag limit currently applies, and the lake is open to all year angling, with the Waiwhakaiho inlet downstream of the diversion tunnel and the Mangamahoe Stream tributary open from 1st October - 30th April.

Lake Mangamahoe supports a small, self-sustaining population of wild brown trout and a rainbow trout population maintained by annual releases of around 300 Lake Tarawera-strain hatchery yearlings raised at Fish & Game's Hawera trout hatchery. Trout spawning occurs in Mangamahoe Stream and in the lake inlet, but the spawning success of rainbow trout appears low, as few wild rainbows are caught in the lake. Brown trout recruitment likely stems from Mangamahoe Stream, and from juveniles entrained in water diverted from the Waiwhakaiho River via the inlet tunnel (there are 100mm spacings between trash bars at the tunnel's river entrance).

Owing to high water velocities, trout are unable to leave the lake by swimming upstream through the Waiwhakaiho diversion tunnel. Trash bars of 30-35mm spacing on the lake outlet confine most fish to the lake, although some may be lost over the spillway to the lower Mangamahoe Stream which operates occasionally during flood events. Trout grow to a good average size of about 1.7kg in Lake Mangamahoe, with the largest trout on record weighing in at 3.4kg. Most trout are in good condition, although some older fish fail to recover condition after spawning.

Two wooden casting platforms have been built at Lake Mangamahoe to improve angler access, the first in 1994 and the second in 2020. Taranaki Fish & Game has obtained permission from Manawa Energy and the New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) to construct a third casting platform, although not in the preferred location near the "roundabout".

Over the years there have been several informal requests to liberalise the regulations to allow spin fishing and bait fishing at Lake Mangamahoe, to allow the use of float tubes, and to release more trout and hold kids fishing promotions there. The last review of the Mangamahoe regulations occurred in 2007 and so it is timely to reconsider such requests in the light of the IRG&RC's letter and Fish & Game's R3 objectives.

Angling Use

Despite the current fishing method restrictions, results from Fish & Game's National Angler Survey (Table 1) indicate that Lake Mangamahoe is one of the most popular Taranaki region fisheries. In the 2014-15 season it was estimated to receive 1,210 angler visits, which represented 13.7% of the region's total angling effort. In 2021-22 the estimate was 594 angler visits and 7.2% of the region's total effort, making it the region's 4th most popular fishery.

TABLE 1: Estimated angling use of the more popular Taranaki Region trout fisheries (F&G NAS).

Angling Water	Estimated Angler Visits Per Season				
	1994-1995	2001-2002	2007-2008	2014-2015	2021-2022
Manganuioteao River	1,970	760	2,220	1,150	909
Waingongoro River	1,550	1,010	1,210	560	110
Lake Mangamahoe	1,380	830	1,920	1,210	594
Waiwhakaiho River	540	340	1,240	1,210	538
Patea River	280	880	1,450	540	685
Mangawhero River	620	430	420	250	393
Manganui River	160	160	600	310	123
Kaupokonui Stream	160	230	290	200	157
Stony River	150	410	230	290	508
Kapuni Stream	50	110	50	30	34
Lake Rotomanu	720	630	300	730	658
Lake Ratapiko	--	340	650	80	164
Lake Rotorangi	230	150	130	40	103
Lake Namunamu	300	30	30	120	22
Opunake Lake	30	10	200	190	--
Lake Ngangana	--	200	100	10	6
Lake Wiritoa	10	50	100	80	67
Virginia Lake	320	100	--	--	--
Total for Taranaki Region	13,150	8,230	16,380	8,850	8,240

-- = not fished by survey respondents

Fishery Sustainability

Lake Mangamahoe is relatively small at 24ha and with up to a 1m fluctuation in water level due to power generation requirements, extensive silting at the lake-head and cool winter water temperatures, the habitat is only moderately productive.

Peak winter spawning counts in all tributaries combined have seldom exceeded 40 trout (Figure 1). While not every adult fish will spawn every year, and the count may not coincide with the actual peak in numbers every year, the counts indicate that the Lake Mangamahoe fishery is based on relatively low numbers of trout, particularly brown trout. It should therefore be considered vulnerable to over-harvest.

While the fishery is popular, flyfishers tend to be experienced anglers who are sensitive to the needs of the fishery. A high proportion practice voluntary catch and release or take only the occasional fish (mainly hatchery rainbows) for the table.

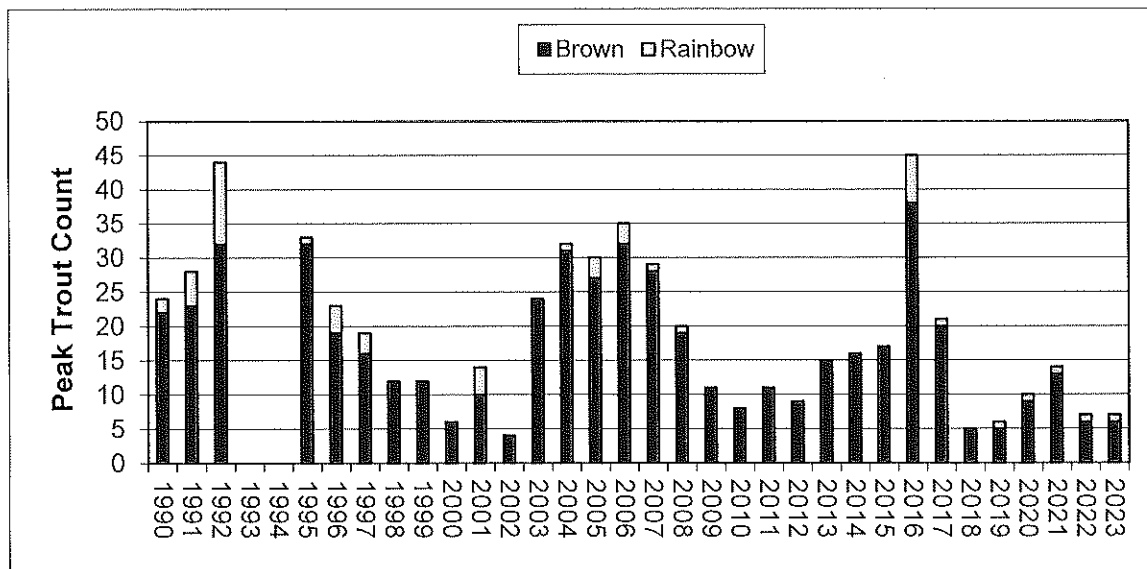


FIGURE 1. Peak counts of brown and rainbow trout in Mangamahoe Stream, 1990-2023.

Wildlife Refuge

The NPDC Lake Mangamahoe Management Plan (2011) states that “part of Lake Mangamahoe was declared a sanctuary in 1935 under the then Animals Protection and Game Act 1921-22 and is now constituted as a wildlife refuge under Section 14 of the Wildlife Act 1953. Care must be taken to ensure waterfowl are not disturbed or interfered with”.

Lake Mangamahoe is home to significant numbers of mallard/grey duck, scaup, Australasian coot, Canada goose, black swan and paradise shelduck, as well as the occasional dabchick and shoveler duck.

With increased public use of the “round the lake” walking track and the popularity of Lake Mangamahoe for picnics, a proportion of the mallards, swan and geese see people as sources of food and have become quite tame. Despite the abundance of waterfowl, there has been a very low incidence of waterfowl becoming entangled or hooked up in gear used by flyfishers.

Illegal release of perch and rudd

While perch have been present in many Taranaki lakes and ponds for decades, perch were illegally released into New Plymouth’s Lake Rotomanu in the mid-1990’s and also into Lake Ngangana at Waitara soon after a rainbow trout fishery was established there in 2001. Recently it was found that rudd have become established in Lake Ngangana, probably in the last 3-4 years as a result of an illegal release.

Both these lakes are open to all legal methods, including spin and bait fishing. This has led to a view that the reason perch have not been illegally released into Lake Mangamahoe is because of the flyfishing only restriction (spin and bait fishing being the two methods commonly used to catch perch). This may or may not be true, as Opunake Lake is open to all methods, but does not (yet) contain perch.

There is little doubt that the introduction of perch to Lake Mangamahoe would reduce the productivity of the trout fishery and would be irreversible. Under the Council’s Policy for Authority to Transfer and Release Fish (adopted 26th January 2002), anglers will not be allowed to utilise sports fisheries that have not been established lawfully.

Discussion

Sustainability

Apart from 90+ years of tradition, a major justification for the flyfishing only regulation at Lake Mangamahoe has been one of sustainability. Relaxing the regulations to allow spin fishing, or spin and bait fishing would almost certainly increase the harvest and adversely affect the sustainability of the brown trout fishery. A reduced 1-fish daily bag limit and/or a maximum size limit restriction might help but may not be effective. A more restrictive bag limit may also reduce the current angling opportunity. For example, under the present 2-fish limit, a flyfisher at Lake Mangamahoe can kill a trout and carry on fishing, whereas with a 1-fish limit they would have to stop fishing on killing a fish. Increasing the stocking rate of rainbow trout may increase the numbers of fish available, but the fish would likely be of smaller size and potentially poorer condition as a result of habitat limitations.

The needs of other users of habitats and natural resources

Lake Mangamahoe is a Wildlife Refuge and as such, is home to significant numbers of waterfowl. Despite this, there has been a very low incidence of wildlife becoming entangled or hooked up in fishing gear. This is in stark contrast to the situation experienced at Whanganui's Virginia Lake, where problems with waterfowl being deliberately hooked or becoming entangled in nylon etc. led to bad press and eventually to Virginia Lake being permanently closed to fishing. Liberalisation of the angling methods at Lake Mangamahoe could potentially result in a similar situation occurring here. Opening up the lake to spin fishing would undoubtedly increase the disturbance of waterfowl in the Refuge, particularly during kids' fishing events, when up to 100 or more anglers could be expected.

Lake Mangamahoe is also an important water supply reservoir. While the lake itself is no longer owned by NPDC (it has a management agreement with Manawa Energy), increasing the angling use of the lake by liberalising the allowable methods, followed by an incident (say) where someone drowns, could result in permanent closure of the fishery. At present, anglers at Lake Mangamahoe are in a privileged position, as other recreational activities are prohibited. A NPDC sign inside the road entrance states, "*No recreational activities are permitted on or in the lake*". Other NPDC signs state "*Lake Mangamahoe provides water for the city of New Plymouth. In the interest of public safety and health the following activities are prohibited in the immediate area of the lake - Boating, Swimming, Camping, Horse riding*". Liberalising angling methods at Lake Mangamahoe to allow increased use by a greater range of anglers could potentially compromise access to the fishery if there are any incidents.

Dissuading the illegal release of perch and rudd

The reason perch and rudd have not been illegally released into Lake Mangamahoe may be because of the flyfishing only restriction. A change in the status of the fishery may encourage the release of these species.

Maximisation of recreational opportunity

Despite the restriction on methods, Lake Mangamahoe remains one of the most popular fisheries in the region. The type of recreational opportunity provided by the fishery is obviously appreciated and sought-after. Allowing spin or spin and bait fishing could conceivably change the very features of the fishery that attract flyfishers, leading to a decline in use by this group. The flyfishing only regulation does not deny the use of the lake to junior licence holders and there are anglers as young as 12 who have used the fishery over the years (many have gone on to become experts). The regulation encourages anglers to take up flyfishing and the region's anglers should be consulted before any regulatory changes are made.

It has been stated that flyfishing only waters are elitist and should be dispensed with in order to maximise recreational opportunity by allowing all fish licence holders the same rights of access to the fishery. However, the restriction on methods at Lake Mangamahoe can be justified as a compromise between the three competing requirements: of sustainability, the needs of other users of habitats and natural resources and the maximisation of recreational opportunity. Recreational opportunities have been maximised at Lake Mangamahoe in terms of season length (open all year) and the two fish limit is the same as that applying to most other ringplain waters. It remains the region's only fly fishing only water.

In terms of regional angling method restrictions, Taranaki has the second most liberal set of regulations in the country, after West Coast and can be said to have “maximised angling opportunity” to a far greater extent than most other regions. The Council could allow artificial fly to be used at Lake Mangamahoe, which would allow the use of a spinning rod, with bubble float and fly. But once spinning rods are allowed, anglers will inevitably want to use spinners, making it more of a compliance issue than it is currently.

Feasibility of holding Kids’ Fishing Promotions at Lake Mangamahoe

It has been asked why the Council doesn’t hold kids’ trout fishing promotions at Lake Mangamahoe, as it does at Lake Rotomanu and in the Patea River at Stratford.

The kids’ fishing promotions currently all involve children fishing for 2-year-old rainbow trout with bait (e.g. worms, creeper, bread dough) as well as spinners. The use of bait at these promotions develops an expectation that people will be able to return to fish for the remaining trout with bait. All waters used in these promotions are therefore open to all legal methods. Use of bait at Lake Mangamahoe could well create issues with hooking waterfowl as occurred at Virginia Lake. Restricting anglers to spin gear with spinners and bubble floats with artificial fly could be an option, but there is still the issue of disturbance to waterfowl in a Wildlife Refuge both during and following kids fishing events.

H&S issues include the potential for children to fall into deep water, including off the newer F&G casting platform and the outlet channel, where there can be a strong flow of water during power generation. Also, vehicle traffic on parts of the access road that are narrow and graveled could be problematic. There is also a significant amount of vegetation around the lake margin bordering the road which can impede access for events with lots of anglers.

The impacts of stocking up to 500 2-year-old rainbow trout into the lake each year also needs to be considered, as the current size and condition of fish could well deteriorate.

Given the finite supply of fish, staff and volunteer resources, if the kids’ fishing promotion was shifted to Lake Mangamahoe, it’s likely the Lake Rotomanu event would cease. Currently, children can use a push-bike to get to Lake Rotomanu under their own steam and the lake is very close to town and accessible via the coastal walkway or Clemow Road. In contrast, Lake Mangamahoe is located some 6km from the edge of the city via a busy motorway and junior anglers would need to be taken there by car. This would effectively result in a reduction in angling opportunity for junior licence holders from that which currently exists. This was a downside of moving the Whanganui kids fishing event from Virginia Lake out to Lake Wiritoa.

Any changes to the management of the fishery at Lake Mangamahoe to hold kids’ trout fishing promotions, will need to be approved by the Department of Conservation as the authority administering the Wildlife Refuge, Manawa Energy as owner of the lake and New Plymouth District Council as manager of the lake margin and the lake as a water supply reservoir.

Given all of the above, it is the staff view that retaining Lake Rotomanu as the venue for kids’ trout fishing event and focusing on advocacy to improve Rotomanu’s water quality is the preferred option and that Lake Mangamahoe should remain restricted to flyfishing only, with fly rod, fly reel, fly line and artificial fly.

Allen Stancliff
Senior Field Officer
Taranaki Fish & Game
8th May 2024

5.1 Recreation and Use

Goal

To encourage recreation and leisure activities within the park in a way that compliments the needs and values of all users, and protects and preserves the park's environment and the value of Lake Mangamahoe as a Wildlife Refuge without compromising the primary purpose of the park of water catchment.

5.1.3 Lake Mangamahoe is considered to be suitable for the following recreation and leisure activities:

- Mountain Bike Riding
- Horse Riding
- Walking and Running
- Rogaining
- Orienteering
- Fly fishing
- Emergency Training
- Wildlife viewing
- Picnicking
- Dog walking except within the Wildlife Refuge and within 200m from the lake edge.
- Other informal active and passive recreation.

5.1.4 Water sports other than fly fishing are not permitted unless approved through a permit from the Department of Conservation.

5.1.5 Hunting is not anticipated as an activity in this park and not permitted in the Wildlife Refuge without a permit from the Department of Conservation.

⊗ *Lake Use Objectives*

- a) To continue to avoid, remedy or mitigate any potential contamination of the water supply.
- b) To manage the lake as a restricted catchment and a wildlife refuge area under the Wildlife Act 1953.

⊗ *Trout Fishery Objectives*

- a) Lake Mangamahoe provides sport fish license holders with a high quality fishery for brown and rainbow trout in a scenic and un-crowded environment.

Policies

5.1.47 The trout fishery in Lake Mangamahoe will be maintained by Fish & Game NZ through releases of hatchery reared trout, as necessary.

5.1.48 Appropriate signage will be used to inform anglers and the general public of regulations governing the Lake Mangamahoe trout fishery.

5.1.49 Angler access to the margin of Lake Mangamahoe will be maintained and enhanced, where practicable and appropriate, including through the construction of casting platforms on the lake margin. Fish and Game NZ will be responsible for the provision of such structures.

Agenda Item 12 Strategic Matters

Summary

a. Strategic Statements

These have been developed for and confirmed at the previous Taranaki Fish and Game Council meeting.

It was confirmed that they are aligned with Wellington Fish and Game Council..

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

No action required.

b. Risk Management Review

Update risk management issues associated with avian influenza (HPAI – High Pathogenic Avian Influenza)

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

No action required. Confirm any changes to the Council's Risk Management Register.

c. Iwi Engagement

- Developing a strategic approach to engaging with Mana Whenua and how to incorporate a co-operative process in decision-making.
- Undertake a detailed register of interest in Mana Whenua groupings and contacts (initiated).
- Develop an education programme to upskill staff and governors on tikanga and processes for engagement.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

No action required.

d. Governance Review – Number for Election

Consider and confirm number of governors for Election 2024

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

No action required.

e. Strategic Plan – Five Year Outlook

Defer until subsequent meeting – no changes suggested for 2024/2025 Financial Year.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

No action required.

f. Sports Fish and Game Bird Management Plan Review

- Defer until subsequent meeting – NZ Council is developing a template for confirming Sports Fish and Game Bird Management Plans
- Potential changes to requirements with new legislation
- Consultation with Mana Whenua and other stakeholders will be required prior to plan drafting.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

No action required.

Regional Strategic Statements

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

The following Regional Strategic Objectives align with the Organisational Strategic Objectives but reflect different legislative responsibilities or level of implementation.

1. Unified & Enduring Organisation

NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

A national and regionally cohesive organisation built on a culture of shared values, trust and engagement. Delivering on vision and purpose for stakeholders and Mana Whenua. Maintaining the statutory mandates that enable effective service delivery.

Regional Strategic Statement

A national and regionally cohesive organisation built on a culture of shared values, trust and engagement.

Output:

- *Taranaki Fish and Game Council will operate a shared resources arrangement with Wellington Fish and Game Council (and other regions)*
- *Taranaki Fish and Game Council will ensure staff contribute expertise to the broader organisation as and where required*
- *Taranaki Fish and Game Council will work co-operatively with Wellington Fish and Game Council with a view to formal legal amalgamation*
- *Taranaki Fish and Game Council will implement a regional Communications Plan that complements and supports a National Communications Plan to communicate with stakeholders*

2. Mana Whenua Connected

NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

Māori values are understood and reflected within Fish & Game, with aligned advocacy and a positive collaborative approach that builds upon our responsibility to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti set out in the Conservation Act 1987.

Regional Strategic Statement

Create positive and collaborative relationships with mana whenua to ensure legislative responsibilities and co-operative intent to manage resources are met.

Output:

Develop a strategy for effective mana whenua engagement and implement

3. Healthy Species, Habitats, & Ecosystems

NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

Sport fish and game bird species are monitored and sustainably managed, freshwater habitats are healthy, and access to wild harvest opportunities are secured for current and future generations.

Regional Strategic Statement

A. Sustainable Harvest

Sports fish and game bird populations are monitored to provide information to support management of continued sustainable wild harvest opportunities.

Output:

A robust programme of monitoring of trout and game bird populations are undertaken to ensure population change is within sustainable limits to define season harvest regulations.

B. Maintain Habitat (or Where Degraded Improve)

Sports fish and game bird habitats are maintained (or enhanced where degraded) in order to provide access to a sustainably harvest of resource for hunters and anglers.

Output

A robust programme of monitoring of trout and game bird habitats are undertaken to ensure habitat is maintained – or where degraded improved – through active management or proactive advocacy

C. Access To the Resource Maintained or Improved

Access to the resource for hunters and anglers is proactively advocated.

Output:

An inventory of access signage, electronic mapping points for access is maintained – with access proactively negotiated to public land

4. Attract & Retain Licence Holders

NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

Deliver a valued and cost-effective experience for licence holders by understanding their needs, providing simple processes and effective communication. This will ensure sustainable revenue to support delivery of Fish & Game programmes, making freshwater fishing and game bird hunting more attractive to a wider group of future participants

Regional Strategic Statement

Deliver well valued experience for licence holders by understanding their needs, providing simple and effective communication, making fishing and game bird hunting more attractive to a wider group of future participants

Output:

Implement a Communications Plan specific to licence holders (or potential licence holders) to meet their needs of successful participation in the pursuits and providing information on how to access the resource.

Undertake a programme of recruitment and retention of potential and existing participants – including identifying potential barriers to participation (e.g supporting Women on the Fly programme, and supporting novice fishing and hunting events)

5. Public Perception & Legitimacy

NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

Understanding and re-shaping public perception of Fish & Game New Zealand, angling and game bird hunting through positive messaging of natural environment protection, wild food harvesting, and well-being through outdoor recreation.

Regional Strategic Statement

Enhancing the social licence to operate of angling and game bird hunting through positive messaging of natural environment protection , wild food harvesting and wellbeing through outdoor recreation

Output

Support social licence campaigns co-ordinated by NZ Council to confirm and strengthen a social licence to operate hunting and fishing activities.

Undertake programme of activities that create public awareness of the positive outcomes achieved by Fish and Game and the activities that hunters and anglers undertake.

Agenda Item 13 Policy and Legislation

Summary

a. Wildlife Act Review

In 2022, the Department began a first principles review of the Wildlife Act 1953. DOC held 40 hui with tangata whenua, key stakeholders and statutory bodies to better understand the problems with the current Act and how to improve it.

In September 2023 the Minister of Conservation announced the formal review of the Wildlife Act – which was to begin in March 2024.

There has been no update as to the priority or timetable in progressing this review.

b. Resource Management Act Review

Repeal of the Natural and Built Environment Act 2022 (NBEA 2022) in December 2023 reverting back to the Resource Management Act 1991.

Fast Track Consenting Bill – introduced into Parliament in early March 2024.

The Government is making changes to resource management laws with the first steps taken to establish a new fast-track consenting one-stop shop regime.

The fast track consenting regime will consist of:

- A new fast-track process contained in a standalone Act, with its own purpose statement focused on economic development;
- A priority for regionally and nationally significant infrastructure and development projects;
- A process for projects to be referred by Ministers into the fast-track process if it meets appropriate criteria;
- A list of projects that will be first to have their consents approved and conditions set by an Expert Panel;

The Select Committee received ~27,000 submissions in total with 2900 asking to be heard in person. The Select Committee has opted to hear from 1100 submitters – 550 organisations and 550 from individuals (the latter to be drawn by ballot).

c. Arms Act Review

The Government announced in February 2024 that firearms legislation will be reviewed. This includes rewriting the Arms Act 1983, transferring responsibility for that act to the Ministry of Justice, and transferring the Firearms Safety Authority to another department such as the Department of Internal Affairs.

The only part of those reforms to make it into the Government's 100-day plan was the repeal and replacement of Part 6 of the Arms Act. The Government has said other firearms reforms will also likely be introduced this year.

d. Organisational Policies

Continuing to liaise with NZ Council and regions regarding defining best practice policy for operational and governance applications.

Regional Operational and Governance policies are being actively reviewed.

Policies that are currently being developed by NZ Council – open for regional consultation and feedback:

1. National Health and Safety Policy for Rangers

Review and feedback requested

2. National Health and Safety Policy

Review and feedback requested

3. Protected Disclosures Policy

Review and feedback requested

4. Research Application Process and Application Form

Review and feedback requested

Feedback Sought by NZ Fish and Game Council

Recommendation/Action

Feedback required.

Hon Chris Bishop

Minister of Housing
Minister for Infrastructure
Minister Responsible for RMA Reform
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Leader of the House
Associate Minister of Finance



30 April 2024

Tēnā koe,

I am writing to provide an update on the Government's work to amend the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).

I have previously announced that this Government is approaching resource management reform in three phases. Phase one of the reform concluded with the repeal of the Natural and Built Environment Act and Spatial Planning Act in late December 2023, while phase two includes the introduction of the fast-track approvals regime, and some targeted changes to the existing RMA. Phase three will involve developing a long-term solution to replace the RMA.

Last week, Agriculture Minister Todd McClay, Associate Environment Minister Andrew Hoggard and I announced the first of two bills which will make some targeted changes to the Resource Management Act. The first bill will focus on amendments that need to be progressed quickly in order to provide certainty to industry, councils and resource consent applicants. The second bill will be more substantive and is expected to be introduced to Parliament later in 2024.

The proposed changes in the first RMA Amendment Bill will:

- Make it clear that, while the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) is being reviewed and replaced, consent applicants no longer need to demonstrate their proposed activities follow the Te Mana o te Wai hierarchy of obligations, as set out in the NPS-FM.
- amend stock exclusion regulations in relation to sloped land
- repeal intensive winter grazing regulations
- align the consenting pathway for coal mining with the pathway for other mining activities in the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB), NPS-FM, and the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES-F)
- suspend the NPS-IB requirement for councils to identify new significant natural areas for three years
- speed up the process to make or amend national direction, such as national policy statements and national environmental standards.

Further detail on some of these proposals is set out below.

Farm regulations

Cabinet has agreed changes to stock exclusion, in certain circumstances, and winter grazing regulations representing a move to a more risk-based, catchment-focused approach.

Stock exclusion changes would remove the low slope map and allow regional councils and individual farmers to decide where stock need to be excluded, based on risk.

The Government is proposing to remove all national intensive winter grazing regulations in order to reduce compliance costs for farmers. Regional councils would determine if and how the activity should be managed.

It is our intention that freshwater farm plans will provide an effective way to manage the impacts of farming activities on freshwater, including intensive winter grazing and stock exclusion, in a risk-based and practical way.

The Government has recently announced that we will improve the freshwater farm plan system to make it more cost effective and practical for councils and farmers. In the areas where the freshwater farm plan rollout has started, we may look at whether current requirements to complete a plan within 18 months could be paused while improvements are developed.

Other proposed changes

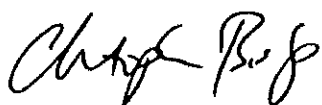
Hon Shane Jones announced last week the Government's intention to align the consenting pathway for coal mining with the pathway for other extractive activities. This will give the industry certainty and confidence, and when the bill is enacted a wider range of consent applications for coal mines will be able to be made.

The first RMA Amendment Bill will also give effect to previously announced changes to suspend the direction to councils to identify new significant natural areas in accordance with the NPS-IB for a period of three years, to give enough time for a review of how they operate.

The bill will also speed up the process to make or amend national direction, which is currently unnecessarily onerous, costly, and takes too long.

Next steps

The Government expects to introduce the first RMA Amendment Bill to Parliament in late May 2024. It will likely be enacted in late 2024.



Hon Chris Bishop
Minister Responsible for RMA Reform



18 April 2024

Submission to the Environment (Select) Committee made by New Zealand Fish and Game Council with regard to the Fast-track Approvals Bill.

Contact Details

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on behalf of

Corina Jordan CEO

New Zealand Fish and Game Council

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C Jordan'.

About Fish and Game

- 1.1 Fish and Game is the statutory manager for sports fish and game, with functions conveyed under the Conservation Act 1987. The organisation is an affiliation of 12 regional Councils and one national Council. Together, these organisations represent approx. 130,000 anglers and hunters.

95

Statutory managers of freshwater sports fish, game birds and their habitats

New Zealand Council

Level 2, The Dominion Building, 78 Victoria Street, Wellington 6011. P.O. Box 25-055, Wellington 6146, New Zealand.
Telephone (04) 499 4767 Email nzcouncil@fishandgame.org.nz www.fishandgame.org.nz

1.2 The sports fish and game resource managed by Fish and Game is defined and protected under the Conservation Act and the Wildlife Act 1953. The species within include introduced sports fish and a mix of native and introduced waterfowl and upland game¹.

1.3 Our vision, purpose and values are illustrated below:

OUR VISION	OUR PURPOSE	OUR VALUES
Our vision is a New Zealand where freshwater habitats and species flourish, where hunting and fishing traditions thrive and all Kiwis enjoy access to sustainable wild fish and game resources.	Fish & Game New Zealand maintains and enhances sports fish and game birds, and their habitats, ensuring access for current and future generations of New Zealanders.	TRUST INCLUSION CONNECTION SERVICE

1.4 Fish and Game is entirely funded by licence holder fees and private contributions, meaning the delegated function of managing the species for the public good is funded entirely by the users. It is a democratic '*user pays, user say's* organisation. Using this system, Fish and Game funds public good research to ensure fisheries and game populations are managed sustainably; undertakes compliance with the licencing system; and contributes to public planning processes to ensure that hunters and anglers values are recognised and provided for.

1.5 In relation to planning, Fish & Game have the statutory function to advocate for hunters and anglers values and ensure that the habitats of gamebirds and sports fish are provided for. At any one time we may have around 150,000 licence holders, and a larger number (approximately 300,000) that are transient licence holders. The habitat we specifically advocate for includes lakes and rivers that contain trout and salmon (and other sports fish) and wetlands where game bird hunting occurs.

¹ Most New Zealanders refer to these species as 'game birds', distinguishing them from other types of large game, such as deer or pigs. The Wildlife Act 1953 defines these birds simply as 'game' and this phrase is used in the context of this submission.

Fish and Game in resource management

- 2.1 Fish and Game works to provide for the ongoing enjoyment of hunting and freshwater fishing assets, the maintenance (or enhancement) of public access to rivers, lakes, and wetlands for hunting and fishing, and the protection of the habitat of trout and salmon.
- 2.2 Hunting and angling require legal and physical access both to habitats and the resource itself. Maintenance and enhancement of access is critically important to the pursuits of our licence holders. The maintenance and enhancement of public access to and along lakes and rivers is listed in the RMA 1991 as a matter of national importance.
- 2.3 We see the opportunity for proposals to be required to provide improved access both to their sites and other nearby areas that involve hunting or fishing values as a form of mitigation for any loss of values on site. We seek that infrastructure development projects considered under the Fast Track legislation, consider Fish and Game as an expert advisor where gamebird and or sports fishery values could be impacted. We can work with applicants to develop mitigation plans to ensure outcomes that achieve both economic imperatives, along with recognising and providing for hunting and fishing values are achieved.

Fast Track Bill

- 3.1 This submission focuses on the parts of the Bill that relate to the duties and functions of Fish and Game councils.

Water Conservation Orders

- 3.2 Water Conservation Orders, that recognize outstanding recreational fishery values, or/and gamebird hunting values, should be excluded from the scope of the Bill. These Water Conservation Order freshwater resources are akin to National Parks, and as such should be protected. The significant natural capital recognised by existing WCOs is such that development projects should not override the values that these orders protect.

Consultation

- 3.3 Fish and Game should be added to the list of consultees for the Bill. We have a wide range of knowledge including species management relating to sports fish and game birds. Specifically, we request:

- I. New Zealand Fish and Game Council and the Fish and Game Regional Council that is geographically relevant to any specific project, are added into the Bill as being a party from whom feedback is sought when an application is made to the Joint Ministers. To do so would be consistent with the approach previously set out in the Section 17(6) of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020.
- II. 'The relevant Fish and Game Council' is inserted under s 19 (1) of the Fast-track Approvals Bill.
- III. 'The relevant Fish and Game Council' is inserted under Schedule 4 s 20(3) and Schedule 4 s 20(5).
- IV. Insert a record of any consultation undertaken in Schedule 4 s 12.

Offset / Mitigations Plans for Infrastructure Projects

- 3.4 Fish and Game can assist with ideas for effects management as set out in the NPS-FM 2020 particularly in relation to natural inland wetlands, lakes and rivers that provide for gamebird hunting and freshwater angling values. We seek high-quality infrastructure developments that provide for fishing and game bird values where they exist, or where opportunities for enhancement are available, as well as providing access and recreation opportunities to our license holders.

We can work with applicants to obtain timely consent approvals that recognise angling and hunting values while providing for economic development. There are opportunities for improving public access and enjoyment via these new infrastructure projects that could provide win-win outcomes for all New Zealanders. Examples may include wetland restoration work and improved access for walking and game bird hunting.

Sustainable use and development of natural and physical resources

- 3.5 It is important that the selected and approved projects have merit in all four pillars of sustainability. This Bill relates to projects that are likely to exist in our society, culture, and environment for decades or even more than a century. Therefore, it is important that high quality standards are adhered to. Specifically, we request:

- I. A repeal sunset clause is added into the Bill, in the same way that COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 had, and the Housing Accords and Special Housing Areas Act 2013 had.
- II. If WCOs are not excluded from the Bill then environmental standards should be set (physical form and function, hydrology and water quality) which protect the salmonid

and gamebird values identified (if any) in the WCO. Any development should uphold these environmental standards. Add new s18(n) any activity that would lead to a breach of a regulation in any WCO which recognise salmonid or gamebird values.

III. Explicit protection for the:

- i. habitat of trout and salmon.
- ii. maintenance and enhancement of public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes, and rivers where sports fishing and game bird values exist.
- iii. preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment (including the coastal marine area), wetlands, lakes and rivers and their margins where sports fishing and game bird values exist.
- iv. Recognise and provide for freshwater angling/game bird hunting and amenity values.

Schedule 2A list of projects

3.6 We would like to review and comment on the list of potentially earmarked projects so we can better advise you on hunting and fishing matters in these locations. We are concerned that no projects have been included in the Bill as introduced. We urge you to also consult on the 100 projects that will be on this list. We are specifically interested in projects that impact on sports fishery and game bird habitat, or/ and freshwater angling, and gamebird hunting values. Some of the following kinds of projects can be in conflict with hunting and fishing values and the design and specifics of the proposal dictate to what extent:

- i. large water storage and take schemes
- ii. Waste Water Treatment Plant Discharges (particularly to water, or to land near water).
- iii. hydro electricity proposals
- iv. Loss of wetlands relating to land use change

Schedule 2B projects

3.7 The eligibility criteria set out in section 17 (2) & (3) include "*significant regional or national benefits*", without appropriately considering other values such as sports fishery or/and gamebird hunting values and environmental standards related to the provision of these values. We believe that only projects with national or regionally significant economic benefits, when coupled with the provision of wider societal benefits, and where impacts on other values such as hunting and freshwater angling values can be appropriately managed (avoided, mitigated,

or offset), should be included. The potential unintended consequence of the very wide economic development eligibility criteria, without appropriate recognition of intergenerational wellbeing provided by the recognition of a wider suite of values, could result in the fast tracking of projects that may have unintended longer time effects.

Prohibited Activities

3.8 The Resource Management Act 1991 allows for specified activities to be classified as prohibited activities. The effect of prohibited activity status means that no application can be made, and no consent can be granted for that activity. This is usually the result of an exhaustive democratic process (Schedule 1 RMA 1991) for activities that have significant cultural effects or public health effects such as the discharge of wastewater to freshwater. Specifically, we request:

- I. That s17(5) of the Bill is struck out.
- II. A new subclause of section 18 of the Bill is added to the effect that 'projects that include a prohibited activity under the RMA 1991' are ineligible.

Consultation with other Ministers

3.9 This Bill may have unintended consequences for established hunting and fishing access points, in recognizing and providing for the hunting and fishing values, and in providing for the habitat of sports fish and gamebird species. On that basis, we encourage you to include the Minister of Hunting and Fishing, or delegate, in this process. If not just in a land / species management capacity but to get a more defensible position when and if contentious projects are approved.

Purpose of the Bill

3.10 Section 3 Purpose of the Bill

"The purpose of this Act is to provide a fast-track decision-making process that facilitates the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits".

As stated above in section 3.7 we are concerned that the scope of the bill is set too wide in relation to development projects without appropriately considering other values such as sports fishery and / or gamebird hunting values and environmental standards related to the provision

of these values. The purpose of the bill should provide for social, cultural and environmental benefits, which include angling and hunting values, and not override all other societal needs with economic development. We are confident this is not the intention of the Bill. We have detailed this idea further in section 3.12 - 3.16 below and sought amendments including the establishment of environmental standards in relation to sports fishery and gamebird habitat, and hunting and angling values, to address these concerns.

Decisions

- 3.11 We would be concerned about the provision for development projects that would significantly impact on sports fish and game bird habitat and associated hunting and angling values. This can be the result of design or location of a proposal and/ or failure to consider how hunting and freshwater angling values can be provided for through consent conditions including mitigation plans.

Decisions relating to waterbodies that are protected by a water conservation order should uphold sports fishery or/and gamebird hunting and habitat values, where they exist, in that legislation.

Notification and Standard Conditions

- 3.12 As there is no public notification process, or right of appeal, it is important that consent conditions involve best practice to ensure hunting and freshwater angling values and the habitats of sports fish and gamebirds are provided for, where they exist or where opportunities for enhancement exist. This can be achieved through the establishment of environmental standards which recognize and provide for these values. Specifically, we request that the following type of conditions (and other more detailed conditions) are developed and attached to approvals.

- I. Public access to, along, or across any river, wetland, coast, or their margins that existed prior to *[date of royal ascent]* be maintained or improved, and any temporary loss of access due to construction be restored within 90 days of project completion.
- II. If it is found, following an assessment of environment effects, to be the case that public access to, along, or across any river, wetland, coast, or their margins that existed prior to *[date of royal ascent]* cannot be maintained, this effect may be offset elsewhere in the same catchment.

- III. All works in any river, wetland, coast, or their margins shall ensure that the safe passage of fish upstream and downstream is improved or maintained following the completion of construction. In this condition, 'safe passage' refers to physical barriers such as piers, culverts, and weirs and also any other attribute that prevents fish passage including but not limited to temperature, chemical concentration, light, or vibration.
- IV. Where fish spawning habitat is known, or following reasonable search found, to exist that physical works do not occur in those areas of habitat between spawning times of any year.
- V. For Solar Farm proposals: the spacing of solar panels with a minimum of 0.5m between panels shall so that bird strike can be minimised, and the finishing details of the panels are not reflective so that birds can see them (and avoid them).

Environmental Standards

- 3.13 Section 70 and 107 of the RMA provides standard rules about discharges. We think that this section needs to be carried forward into any decisions relating to the fast track legislation. The habitat of sports fish and game rely on good water quality, and these provisions seek to maintain good water quality.
- 3.14 S70 and 107 of the RMA provides rules about discharges which should be carried forward into the Fast Track bill. These provisions set minimum standards so that discharges do not result in degradation of waterbodies. Fishing and game bird hunting need these minimum standards to maintain good water quality.

(1) Before a regional council includes in a regional plan a rule that allows as a permitted activity—

(a) a discharge of a contaminant or water into water; or

(b) a discharge of a contaminant onto or into land in circumstances which may result in that contaminant (or any other contaminant emanating as a result of natural processes from that contaminant) entering water,—

the regional council shall be satisfied that none of the following effects are likely to arise in the receiving waters, after reasonable mixing, as a result of the discharge of

the contaminant (either by itself or in combination with the same, similar, or other contaminants):

(c) the production of conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams, or floatable or suspended materials:

(d) any conspicuous change in the colour or visual clarity:

(e) any emission of objectionable odour:

(f) the rendering of fresh water unsuitable for consumption by farm animals:

(g) any significant adverse effects on aquatic life.

(2) Before a regional council includes in a regional plan a rule requiring the adoption of the best practicable option to prevent or minimise any actual or likely adverse effect on the environment of any discharge of a contaminant, the regional council shall be satisfied that, having regard to—

(a) the nature of the discharge and the receiving environment; and

(b) other alternatives, including a rule requiring the observance of minimum standards of quality of the environment,—

the inclusion of that rule in the plan is the most efficient and effective means of preventing or minimising those adverse effects on the environment.

3.15 The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management provides most of the detail for environmental standards including section 3.11 setting target attribute states, 3.12 How to achieve target attribute states and environmental outcomes 3.13 special provisions for attributes affected by nutrients and section 3.14 setting limits on resource use. Section 3.16 setting environmental flows and levels and 3.17 identifying take limits. Specific requirements are set out in subpart 3 including for deposited sediment, primary contact sites, water allocation, freshwater accounting systems, assessing and reporting, large hydro-electric schemes. Appendices include 1A compulsory values, 1B other values, 2A attributes requiring limits on resource use, 2B attributes requiring action plans, 2C sediment classification table, 3 national target for primary contact. This NPS-FM 2020 along with the NES-F provides the detail that provides for how regional policy relating to waterbodies will be set.

3.16 Some examples of environmental standards are included in attachment 1. These minimum requirements are necessary to ensure that the habitat of sports fish is maintained. The table doesn't specifically provide for game birds, but similar water quality parameters apply. Key to game birds is the creation of new wetlands for habitat as so much habitat has been lost in the past to changing land use.

Re-consenting Existing Infrastructure

3.15 We are concerned that Fast Track legislation will be used for existing infrastructure projects. Regional consents have expiry dates and consent condition review dates. We suggest that the following clauses are removed from the bill to make it clear that only new projects can go through the Fast Track process:

- I. Schedule 4 Clause 2 states you can use the Fast Track to change or cancel a condition of an existing resource consent, if it is part of a new project.
- II. Schedule 4 Clause 4 allows for s124RMA type of ability to continue using an existing consent while the new one is being processed, which indicates it could be used for replacement consents.

Existing infrastructure projects are best re-consented under the existing RMA provisions which is already fairly streamlined. Given that the government will want to focus on new projects, capacity will be stretched without adding the additional work of re-consenting hundreds of infrastructure projects as they come up for renewal.

Conclusion

- 4.1 NZ Fish and Game Council is prepared to work collaboratively with the Government on this Bill and getting the country moving. We are mindful that to be sustainable, development needs to be carried out within environmental limits. NZF&GC look forward to presenting these points to the Select Committee.
- 4.2 We thank you for your consideration of this submission.

Attachment 1 – Table of examples of Environmental Standards

Attachment 2 – About Fish and Game poster

Attachment 1 - Table 3.16 Some Examples of Environmental Standards related to providing for salmonid fishery values

Standard	Detail
E. coli	If a single sample from a monitoring site is greater than 540 E. coli per 100 mL, the regional council must, as soon as practicable, take all practicable steps to notify the public and keep the public informed that the site is unsuitable for primary contact, until further sampling shows a result of 540 E. coli per 100 mL or less.
Phytoplankton (trophic state)	<2 annual median attribute band A <10 annual maximum Unit: milligrams chlorophyll-a per cubic metre
Periphyton	Use only the 17% exceedance threshold in Table 2 NPS-FM if that level of exceedance would have occurred under natural occurring processes. The term "conspicuous" has been removed from the NPS-FM 2020 (previously in the 2017 version). Conspicuous periphyton had been interpreted to mean "growing on rocks". Because of this, approximately 25% of the nation's rivers (naturally soft-bottom reaches) were excluded from consideration for nutrient outcomes to control periphyton in the NPS-FM 2017. Changes in periphyton abundance and frequency of blooms can be expected to increase as a result of climate change impacts. Warmer weather, longer periods of low flow, and less frequent 'flushing flows' to remove periphyton can be expected in many parts of the country. As such, you can expect increased periphyton growth during these conditions. This means controls on nutrients to limit periphyton growth will become even more important in the future.
Nitrogen concentrations	Nutrients impact the water quality and induce algae blooms that can decrease water clarity and dissolved oxygen, causing death to sensitive aquatic species. Nutrients also impact macroinvertebrate species composition, reducing food availability for trout, salmon and indigenous fish species. These effects start to occur at nitrogen concentrations above 0.8 mg/l.
Sediment	deposited sediment cover in most places should be no higher than 20% and below 10% in important habitat/spawning areas for both native fish and trout and salmon. Suspended sediment should provide for water clarity of at least 0.61 - 2.22m, with this varying depending on the waterbody and needing to be much higher where threatened species, trout fishing and spawning, or swimming are identified values.
Temperature	for water bodies during spawning season cool water below 11 degrees for trout. Salmon require water below 14.5 degrees to successfully spawn and 16 degrees for egg maturation.
Dissolved Oxygen	If fish cannot take up enough oxygen to meet their energy demand for essential functions, ultimately they will suffocate and die. We expect dissolved oxygen target attribute states to be set above the national bottom line outlined in Table 7 of the NPS-FM, and applied throughout the catchment, not just downstream of point source discharges. In

	salmon spawning reaches during spawning season, dissolved oxygen must not be allowed to fall below 7 mg/l at any time.
Habitat Extent	Natural form and extent as well as river habitat and shading can be measured by the Habitat Quality Index and the Natural Character Index, Rapid Habitat Assessment and Stream Ecological Valuation.
Nutrient standards	DIN limits should be < 1.0 mg/L to protect salmonid fishery values. Outcomes for DIN concentrations should be set at around 0.3 - 0.6mg/L and median DRP concentrations should be set at around 0.01 - 0.03mg/L, where these nutrient limits are already met, or are achievable. Where nutrient concentrations exceed these values, reductions overtime should be considered. Changes may be intergenerational.
Hydrological Variability	Hydrological variability should be within 10% of natural flows for small streams and 20% for larger rivers. This does not include permitted activity takes which is largely an unknown quantity.

DRAFT

National Health and Safety Policy for Rangers

Section	Operational
Contact/Owner	NZC HR
Last Review	New Policy
Next Review	
Approval	NZC
Effective Date	

1. PURPOSE

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council (**NZ Council**) and each of the Regional Fish and Game Councils (**Regional Councils**) are PCBUs for the purposes of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (HSWA). The NZ Council and the Regional Councils have overlapping duties in relation to fish and game rangers, who are appointed by the Director of the NZ Council but are usually managed, and trained, by the Regional Councils.

HSWA requires PCBUs with overlapping duties to consult and co-operate with each other, and to coordinate their activities. The purpose of this policy is to clarify the health and safety responsibilities of the NZ Council, and the Regional Councils, to avoid, so far as reasonably practicable, any gaps in the overall health and safety scheme as it relates to fish and game rangers.

To the extent that it relates to rangers, this Policy is implemented pursuant to sections 26HA of the Conservation Act 1987 (**Act**), which allows the NZ Council to develop a national policy relating to fish and game rangers.

2. POLICY

Under section 26FA of the Act, the Director (i.e. the NZ Council Chief Executive) has the power to appoint Fish and Game rangers. Under HSWA, rangers are workers whose activities are influenced by the NZ Council, and the NZ Council owes them a duty of care, even where the rangers are employed by a Regional Council or are honorary rangers carrying out activities under the supervision of a Regional Council.

Duties of Regional Councils

Regional Councils have primary responsibility for managing the on-the-ground health and safety of rangers who are employed by them or are carrying out activities in their region (including honorary rangers). The Regional Council's responsibilities include:

- providing training, support and appropriate supervision to rangers;
- ensuring that Rangers and Regional Councils understand and comply with the Ranger Guide and Health and Safety Guidelines for Rangers
- ensuring that the necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) is available for use by the rangers, and that rangers are knowledgeable in the proper use of the PPE;
- managing any other matters of day to day health and safety, including hazards and risks, that arise in the Regional Council's workplace or in locations where the rangers will be operating.

Regional Councils must have a comprehensive health and safety policy and plan in place that is specific to their region, and at a minimum, covers the following topics:

1. The process for receiving and considering information regarding health and safety incidents, hazards, and risks, and responding in a timely way to that information;
2. Training and supervision;
3. Procedures for managing health and safety risks that arise in the specific region, for example (and only as applicable to the region): fieldwork; working alone; ranging; motor vehicles; boating; office security; and hatchery operations;
4. The requirement under HSWA to engage with other agencies the Regional Council may work with from time to time and who may also owe overlapping health and safety duties;
5. Availability of first aid assistance and training;
6. Emergency evacuation procedures;
7. Drug and alcohol use;
8. Workplace stress and fatigue management; and
9. Bullying and harassment.

On an annual basis beginning on **DATE**, the Regional Councils must complete the declaration attached to this Policy and titled "Annual Declaration of Health and Safety Compliance", and provide it to the Chief Executive of the NZ Council. The Declaration will confirm that:

- the Regional Council has health and safety policies and a plan in place that cover all matters required by this Policy, and that it has been complied with in the preceding 12 months;
- all health and safety incidents that have occurred in the preceding 12 months have been reported to *the Health and Safety Committee* and will record such incidents (and any changes to the Regional Health and Policy that may have resulted);
- all rangers have been provided with ongoing training in the 12 months preceding the declaration, and provide details of training completed and by which rangers.

Duties of NZ Council

The NZ Council has a duty to ensure that all reasonably practicable steps have been taken to ensure the health and safety of the rangers it appoints. This means:

- undertaking due diligence with respect to the suitability of prospective rangers before they are appointed; and
- ensuring that the Regional Councils are meeting their health and safety responsibilities as set out in this Policy.

Before the NZ Council Chief Executive signs a ranger warrant, the Chief Executive must be provided with:

1. a Fit and Proper Person form completed by the prospective ranger;
2. confirmation from the Regional Manager/CE that the prospective ranger has met the criteria set out in the Recruitment Guide for rangers and
3. evidence that the prospective ranger has completed the CERT Situational Safety and Tactical Communications course.

The Chief Executive of the NZ Council will keep an appropriate record as evidence that she undertook this due diligence before the ranger's warrant was signed.

The Chief Executive of the NZ Council will receive the "Annual Declaration of Health and Safety Compliance" provided by Regional Councils. If any issues arise from the Declaration (or a Regional Council's failure to provide it), the Chief Executive will take such further steps, or make such further enquiries, as may be appropriate in the circumstances. This may include an approach to WorkSafe or to the Minister of Conservation.

Annexed to this Policy is the Annual Declaration of Health and Safety Compliance.

DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT CONTROL

Prepared by:
Owned by: NZC/NZC CEO
Authorised by: Fish and Game New Zealand National Council
Date Issued (for Consultation):
Next Review:

DRAFT



DRAFT National Health and Safety Policy

Section	Operational
Contact/Owner	NZC HR
Last Review	New Policy
Next Review	
Approval	NZC
Effective Date	

1. Introduction

Fish and Game NZ is committed to providing and maintaining a safe and healthy workplace for employees, volunteers and the public, by complying with relevant health and safety legislation (Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (HSWA) and associated regulations), and various New Zealand standards and approved codes of practice.

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council (NZ Council) and each of the Regional Fish and Game Councils (Regional Councils) are PCBUs for the purposes of the HSWA. PCBUs have a requirement to work with each other where there are overlapping duties. This requirement relates not only to Fish and Game Councils but to other organisations that the Councils work with.

The NZ Council also has the function of developing national policies in consultation with the regions and has particular responsibilities as the only Council with an overview across the organization.

The Chief Executive of the NZ Council is not a PCBU with respect to Regional Council employees except when they are undertaking ranger duties. However, one of the NZ Council's functions is to develop, in consultation with Regional Councils, national policies for the carrying out of the NZ Council's functions for sports fish and game. It is also a function of the NZ Council to audit the activities of the Regional Councils.

In line with these functions, the NZ Council expects the Regional Councils to be model employers and to ensure that the Regional Councils' working environments are healthy and safe for all employees, not just rangers.

This policy applies to all Regional and NZ Council employees and all other workers (such as contractors or volunteers) where applicable.

2. POLICY

Duties of Regional Councils and the NZ Council

The Council will, as far as is reasonably practicable, comply with the provisions of legislation dealing with health and safety in the workplace, by:

- providing a safe physical and emotional work environment;
- ensuring a health and safety plan is in place in relation to specific activities which include ; fieldwork; working alone, ranging; motor vehicles; boating; office security; and hatchery operations where relevant
- ensuring that engagement and consultation with staff on the plan occurs;

- providing adequate facilities and any safety equipment deemed necessary, including ensuring access and ensuring property and equipment is safe to use and workers are not exposed to risks;
- ensuring there is an effective method in place for identifying, assessing and controlling risks. This includes the recording and investigating of injuries, and reporting incidents and accidents including serious harm incidents;
- ensuring that a drug and alcohol policy, a fatigue management plan, and a prevention of bullying and harassment policy is in place.
- ensuring that health and safety plans have been agreed with other agencies to cover overlapping health and safety issues
- having a commitment to a culture of continuous improvement.

The Regional Manager/Chief Executive, as an Officer, is also responsible for implementing this policy and therefore must:

- exercise due diligence in accordance with the provisions of the health and safety legislation;
- ensure that operational plans and procedures such as first aid and emergency evacuation procedures are in place;
- take all reasonable steps to protect workers, volunteers and visitors in the workplace from unsafe or unhealthy conditions or practices;
- ensure there are effective processes to deal with unacceptable behaviour, such as non-compliance;
- ensure that workers have adequate training, supervision and information to undertake their activities
- keep Council fully informed;
- advise the Council Chair of any emergency situations as soon as possible.

The Regional Manager/Chief Executive and the Council, may be liable if they fail to meet or comply with health and safety obligations.

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

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

Workers may be personally liable if they fail to meet or comply with their health and safety obligations.

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

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

Councils must have a comprehensive health plan in place that is specific to their region covering the topics and policies set out in the Appendix to this Policy.

Health and Safety incidents will be reported to the National Health and Safety Committee, except for Serious Harm incidents which will be reported to NZC straight away. When there is a health and safety incident, the Regional Council will consider whether changes to the Health and Safety Plan are required to minimize the risk of such an incident occurring again in future, will make such changes as are necessary.

To support consistency of approach, the NZ Council and the Regional Councils will establish a **National Health and Safety Committee**, comprising regional representatives and a representative from the NZ Council. The Committee will monitor incidents, review Council policies and plans, and share practices and learnings.

DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT CONTROL

Prepared by: Jane Hutchings, HR Business Partner
Owned by: NZC/NZC CEO
Authorised by: Fish and Game New Zealand National Council
Date Issued (for Consultation):
Next Review:

Appendix 1

A Health and Safety Plan should cover:

1. The process for receiving and considering information regarding health and safety incidents, hazards, and risks, and responding in a timely way;
2. Staff involvement
3. Training and supervision;
4. Procedures for managing health and safety risks that arise in the specific region, for example (and only as applicable to the region): fieldwork; working alone; ranging; motor vehicles; boating; office security; and hatchery operations;
5. The requirement under HSWA to engage with other agencies the Council may work with from time to time and who may also have overlapping health and safety duties;
6. Availability of first aid assistance and training;
7. Emergency evacuation procedures;

Plus additional policies and guidelines covering:

1. Drug and alcohol use;
2. Fatigue management
3. Prevention of bullying and harassment.
4. Lone worker SOP
5. Safe driving policy
6. Intentions template or App
7. Tailgate forms
8. Boat training manual
9. Boat safety plans
10. External contractors induction checklist
11. External contractors health and safety agreement
12. Drift diving safety plan
13. Plan for controlling hazardous substances
14. A storage and spill plan
15. Hazard control plans
16. Drone use guidelines



DRAFT Protected Disclosures Policy

Section	Governance
Contact/Owner	NZC HR
Last Review	New Policy
Next Review	
Approval	NZC
Effective Date	

1. PURPOSE

To comply with the Protected Disclosures Act 2022, to facilitate the disclosure and investigation of serious wrongdoing in the workplace, and to provide protection to employees/workers who report concerns.

2. POLICY

This policy provides for an employee, a former employee, a volunteer, a contractor of Fish and Game NZ or a Council member to be protected from dismissal and any other punitive acts by Fish and Game for disclosing a serious wrongdoing. The serious wrongdoing may be committed either by Fish and Game or within Fish and Game by an employee or contractor.

Fish and Game NZ:

- protects those who, in good faith, raise concerns about serious wrongdoing.
- Maintains confidentiality of the discloser's details
- ensures allegations of serious wrongdoing are properly investigated and addressed.
- complies with the principles of natural justice.
- sets out a standardised process for making a protected disclosure.
- identifies who a protected disclosure of serious wrongdoing may be made to
- complies with the requirements of the Act

3. What is a Protected Disclosure?

A protected disclosure is defined as where the discloser:

- believes on reasonable grounds that there is, or has been, serious wrongdoing in or by the discloser's organisation; and
- discloses information about that in accordance with this Act; and
- does not disclose it in bad faith.

Those who provide support information are generally also protected if they disclose in the same manner.

The discloser will not be liable to any civil, criminal, or disciplinary proceedings because they made or referred a protected disclosure. However, if they have been personally involved in the serious wrongdoing about which they are disclosing information, the Protected Disclosures Act does not protect them from disciplinary action, or from civil or criminal proceedings arising from that wrongdoing.

A discloser is entitled to protection even if:

- they are mistaken and there is no serious wrongdoing; or
- they do not refer to the Act when making the disclosure; or
- they also make the disclosure to another person if they do so—
 - on a confidential basis; and
 - for the purposes of seeking advice about whether or how to make a protected disclosure in accordance with this Act.

4. Who is a Protected Disclosure made to?

The disclosure made to the Chief Executive of the NZ Council, to a Regional manager/Chief Executive or Regional Council Chair, or to an Appropriate Authority (see the Procedures for Appropriate Authorities).

5. What is Serious Wrongdoing?

An unlawful, corrupt, or irregular use of funds or resource of a public sector organisation; or Acts, omissions, or courses of conduct:

- that constitute a serious risk to public health or public safety or health or safety of an individual, or to the environment; or
- that constitute a serious risk to the maintenance of law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences and the right to a fair trial; or
- that constitute an offence; or
- that is oppressive, unlawfully discriminatory, or grossly negligent, or gross mismanagement by a public sector employee or person performing a function or a duty or exercising power on behalf of a public sector organisation or the Government

6. What is not Serious Wrongdoing?

Things like dissatisfaction with the leadership of an organisation or more minor misconduct matters may not amount to serious wrongdoing and would therefore not be covered by the Act. The Act does not cover employment issues that are covered by the Employment Relations Act.

7. Natural Justice

Fish and Game NZ will adhere to principles of 'Natural Justice', meaning that those involved:

- are not judges in their own cause. If the person involved in considering a protected disclosure is in any way involved with the alleged serious wrongdoing, then that person cannot give an objective view of the matter and will not be part of the process; and
- will hear both sides of the argument. The process should hear both sides of any assertions made by the complainant and by any person who is involved in the alleged serious wrongdoing.
- will give a reasoned decision in a timely manner.

8. Protection from Victimisation and Retaliation

Fish and Game NZ must not retaliate, or threaten to retaliate, against a discloser who is an employee; and no person may treat another less favourably because of a protected disclosure. This applies even if it transpires that the disclosure is not protected by the Act.

If the discloser feels that their protected disclosure has caused them to suffer retaliatory action, they may have a personal grievance under the Employment Relations Act 2000.

Similarly, if they feel that they have been victimised because of their protected disclosure they may make a complaint under the Human Rights Act 1993.

9. Confidentiality

Where a protected disclosure is made, the recipient of the disclosure, must use their best endeavours not to disclose information that may identify the discloser.

This obligation exists unless the discloser consents in writing to the disclosure of their identity or :

- for the effective investigation of the disclosure

- in order to prevent serious risk to public health, or public safety, the health and safety of the individual, or the environment
- to comply with the principles of natural justice
- to aid an investigation by a law enforcement or regulatory agency for the purpose of law enforcement.

10. Important Notes

The protection of the Act will not apply where a disclosure is made in bad faith.
 The Act does not provide immunity from prosecution for the serious wrongdoing itself – only for the making or referring of the disclosure.

If the information is disclosed to someone other than those people specified in the Act (for example, directly to the media or on social media), the discloser may lose the protection of the Act.
 The discloser must ensure that any disclosure of information is made strictly in accordance with the procedures of this policy.

If the discloser is unsure about any part of this policy, then they should refer to the NZC HR Advisor.

Refer to the Protected Disclosures Procedures for a step by step process on making a disclosure
See also: Office of the Ombudsman Protected Disclosure Guidance

DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT CONTROL

Prepared by: HR Business Partner
Owned by: NZC/NZC CEO
Authorised by: Fish and Game New Zealand National Council
Date Issued (for Consultation):
Next Review:



Research Fund Application Project Outline

This form requests essential information about your research project including methodology, budget and the personnel involved to allow the Research sub-committee, the CEO (who may consult with the Regional Managers group), and the New Zealand Council to understand what the project is about and make informed decisions on funding the project. If approved, the Chief Financial Officer will allocate budget to the project and manage disbursements, subject to completion of, and reporting on each project phase. Funded projects will be included in the Research Fund Database and reporting from you on progress is also required to track fund financial status and fund outputs and outcomes as part of monitoring the overall research fund performance for Fish & Game.

If funded, reporting on the progress of your project will need to be sent to the *Research Fund Coordinator* in the form of a "mid-year" (every 6 months) Update Report and an "end of" Project Closure Report. If a project is predicted to be completed in less than 12 months a "mid-project" report will be required. Any relevant publications should also be provided once complete. All funded projects will be included in a research project status update to be reviewed at NZC meetings.

*Replace text in italics below with project information.

Rationale – why should we do the project?			
Project Title	<i>Name needs to be short, reflect the focus of the project and be distinct from pre-existing project names.</i>	Strategic Priority	<i>Which strategic priority does it align with?</i>
Problem & Background	<i>What question is the project addressing? What question/problem initiated this project? What already published research is relevant to the proposed research and how is it related to the proposed research? Given this background, please include information on what is novel and important about your proposed research,</i>		
Aim/s	<i>What is / are the defined aim/s of the project? What hypotheses will be addressed?</i>		
Outputs	<i>What will be delivered or created (reports, scientific publications in peer reviewed journals etc?) To the extent possible, please outline what the implications of your research are likely to be.</i>		
Study Area/s	<i>In the case of field projects, study areas should be specified with the aid of maps, giving the scientific and/or logistical justifications for the selection. These justifications might include mention of any previous fieldwork in the area and recent reports from local contacts.</i>		
Description / Methodology / Scope	<i>Provide a detailed description of the work that will be required to complete this project including study sites, all relevant detailed survey and analysis methods, and the equipment required.</i>		
Endorsement/s	<i>Written support already received from the Region or collaborators / stakeholders? This can be in the form of emails, letters or discussion summaries (list here and attach separately).</i> <i>Has there been appropriate consultation with Maori? Attach any correspondence with wth iwi or hapu in support or any approvals needed.</i>		
Stakeholders			

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Benefits / Outcomes	<p>How will this benefit Fish & Game NZ and/or the public? A benefit is a measurable improvement that is perceived positively by stakeholders and contributes towards Fish & Game's strategic plan. Consider benefits such as licence holder engagement, knowledge or capability development, compliance, better perception of the industry / social licence, increased Fish & Game resource management performance or employee engagement.</p> <p>Can these be measured? Is there a baseline to compare against?</p>		
Why Fish & Game? Partners?	<p>Why is Fish & Game and any specified Region best placed to do this project? Are any other NZC or external organisation already involved in similar research? Can we partner with others internally (multi Region application due to shared research needs) or externally?</p>		
Risks	<p>What will happen if this project is not completed? What risks are associated with the project and how will they be mitigated? Consider the time it will take, level of complexity and any external stakeholders.</p>		
Resources – what is needed to undertake the project?			
Overall Timeframe	<p>When will the project start and finish?</p>		
Project team + Est time required. <i>Note: If this application is from an external agency not all questions may be relevant.</i>	Regional / Office Sponsor:		Staff Lead:
	Other personnel involved and their role:		
Dependencies	<p>Are there other projects or pieces of work that this project is dependent on or impacted by?</p>		
External consultants or contracts? Partners?	<p>Will you need external expertise? Why can't it be done in house?</p>		
Budget – detailed costings (Complete budget section of this form.)	<p>Total amount of funding required? Is any funding available from alternative sources?</p>		

<p>Project deliverables and timeframes – who delivers what and when?</p> <p><i>* Project Deliverables should be able to be used for reporting on progress as key Milestones, Outputs or Outcomes (Gantt chart can be inserted to represent detail in table below).</i></p>		
Deliverable / Milestone	Who is involved?	Timeframe
<i>What is it? What is involved? Is it dependent on anything else?</i>	<i>What people are needed for this?</i>	<i>By when?</i>
<i>What is it? What is involved? Is it dependent on anything else?</i>	<i>What people are needed for this?</i>	<i>By when?</i>
<i>What is it? What is involved? Is it dependent on anything else?</i>	<i>What people are needed for this?</i>	<i>By when?</i>



Budget:

Staff costs (salary or salary replacement FTE)

Name	Year 1 FTE	Year 2 FTE	Y1 \$	Y2 \$
		Total		

Total

Operating Expenses: include equipment hire/purchase, consumables, travel and accommodation

Item	Y1 Total \$	Y2 Total \$
Total		

Total

Subcontracting

Details and justification of subcontracting costs requested:

Subcontracting costs	Y1 Total \$	Y2 Total \$
Total		

Budget total: Yr 1. Yr 2.

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Named Investigators

Principal Investigator:

Other Principal or Associated Investigators:

Name:

Institution:

Contact details:

Phone No:

Email:

F & G Region (if appropriate):

CV(s) of named Investigators

Name:

Present position:

Organisation:

Academic qualifications: (Year conferred, qualification, discipline, University/Institute. Start each qualification on a new line).

Professional positions held, Year-year, job title, organisation. (List in reverse order date and start each position on a new line:).

Total years research experience:

Research experience relative to this project:

Professional distinctions and memberships, including honours, prizes, scholarships, boards or other governance roles:



Total number of *Peer reviewed* publications:

Journal articles	Books, book chapters, edited books	Conference proceedings

List of research publications:

Journal articles:

Books, book chapters, edited books:

Refereed conference proceedings:

Other forms of dissemination (reports for clients, technical reports, popular press etc)

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Agenda Item 14 **Health and Safety Report**

Summary

Consider the Health and Safety Report March 2024 and April 2024.

Regular discussions on Health and Safety topics are undertaken at weekly staff meeting.

No accidents or notable incidents are reported that are required to be brought to the attention of Council.

Review of Health and Safety Policy being co-ordinated by NZ Council.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

Council to move to receive staff report on Health and Safety for March 2024 and April 2024

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

As part of the commitment to Health and Safety and providing a safe workplace the Taranaki Fish & Game Council requires at each meeting describing:

1. Implementation and adherence with the Health and Safety manual/policy.
2. Risk Management (identification and treatment) – new issues or hazards that have arisen and addressed, emergency procedures, dealing with on-site contractors and members of public,
3. Risk Management – On-going issues or hazards
4. Training, and awareness raising programme – information sharing and training of staff and volunteers,
5. Audits, reviews, and meetings – making sure the planning is implemented
6. H&S incidents – near misses or injuries sustained, plus updates on past events,
7. Follow up from Council Meeting - Subjects raised under H&S agenda item for staff and ranger meetings
8. Recommendations

Bi-Monthly Update – March and April 2024

1. Implementation and adherence with the Health and Safety manual/policy.	
<i>Status</i>	
Development of Health and Safety Manual/Policy	Manual developed and in use.

2. Risk Management - New Issues or Hazards	
<i>Status</i>	
COVID19 Coronavirus Transmission	All restrictions recommended by Government were lifted on 15 August 2023. Noting that a surge in cases occurred in January and February 2024.

3. Risk Management - On going Issues	
<i>Status</i>	
Drift Dive/Electric Fishing/Spawning Survey Field Intention Sheets developed for each site	Entry/exit points to be identified – completed
Safe vehicle use	All personnel reminded of safe use practices compliant with road code.

Safe vehicle	All personnel undertake vehicle check on monthly basis. First Aid kits for vehicles checked – update as required.
Fire Extinguishers for Office and Vehicles checked	Regular maintenance schedule. Inventory established

4. Training, and awareness programme	
	<i>Status</i>
First aid certificates for field staff	Valid for field and technical staff.

5. Audits, reviews, and meetings	
	<i>Status</i>
Health & Safety Staff Meeting – March 2024	Fortnightly meetings with feedback sought and required actions noted.
Health & Safety Staff Meeting – April 2024	Weekly meetings with feedback sought and required actions noted.
Reviewed Vehicle Inspection Forms for April 2024	Regular checks for updates encouraged. Any work on vehicle is also encouraged to be completed and up to safe requirements.
Review Health & Safety Manual for Council information	Seeking advice from provider for review. NZ Council reviewing best practice policy to refine Health and Safety Policy
Review first aid kits to ensure practical items included in kits	Reviewed and options considered to make up bespoke first aid kits.

6. H&S incidents - Near misses or injuries	
	<i>Status</i>
None reported	Consider proactive actions as arise in response to near misses.

7. Follow Up from Council Meeting	
	<i>Status</i>
No follow up required	Consider list as required and updated

Action:

Receive Health and Safety Summary Report for March 2024 and April 2024

Agenda Item 15 **Species Management**

Summary

a. Game Bird Population Counts – Preliminary Overview

A short verbal overview of counts undertaken for mallard and pukeko during April 2024.

b. Paradise Shelduck Special Summer Season

A short report on the Special Summer season.

c. Research Update

A brief report on research undertaken on:

1. Trout – Native Fish interactions
2. Potential effects of Climate Change on Trout Distribution and other Native Fish Distribution .

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

No action required.

TARANAKI FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Chairman
Taranaki Fish and Game Council

2024 SPECIAL PARADISE SEASON REPORT

A 3-weekend (7-day) hunting season for paradise shelduck was held in Game Management Area C (Taranaki) on 24th – 25th February and 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th & 11th March 2024, with hunting hours from 6.30am to 8pm each day. 2024 was the second year the season had been run over three weekends, including Taranaki Anniversary weekend. Previously, the season had been restricted to two weekends (4 days).

To participate in the season, hunters were required to have a 2023 game licence (unless hunting on the land they occupied), obtain a \$5 permit (free for land occupiers) and fill in and return a diary. The daily bag limit was 10 paradise shelduck per hunter per day.

The special season was held to:

1. Disperse flocks of post-moult paradise shelduck that can cause damage to areas of new sown grass, recovering hay paddocks and fodder crops such as chicory; and
2. Provide an additional hunting opportunity for licence holders and land occupiers.

RESULTS

Permits were issued to 182 hunters, of which 111 went hunting, 65 didn't go out and 6 could not be contacted for their results (Table 1). Of the 75 land occupiers issued with permits, 16 went hunting, 55 didn't go out and four could not be contacted for their results.

Out-of-region hunters comprised 14.4% of hunters (Table 2), which was a little higher than in 2023 (Figure 1). Auckland/Waikato licence holders made up most of the out-of-region participants (11 of 16 hunters). As usual, most hunters (95 in total) came from within the Taranaki region and 8.3% of Taranaki's 1,144 2023 game licence holders (1056 AWS + 88 JWS) participated in the 2024 special season.

The 111 active hunters participating in the season expended a total of 742 hours of effort for a harvest of 1,110 paradise shelduck, which corresponded to a success rate of 1.50 birds per hour (Table 3). The success rate was a little above average, while the number of birds harvested was average (Tables 3 & 4, Fig. 2). While the special season harvest of paradise has remained stable in recent years, the total annual harvest over the wider region is trending downwards (Fig.3).

Of the 228 days spent hunting in 2024, 98 (43%) occurred on the first weekend, 86 (38%) on the second and 44 (19%) on the third weekend (Table 4). The total number of days hunted was similar to previous years, but the effort was spread out over three weekends rather than two. Increasing the available opportunity didn't result in a significant increase in participation or harvest. The average number of days per hunter (2.05) was a little lower than in 2023 but still above average (Table 4), indicating that the season extension did result in hunters spending more time in the field. A 3-weekend special season has again been gazetted in Area C in 2025.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT THE REPORT ON THE 2024 SPECIAL PARADISE SEASON, DATED 10th MAY 2024, BE RECEIVED.

Jilli Steedman
Allen Stancliff
10th May 2024

TABLE 1. Breakdown of Special Season Permits Issued, 2008-2024

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Nil Hunting	52	57	54	45	47	46	43	63	56	43	41	37	44	43	46	48	65
Not able to be contacted	5	7	10	5	3	6	2	3	0	2	2	3	3	4	10	6	6
Active Hunters – Area A																	
Active Hunters – Area B	26	36	19	16	12	14	8	9	18								
Active Hunters – Area C	109	122	111	102	130	116	114	132	113	99	94	104	109	108	105	92	111
Total Active Hunters	135	158	130	118	142	130	122	141	131	99	94	104	109	108	105	92	111
Total Permits Issued	192	222	194	168	192	182	167	207	187	144	137	144	156	155	161	146	182

TABLE 2. Origin of Participants in the Taranaki 2024 Special Season.

F&G Region	Area C	% from each Region
Auckland/Waikato	11	9.9
Eastern	2	1.8
Wellington	2	1.8
Hawkes Bay	1	0.9
Taranaki	95	85.6
Total	111	

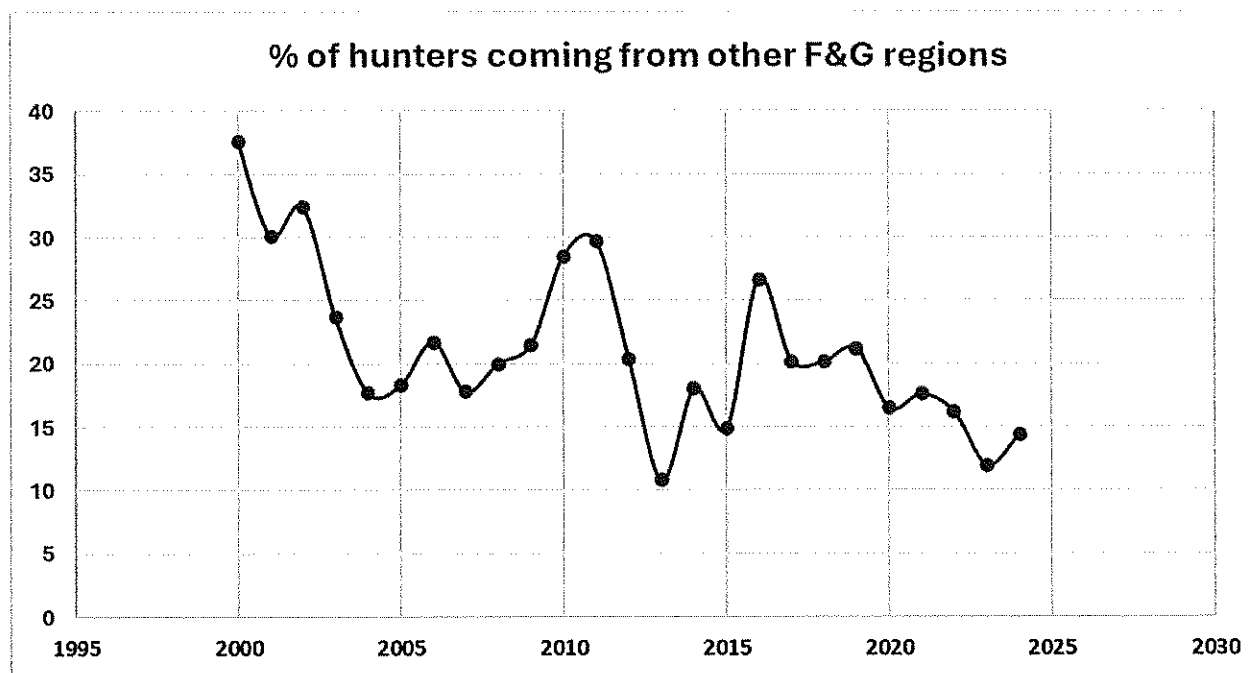


FIGURE 1. Proportion of Taranaki special season hunters coming from other Fish & Game Regions. No special season has been held in the Waimarino (Area A) since 2002 and in Whanganui (Area B) since 2016.

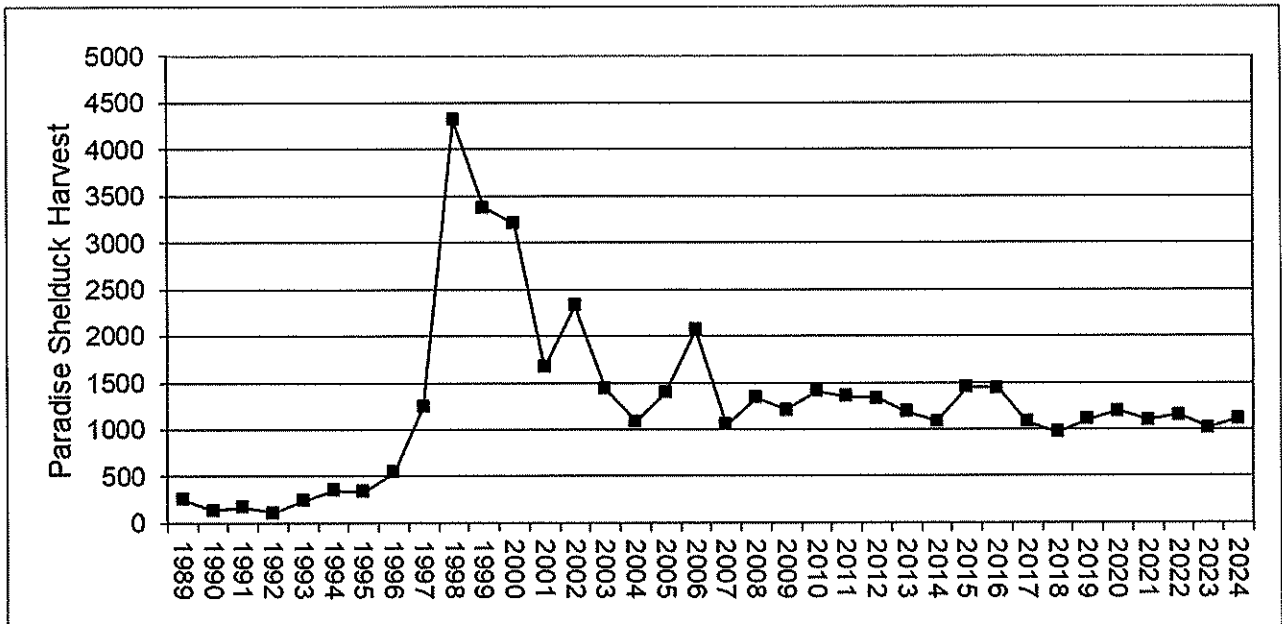


FIGURE 2. Taranaki region special season harvest of paradise shelduck. No special season has been held in the Waimarino since 2002 and in Whanganui since 2016.

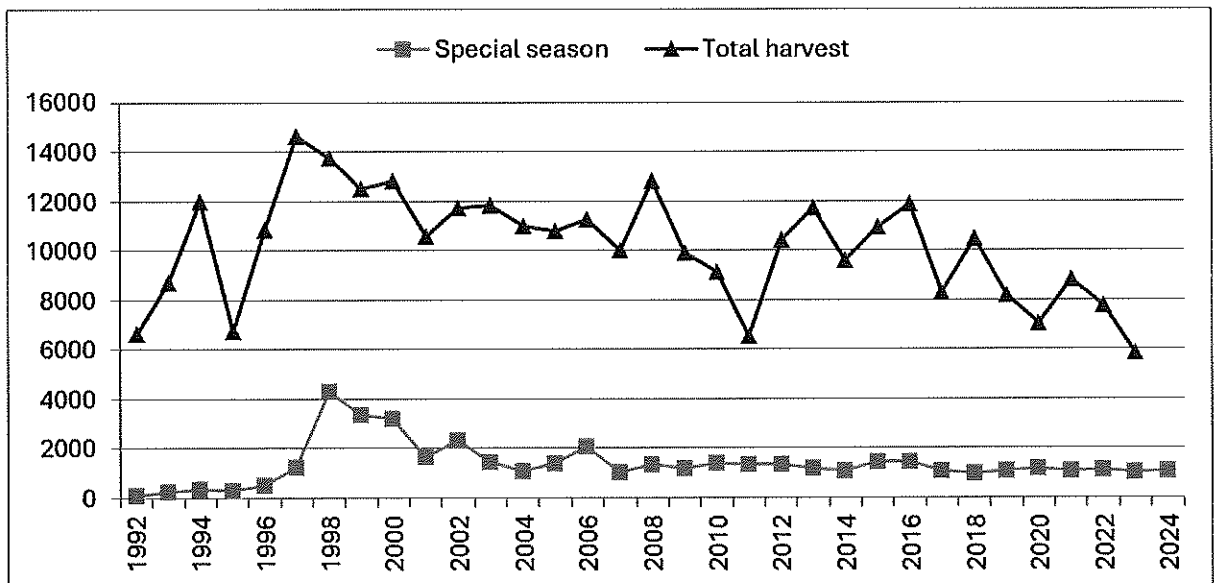


FIGURE 3. Taranaki special season and total annual harvest estimates for paradise shelduck. The total harvest estimate for 2015 does not include the harvest in Taranaki by hunters from other regions during the 2015 main season.

TABLE 3. Comparison of special paradise season harvest statistics. The season was extended to include Area C in 1998. There has not been a season in Area A since 2003 and in Area B since 2016.

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
No. Hunters	110	130	131	161	118	135	158	130	118	142	130	122	141	131	99	94	104	109	108	105	92	111
Paradise Shot	1,451	1,085	1,397	2,065	1,049	1,342	1,212	1,408	1,356	1,334	1,186	1,086	1,451	1,446	1,076	968	1,107	1,195	1,098	1,153	1,017	1,110
Not retrieved	50	29	49	58	70	41	26	35	52	37	65	71	33	33	56	49	35	36	36	33	26	26
Banded	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Geese Shot	37	55	76	72	57	87	53	48	22	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Hunting hours	968	958	1,125	1,479	949	--	1,068	997.5	932.5	1,026	849.3	845.8	1,040	960.8	716	728	750	868	897	820	713	742
Paradise/hour	1.50	1.13	1.24	1.40	1.11	1.67*	1.13	1.41	1.45	1.30	1.40	1.28	1.40	1.50	1.50	1.33	1.48	1.38	1.22	1.41	1.43	1.50
Paradise/hunter	13.2	8.3	10.7	12.8	8.9	9.9	7.7	10.8	11.5	9.4	9.1	8.9	10.3	11.0	10.9	10.3	10.6	11.0	10.2	11.0	11.0	10.0
Ave effort (hrs)	8.8	7.4	8.6	9.2	8.0	5.9*	6.8	7.7	7.9	7.2	6.5	6.9	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.7	7.2	8.0	8.3	7.8	7.8	6.7
Total Days	261	232	258	340	200	224	251	207	202	220	207	195	258	255	182	174	189	190	199	225	209	228
Days / hunter	2.37	1.78	1.97	2.11	1.69	1.66	1.59	1.59	1.71	1.55	1.59	1.60	1.83	1.95	1.84	1.85	1.81	1.74	1.84	2.14	2.27	2.05

TABLE 4. Harvest Statistics for Game Management Area C (Taranaki). The season was extended from one weekend to two in 2015 and two weekends to three in 2023.

Harvest Statistic	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
No. Hunters	126	97	109	122	111	102	130	116	114	132	113	99	94	104	109	108	105	92	111
Paradise Shot	1,625	906	1,066	1,008	1,265	1,233	1,205	1,077	1,026	1,365	1,310	1,076	968	1,107	1,195	1,098	1,153	1,017	1,110
Paradise not retrieved	43	57	38	20	30	51	34	60	71	33	30	56	49	35	36	36	33	26	26
Canada Geese Shot	64	50	87	53	48	21	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Geese not retrieved	0	0	1	1	1	0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Hours	1,168	823.5	443.5	837	884	827	938	793.3	799.3	995	866.5	716	728	750	868	897	820	713	742
Av. No. paradise / hour	1.39	1.10	1.55*	1.20	1.43	1.49	1.28	1.36	1.28	1.37	1.51	1.50	1.33	1.48	1.38	1.22	1.41	1.43	1.50
Av. No. paradise/hunter	12.9	9.3	9.8	8.3	11.4	12.1	9.3	9.3	9.0	10.3	11.6	10.9	10.3	10.6	11.0	10.2	11.0	11.0	10.0
Av. Effort in hours	9.3	8.5	6.1*	6.9	8.0	8.1	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.5	7.7	7.2	7.7	7.2	8.0	8.3	7.8	7.8	6.7
Total Days	274	172	187	180	176	176	200	186	183	246	230	182	174	189	190	199	225	209	228
Days 1st weekend										156	122	125	105	138	146	127	163	95	98
Days 2nd weekend										90	108	57	69	51	44	72	62	63	86
Days 3rd weekend																		51	44
Av. No. days per user	2.17	1.77	1.72	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.86	2.04	1.84	1.85	1.81	1.74	1.84	2.14	2.27	2.05

Agenda Item 16 Habitat Advocacy and Management

Summary

a. Regional Planning advocacy

Horizons Regional Council are continuing with the Oranga Wai consultation – the next generation of Regional Plan changes to reflect NPS FM 2020 – focusing on water quantity and water quality parameters. The timetable to complete the Plan Change revision for public notification has been officially put back to **September 2027** from the December 2024 deadline.

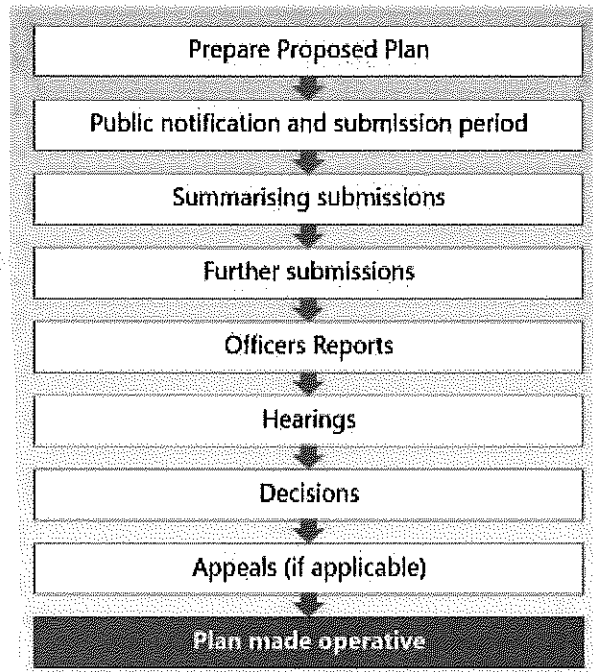
Horizons Regional Council are continuing with their Plan Change 2 of the Regional Plan (One Plan) to introduce an additional tool – Nitrogen Loss Risk Scorecard - to deal with nitrogen leaching from intensive farm use. This is in addition to using Overseer modelling which provides an estimate of nitrogen leaching loss at root level – but is subject to regular review (and improvement) with empirical trials to verify estimates. Uncertainty in the model estimates are typically in the order of 20-30% so the absolute number must be used with caution in regulatory frameworks.

Taranaki Regional Council have also embarked on reviewing their regional plan to give effect to the NPS FM 2020 – but the deadlines have been indeterminately relaxed until at least 2025 but will probably be in line with Horizons deadline of 2027..

Non-statutory Process



Statutory Process



b. Resource Consent advocacy

Nothing to report on material resource consent applications or submissions.

c. Habitat Enhancement Projects

Nothing to report on habitat enhancement projects.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

No action required.

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

FARMERS WEEKLY

• OPINION

Horizons between a rock and a hard place

May 7, 2024

By Rachel Keedwell, chair of Horizons Regional Council

The rock is the government's signalled, but not legislated, changes; the hard place is our legal requirement to continue progressing work until laws are changed, says Horizons council chair.

Horizons Regional Council chair Rachel Keedwell takes issue with a Federated Farmers leader's characterisation of the work the council has done.

When I read the piece in Farmers Weekly last week from Federated Farmers Manawatū-Rangitikei president [Ian Strahan](#), there were parts I could agree with. Kiwi farmers are working hard to improve the environment, supported by Horizons through programmes like the Sustainable Land Use Initiative and partnerships via groups including the Manawatū River Leaders' Accord.

Strahan is also right about farmers doing it tough with high inflation, rising interest rates and low commodity prices. I want to thank him and the other Federated Farmers members who spoke to our Long-term Plan hearings recently. Their message came through loud and clear. However, suggesting we are not listening to farmers, or are totally out of touch with our rural communities, misses the mark.

Our staff have been working for the best part of four years to implement the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM), a mandate from central government we must deliver on. That featured multiple rounds of consultation, including targeted engagement with farmers and industry groups, often on very tight timeframes. Multiple groups have said those deadlines, set by central government, were too tight.

Extending our freshwater One Plan change notification date to 2026/27 should help.

The change of government is bringing changes to policy direction. Horizons is stuck between a rock and a hard place on many of those changes: the rock is the government's signalled, but not legislated, changes; the hard place is our legal requirement to continue progressing work until laws are changed. Our NPS-FM work fits directly into this difficult place.

I know the provisional water quality targets were hard for many to see last year. They showed not only the decades of damage done to waterways via a range of inputs, but also the significant amount of work needed to restore their health. It's a very real situation that is no one person's fault, but the responsibility of everyone to remedy.

Horizons specifically consulted with rural communities on these provisional targets. The roadshow we ran, going to rural towns and villages, is proof of that.

People from those places, as well as groups like Federated Farmers and catchment collectives, gave their views, which will play a part in formulating the freshwater One Plan change.

The economic and social analysis on the provisional targets is taking longer than we wanted. Every regional council is doing the same work, requiring the same experts, causing delays. We have committed to another rural roadshow when we have this analysis.

Rates is another big issue. Horizons, like most councils, relies on rates to fund the work we do. Bluntly charging rates based on the value of property, regardless of ability to pay, is not a good system. It is, however, the one we must work with.

A 6% rates increase used to be considered large. This year, the national average is more than 15%. At least one council is proposing above 30%. Horizons' average proposed increase is 12.9%.

I know this is unaffordable for people already struggling to make ends meet. Some have said potentially changing our Uniform Annual General Charges is the biggest impact on rural rates. But high rates increases across the country are a disaster that has been building for a long time.

Central government's share of taxes as a percentage of GDP has effectively tripled in 100 years. Rates have remained basically flat.

Despite this, Horizons continues to be legally required by central government to carry out more and more work without any extra funding to help.

Councils have asked central government for help, such as returning the GST paid on rates or regular co-investment in flood protection and climate mitigation assets, but for now we are stuck with the funding model we have.

High inflation and rising insurance costs have hit Horizons too, with the second of those especially significant on river and drainage schemes. Councillors are investigating how we can minimise those impacts.

With farmland valued highly, I know the impact of rates increases is keenly felt in rural areas. Ruapehu, Tararua and Rangitikei districts will feel it harder due to property revaluations in the past year.

About one in 25 properties in the region have a proposed rates increase of 30% or more, which jumps to three in 25 properties across Ruapehu, Tararua and Rangitikei. The impact of revaluations is also outside of our control – another part of the broken rates system we have.

My colleagues and I around the council table are listening to all voices, including those of farmers, during the freshwater reform and Long-term Plan processes. We, like you, are working to do our best in uncertain times to deliver the best possible results we can for all.

Agenda Item 17 Participation

Summary

a. Access Management

- Access Point descriptions included on new website.
- Will consider appropriate update of access sign inventory in next financial year.
- Preparation was undertaken for access to hunters for forestry blocks.

b. Information to Clients

- Weekly angling email newsletter – the Lower North Island Low Down – was posted weekly until early April.
- Weekly hunting email newsletter – the Game Bird Hunting Bulletin – was posted weekly prior to the season – will continue until end of June and then once in mid-July to focus on upland game hunting opportunities.
- The website has been substantially refreshed and released in February 2024 – updated items.
- 2024 Game Season Magazine distributed.
- 2024 Game Season Regional Newsletter distributed - sent out to previous year's licence holders and lapsed hunters – and also to RD addresses.

c. Licence Holder Engagement

Summer Paradise Shelduck season was publicised for Taranaki region.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

No action required.

Agenda Item 18 **Public Awareness/Communications**

Summary

a. Iwi Engagement

Meeting on the Whanganui River Strategy - Te Awa Tupua. Te Heke Ngahuru project director Kahureremoa Aki noted that it is intended that public meetings over the next few months would mark the beginning of "a very active process".

Submission on the Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress advised . There are trout present in rivers within Te Papakura O Taranaki, including a remnant, stunted population of rainbows in the Ahukawakawa Swamp in the headwaters of the Hangatahua (Stony) River, but nothing specific in the legislation about getting rid of introduced spp. including trout.

b. Public Awareness

Contributed to NZ Council co-ordinated public awareness campaign – *Re Wilding*

Contributed to NZ Council co-ordinated public awareness project to define the public good undertaken by Fish and Game.

c. Communication

Press Releases on opening of the Game Season 2024.

d. Promotions

Reel Recovery Programme undertaken in Raetihi area in March 2024.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

No action required.

Agenda Item 17 Licence Sales & Licence Management System Performance

Summary

a. Licence Sales Update – until 9 May 2024

- **Licence Sales Report for 2023/2024 Fishing Season YTD**

Confirmation of licence sales indicating YTD – comparison with previous year.

LEQ sales down 1.6% compared to previous year (987 c.f. 1003)

Total Number of Sales of licences up 15.5% compared to previous year (1833 c.f. 1587)

Nationally licence sales value LEQ is down 1.8% (70,784 c.f. 72,104).

- **Licence Sales Report for 2023/2024 Game Season YTD until 9 May 2024**

Confirmation of licence sales indicating YTD – comparison with previous year.

LEQ sales down 8.6% compared to previous year (958 c.f. 1048)

Total Number of Sales of licences up 7.5% compared to previous year (1074 c.f. 1161)

Nationally licence sales value LEQ is down 2.1% (30,125 c.f. 30,771).

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

Council move to receive Licence Sales Report for 2023/2024 Fishing Season YTD (9 May 2024) and for 2024 Game Season YTD (9 May 2024)

b. Licence Management System – March and April 2024

The Licencing Operational Group overview the performance of the Licencing Management system outlining:

- No issues with continuity of service
- A list of bugs and fixes required under agreed contract.
- Progress on completing requirements of development phase of contract
- Minor issue of not enabling the voting option for the first day of licence availability. *(Fish and Game instruction required)*

Each regional Fish and Game Council is a signatory to the agreement for ESL to provide services to manage electronic licence sales (Public on Line and Agent on Line) and data capture.

c. Licence Price Optimisation Research

Confirm with NZ Council to keep this as a priority.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

Council move to receive the update report from the Licencing Operational Group for contract management of provider of services to manage the licensing platform and database management.

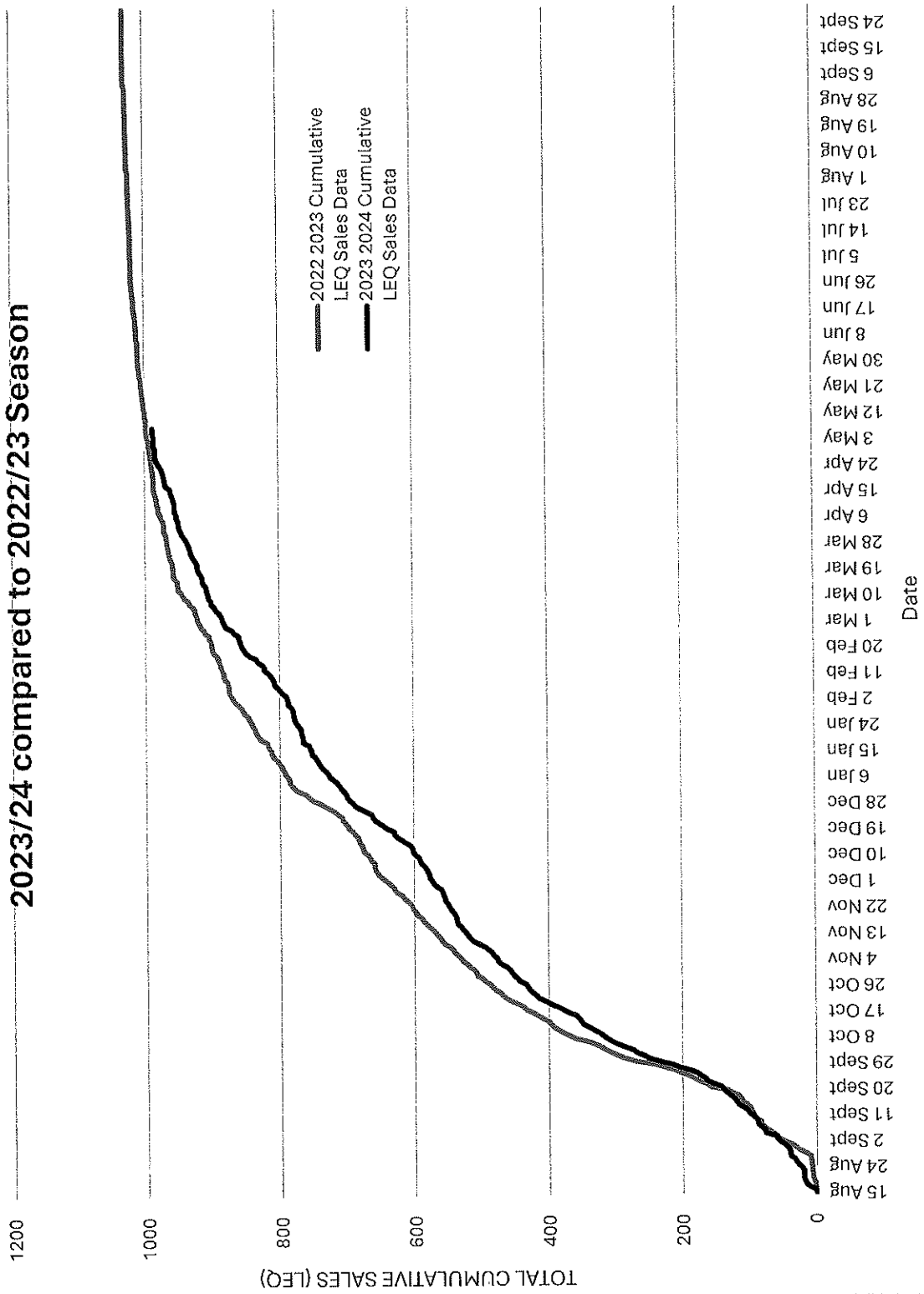
National Game Licence Sales YTD to day after opening both seasons.

	Channel	GWA	GWJ	GWC	GDA	GDJ	Total	Game LEQ	Game Var	Game \$	Inc/Dec
Northland	Agency Online	1,224	130	44	0	0	1,398				
	Public Online	244	34	15	0	0	293				
	Total	1,468	164	59	0	0	1,691	1,500		\$133,057	
2022-2023	Agency Online	1,146	116	29	0	0	1,291				
	Public Online	277	36	12	0	0	325				
	Total	1,423	152	41	0	0	1,616	1,453	-3.2%	\$136,414	\$3,357
Auckland Waikato	Agency Online	4,954	436	172	0	0	5,562				
	Public Online	1,251	166	69	0	0	1,486				
	Total	6,205	602	241	0	0	7,048	6,323		\$560,826	
2022-2023	Agency Online	5,033	442	166	0	0	5,641				
	Public Online	1,118	174	80	0	0	1,372				
	Total	6,151	616	246	0	0	7,013	6,271	-0.8%	\$588,908	\$28,082
Eastern	Agency Online	2,284	216	96	0	0	2,596				
	Public Online	416	58	35	0	0	509				
	Total	2,700	274	131	0	0	3,105	2,754		\$244,243	
2022-2023	Agency Online	2,137	187	114	0	0	2,438				
	Public Online	359	71	28	0	0	458				
	Total	2,496	258	142	0	0	2,896	2,546	-7.5%	\$239,118	-\$5,125
Hawke's Bay	Agency Online	1,268	93	28	0	0	1,389				
	Public Online	374	66	24	0	0	464				
	Total	1,642	159	52	0	0	1,853	1,673		\$148,403	
2022-2023	Agency Online	1,411	118	47	0	0	1,576				
	Public Online	337	72	20	0	0	429				
	Total	1,748	190	67	0	0	2,005	1,785	6.7%	\$167,630	\$19,226
Taranaki	Agency Online	818	63	27	0	0	908				
	Public Online	205	23	17	0	0	245				
	Total	1,023	86	44	0	0	1,153	1,040		\$92,231	
2022-2023	Agency Online	758	66	31	0	0	855				
	Public Online	175	23	13	0	0	211				
	Total	933	89	44	0	0	1,066	950	-8.6%	\$89,246	-\$2,985
Wellington	Agency Online	2,519	236	116	0	0	2,871				
	Public Online	581	75	40	0	0	696				
	Total	3,100	311	156	0	0	3,567	3,161		\$280,365	
2022-2023	Agency Online	2,512	228	90	0	0	2,830				
	Public Online	528	95	33	0	0	656				
	Total	3,040	323	123	0	0	3,486	3,103	-1.8%	\$291,394	\$11,029
Nelson/Marl	Agency Online	697	51	13	0	0	761				
	Public Online	102	21	7	0	0	130				
	Total	799	72	20	0	0	891	813		\$72,120	
2022-2023	Agency Online	693	52	21	0	0	766				
	Public Online	92	18	4	0	0	114				
	Total	785	70	25	0	0	880	799	-1.8%	\$75,000	\$2,880
North Canterbury	Agency Online	2,057	148	71	0	0	2,276				
	Public Online	336	38	23	0	0	397				
	Total	2,393	186	94	0	0	2,673	2,429		\$215,483	
2022-2023	Agency Online	2,100	137	78	0	0	2,315				
	Public Online	326	47	15	0	0	388				
	Total	2,426	184	93	0	0	2,703	2,462	1.3%	\$231,193	\$15,710
West Coast	Agency Online	153	10	2	0	0	165				
	Public Online	178	17	19	0	0	214				
	Total	331	27	21	0	0	379	336		\$29,828	
2022-2023	Agency Online	150	17	7	0	0	174				
	Public Online	176	17	19	0	0	212				
	Total	326	34	26	0	0	386	333	-1.1%	\$31,237	\$1,409
Central South Is	Agency Online	1,608	141	34	0	0	1,783				
	Public Online	507	51	31	0	0	589				
	Total	2,115	192	65	0	0	2,372	2,153		\$190,930	
2022-2023	Agency Online	1,490	132	43	0	0	1,665				
	Public Online	409	57	20	0	0	486				
	Total	1,899	189	63	0	0	2,151	1,936	-10.1%	\$181,792	-\$9,138
Otago	Agency Online	3,090	234	90	0	0	3,414				
	Public Online	756	86	42	0	0	884				
	Total	3,846	320	132	0	0	4,298	3,909		\$346,689	
2022-2023	Agency Online	3,065	227	78	0	0	3,370				
	Public Online	743	106	55	0	0	904				
	Total	3,808	333	133	0	0	4,274	3,873	-0.9%	\$363,702	\$17,013
Southland	Agency Online	3,698	347	117	0	0	4,162				
	Public Online	782	133	48	0	0	963				
	Total	4,480	480	165	0	0	5,125	4,574		\$405,704	
2022-2023	Agency Online	3,592	371	118	0	0	4,081				
	Public Online	751	137	51	0	0	939				
	Total	4,343	508	169	0	0	5,020	4,442	-2.9%	\$417,141	\$11,437
TOTAL	Agency Online	24,370	2,105	810	-	-	27,285	24,783		\$2,198,122	
	Public Online	5,732	768	370	-	-	6,870	5,883		\$521,760	
	Total	30,102	2,873	1,180	-	-	34,155	30,665		\$2,719,882	
2022-2023	Agency Online	24,087	2,093	822	-	-	27,002	24,494		\$2,300,303	
	Public Online	5,291	853	350	-	-	6,494	5,457		\$512,470	
	Total	29,378	2,946	1,172	-	-	33,496	29,951		\$2,812,774	
National Variance against 2023 YTD								-715	-2.3%	\$92,892	\$92,892

2023-24 Summary YTD Actual vs Total Budget

2023-24 Annual Budget	31,763	100.0%	\$2,982,913
2023-24 YTD Actual	29,951	94.3%	\$2,812,774
Remaining to meet budget	-1,812	-5.7%	-\$170,139

TARANAKI REGION - Cumulative Fish Licence Sales (LEQs) 2023/24 compared to 2022/23 Season



National Fish Licence Sales YTD to 5 May

	Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWIA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWC	FWNC	FDNC	SRSE	DWLR	DWLN	Total Fish	Fish LEQ	Fish Var	Fish \$	Inc/Dec
Northland	Public Online	33	84	101	2	8	9	3	17	78	112	12	2	6	1	62	2	0	0	0	0	532				
	Agency Online	12	31	3	6	4	4	2	1	2	1	6	0	0	0	7	0	0	9	0	0	88				
	Total	45	115	104	8	12	13	5	18	80	113	18	2	6	1	69	2	0	9	0	0	620	432		\$54,469	
2022-2023	Public Online	29	86	83	6	8	12	2	25	73	123	17	3	24	2	76	4	2	0	0	0	575				
	Agency Online	13	35	11	9	2	4	0	4	8	0	6	1	2	0	6	0	0	9	7	0	117				
	Total	42	121	94	15	10	16	2	29	81	123	23	4	26	2	82	4	2	9	7	0	692	431	-0.3%	\$57,323	\$2,855
Auckland Waikato	Public Online	367	920	190	167	112	81	6	112	699	438	180	8	118	6	486	6	1	0	0	0	3,897				
	Agency Online	183	508	48	96	44	31	7	55	172	37	53	1	16	1	73	2	0	25	0	0	1,352				
	Total	550	1428	238	263	156	112	13	167	871	475	233	9	134	7	559	8	1	25	0	0	5,249	3,346		\$421,911	
2022-2023	Public Online	355	910	179	171	123	70	11	163	847	494	216	13	145	11	584	7	7	0	0	0	4,306				
	Agency Online	207	545	45	98	49	21	9	53	150	37	61	2	19	0	103	0	2	13	26	0	1,440				
	Total	562	1455	224	269	172	91	20	216	997	531	277	15	164	11	687	7	9	13	26	0	5,746	3,437	2.7%	\$457,300	\$35,389
2023-2024	Public Online	1,322	1,017	189	269	662	180	33	492	1,917	665	212	11	268	14	864	7	16	0	0	0	8,138				
	Agency Online	986	873	112	240	773	87	24	160	590	388	172	10	59	14	64	2	11	69	0	0	4,634				
	Total	2308	1890	301	509	1435	267	57	652	2507	1053	384	21	327	28	928	9	27	69	0	0	12,772	8,173		\$1,030,446	
Eastern	Public Online	1,251	1,020	176	258	560	131	52	568	2,233	831	279	22	330	18	1,073	7	12	0	0	0	8,821				
	Agency Online	925	771	115	238	852	60	23	219	623	440	170	6	112	20	107	0	6	48	24	47	4,806				
	Total	2176	1791	291	496	1412	191	75	787	2856	1271	449	28	442	38	1180	7	18	48	24	47	13,627	7,987	-2.3%	\$1,062,611	\$32,165
2023-2024	Public Online	227	505	175	99	62	25	11	64	277	227	95	2	40	4	199	6	4	0	0	0	2,022				
	Agency Online	150	427	67	136	90	13	4	28	90	279	72	1	7	4	42	0	0	10	0	0	1,420				
	Total	377	932	242	235	152	38	15	92	367	506	167	3	47	8	241	6	4	10	0	0	3,442	2,445		\$308,315	
Hawke's Bay	Public Online	204	497	136	92	74	56	6	142	418	346	155	7	90	2	338	1	1	0	0	0	2,565				
	Agency Online	101	361	80	127	61	32	2	24	116	338	70	1	20	7	39	0	2	8	16	43	1,448				
	Total	305	858	216	219	135	88	8	166	534	684	225	8	110	9	377	1	3	8	16	43	4,013	2,340	-4.3%	\$311,368	\$3,053
2023-2024	Public Online	86	231	93	30	24	12	1	43	110	222	40	3	33	5	159	4	1	0	0	0	1,097				
	Agency Online	37	198	10	52	18	5	2	17	28	9	43	0	5	0	46	0	0	15	0	0	485				
	Total	123	429	103	82	42	17	3	60	138	231	83	3	38	5	205	4	1	15	0	0	1,582	1,002		\$126,304	
Taranaki	Public Online	58	213	91	33	24	15	2	52	124	250	50	4	39	3	282	1	0	0	0	0	1,241				
	Agency Online	44	200	7	51	19	11	4	35	40	14	51	0	12	0	66	0	0	11	22	0	587				
	Total	102	413	98	84	43	26	6	87	164	264	101	4	51	3	348	1	0	11	22	0	1,828	985	-1.7%	\$130,998	\$4,694
2023-2024	Public Online	232	827	149	154	111	51	6	37	239	125	117	5	81	2	459	2	2	0	0	0	2,599				
	Agency Online	167	667	18	146	83	22	5	16	55	39	82	0	33	0	178	0	0	52	0	0	1,563				
	Total	399	1494	167	300	194	73	11	53	294	164	199	5	114	2	637	2	2	52	0	0	4,162	2,912		\$367,191	
Wellington	Public Online	224	799	124	155	145	53	10	65	437	269	210	3	116	6	714	3	2	0	261	76	3,672				
	Agency Online	154	654	10	142	104	31	3	26	72	39	152	0	46	2	147	0	0	43	65	0	1,690				
	Total	378	1453	134	297	249	84	13	91	509	308	362	3	162	8	861	3	2	43	326	76	5,362	2,953	1.4%	\$392,874	\$25,683

Agenda Item 20 **Operational Summary**

Summary

Summary of activities undertaken in March and April 2024

Confirmation of the Work Plan Report outlining operational activities undertaken to 30 April 2024 and project expenditure to 30 April 2024

Nothing material required to be highlighted

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

Council receive staff report on Operational progress to 30 April 2024 and expenditure to 30 April 2024.

Taranaki Fish & Game Council
 Budget Report to 30 April 2024
 And

Project Progress to 10 May 2024

OUTPUT	Budget external costs	YTD external costs (30/4/24)	Comments on significant variations	Budget Hours	YTD hours
Population Monitoring	17,227	6,758		520	279.5
Harvest Assessment				60	7.25
Hatchery	10,000	8,560		60	35.75
Liberations	6,000	6,273		150	83
Season Regulations				50	22.5
Gamebird Dispersal	2,500	425		120	70
RMA		3		500	100.25
Habitat Management & Enhancement	20,000			400	32.75
Assessing & Monitoring				100	1.25
Hunter / Angler Access	1,000			100	6.25
Satisfaction Survey				40	3.5
Magazine / Newsletter / Ezine	9,500	6,057		200	63
Hunter / Angler support	1,000				
Clubs	300	300		10	3
Statutory Liaison				30	9.25
Iwi Liaison	100	103		60	34
Information to Clients				100	43.75
General Advocacy	1,100			100	44.75
Hunting & Angling Promotions	3,300	1,561		140	50.25
Ranger Management	1,000	2,812		112	46.75
Compliance	2,100			170	32.25
Licensing & Commission	12,565	7,786		50	22
Council Meetings & Administration	9,500	4,273		280	71.75
Management, Strategic & Policy	1,000			80	11
Business Planning				40	12.25
OSH & Other Reporting	6,340	272		65	34
National Liaison	100			160	52.5
Total Expenditure	104,632	45,183		3697	1172.5

Project Income	Budget Income	YTD Income
Fish Population Assessment	200	478
Harvest Assessment – Summer Season	500	400
Liberations		1,790
Gamebird Dispersal	750	600
Taranaki Hunting & Habitat Scheme	15,000	
Compliance	1,000	
Total Income	17,450	3,268
Net Expenditure	87,182	41,915

Overheads	Budget	YTD
1910 Salaries & Management Contract	278,880	156,877
1920 Staff Expenses	3,500	898
1940 Office Premises	22,200	14,711
1950 Office Equipment	2,000	2,270
1960 Communications / Consumables	7,250	3,611
1970 General	2,870	2,501
1980 General Equipment	6,000	
1990 Vehicles	15,375	11,361
Total Overheads	338,075	192,229

Other Income & Expenses	Budget	YTD
Interest	6,441	12,110
Wellington Fish & Game Admin	4,000	7,905
Donations & Other Income		
Total Other Income & Expenses	10,441	20,015

Nett Project, Overhead and Other Expenditure/Income	Budget	YTD
	414,816	214,129(51%)

<u>MOVEMENTS IN RESERVES</u>				
From	To	Reason	Amount	Date Paid

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

2023/2024 Annual Plan – Planned Result	Progress to date
<p>Objective: Obtain accurate and pertinent information to guide and enable effective management decisions to maximise user success and satisfaction while ensuring the sustainability of sports fish and gamebird populations across the region</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess juvenile trout recruitment in Waiongana/ Mangaoraka Stream to compare with baseline information from other catchment surveys. 2. Complete resource inventory of the Waingongoro River catchment to determine current status of the trout fishery and identify threats and opportunities (yr 2 of 2) 3. Monitor and report information on the status of the region’s trout fisheries sufficient to measure overall angler success (through a diary scheme), set effective regulations and inform management directions. 	<p><i>Electrofishing survey of 11 sites in the Waiongana/ Mangaoraka Stream catchment surveyed on 11/12 December 2023.</i></p> <p><i>2023/24 season angler diaries sent to 29 anglers at the start of the new season. Staff helped Bart Jansma of Riverwise Consulting with an electric fishing survey of Kapuni Stream (11/10/2023). Trout fry were present at all but one site, with 47 rainbow fry and 2 brown trout fry captured. A F&G fisheries team meeting was attended on 2/11/2023.</i></p> <p><i>Staff helped Riverwise Consulting with fish salvage from the site where the Mangorei Stream Scout Road weir was about to be removed (31/01/2024).</i></p> <p><i>Liaised with TRC scientists (13/02/2024) regarding causes of fish kills in the lower reaches of some south Taranaki streams during a period of extreme heat (18–22 January 2024). It was likely a combination of high water temperature, high pH and oxygen supersaturation.</i></p> <p><i>Staff were notified on 5/03/2024 that there had been an erosion event in the Pyramid Stream headwater tributary of the Hangatahua (Stony). This resulted in the river running grey with ash for several weeks along with significant sand inundation. The river has now cleared and is in recovery mode.</i></p> <p><i>Following notification by an angler via Wellington SFO Matt Kavermann (18/04/2024) there was liaison with Ngati Rangi Iwi, DOC & Horizons RC regarding a substantial kill of koura in Waitangi Stream near Karioi.</i></p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Implement an effective grey and mallard duck banding programme in the Whanganui area to obtain an estimate of the population size and level of hunting harvest which 	<p><i>With help from Eastern & Wellington F&G staff and volunteers, 383 ducks were banded on 20/21 February 2024 at two Whanganui sites. There were also an additional 92</i></p>

will guide future monitoring requirements and regulation setting (yr 5 of 5).

5. Monitor and report information on the status of the region's mallard and grey duck, paradise shelduck, shoveler, swan and pukeko populations sufficient to assess harvest, identify and manage any population impacts, set effective regulations and inform management directions. As part of this, review count methods for paradise shelduck, including the effectiveness, efficiency and cost of returning to aerial counts for some parts of the region.
6. Participate in the National Hunter Survey to derive a robust estimate of annual game bird harvest and hunter success.
7. Recommend effective regulations that are timely, easily understood and which maximise licence holder opportunity while ensuring resource sustainability and public support.
8. Provide advice and support practical and effective predator control opportunities that assist game bird populations.

banded ducks recaptured on day one and 18 on Day 2. Unfortunately, a feral cat was trapped at the main banding site and no ducks were caught there on day 2.

The final report on the August 2023 National Shoveler Survey was received from the Eastern Region's Matt McDougall on 14/10/2023. Trend counts for paradise shelduck and black swan carried out in the Waimarino, Whanganui and Taranaki areas in January 2024.

Aerial monitoring of dabbling duck along 20 randomly selected transects around the Taranaki ringplain was carried out with Wellington F&G SFO Matt Kavermann (8/04/2024). Pukeko monitoring was carried out on the Taranaki ringplain (15,16 & 19/04/2024) and Whanganui (22/04/2024).

2023 game season results received and incorporated into the draft 2024/25 Game Gazette Notice Report for Council's 9/12/2023 meeting. Interviews for Opening weekend 2024, which included questions on hunter satisfaction, were conducted.

Early draft of 2024/25 Game Gazette Notice Report prepared for Council's 14/10/2023 meeting, with final draft presented on 9/12/2023. There was liaison with DOC head office (Michael Gee) regarding wording changes to the requirement to hold a permit for the special paradise hunting season (2/2/2024). A 2024/25 draft Anglers Notice Report, including a review of regulations for the Lake Mangamahoe fishery, was prepared for Council's 25 May 2024 meeting.

Supplement trout fishing opportunities with appropriate stocking that is valued, cost effective in terms of the return to the angler and which retains community support.

9. Undertake an annual trout stocking programme which concentrates on creating and maintaining valued lake fisheries.

Rainbow trout yearlings from the Hawera hatchery were released into Lake Mangamahoe (175 fish) and the Waiaua River (303) on 20/09/2023. 500 2-year-old rainbow trout from the Eastern Region's Ngongotaha hatchery were released into Lake Rotomanu on 19/10/2023. A 2022/23 Hatchery & Trout Liberations report was prepared for Council's 14/10/2023 meeting.

Hawera hatchery rainbows were released into the Lower Patea River (120) and the Hangatahua River (100) on 13/11/2023. Councillor Flynn and Ranger Alan Candy released 300 Hawera rainbows into the Patea River's scout den pool on 1/12/2023 for a kids' fishing promotion. Hawera hatchery rainbows were released into Lake Mangamahoe (101) and the Hangatahua River (113) on 20/12/2023, being the last of the 2022 year class.

A F&G hatchery teams meeting was attended (9/11/2023).

A proposed 2024 trout release programme was prepared for Council's 16 March 2024 meeting.

DOC's Tongariro National Trout Centre confirmed there were 100 rainbows available for release into Sattler's Dam and a release of 120 took place on 26/03/2024.

A release of 400 fin-clipped Hawera hatchery rainbow trout fingerlings was made into the Waiaua River on 24/04/2024.

An order of 500 2-year-old rainbows from the Eastern F&G Region for 2025/26 was confirmed (1/03/2024).

10. Undertake release of up to 200 16-month rainbow trout into the lower Patea River to assess the potential for a long-term programme (yr 5)

120 released on 13/11/2023.

It was confirmed (28/02/2024) that Manawa Energy will fund the release of up to 200 17-month Hawera hatchery brown and rainbow trout into the lower Patea River for the next five years (2024 – 2028) with a review of results in 2029.

<p>11. Undertake monitoring of angler returns from the 2017-2021 releases of tagged brown and rainbow trout into the lower Patea River.</p> <p>12. Operate Hawera hatchery in an effective, cost efficient and sustainable manner utilising volunteer support to meet the identified stocking objectives.</p>	<p>A dinner for Hawera hatchery volunteers was held on 11/09/2023. . 300kg feed ordered from Biomar and received 12/02/2024.</p> <p>The 2023 year-class survived the January 2024 heat and 2,572 rainbow trout fingerlings were finclipped on 28/03/2024. The brown trout were smaller and have still to be clipped. The hatchery freezer stopped working on 2/04/2024 and a new 688 litre freezer was installed on 24/04/2024.</p>
<p>Provide effective compliance to protect resource sustainability (including revenue base) and user experience to maintain licence holder satisfaction.</p>	
<p>13. Review and renew ranger warrants and maintain a skilled honorary ranger team of at least 12 rangers consistent with requirements and objectives of the Compliance Policy and Strategy and also R3 principles.</p> <p>14. Undertake safe and effective compliance coverage across the Taranaki Region, including a target of 100 licence checks of anglers and also of hunters.</p>	<p>A Ranger training day held in New Plymouth on 30/09/2023 was attended by 9 Honorary Rangers and 1 staff. A CERT 1-day refresher was held on 13/04/2024 at New Plymouth attended by 5 rangers and 1 staff. The process of ranger warrant renewal has begun, with 3 rangers indicating they will not renew their warrants owing to a range of factors.</p> <p>Compliance checks were undertaken for the opening of the 2023 fishing season. A report of an angling offence on the Manganuioteao River was received on 24/10/2023. It appears the angler gave false details.</p> <p>A parent was spoken to about a junior angler fishing in the scout den pool without a licence (19/12/2023).</p> <p>Compliance checks were undertaken for the opening of the summer hunting season for paradise shelduck (24/02/2024).</p> <p>2024 game season ranging preparation was undertaken for the Waimarino & Taranaki ringplain areas. Wellington F&G SFO Hamish Carnachan carried out a compliance letter mail drop in the Ohakune area prior to the season. Five teams comprising 9 honorary rangers, 1 staff and the Raetihi sole-charge Policeman carried out ranging on opening weekend with 50+ hunters</p>

	checked and no significant non-compliance detected.
Proactively manage problem aggregations of gamebirds in the interests of both hunters and property owners and managers.	
<p>15. Process detected offences in a fair and timely way consistent with national prosecution guidelines.</p> <p>16. Manage problem aggregations of gamebirds through implementation of a special Paradise shelduck season in Area C and proactively responding to and assisting landholders.</p>	<p><i>Two fishing offences from the 2022/23 season, processed via diversion, were finalised.</i></p> <p><i>50 permits to disturb were issued during the reporting period: 31 for pukeko (17 rural, 14 urban), 18 for paradise shelduck (5 including mallard and one including pukeko) and 1 for mallard duck. Nine of 15 gas guns were collected from farmers prior to the start of the special paradise season. Permits were prepared for the paradise season, posted to land occupiers and distributed to two licence agents.</i></p>

HABITAT PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

Protect/ improve habitat for sports fish & game as a fundamental and effective means to sustain the fish & game resource in the interests of licence holders and with biodiversity benefits for the wider community.

1. Provide valued advice and support to licence holders, landowners and the wider community regarding the importance of and how to protect and enhance habitat and also undertake predator control/ management to benefit both fish & game and wider indigenous biodiversity resources.
2. Promote, encourage and support landowners to create, enhance and protect wetlands by providing sound technical advice and assistance to make successful applications to the GBHT and Hunting & Habitat Funds, including 1 billion trees programme.

Peko Contracting was re-contacted (26/02/2024) regarding raupo spraying at F&G's Hawken wetland. Spraying completed before 2024 game season, but raupo required hand cutting to create sufficient open water for hunting.

Both Taranaki applications to the GBHT 2023 funding round were successful with one being allocated \$4k and the other \$5k (incl. gst).

The Howatson wetland at Huiroa was visited (6/10/2023) to sign off the final 25% payment for their one-billion trees plantings. The Howatson's subsequently won a TRC Environmental Award for Environmental Leadership in Farming.

A meeting was attended with TRC consents and ecology staff (9/11/2023) to discuss consenting requirements for the 2 Taranaki wetland projects allocated GBHT funding. While one could be done as a permitted activity, it was estimated that consents for the other would cost \$10K, making the project uneconomic.

A site visit was made to the Eco-Blue wetland (9/11/2023) to sign off the initial 75% payment for their one-billion trees plantings.

A site visit was made to the Ohakune / Raetihi Road wetland (10/01/2024) which was allocated GBHT & H&H funding in 2021. The project will proceed this summer/autumn if dry enough.

A visit was made (15/12/2023) to discuss progress with a farm trust that could provide ongoing contributions to the H&H fund. F&G will not be a trustee as originally proposed but will be a beneficiary.

3. Proactively take opportunities to make effective representation in statutory and other community processes to best achieve sports fish and game bird habitat protection and enhancement.

An update on the two Taranaki one-billion trees projects (total 3,750 trees) was provided to the GBHT (29/02/2024).

Met with Beca (Meghan Stenner) 15/03/2024 regarding the restoration of Tangaroa Stream in the Waitara River estuary.

Council's request to be heard was withdrawn in relation to applications by Horizon Trust to expand a quarry at Whenuku Road, adjacent to the Waingongoro River (12/10/2023).

A review of trout stocking in the lower Patea River, required by consents, was finalised and sent to Manawa Energy (12/10/2023).

A Fonterra Kapuni stakeholders meeting was attended on 27/09/2023. Repairs to the Fonterra weir in Kaupokonui Stream were completed on 14/03/2024.

A meeting was attended (17/11/2023) with NPDC staff to discuss their proposed stormwater strategy, which will to deliver environmental benefits including fish passage improvements, while reducing the risk of flooding and erosion. A submission was made on the NPDC's 2024-2034 LTP (19/04/2024).

There was consultation with Ernslaw-One (1/11/2023; Lynette Baish) regarding renewal of consents to use concrete fords in the Wahianoa catchment in Karioi Forest. A response was sent (8/02/2024) seeking a commitment to modify at least one of the fords to provide for the upstream passage of rainbow trout. A response was received on 17/04/2024.

In conjunction with Wellington F&G an email was sent to Taranaki angling licence holders regarding Horizons Oranga Wai consultation on water quality targets (7/12/2023).

There were reports of the Opunake hydro sluice gate being opened (1/11/2023) to flush out sediment prior to re-starting the power

<p>4. Investigate the establishment of an environmental award to acknowledge and highlight outstanding contributions to the protection of sports fish or gamebird habitat.</p> <p>5. Seek effective environmental outcomes as part of the re-consenting of the Mangorei and Motukawa hydro schemes.</p>	<p>scheme, but little appears to have happened since.</p> <p>Comments were provided to Manawa Energy (12/02/2024) on three Patea HEPS fish passage and ecological monitoring reports required by consents.</p> <p>A Fonterra-convened Kaitiaki Group meeting was attended (2/02/2024) to discuss up-coming consents, including for Fonterra's Tawhiti Stream weir where F&G suggested that the current fish pass be expanded to a full-width rock ramp. A 2nd Kaitiaki Group meeting was attended on 3/05/2024.</p> <p>A submission to the TRC's 2024-2034 LTP was made (11/04/2024).</p> <p>There have been discussions with TRC about F&G sponsoring the "Environmental Action in Water Quality Improvement" section of its annual awards.</p> <p>F&G submissions lodged to notified consents – awaiting TRC processing. TRC is proposing a joint hearing of both applications.</p>
<p>Work collaboratively and proactively with landowners, other groups and iwi recognising the synergistic benefits and wider outcomes that can be achieved by this approach.</p>	
<p>6. Promote and explore opportunities to improve water quality in Lake Rotomanu.</p> <p>7. Engage proactively and collaboratively with iwi & community groups to identify and protect/ enhance shared resource values including contributing to water related matters through the Taranaki Maunga Settlement process.</p> <p>8. Represent Fish & Game and provide valued input to the Te Awa Tupua process.</p>	<p>Awaiting TRC processing of NPDC consent to divert water into Lake Rotomanu from the Waiwhakaiho River. Submission made to NPDC's 2024-2034 LTP.</p> <p>Manager & SFO attended signing ceremony for Taranaki Maunga Deed of Settlement at Owae Marae on 1/09/2023.</p> <p>Te Kopuka zoom meetings were attended on 8/09/2023; 13/10/2023 & 20/12/2023. A zoom meeting with the A/WF&G Manager & staff was held on 31/10/2023 to discuss the Te Heke Ngahuru strategy document which has been released for public feedback. A meeting to receive feedback from the Whangamomona community was attended on</p>

<p>9. Explore options with other parties to remove weirs in Timaru Stream at SH45 and in the Waingongoro River at Eltham.</p>	<p>25/01/2024. A public on-line meeting was attended (30/01/2024) to receive feedback on the Te Heke Ngahuru strategy document. An on-line meeting to support a presentation of Te Heke Ngahuru to a joint meeting of the Tongariro and Taranaki/Whanganui Conservation Boards in Ohakune (22/02/2024) was also attended. An on-line working group meeting was attended (10/05/2024).</p> <p>TRC consents for Timaru Stream weir removal were finalised in December 2024, but contractor availability is an issue.</p> <p>There have been discussions with TRC staff regarding the process to remove the Riverlands Eltham weir on the Waingongoro River. A submission was made to the TRC's 2024-2034 LTP.</p>
<p>Development of an effective Natural Resources Plan that protects freshwater and wetland habitats and which will also minimise Council costs in consent processes and free up resources for other management responses.</p>	
<p>10. Investigate whether there is sufficient landowner support for an application to the Whanganui River Enhancement Trust (WRET) for funding assistance to continue the Horizons / F&G joint Orautoha Stream / Manganuioteao Riparian Project to protect water quality in this catchment and the many values it supports.</p> <p>11. Engage in and actively advocate for provisions which protect and/ or enhance sports fish & game bird habitat in the Taranaki Natural Resources Plan development process.</p>	<p>Horizons RC (Scotty Moore) got in touch (8/02/2024) regarding funding for a landowner wanting to do 600m of conventional fencing along the Manganuioteao River. Of the \$15k cost it was agreed that Horizons would fund 40% with WRET and Taranaki F&G each funding 30% (\$4,500 + gst).</p> <p>Ami Coughlan & the SFO attended a TRC workshop (3/10/2023) to discuss proposed objectives and outcomes in relation to the 6 FMU's. Comments were provided in writing on 25/10/2023. A F&G initiated tick-box survey was also sent to Taranaki licence holders, which resulted in a further 109 submissions to the TRC.</p>

PARTICIPATION

2023/2024 Annual Plan – Planned Result	Progress to date
<p>Objective: Add value to licence holders by increasing their opportunity, success and satisfaction and so retain them in the sport.</p>	

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain and improve the Taranaki pages on the new Fish & Game website so how to and where to go information is readily available, easily understood and up to date. 2. Work with National Office to populate new website with information including an 'Introduction to duck hunting in the Taranaki Region'. 3. Continue posting on the Council's facebook page in line with any National Policy to regularly inform licence holders using this forum. 	<p><i>Taranaki information reviewed with oversight from Roslyn Simmonds (A/W).</i></p> <p><i>New Fish & Game website went live 7/02/2024.</i></p> <p><i>Six posts were made during the reporting period relating to kids fishing days, fish releases, an electric fishing survey and trout season opening. The page now has 192 followers and 125 likes.</i></p>
<p>Objective: Encourage past and prospective hunters and anglers into the sport through initiatives which make it easy to have a go and/or provide support.</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Develop and utilise licence holder email list to keep hunters and anglers up to date. 5. Complete Reel Life and Both Barrels supplements consistent with national R3 recommendations. 6. Provide a quality 2-page regional supplement in each edition of Fish & Game Magazine. 7. Publication of valued hunting and fishing newsletters sent to regional licence holders and hunting landowners. Hunting newsletter also distributed to all rural box holders in the region. 8. Proactively provide timely and useful information to licence holders when requested. 9. Replace/ erect 2 -3 new signs which provide anglers with helpful on-site information re access and regulations consistent with identified priorities. 	<p><i>Licence list utilised for TRC NRP mailout and Lower NI Lowdown ezine and lapsed participant email (29/11/2023).</i></p> <p><i>Reel Life articles prepared 21/09/2023, 17/10/2023, 20/11/2023, 19/12/2023, 23/01/2024, 26/02/2024, 15/03/2024 & 23/04/2024. River and angling information were provided for the "Lower North Island Lowdown" ezine each Thursday until early April 2024. Articles for the "Both Barrells" Ezine were prepared on 14/03/2024 & 21/04/2024. Taranaki information was provided to the Wellington F&G weekly hunting email newsletter from 23/04/2024.</i></p> <p><i>2-page supplement prepared for hunting special issue 58 (2/02/2024) and proofed 28/02/2024.</i></p> <p><i>Joint 8-page Wellington – Taranaki regional fishing newsletter prepared and posted to licence holders. Joint 8-page Wellington – Taranaki regional hunting newsletter prepared and posted to licence holders and Taranaki rural box holders.</i></p> <p><i>Information provided on request. Checked Taranaki information in the 2024 game bird hunting guide (21/02/2024).</i></p>

<p>10. Continue to explore opportunities to install 3rd angling platform on Lake Mangamahoe.</p> <p>11. Provide organised fishing opportunities in Lake Rotomanu and the Patea River in Stratford consistent with R3 objectives and branding and in association with volunteer groups for kids and families.</p> <p>12. When fish are available, release 2-year rainbow trout into Sattler's Dam to provide opportunities for kids and families.</p> <p>13. Review, negotiate, publicise and issue access permits to publicly available hunting areas and actively seek and develop new opportunities.</p> <p>14. Identify and explore mentoring schemes to support new hunters.</p> <p>15. Develop web based introductory package for anglers highlighting access opportunities and methods to get started.</p> <p>16. Proactively take opportunities to make effective representation in statutory and other community processes to maintain or enhance hunting or angling access and opportunity.</p> <p>17. Complete review of Kaipokonui and Waingongoro catchment angler access information and implement identified opportunities to assist access.</p> <p>18. Assess satisfaction and success of Taranaki Region anglers using catch rates from a voluntary diary scheme and online satisfaction survey.</p>	<p><i>A successful Lake Rotomanu family trout fishing day was held on 28/10/2023 in conjunction with the Inglewood Rod, Gun & Recreation Club, Taranaki Hunting & Fishing and Hynds Pipe Systems.</i></p> <p><i>In conjunction with the Stratford Fishing Club, a funding application for the Stratford kids' trout fishing day was submitted to the Taranaki Electricity Trust on 12/10/2023, with a grant of \$2,718 approved on 17/11/2023. A successful Stratford kids' trout fishing promotion was held on 2/12/2023, with plenty of fishing activity in the following weeks.</i></p> <p><i>Short-break fishing licences were provided to nine anglers from the Reel Recovery Retreat for a fishing weekend in the Waimarino on 2 – 3 March 2024.</i></p> <p><i>Liaised with DOC's Tongariro National Trout Centre (16/02/2024) and confirmed availability of trout, with release occurring on 26/03/2024.</i></p> <p><i>Contacted forest managers and confirmed access arrangements for the 2024 season.</i></p> <p><i>Angler diaries sent to 29 anglers.</i></p>
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<p>19. Locate and publicise quality trout, perch and game bird recipes that enable anglers and hunters to make good use of these species.</p> <p>20. Assess satisfaction of Taranaki Region hunters using an online satisfaction survey.</p> <p>21. Implement actions to influence hunter behaviour as identified in hunter behaviour strategy to maximise enjoyment and participation and also public support for gamebird hunting.</p> <p>22. Provision of ready and valued support and assistance to licence agents such that they are kept up to date, resourced and operate as effective agents</p>	<p><i>Liaised with staff nationally to develop up to four questions to be asked in the opening weekend hunter survey.</i></p> <p><i>Assistance to Licence agents provided as and when required.</i></p>
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IWI & PUBLIC INTERACTION

2022/2023 Annual Plan – Planned Result	Progress to date
<p>Objective: Work proactively and collaboratively with iwi at all levels consistent with Treaty of Waitangi obligations and responsibilities regarding the protection and use of natural resources.</p>	
<p>1. Proactively engage, work and collectively share with iwi and hapu within the region on matters affecting wetland and freshwater resources or their use.</p>	<p><i>Attended meeting with Pukerangiora hapu environmental staff (8/03/2024) to discuss re-consenting of the NPDC's water take from Ngatoro Stream for Inglewood supply.</i></p> <p><i>Liaised with Ngati Rangi Iwi regarding koura deaths in Waitangi Stream (18/04/2024).</i></p>
<p>Objective: Strong relationships and involvement with DOC and local and regional councils to effectively represent the interests of hunters and anglers in formal decision-making process.</p>	
<p>2. Liaise with Department of Conservation and Conservation Boards and proactively engage and work with Regional and District councils and community & industry groups.</p>	<p><i>Liaised with DOC, Horizons RC & Iwi regarding a plan to deal with any eel death events in the Whanganui River catchment over summer and with DOC re: koura deaths in Waitangi Stream (18/04/2024) and koi carp removal from an Inglewood pond (9/05/2024).</i></p> <p><i>Liaised with DOC/TRC regarding unauthorised tracks and rubbish at Tapuarau (Hawkens) Lagoon (20/11/2023 & 18/03/2024).</i></p> <p><i>Issued sports fishing authorities to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• SLR Consulting to carry out fish monitoring using electric fishing in the Patea catchment upstream of Patea Dam on behalf of Manawa Energy Ltd. (19/12/2023);</i> <i>• Vaipuhi and Waikokopu Consulting to investigate fish distribution and fish health in a section of the Mangaehuehu Stream, using fyke and G-minnow netting and electrofishing (15/01/2023).</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NZDF (Clare Ridler) to carry out fish monitoring using electric fishing in the Waitangi Stream (3/04/2024).
<p>Objective: Engender support for hunting and fishing and the activities of Fish & Game by the general public and others who recognise that these activities contribute to a better environment and healthy lifestyle and in turn who support protecting these resources and the opportunities to participate</p>	
<p>3. Recognise and pursue opportunities to contribute to the wider community including 'Wild for Taranaki' and 'Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust'.</p> <p>4. Take opportunities to promote the value of protecting freshwater, wetland and upland game habitats and the wider benefits from this.</p> <p>5. Represent the interests of hunters and anglers and promote the validity of fishing and gamebird hunting including as a means of collecting natural organic foods and engaging in a physical healthy lifestyle.</p> <p>6. Maintain a positive and constructive profile in the media which encourages prospective participants and fosters support and understanding among the general public.</p>	<p><i>Wild for Taranaki's annual Biodiversity Forum was attended on 26/10/2023. In conjunction with Wellington F&G staff and volunteers (Ami Coughlan, Matt Kavermann & Colin Shore), a workshop to introduce volunteers to bird banding (e.g. Rapanui grey-faced petrel trust) was held in New Plymouth on 28/29 November 2023. Liaised with WfT (12/02/2024) regarding availability of volunteers to help with duck banding in Whanganui (2 responses but both cancelled). Feedback was provided to the Rotokare Trust (Fiona Gordon; 27/11/2023) regarding a proposal to establish new populations of brown mudfish.</i></p> <p><i>Liaised with TRC staff about consenting requirements for wetland creation and enhancement work.</i></p> <p><i>2023 fish season information was provided to the Taranaki Daily News and was printed in the North Taranaki Midweek and South Taranaki Star on 4/10/2023. An angling advertorial was placed in the Whanganui Chronicle (25/09/2023) and also in the Ruapehu Bulletin's "Summertime Bulletin" (31/10/2023). An advert was placed in the Nth Taranaki Midweek (18/10/2023) publicising the Lake Rotomanu family trout fishing day. A press release was sent to the Hawera Star and Stratford Press (+ advert) to promote the Stratford kids' trout fishing day (7/11/2023) and a More FM Breakfast interview was done (14/11/2023). Publicity was undertaken for the summer paradise season, which included adverts in the Taranaki Daily News (1/02/2024) and Taranaki Farming Lifestyles publications (23/02/2024), articles in the Stratford Press (9/02/2024), South Taranaki Star & Daily</i></p>

<p>7. Implement revised media strategy and including incorporating any National Policy</p>	<p><i>News (12/02/2024) and a More FM Breakfast interview (13/02/2024).</i> <i>2024 Game season advertorial organised in the Ruapehu Bulletin, Whanganui Chronicle & Taranaki Farming Lifestyles publications. Game season articles sent to the Stratford Press, South Taranaki Star & Daily News (23/04/2024).</i></p>
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COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

2023/2024 Annual Plan – Planned Result	Progress to date
<p>Objective: Sound and effective governance which facilitates a co-operative and supportive relationship between Council, staff and licence holders that enables effective management of resources in the best interests of the licence holder and the fish & game resource.</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not less than six meetings of Council are held and meetings are conducted consistent with provisions of the Standing Orders. 2. Council undertakes governance training provided nationally, preferably in conjunction with Wellington Fish & Game Council. 3. Identification and implementation of options and strategies to increase the diversity of Council and iwi involvement. 4. The 5-Year Strategic Plan is reviewed and agreed by Council by March 2024. 5. Formulation and adoption of an Annual Operational Plan and Budget for 2024/25 consistent with the 5-Year Strategic Plan. 6. Presentation by Council of its audited annual report for 2022/23 not later than 31 December 2023. Report to be consistent with tier 2 Service Performance standards and requirements. 7. Effective regional policies are developed, adopted and reviewed as required and are consistent with any National Policy requirements. 	<p><i>Council meetings were held at Opunake on 14/10/2023, the AGM and ordinary meeting in Raetihi on 9/12/2023 & a meeting held via zoom on 15/02/2024. A Council meeting was held in Stratford on 16/03/2024.</i> <i>A Councillor and staff attended the funeral of F&G life member David Dannefaerd on 13/10/2023. Councillors attended the funeral of Pogal Moratti on 25/01/2024.</i></p> <p><i>Draft 2024/25 Annual Plan presented at Council's 16/03/2024 meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Audited annual report prepared and presented for adoption at the AGM on 9th December 2023.</i></p>

<p>8. Progress reporting of licence sales, work progress and financial position is timely and accurate and supports sound financial and operational management and oversight.</p> <p>9. Effective administration such that the Council is within annual budget ($\pm 5\%$), operates consistent with best practice and at least 90% of its annual plan is completed.</p> <p>10. Effective staff management including performance reviews completed and new objectives agreed for staff, and regular staff meetings such that staff are aware of what is generally occurring and have ready opportunity for input into decisions and management direction.</p>	<p><i>Included in all agendas</i></p> <p><i>Weekly staff meetings held each Monday morning.</i> <i>Field Officer Jacob Morison took 12 months unpaid leave from 25/09/2023.</i></p>
<p>Objective: Operate consistent with National Policy and make valued contributions to the management of the resource and Fish & Game nationally in the interests of all licence holders.</p>	
<p>11. Implement any outcomes and directions from Fish & Game Ministerial Review and /or National Council reviews.</p> <p>12. Progress amalgamation discussions with the Wellington Fish & Game Council and implement agreed measures which don't require legislative change.</p>	
<p>Objective: Make best use of new systems, processes and technology to maximise administrative efficiencies and minimise costs do resources are available for use elsewhere.</p>	
<p>13. Effective communication and liaison with NZ Fish & Game Council and other Fish & Game regions including valued input and comment on Fish & Game issues and attendance at Fish & Game Managers meetings.</p>	<p><i>Staff participated in the following national group meetings:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Gamebird Monitoring: 7/09/2023</i> • <i>CLE Group: 27/09/2023, 30/01/2024 & 30/04/2024</i> • <i>Hatchery Group: 9/11/2023</i> • <i>Fisheries Group meeting 15/02/2024.</i> <p><i>All staff attended the F&G Staff conference in Rotorua on 12 – 14 September 2023.</i> <i>The CEO attended managers zoom meetings on 7th, 21st and 25th September and 5th and 19th October 2023</i></p>
<p>Objective: Demonstrate a commitment to Health & Safety and ensuring the welfare of staff and others through effective policy, systems, resourcing and oversight.</p>	

<p>14. Contribute to National Office by providing valued advice, assistance and feedback on national issues and processes as requested.</p>	<p><i>Taranaki provided a contribution to a "National Legacy Document". Provided region's response to request for information from the Minister of Hunting & Fishing.</i></p>
<p>15. Refine financial administration, reporting and analysis working with NZF&G Council and staff.</p>	
<p>16. All processes and activities are undertaken consistent with Council Health & Safety Policy and Manual.</p>	
<p>17. Staff are actively involved in implementing HSAW policy and ensuring a safe workplace, including by undertaking two monthly staff meetings where HSAW is a specific agenda item.</p>	<p><i>HSAW is included in each weekly staff meeting held on Monday mornings. Field staff passed RPAS (drone) practical test in Palmerston North on 6/09/2023. Garmin "inreach" reactivated and carried by staff (along with epirob and gps) during summer fieldwork. H&S Plan prepared (14/03/2024) for Sattler's Dam fish release and liaised with Raetihi Police re: potential for poaching. Excess LPG cylinders lodged in off-site lock-up (6/03/2024). Polaris SxS serviced 24/04/2024.</i></p>
<p>18. Compliance with HSAW requirements and policy including scheduled reviews and audits along with any issues identified or near misses routinely reported to each meeting of Council.</p>	

Recommendation

That the Budget Report to 30th April 2024 and Project Progress Report to 10 May 2024 be received.

Agenda Item 21 **Financial Reports – Income Statement and Balance Sheet**

Summary

Confirmation and clarification of financial reports -

Profit and Loss Income Statement and Balance Sheet from 1 September up to end April 2024 (2023/2024 Financial Year to date).

a. Profit and Loss Statement to 30 April 2024

Nothing to highlight

b. Balance Sheet to 30 April 2024

Nothing to highlight

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action



Council move to receive Financial Statements for Year-to-Date for the 2023/2024 Financial Year – Profit and Loss (Income Statement) up to end April 2023 and Balance Sheet as at 30 April 2024.

THE SECRETARY
TARANAKI FISH & GAME COUNCIL
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Statement of Accounts as at 30 April 2024

Your Accounts at a Glance

Account	Account Number	Maturity Date	Balance
 Non Profit Org A/C	02-0792-0332133-000		131,530.57
 MRP	02-0792-0332133-001		1,671.78

Your Other Accounts at a Glance

Account	Account Number	Maturity Date	Balance
 Term Deposit	36332133-03031	06 Aug 2024	401,636.60

Our investment statements and current disclosure statement may be obtained free of charge from any Bank of New Zealand store, or viewed at www.bnz.co.nz.

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Balance Sheet

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

As at 30 April 2024

30 APR 2024

Assets

Bank

BNZ Current Account	131,530.57
BNZ Term 3031	401,636.60
MRP	1,671.78
Total Bank	534,838.95

Current Assets

Accounts Receivable	72,377.38
Total Current Assets	72,377.38

Fixed Assets

Accum Dep Vehicles	(53,404.65)
Accum Dep Buildings	(16,451.00)
Accum Dep Office Equipment	(20,621.12)
Accum Dep Plant & Equipment	(18,050.93)
Buildings	16,451.00
Office Equipment	25,022.63
Plant & Equipment	26,474.26
Vehicles	114,907.26
Total Fixed Assets	74,327.45

Total Assets	681,543.78
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Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	145.35
Accruals and Prepaid Licences	(122.00)
BNZ Credit Card - Allen	355.80
BNZ Credit Card - J Morison	25.00
Designated Waters Licence	107.16
Duck Stamp Levy Clearing	2,982.61
Employee Entitlements	39,136.79
GST	15,119.89
Income in advance	9,858.00
PAYE Clearing	5,082.38
Rounding	0.03
Sea Run Salmon Endorsement	45.73
Total Current Liabilities	72,736.74

Total Liabilities	72,736.74
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Net Assets	608,807.04
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Equity

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30 APR 2024

Accumulated Funds	146,208.68
Asset Replacement Funding	11,578.00
Back Country Fisheries Reserve	20,139.79
Current Year Earnings	66,597.20
Fisheries Project	7,386.30
Hunting & Habitat Scheme	327,679.74
Manganuioteao River Riparian Project	4,149.29
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	25,068.04
Total Equity	608,807.04

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Profit and Loss For Council

Taranaki Fish and Game Council

For the 8 months ended 30 April 2024

	SEPT 2023-APR 2024	YTD BUDGET	2024 OVERALL BUDGET	VARIANCE	VARIANCE %
Revenue					
Licence Income					
Fish Licence Income	128,660	114,845	124,845	13,815 ↑	12% ↑
Game Licence Income	55,110	69,817	104,505	(14,707) ↓	-21% ↓
Less Commission and Fees	(6,965)	-	-	(6,965) ↓	- —
Total Licence Income	176,806	184,662	229,350	(7,856)	-4%
Grants	96,958	145,437	193,916	(48,479) ↓	-33% ↓
Interest Received	12,110	4,831	6,441	7,279 ↑	151% ↑
Other Income	11,172	4,116	21,450	7,056 ↑	171% ↑
Gross Profit	297,046	339,046	451,157	(42,000)	-12%
Operating Expenses					
SPECIES MANAGEMENT					
Population Monitoring	6,758	17,227	17,227	(10,469) ↓	-61% ↓
Hatchery Operations	8,560	6,668	10,000	1,892 ↑	28% ↑
Releases	6,273	4,000	6,000	2,273 ↑	57% ↑
Control	425	1,666	2,500	(1,241) ↓	-74% ↓
Total SPECIES MANAGEMENT	22,017	29,561	35,727	(7,544)	-26%
HABITAT PROTECTION / MANAGEMENT					
Resource Management Act	3	-	-	3 ↑	- —
Assisted Habitat	-	-	20,000	- —	- —
Total HABITAT PROTECTION / MANAGEMENT	3	-	20,000	3	-
PARTICIPATION					
Access	-	800	1,000	(800) ↓	-100% ↓
Newsletters Magazine Web pages	6,057	4,000	9,500	2,057 ↑	51% ↑
Training	-	668	1,000	(668) ↓	-100% ↓
Clubs	300	300	300	- —	- —
Total PARTICIPATION	6,357	5,768	11,800	589	10%
PUBLIC INTERFACE					
Liaison	103	100	100	3 ↑	3% ↑
Advocacy	1,561	2,933	4,400	(1,372) ↓	-47% ↓
Total PUBLIC INTERFACE	1,664	3,033	4,500	(1,369)	-45%
COMPLIANCE					

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	SEPT 2023-APR 2024	YTD BUDGET	2024 OVERALL BUDGET	VARIANCE	VARIANCE %
Ranging	506	500	500	6 ↑	1% ↑
Ranger Training	2,306	500	500	1,806 ↑	361% ↑
Compliance	-	1,050	2,100	(1,050) ↓	-100% ↓
Total COMPLIANCE	2,812	2,050	3,100	762	37%
LICENCING					
Licence Agents	-	1,744	2,244	(1,744) ↓	-100% ↓
Licencing	822	6,881	10,321	(6,059) ↓	-88% ↓
Total LICENCING	822	8,625	12,565	(7,803)	-90%
COUNCIL					
Council Meeting Expenses	4,273	6,333	9,500	(2,060) ↓	-33% ↓
Total COUNCIL	4,273	6,333	9,500	(2,060)	-33%
PLANNING & REPORTING					
Management / Strategic Planning	-	666	1,000	(666) ↓	-100% ↓
Reporting Audit	272	333	6,340	(61) ↓	-18% ↓
National Liaison	-	-	100	- —	- —
Total PLANNING & REPORTING	272	999	7,440	(727)	-73%
OVERHEADS					
Salaries	156,877	185,920	278,880	(29,043) ↓	-16% ↓
Staff Expenses	898	1,000	3,500	(102) ↓	-10% ↓
Office Premises	14,711	14,800	22,200	(89) ↓	-1% ↓
Office Equipment	2,270	1,332	2,000	938 ↑	70% ↑
Communications / Consumables	3,611	4,800	7,250	(1,189) ↓	-25% ↓
General	2,501	2,363	2,870	138 ↑	6% ↑
General Equipment	-	4,002	6,000	(4,002) ↓	-100% ↓
Vehicles	11,361	10,400	15,375	961 ↑	9% ↑
Total OVERHEADS	192,230	224,617	338,075	(32,387)	-14%
Depreciation	-	-	16,826	- —	- —
Total Operating Expenses	230,449	280,986	459,533	(50,537)	-18%
New Surplus/(Deficit)	66,597	58,060	(8,376)	8,537	15%

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Agenda Item 22 **Correspondence**

Summary

Confirmation of Correspondence Schedules presented by staff.

Clarification can be sought on any particular item.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

Council move to receive Correspondence Schedule to 30 April 2024

Inwards Correspondence

Date	Meeting	From	Staff Councillor	Subject
13.3.24	May-24	Meghan Stenner - beca	Allen	Tangaroa Stream Restoration Works
13.3.24	May-24	Taranaki Regional Council	Allen	Talking Taranaki: March 2024
27.3.24	May-24	Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust	Allen	Rotokare Bush Telegraph
2.4.24	May-24	Kahu Aki – Te Kopuka	Allen Phil	Te Heke Ngahuru Submissions
17.4.24	May-24	Logan Brown – horizons	Allen Phil	Jobs for Nature hui
21.4.24	May-24	Ngati Rangī	Allen Phil	Death of Koura in the Waitangi Stream
22.4.24	May-24	ECOFX	Allen Crs	Mt Messenger Bypass & Parininihi Aerial Pest Control – End of caution period
2.5.24	May-24	Marti Alegre – DOC	Allen	DOC operation with Koi Carp, Goldfish and hybrids
2.5.24	May-24	Karl Henderson – Balance	Allen	Request to increase Annual Limit for Spectrus BD1500 and to add Spectrus BD1507
3.5.24	May-24	Victoria Smits – Te Arawhiti	Allen Phil	Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Bill
6.5.24	May-24	Michelle Dwyer – Fonterra	Allen	Minutes from Kaitiaki Group Meeting
6.5.24	May-24	Kahu Aki – Te Kopuka	Allen Phil	Te Kopuka hui – summary and actions
10.5.24	May-24	Todd Nicholson – horizons	Allen	Whenuku Road Quarry – Kaitiaki Group Forum

Outwards Correspondence

Date	Meeting	To	Staff Councillor	Subject
14.3.24	May-24	Gerhard Uys	Allen	Key metrics for Taranaki Fish & Game legacy document
15.3.24	May-24	Richie Cosgrove	Allen	Taranaki Both Barrels
15.3.24	May-24	Richie Cosgrove	Allen	Reel Life March
3.4.24	May-24	Clare Ridler NZDF	Allen	Freswater Fishing Survey – Waitangi Stream
9.4.24	May-24	Integrity Community Media	Allen	Article for Taranaki Farming Lifestyles
12.4.24	May-24	Taranaki Regional Council	Allen	2024/2034 Draft Long Term Plan
12.4.24	May-24	Ruapehu Bulletin	Allen	Game Season Article
17.4.24	May-24	David Shaw NZME	Allen	Game Season advertorial
19.4.24	May-24	New Plymouth District Council	Allen	NPDC proposed 2024-2034 Long Term Plan submission
21.4.24	May-24	Richie Cosgrove	Allen	Taranaki Both Barrels
15.5.24	May-24	Victoria Smits – Te Arawhiti	Allen	Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Bill - submission

Agenda Item 23 **Recognition Awards**

Summary

Consideration of recognising volunteer or exceptional service.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

No action required

Agenda Item 24 Conservation Board Liaison

Summary

Consider formal (re) engagement with Conservation Board.

Noted under legislation that this should occur.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

No action required. CE to request meeting timetables and agendas.

Agenda Item 25 **General Business**

Summary

Items of General Business should be alerted to the Chairman at beginning of the meeting.

The Chairman may undertake a brief round table open discussion of members regarding items not covered in the meeting agenda.

For Information Only

Recommendation/Action

No action required.

Agenda Item 26 **Confirmation of Next Meeting Date**

Summary

Confirmation of the next meeting will be held on 17 August 2024 in Stratford.

Karakia – Closing

Thanks for your wisdom in making
decisions today

Good health to you all

**Nga mihi mo to whakaaro nui ki te
whakatau i tenei ra**

Kia ora koutou katoa

