

AUCKLAND/WAIKATO FISH & GAME

A Meeting of Council will be held at the NZ Deerstalkers Hall, Wairere Drive,
Hamilton, on Saturday 20 August 2016 commencing at 11a.m.

AGENDA

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M. Young
Chairman
29/07/2016

AUCKLAND/WAIKATO FISH & GAME

Minutes of a Meeting of Council
held at the NZ Deerstalkers Hall, Wairere Dr, Hamilton,
on Saturday 18 June 2016 commencing at 11.00am.

PRESENT:

Chairman: M. Young

Councillors: G. Annan, C. Carey, D. Cocks, W. Howard, N. Juby, A. Kerr, C. Sherrard,
S. Smith, E. Williamson.

Staff: B. Wilson, J. Dyer, A. Daniel, D. Klee

Visitors: P. Hardy (DoC), M. O'Brien, R. Tyson.

1. APOLOGIES

P. Shaw, B. Smith

It was moved;

that the apologies be accepted.

Annan/S. Smith CARRIED

2. POSSIBLE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM MEETING AGENDA:

None declared.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF 9 APRIL 2016:

It was moved;

that the minutes of the previous meeting of 9 April be accepted as a true and correct record.

S. Smith/Cocks CARRIED

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Mr Wilson reported that the Manager of Eastern F&G, Andy Garrick, had not yet met with DoC over the issue of delegated permits.

Councillor Annan expressed his surprise at the abundance of the giant willow aphid throughout the King Country. Councillor Cocks informed that the aphid infested a wide variety of trees including oaks. Several Councillors spoke of their concerns over the build-up of wasps that were feeding on the aphid secretions.

Mr Wilson agreed to produce a paper for the next Council meeting on research in NZ on wasp control.

5 CORRESPONDENCE:

Nil.

6. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BI-MONTHLY REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

In reply to Councillor's questions, staff provided an update on recent RMA issues:

- **Lake Waikare:** Meeting to be held soon to identify sediment reduction targets and possible options for reducing sediments. DoC and the Regional Council have met separately and there appears to be a willingness by the regional council to look at the whole scheme.
- **Max Birt Sawmill:** No consents have been applied for yet, but they were looking at lodging in the near future.
- **Healthy Rivers:** Plan change for the Waikato River. The proposed plan changes were minimal and unlikely to improve water quality. Dairy conversions would be banned except for iwi owned land in the upper Waikato River.

Council discussion took place on the use of 1080 and especially the proposed aerial drop on the Williamson Wetland. In accordance with Council policy the aerial use of 1080 on this wetland would be opposed but agreement would be given for ground baiting.

Dr Daniel informed that a supplier had offered to supply Council rat and wasp bait at wholesale prices.

In reply to a question Dr Daniel spoke on his recent survey of Lake Arapuni spawning streams. He noted that the main spawning stream was overgrown and thus difficult to survey. Councillor Annan observed that the overgrowth reduced the level of poaching on these waters. Discussion followed on trout recruitment into Lake Arapuni and potential research options.

Councillor S. Smith expressed his concern over the low level of ranging in his area and asked for a summary of ranging activity over the season. Mr Wilson replied that 10 hunters had been offered reparation (\$500) for minor offences (lead shot or unplugged magazine shotgun). The level of reparation was higher than the national guidelines (\$350) but some Councillors considered it still too low to be an effective deterrent.

At least three prosecutions would be carried out (2 x no licence, 1 x possession of lead shot), but generally compliance for major offences (no licence, exceeding bag limit etc) was high.

In regards to the number of honorary rangers, Mr Wilson reported that about 10 rangers had resigned in recent years due to the demands of training courses for Health & Safety.

The meeting rose for lunch at 12.30pm and resumed at 1.10pm

Councillor Carey and Mr O'Brien left the meeting.

Mr Wilson summarised the financial statements noting that the appointment of a RM Officer would require the renovation of the Hamilton Office to provide additional office space.

It was moved;

that up to \$15,000 be allocated for the renovation of the Hamilton Office to provide for additional office space.

Annan/S. Smith CARRIED

Councillors discussed the recent purchase of the 3.6m Commando boat that had been agreed to by Council in 2013.

It was moved;

that the CE Bimonthly report and Financial Statements be accepted.

Annan/B. Smith CARRIED

7. 2016/17 LICENCE FEE RECOMMENDATION:

It was moved;

that Council accepts the recommendations of the NZ Council for the 2016/17 season of a \$125 adult whole season sports fish licence and a \$93 adult whole season game licence (inclusive of a \$3 fee for the Gamebird Habitat Stamp).

Annan/S. Smith CARRIED

8. DECISIONS THAT IMPINGE ON OTHER COUNCILS:

Council discussed the memorandum prepared by Andrew Morris, a NZ&G Councillor, on the possible actions by one F&G council having the potential to impinge on another.

The Chairman expressed his disappointment over the factual inaccuracies in the memorandum. Councillors agreed that the A/W Council had never determined that silver carp were of little or no concern to F&G. Moreover it was emphasised that the stance that A/W had taken over upland game preserves had formed the basis for the national guidelines on properties with special conditions.

It was moved;

that the recommendation "that individual F&G Councils are encouraged to consult before finalising its position on matters that will influence commercial behaviours" is rejected, while the current existing policy is retained.

Williamson/Cocks CARRIED (unanimous)

9. HUNTING ANDS HARVEST ETHICS:

Councillors discussed the paper on hunting and harvest ethics prepared by Robert Sowman, National Policy & Planning Manager. It was agreed that the A/W Council already took into consideration hunter and harvest ethic when setting regulations.

It was moved;

that Council rejects the recommendation that F&G has a national policy on hunter and harvest ethics.

Annan/Williamson CARRIED

10. TEMPORARY CLAIM STANDS:

Mr Wilson introduced his report on temporary claim stands. Concern was expressed by Councillors that the suppliers ran out of plastic licences and tags during the game season.

It was moved;

that a recommendation is made to NZ Council that they review the existing contract with the supplier of the plastic licences and tags, and give consideration to changing to a more reliable manufacturer.

Annan/Williamson CARRIED

11. NOMINATIONS FOR THE NZ GAMEBIRD HABITAT TRUST BOARD:

After a brief discussion it was moved;

that Councillor Williamson be nominated for the NZ Gamebird Habitat Trust Board.

Annan/S. Smith CARRIED

12. RECOMMENDATIONS OF SI WORKING PARTY ON ANGLING REGULATIONS:

Discussion took place on the use of bread in the Waikato hydro lakes for rudd. Mr Wilson summarised the staff's concerns with the recommendations.

It was moved;

that Council supports the staff recommendations on the report prepared by the SI working party on angling regulations.

Annan/S. Smith CARRIED

13. HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY:

Councillors discussed the proposed Health & Safety Policy based on the new Health and Safety at Work Act 2015, after which it was moved;

that the Health and Safety Policy (June 2016) be accepted.

Howard/Sherrard CARRIED

14. NZF&G COUNCIL MEETING 18-20 MARCH 2016:

Councillor Juby summarised the minutes from the meeting. He emphasised the high regard that NZF&G Councillors had for the A/W staff.

15. GENERAL BUSINESS:

Dr Daniel informed Councillors that there was some interest by commercial developers in developing a fishout pond on the outskirts of Hamilton. Councillors discussed the proposal noting that current Council policy is to oppose freshwater fish parks and commercial trout farming. After further discussion it was agreed that while there may be merit in establishing a fishout pond for junior anglers, Council would oppose any facility that charged a fee or had an objective of commercial gain.

Mr Tyson spoke on the huge potential for coarse fishing especially for junior anglers. He also thanked staff for the recent submission on proposed animal welfare regulations. Mr Tyson was concerned over the extreme views of some animal welfare groups, and also advocated for the use of the new automatic predator traps.

Councillor Annan asked whether DoC/F&G permits should be downloaded from the internet.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 3.10pm.

Bi Monthly Managers Report**Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game Meeting August 2016**

OUTPUT 1: SPECIES MANAGEMENT**Project 1111 Drift diving:**

Adam Daniel has completed the Whakapapa drift dive report with an update on the Angler Use Study for the 2015/16 summer (report attached).

Project 5112 Banding:

We have received a good number of bands this season. An updated report including harvest and population estimates will be sent out once we have completed the last harvest survey.

Project 1113 Mallard Transects

A draft concepts paper has been presented to Darryl Mckenzie (statistical specialist) to evaluate the approach used for aerial transects in the northern Duck Management Unit. We are seeking feedback to ensure our approach is valid.

Project 1115 Population Surveys

Lake Arapuni: Adam has updated the condition factor and the growth rate data for Lake Arapuni due to a perceived decline in wild fish. A population survey by NIWA was received showing a decline in wild rainbow trout in the hydro lakes upriver, which are not stocked, suggesting environmental conditions are at play.

Project 1117 Gamebird Research

PhD Project Mallard Productivity: David Klee and Jenn Sheppard's other supervisors have reviewed the first paper to be published from the study which focuses on the potential effects of stress associated with prolonged capture, handling or surgical times. We found no evidence that female survival or reproductive effort were negatively affected by any measure of capture or handling time; however females that were held for longer were more likely to disperse from the study site. Prolonged holding times may have resulted in the emigration birds from the study area and therefore, abdominal implantation may have led to a corresponding reduction in the quantity, but not quality, of data obtained.

Masters Project Heavy Metal Concentrations. A sub-sample of twenty pre-breeding blood samples collected during the telemetry study were sent to Hills Lab, in order to determine which trace metals to investigate for the wider study. Lead, Cadmium, Arsenic, Copper, Zinc and Mercury were all tested. Out of the six contaminants lead was the only metal that had elevated levels and will warrant further investigation. Each metal tested adds approximately \$10 per sample, so it makes little sense to further test for metals that are highly unlikely to yield any significant results. 15% of bloods had above background lead levels (0.2ppm) and 10% were above toxic levels (0.4ppm). When comparing these blood levels with the survival data collected during the telemetry study, unsurprisingly, both birds with toxic levels died. A similar sub-sample of liver tissue will be analysed to determine whether metals other than lead

that bio-accumulate in organs warrant further investigation. Hunter shot birds collected from both field sites (total ~400) have been sent to Massey University for gizzard and liver sample collection. Livers have been selected, as this will offer a better historical account of the body burden. The ingested shot analysis of the gizzards will begin once all hunter shot carcasses have been processed and after the University exams finish, this is estimated to be around early September. Livers, egg shells and blood samples will be sent to the lab as their preparation is completed, all samples will have been sent for analysis by the end of September. Results from these are expected back October and data analysis will commence. The last of the sample collection will be in February 2017, post breeding blood of Southland birds.

Project 1121 Fish Harvest Assessment:

Adam has begun to pull out the Angler use cameras along the Whanganui and Whakapapa rivers and will continue to do so over the winter when weather and time permit.

Project 1162 Gamebird Releases:

Pheasant Releases: Fish & Game lost one of its true stalwarts recently; Mr Bob Hunkin of Ramarama. Bob was our “go-to” man if anyone wanted assistance about pheasants such as “where can I get eggs?” or “What should I do with the nest I found in the hay paddock?” Bob also grew countless Fish & Game trees for distribution and also tended the EPCM nursery at Clevedon. No predator was safe crossing his farm block either. Bob was also a gifted engineer and our banding cages, for instance, were all welded up by him.

Lately we have had a number of people concerned that they need permits from DoC to raise pheasants. Permits used to be free when we did it, but DoC are charging \$400 per permit for essentially a desk exercise which usually involves no inspection nor any follow up support. Fish & Game are typically asked by DoC for our comment on each application, so we’re in effect going through the old permitting process anyway. Eastern F&G manager, Andy Garrick, is coordinating the request to DOC for the permitting system to be delegated to F&G but it could take 6-12 months. The process has truly been glacial in speed and a \$400 permit for 2 quail simply lacks all perspective.

Project 1181 Gamebird control:

John Dyer has been assisting Whenuapai Airfield with bird control planning. Although gamebirds are not common at the base the arrival of black swan shortly after the cull at Mangere caused consternation. There are also new storm water ponds around the wider area, for instance, at the new retail development at Nor-West Shopping Centre in Massey. These harbour a few ducks that present a potential risk of bird-strike to incoming air force planes as they fly low overhead coming in to land. Non-lethal methods such as ultra-sound have been tried on the base but these have a limited effect. Specialised grasses that are indigestible to birds, which help deter them successfully at other airports, are not effective at this more northerly/warmer location. As well as providing first hand advice about gamebird issues Fish & Game have also facilitated liaison between the Defence Force and wading bird experts within the Ornithological Society, who have much practical advice to offer.

OUTPUT 2 HABITAT PROTECTION/MANAGEMENT

Project 1211 R.M.A.

Healthy Rivers Plan change for the Waikato catchment: The purpose of the Healthy Rivers Project is to implement the “*Vision & Strategy*” for the Waikato catchment – the Waikato River should be swimmable and fishable throughout its entire length within 80 years. We recently participate in a workshop for environment groups interested in the Healthy Rivers Project. The purpose of the workshop was to update the environment sector on the likely plan change recommendations that will be publicly notified later in the year for the Waikato catchment. The farming sector are just starting to realise the impact that the proposed plan changes will have on their operations.

Waikare/Whangamarino Catchment Management Plan: David attended a meeting focused on the development of a catchment management plan. The implementation of this plan has been put forward as the best solution for minimising effects on the Whangamarino by the Regional Council. To date we have not had good experiences with non-statutory plans as they rarely get implemented to the extent where they make a meaningful difference. These concerns were reiterated at the meeting, especially given the potential time commitments involved in becoming part of the process.

Wallace Corporation: It appears that Wallace Corporation have softened their stance substantially when it comes to Nitrogen loading associated with their discharge into the Waitoa River. This is the one outstanding issue still under appeal to the Environment Court. They have proposed a new set of conditions which appear to be close to those granted by the commissioners and originally sought by us. We have requested a full assessment of their proposed conditions under worst case scenario, before we agree to any settlement.

We have approval from the NZF&G Council for \$65,000 to fund this appeal to the Environment Court if it goes the full distance.

Lake Waikare/Whangamarino Flood Scheme: David attended a further meeting of sediment experts where a total of fifty options were evaluated for their potential to reduce the accumulation of sediment in the Whangamarino Wetland.

The criteria used to assess each option were:

- The ability to achieve a reduction in annual average sediment load to the Whangamarino Wetland
- Where the sediment reduction target would occur
- The likelihood of achieving the sediment reduction target
- Potential negative consequences of implementing the option
- Potential positive consequences of implementing the option
- Timeframe for implementation
- Capital costs of implementing the option
- Ongoing costs (operational and maintenance) associated with implementing the option

The options preferred by the sediment target expert working group for further analysis are grouped as:

- Water quality treatment (using flocculation) in the Lake upstream of the NOCG

- Water quality treatment (using flocculation) in a wetland(s) downstream of the NOCG, prior to its discharge into the Pungarehu Stream
- Water quantity controls that reduce or moderate the quantity of water discharging from the NOCG
- Erosion and sediment control in catchments draining directly to the Whangamarino Wetland (excluding the Lake Waikare catchment, as deposited sediment in the Lake will continue to provide a sediment source to the Wetland)
- Modification of the wave climate in the Lake to avoid the re-suspension of deposited sediment in the Lake.

The implementation of catchment management measures (such as stock exclusion, stream fencing and riparian planting in the catchment, lake edge erosion protection, pest fish control) are recommended by the working group and should be considered along with other options being considered for further analysis.

OCD Submission: We have signed a MOU with Open Country Dairy regarding their dairy factory discharge at Waharoa.

The intent of this MOU is:

- To put in place a process to facilitate and formalise the development of a comprehensive re-consenting package which both Parties can support; and
- To ensure that adverse effects on the environment are adequately avoided remedied or mitigated, in particular, that the level of contaminants entering the Waitoa River through the exercise of consents for the Waharoa OCD site are substantially reduced over a reasonable timeframe when compared to the levels that have been discharged in recent years.

Inghams pre application liaison: We have requested further information regarding this consent application but are yet to hear back. The application is due to be lodged in the next few weeks.

Fonterra Tirau: We met with Fonterra to discuss their new water intake from the Oraka Stream for the Tirau dairy factory.

AFFCO: AFFCO (Talley’s Group) have formally withdrawn their appeal to the Environment Court concerning their discharge from the Horotiu meatworks into the lower Waikato River. Both Corina Jordan and Adam Daniel have put considerable effort into this case so the outcome is very pleasing. The following table shows the reductions in nutrients achieved; actually 5 years earlier than we were shooting for so overall it is a big win.

Mean daily (kg/day)		AFFCO application Post 2025	F&G Pre 2025	Decision pre 2020	F&G post 2025	Decision post 2020
Summer	Nitrogen	450	300	335	240	240
winter	Nitrogen	540	385	425	310	310
Summer	Phosphorus	90	52	57	42	42
Winter	Phosphorus	100	57	63	46	46

We had \$65,000 approved by the national legal fund for this case but our costs were minimal (about \$5,000) and AFFCO have agreed to pay 50%.

Silver Fern Farms: Adam presented at the hearing for the Silver Fern Farms (Te Aroha) Waihou River discharge. The company essentially agreed during the hearing to the council/F&G proposed nutrient limits.

Honikiwi: Adam has a photo-shoot with regional council staff to promote their good works in retaining fish and waterfowl habitat. The photos were used in an article in the next pre-season fishing magazine.

Florida Farms: Adam has met with DoC staff about the Florida Farms lease of part of a Scenic Reserve for dairy grazing. DoC field staff were not informed of the complaints made by F&G three months prior but are now investigating.

Mangatutu River: We've been working with regional council staff to help a landowner develop a wetland on the upper Mangatutu River. The wetland was halted due to rules protecting wetlands and Adam has been attempting to work out a solution with council staff.

Project 1221 Council Land

Williamson & Piggott Blocks: There are 20 balloted ponds within the Williamson Block off Falls Road, Whangamarino and 6 within the Piggott Wetland. These have all recently been inspected by John to ensure they comply with our requirements, for instance, having sufficient current mark-up tags in place. The Building Act 2004 Schedule 1 requires that to avoid a building permit a building must have a floor area no more than 10m². This refers to the floor area under a roof, however the veranda is separate to this and the Act seems to indicate it has to be no more than 20m². The building must be single story and no more than 1.0m off the ground with the roof no more than 3.5m off the floor. It is important to keep these maximum dimensions in mind when building a maimai.

Project 1231 Non Council Land

NZTA Wetlands: A further meeting was held with NZTA and WRC representatives in order to resolve the compensation package for the Fisher Road wetland. The Council deems that the current wetland design no longer fits the 'general accordance' clause stipulated in conditions of consent. NZTA are currently formulating a section 127 notice to change the condition.

Lake Pupuke: In June there was a diesel spill into the Lake near the hospital wharf. Although media releases described this as a "small spill", it covered several kilometres of shoreline leaving a thick noticeable scum and smell. Despite this, one Asian angler who did not profess to speak any English insisted on fishing past the signage, despite a number of approaches by security staff to warn him off. It was decided that a voluntary Fish & Game Council ban on freshwater fishing on this lake was appropriate and through the media we asked that if family knew their relatives who did not speak good English were intending to fish in the area, if they could pass that message on. On the subsequent inspections made no one else was seen fishing there. Eventually the diesel dispersed and after some weeks the medical officer of health told us that water samples were now testing safe again and we were able to advise people that they could return.

When this news first broke John Dyer discovered that the black swans on site were oil contaminated, some badly so and unable to walk. It was also apparent that the measures that the various authorities had instigated to contain the spill were too late and too little. Fish & Game put Bird Rescue on stand-by to receive these swan and several birds were delivered there. At our insistence DoC turned up the next day with an appropriate boat and took more

birds away to be treated at Auckland Council's Ambury Park. TV3 did interviews on site, but much of this footage was not used as they were called away at short notice. The most in depth interview that aired was, in fact, on Radio Waatea.

In such a built up area it is inevitable that such a spill will occur again one day and what we have seen did not inspire us with confidence that anyone has the appropriate measures in place. For instance, signage warned the public they shouldn't collect shellfish. Is there in fact any shellfish in this lake formed from solid volcanic rock?! The trout there appear to have come out of this OK as only one dead eel was observed floating in the water.

Project 1235 Trees

Carpet protection: John Dyer investigated some advice from Councillor David Cocks that carpet could be used to good effect to protect newly established trees from encroaching weeds. This seemed like a more efficient way of finding trees afterwards for follow-up care than a ribbon tied around them or a painted stake driven in next to them. The carpet supplier approached said that woollen carpet was superior for the purpose as it not only let all the water pass to the tree but it also broke down naturally afterwards. In fact large numbers of gardeners come to take away carpets for this very purpose already. Cutting the carpet into 25 x 1m squares was quickly and easily done with a Stanley carpet knife in a matter of 10 minutes. A cross was added in the middle for the tree. In areas that flood, there is an initial risk that the carpet and tree will float off, however after a while the carpet becomes more or less 'bonded' to the soil. A hand-trolley meant the carpet squares could be transported several kilometres past the end of the track and all of this might be useful to know on some of the F&G blocks. Failure to identify where each tree is planted in subsequent years means there is every risk that they will become overwhelmed and killed by weeds, accidentally cut by weed-whackers and/or inadvertently killed by careless weed spraying. That not only means that the F&G tree needs to be replaced at extra expense, but also that several years of growing time have been lost.

OUTPUT 3 PARTICIPATION

Project 1311 Access Negotiation

WAMS: Adam has been identifying and describing angler access locations to be uploaded to WAMS and the Fish & Game site.

Upper Waikato: Adam has been negotiating and advising on the River catchment plan that will prioritise WRA money in the future as part of that plan in conjunction with Eastern staff.

Project 1331 Magazine/Supplement

The magazine supplement has been completed with the considerable help of Councillor Nigel Juby.

Project 1341 Other Publications

Adam has been contributing to *Reel Life*, while John has continued to produce *Both Barrels*.

OUTPUT 4 PUBLIC INTERFACE

Project 1431 Liaison Advocacy

Auckland Airport: The Airport Authority shot 1015 Swan in total over two days. Their hovercrafts spent several days picking up swan until no more could be found. But it is suspected that many swan carcasses were sucked out in the strong current through the heads. After the cull there were no swan left around the airport, but about 1000 at Clarks Beach, however many swan left the area just prior to the cull presumably because of a lack of food. There was no publicity that I know of and we received only a few complaints about swan carcasses from people living near or visiting Orua Bay and some of the nearby coastal areas. Airport staff had checked these beaches previously but had obviously missed some birds hidden among black rocks, for instance. However to their credit they followed all these reports up on several separate occasions.

Clubs: Adam spoke to the Auckland Freshwater Anglers Club in June and won the raffle taking home some great flies.

Project 1441 Displays Promotions

Seven Sharp: Staff were asked to assist a reporter, Erin Conroy of Seven Sharp on TV1, with providing enough pukeko for Molten Restaurant in Mt Eden Auckland to do a public taste-test. This to explore the (shock-horror) fact that native pukeko can be shot and (ditto) that they can also be eaten. Troy Downs of the Piggott Block User Group and his (star of the show), Springer Spaniel 'Albie' (short for Albert Einstein) knocked one bird down and Mr Dyer later, in flooded/tangled country not really suitable for the cameraman Lee to follow, added 4 more. It was enough to do the taste test and everyone spoken to about it since has been very impressed. So I guess this is how we normalise the often urbanised public with the need to control some bird species for reasons which they have probably never even thought about or ever been confronted by.

Since this programme aired we have since learnt that Molten Restaurant have received a written warning from the Environmental Health Officer of Auckland Council that they cannot supply meat to the public, even for free, unless it has been processed in an approved abattoir. We're not sure this is the correct interpretation of their legislation or ours, and we're investigating further. Normally a restaurant can serve up trout or a gamebird to the licensed hunter and his guests. The establishment cannot charge for the meat/fish other than for the preparation costs, the salad and any other food served with it. So in practise the diners should get their meal discounted somewhat. If one of the party wants steak instead obviously they pay full price. MPI recently got involved and put out a CD on safe game meat practise, including gamebirds. This all suggests the left hand doesn't know what the right is doing.

OUTPUT 5 LAW ENFORCEMENT

Project 1511 Ranging:

Adam checked for anglers on the Whanganui and Whakapapa rivers during the Angler Use trips, but did not see any anglers.

Project 1521 Ranger Training

I attended a meeting in Wellington to discuss ranger training, coordination and H&S issues. Issues discussed at the meeting include:

- Every ranger should attend a one-day refresher course every year. No ranger warrant will be renewed unless H&S courses attended (at least once every three years).
- DOC has only six honorary rangers. Initial training course is 7 days. F&G initial training course is two days.
- An Arms Officer helps out with training at Wellington F&G (basic safety, unloading weapons etc).
- Extensive discussion over using police officers on Opening Weekend – should send letter to Inspector-in-charge in December to arrange possible assistance.
- Discussion over whether having honorary rangers was still viable with mixed responses.
- F&G should do more on promoting good ethical practice.
- Owner/occupier status was discussed.

OUTPUT 8: PLANNING REPORTING

Project 1841 National Liaison

Invasive Species: Adam has been involved invasive species work including a rudd found in the Whanganui River and an invasive species study looking at waterways run by NIWA.

B. Wilson
Chief Executive.