

## **Agenda Item 10:**

### **Operational Report** – for the period ended September 2019

**Prepared by:** Dean Kelly – Manager

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#### **Introduction**

The Council's adopted governance policies require the manager to provide an Operational Report, specific proposals for capital expenditure and acquisitions as well as major issues and opportunities for the Council. There are further requirements for the Manager to provide assurance that the Management Limitations are being observed. The format of this report is therefore to certify compliance with Governance Policies, Management Limitations and provide other material, responses or assurance that Council objectives, strategies, plans, performance, risks, operation, resources and structure are being met.

#### **Notifications of intention to purchase unbudgeted capital items in excess of \$10,000**

Nothing to report.

#### **Matters for the information of council**

##### Staff:

Staff holiday entitlements:      Manager, 69 hours  
   Hokitika Officer, 20 hours  
   Northern Officer, 83 hours

##### Vehicles:

Managers Vehicle: (start) 51,953 km (fin) 58,052km. Total private for period: 1,380km  
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle: 139,200km (start) 145,140km (fin.) Total private for period: 2,358km  
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle: (start) 21,095 km (fin.) 26,790 Total private for period: 605 km

#### **Bi-monthly report on outputs**

##### 1113 Spawning Surveys

Lake Kaniere tributaries were surveyed for trout in the period. Trout spawning surveys undertaken in Sunny and Geologist Creeks at Lake Kaniere.

##### 1114 Trend Counts

Northern sites for pukeko and paradise shelducks monitoring investigated.

##### 1115 Sportsfishery Research

Working with West Coast Regional Council to set up a monitoring plan for both the Mawheraiti and the New River. A Data Sonde measuring turbidity and temperature will be installed in New River in the coming weeks. West Coast Regional Council staff are going to assist with electric fishing this summer.

##### 1116 Backcountry Fisheries Management

Cameras set to be installed to monitor angler activity during the week before the season starts. A meeting was held in Nelson with fishing guides and heli charter operators to discuss issues and create contacts. This is a very valuable exercise and compliance visits may be required this coming season in the Karamea and Mokihinui.

##### 1121 National Hunter Survey

The Hunter survey report has being compiled and the report is attached.

##### 1161 Fisheries Enhancement

Staff have contacted two organisations about sponsorship and have and investigating feasible locations. Staff have reviewed and updated the sports fishery enhancement matrix.

##### 1171 Regulations/Gazette Notices

Staff have drafted a list of proposed gamebird regulation changes for review by council.

##### 1181 Gamebird Control

Staff have issued two permits to kill. One for Pukeko at Waimangaroa and one for Black Swan at Lake Brunner.

##### 1211 RMA Plans/Policy/Consents

Fish and Game are still 'interested parties' in the Regional Policy Statement appeals. Mediation is continuing with substantial rewrites occurring through this process.

Fish and have submitted on the New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy reinforcing the value and contribution of introduced species.

A submission and attendance was required at a local meeting in support of the NPS and NES for freshwater being proposed by government.

Applicant	Area	Type	Nature of work	Comments
Bonar Farms Ltd	Waitaha River	Land use consent	River Protection Works	Out of flowing channel.
Aspiring Exploration Ltd	Dunganville	Land use consent	Alluvial Gold Mining	Good buffers and water recirculation systems.
WMP	Hokitika	Land use consent	Divert flow to North branch	Annual works no issues.
Trustpower Ltd	Hokitika area	Land use consent	River protection works for infrastructure	Consulted and all maintenance work to be outside spawning
Western Dynasty	Stafford	Mining Permit	Alluvial Gold Mining	No issues
Ahaura Gold Ltd	Ahaura	Mining Permit	Alluvial Gold Mining	area extension
Paul Gardiner	Kaniere River	Land use consent	River Protection Works	Outside spawning and migrating period

#### 1212 Dairy Industry/Farmer Advocacy

General liaison with landowners regarding Access and Resource Consenting.

#### 1213 DoC

Liaison regarding access and use of facilities in the Karamea.

#### 1311 Access

All signs checked. New signs have been installed where damaged or missing. Access signs now in place on the lower Nile River and a sign is being made for a new site on the lower Inangahua River which will be erected within the next couple weeks. Sign checks completed in Southern Region with new regulation signs installed at Lake Moeraki, Okarito, Mapourika and Ianthe to reflect new salmon regulations and replace old deteriorating signs.

#### 1312 Assisted Hunting

Discussions around next years events and upping our game to provide variety to encourage more hunting.

#### 1331 Website/Ezines/Social Media

Regular Facebook engagements have been posted. Submitted West Coast Reel life for August and September.

#### 1332 Fish & Game Magazine

The fishing magazine has been distributed.

#### 1371 Okuru Hut

Trip undertaken pre whitebait season to clean hut, mow lawns and check Hut undertaken in Mid-June.

#### 1421 Media/Communication

Media Releases sent to local papers regarding upcoming sportfish season. Communication with anglers/whitebaiters looking for specific information on the West Coast Area and information around regulations. Article written to explain Fish and Games position on the NPS/NES and also a response to criticism of sportfish.

#### 1511 Compliance

Compliance around river mouths, currently doing a trip to Karamea on fortnightly basis. There is the occasional angler, but presence has been felt with reports of white baiters releasing trout caught in nets in fear of being caught by Fish & Game.

#### 1521 Ranger Training

Pre-season catch up of rangers undertaken.

#### 1611 Licence Production & Distribution

Magazine distribution lists were generated. Increasing numbers of anglers are enquiring about upgrades or changes to licences.

#### 1621 Agent Liaison

All agents visited and checked to ensure they have received copies of new regulation guides and licence info. Packs.

1831 Annual Report

The Annual Report has been compiled and the Audit process initiated.

1841 National Liaison

Liaison was required for; Regulation guide simplification and standardisation, Salmon management, Research and financial performance. A managers meeting was attended in Christchurch. A series of OIA requests have been responded to.

1910 Staff Salaries & Payroll

The Office Administration role is now vacant with the role being contracted to the Nelson region in the interim.

1927 Occupational Safety and Health

First aid refresher course attended by Glen. Boat refresher training undertaken by Glen and Baylee.

1980 Equipment

Stocktake and assessment of field equipment completed. Boat annual service

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**Staff Recommendation:**

That this report be received.