

Agenda Item 11:

Operational Report – for the period ended September 2022

Prepared by: Dean Kelly – Manager

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 more than \$10,000

A replacement vehicle is on order for LDY407.

Matters for the information of council

Staff:

Staff holidays due (days):	Manager, 18.5
	Officer, 12.5
	Admin, 9

Vehicles:

Managers Vehicle: (start) 157,768km (fin) 163,706km. Total private for period: 1,470km

Fish & Game Officer Vehicle MML: (start) 95,817 km (fin.) 101,751 km. Total private for period: 1,087 km

Bi-monthly report on outputs

1111 Drift Diving

Nothing to report.

1113 Spawning Surveys

Complete. See attached report.

1114 Trend Counts

Shoveler and Grey Teal surveys complete.

1115 Sportsfishery Research

2022 Sportsfishery Research Report attached.

1116 Backcountry Fisheries Management

Signage updated and maintained. Working group established to implement new Pressure Sensitive Fishery management as per recently adopted NZ Council Policy. Over the coming months the Council will need to consider the issues surrounding pressure sensitive waters such as the Inangahua tributaries, Upper Grey and Karamea.

1121 National Hunter Survey

National Hunter Survey Report attached.

1161 Fisheries Enhancement

Nothing to Report.

1171 Regulations/Gazette Notices

There are ongoing national discussions regarding licence regulations and pressure sensitive management as well as season bag limits. New regulation guides for 22/23 season have arrived at the office and to all agents.

1211 RMA Plans/Policy/Consents

Two site visits for non-notified consents were required. Staff and a contracted RMA specialist are currently working on a submission to the TeTai Poutini Plan

Non-notified resource consents approved or consulting on as affected party.

Applicant	Area	Type	Nature of work	Comments
Sluys Farm Ltd	Inangahua	Land use consent	River realignment and gravel extraction	Denied due to scale and likely effects on sportsfishery.
West Coast Regional Council	Waiho River	Land use consent	Stop banks	
Birchfield Minerals Ltd	Slab Hut and Mawheraiti River	Mining Permit	Diversions	Consultation regarding engineered channel design, scale of works and timing.
West Coast Farmers Lime	Ross, Donnelly's Creek	Land use consent	Lime Works	No fishery

1213 DoC

Staff, and Dean VanMierlo as legal counsel, presented to the DoC Stewardship and Mana Whenua hearing panel at the Arahura Marae. The submission appeared well received and focused on pastoral land disposals and gamebird hunting access to proposed reclassifications. The hearing process is now complete and the panel will provide final advice to the Minister in a couple of months. If our submission was successful Fish and Game can expect to have specific input into parcel conservation/recreation values within a short timeframe.

1311 Access

Access sign installed on the Grey River at Sids Road. Sign audit completed and signs have been either cleaned or replaced when missing/damage.

1312 Assisted Hunting

Nothing to report in this period.

1331 Website/Ezines/Social Media

Relevant material has been posted on website. Facebook engagements have been done, focusing on promoting spring fishing and the upcoming season. The website is up to date with signed Council minutes, staff reports, Councillor and Staff information.

1332 Fish & Game Magazine

Sports fishing edition now dispatched to licence holders. Return rates indicate a good delivery success rate.

1341 Sportsfisheries Guides

Agents regularly stocked with guides.

1361 Clubs, Outdoor Recreation Groups

Nothing to report.

1371 Okuru Hut

Staff met with a local builder at Okuru and discussed options for maintaining and improving the hut interior. The fireplace was removed last year, and the visit with the builder highlighted the poor state of the interior. It is proposed to replace the shower and toilet and improve the Kitchen area as the oven position doesn't work well and the kitchen unit and shelving is in a poor state. A new kitchen will be required, and the place needs the vinyl and windows replaced and well as a paint. It is proposed to do this in a staged process over the next couple of years. This has the potential to exceed the budget set aside so a discussion with Council would be beneficial to decide on a plan. Eg staged process, or get it done and wear the costs in one year. The builder is currently putting together a quote which may be available for the council meeting.

1411 Conservation Boards/Iwi/allied agencies

Enquiries with local Runanga regarding education and engagement are proving difficult. With the amount of governance engagement locally it may prove difficult to find individuals to provide their time to Fish and Game. I am currently enquiring about the use of a consultant to achieve our goals.

1421 Media/Communication

Access and regulations are the most prevalent enquiries and discussion at this time of year.

1511 Compliance

Compliance has focused on lower river areas

1521 Ranger Training

Jonny Everest has completed CERT training and has been reimbursed for travel costs.

1531 Prosecutions

One angler found to fishing without a licence at Lake Paringa has completed diversion.

1611 Licence Production & Distribution

New licence system seems to be working well. There have been early licence queries regarding pricing and options.

1621 Agent Liaison

Agents have been issued with the new user manuals as provided by Eyede, they have all been given regular updates around the new database system. They all seem to be getting on ok using it and haven't had any complaints.

Child licence pads have been restocked at the office and are available to give to agents as they require, these are still handy for the shops when they are busy, and the kids love getting a physical licence too.

1721 Council

All councillors have been emailed the updated mileage claim form, IRD have updated the km rate and this has been revied on the form.

1811 Sportsfish and Game Management Plan

The Council resolved to get the Sportsfish and Game Management Plan to a draft stage. The draft has been sent to Ben Farrell for formatting and preparation for Iwi consultation. Earlier consultation late last year indicated the plan was substandard regarding Iwi recognition and input. A revised draft, based largely on the recently ministerially approved CSI plan, has been prepared and is being provided to local Runanga for consideration. It is hoped that a favourable response will mean the revised draft will be available for Council review at the October Meeting

1821 OWP & Budget

Nothing to report.

1831 Annual Public Meeting & Report

All financial information has been calculated and entered into the files. Awaiting some final instruction and calculation from Carmel and then it will be finalised and ready to be put into the Annual report. Everything running smoothly, the processes established throughout the year have proved helpful in getting sorted.

1841 National Liaison

Communication with other region regarding Iwi engagement, customary harvest, compliance, prosecutions, financial reporting and sports fishery research.

1927 Occupational Safety and Health.

See Health and Safety Report.

1950 Office Equipment

Nothing to report

1970 General

All Accounts Payable have been paid. GST for the period and PAYE were also paid. PAYE being paid monthly has continued to be much more efficient.

1980 Equipment

Staff reviewed field equipment and safety gear and replaced/procured new gear where required.

Staff Recommendation:

That this report be received.