

Agenda Item 10:

Operational Report – for the period ended May 2024

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.

Matters for the information of Council.

Staff:

Staff holidays estimated (days): Manager, 10
Officer, 18
Admin, 6

Vehicles:

Managers Vehicle: (start) 66,472km (fin) 71,496km. Total private for period: 920km
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle PSM: (start) 45,554km (fin.) 50,632km. Total private for period: 1,720km
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle MML: (start) 140,783km (fin.) 140,783km.

Bi-monthly report on outputs

1111 Drift Diving.

Nothing to report

1113 Spawning Surveys.

Spawning survey report attached.

1114 Trend Counts.

Greylard and Pukeko reports completed. Swan report to Manager. Shoveler and Grey Teal survey being completed at start of August.

1115 Sportsfishery Research.

Spawning surveys completed at Mawheraiti monitoring sites. Moderate numbers of spawning trout observed. Sports Fishery Research report underway.

1116 Designated Waters Fisheries Management.

The proposal to include four new waters in the system was rejected by the Minister. See attached correspondence.

1121 National Hunter Survey.

Surveys are underway with hunters reports mixed results for the season.

1161 Fisheries Enhancement.

Wild mixed salmon have been successfully sourced, with us on track for planned releases in summer/autumn 2025.

1171 Regulations/Gazette Notices.

Fishing regulations were presented to the Minister.

1181 Game Bird Control.

No crop predation complaints have been received during this period.

1211 RMA Plans/Policy/Consents

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

Applicant	Area	Type	Nature of work	Comments
Stafford Green Ltd	Buller River	Land use consent	Gravel Extraction	50m buffer to channel
Universal Jet Ltd	Buller River	Water Permit	Jet Boat activity on Buller River	No issues

1213 DoC.

Enquiries with DoC relating to pesticide approval process for ZIP.

1311 Access.

Advocacy for game bird hunting in Whataroa area with ZIP predator control programs. Property visit completed to the Upper Crooked River, landowner intends to continue locking the gate and making key available for collection.

1312 Assisted Hunting.

Three Pukeko drives held during winter game bird season in areas where complaints have previously been received. All three events had between 15-20 hunters attend, predominantly being West Coast hunters.

1331 Website/Ezines/Social Media.

Relevant material has been posted on website. Facebook engagements have been done, focusing on game bird hunting opportunities and promoting both barrels. Reel life and both barrels completed.

1332 Fish & Game Magazine

Articles prepared for the Fishing edition.

1341 Sportsfisheries Guides.

Nothing to report.

1361 Clubs, Outdoor Recreation Groups.

Nothing to report.

1371 Okuru Hut.

General maintenance and checks.

1411 Conservation Boards, Iwi, Allied Groups.

Nothing to report in this period.

1421 Media/Communication.

Nothing to report.

1511 Compliance.

Compliance carried out focusing on Gamebird hunting and winter fishing areas.

1521 Ranger Training.

Nothing to report.

1531 Prosecutions.

The four hunters detected hunting without licence have completed diversion. Concluded queries and OIA responses to prosecution decisions. Received legal advice regarding OIA and Privacy Act provisions for responses to compliance issues.

1611 Licence Production & Distribution.

Licence sales to NZ residents so far this season are below budget and last year's sales. Upgrades to licence purchases are being received more frequently.

1621 Agent Liaison.

Regular visit to agents. Frequently stocked with access guides, how to guides, child licence pads and excess F&G magazine in the office.

1721 Council.

Council servicing and reporting completed.

1811 Sportsfish and Game Management Plan.

The Minister approved the West Coast Regions Sportsfish and Game Management Plan.

1821 OWP & Budget.

The budget and workplan was produced for the June Council meeting.

1831 Annual Public Meeting & Report.

Nothing to report.

1841 National Liaison.

Communication with other regions regarding; Designated Waters, sports fishery management/research, compliance, communications, budgeting and SFGMP's.

1910 Staff Salaries & Payroll.

Helen is currently off work with wrist injuries from a netball incident. She is likely to start her return to work with working from home initially. No concerns around leave or TIL balances. Dan Scoltock is keen to come back on board for our summer season.

1940 Office Premises.

The planned office paint is complete.

1970 General.

All accounts payable continue to be paid on time, all providers to us are emailing accounts directly rather than posting so this is also minimising delays. Accounts receivable are also paid on time where applicable.

1980 Equipment

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

Staff Recommendation:

That this report be received.