

AUCKLAND/WAIKATO FISH & GAME

A Meeting of Council will be held at the NZ Deerstalkers Hall, Wairere Drive, Hamilton, on Saturday 14 October 2017 commencing at 11a.m.

AGENDA

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3. Minutes of previous meetings held on 19 th August 2017 *	1
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M. Young
Chairman
1/10/2017

AUCKLAND/WAIKATO FISH & GAME

Minutes of a Meeting of Council held at the NZ Deerstalkers Hall, Wairere Dr, Hamilton, on Saturday 19 August 2017 commencing at 11.00am.

PRESENT:

Chairman: M. Young.

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

Staff: B. Wilson, J. Dyer

1. APOLOGIES

C. Carey, M. Davis, D. Klee, A. Sintenie, A. Daniel.

It was moved;

that the apologies be accepted.

Annan/Shaw CARRIED

2. POSSIBLE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM MEETING AGENDA:

None declared.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF 17 JUNE 2017:

It was moved;

that the minutes of the previous meeting of 17 June 2017 be accepted as a true and correct record.

S. Smith/Kerr CARRIED

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Councillor Juby suggested a field trip for Councillors in February 2018 to Taumarunui in conjunction with the February Council meeting, staying at the Owhango Hotel. The objective would be to give Councillors an appreciation of the Whanganui/Whakapapa system.

After discussion it was agreed that Councillor Juby would bring a further update to the next meeting of Council.

5. CORRESPONDENCE:

Nil.

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

Councillor Juby updated Councillors on the Moakurarua River access issue noting that there was an access sign on the road above the river but that access was difficult and not practical. Mr Wilson agreed to pass the information on to the local field officer for the Walking Access Commission.

Councillor Shaw described his mallard and teal nesting boxes, which had been very successful with low predation rates.

Councillor Annan commented that the Te Awamutu sewage treatment plant is already struggling and simply does not have the capacity to take effluent from the Waikeria Prison.

Councillor Shaw asked for clarification of the rules regarding harrier hawk. Mr Dyer replied that the law applies to Fish & Game activities, such as mallard duck banding.

Discussion was held on the proposed clean- fill site near Pokeno with it noted that the application is currently on hold while the applicant provides further information.

Councillors S & B Smith updated the meeting on the recent flooding in the Piako/Waitoa system and the impact of the weirs installed to maintain wetland conditions and hunting opportunities.

It was moved;

that the CE Bimonthly report and Financial Statements be accepted.

S. Smith/Annan CARRIED

7. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SPORTS FISHING:

Councillor Juby described the proposed Code of Conduct as very South Island centred especially in regards to limiting the number of fish caught and released.

It was agreed that Councillor Juby would provide written comments to Mr Wilson to forward to NZ Council.

8. CONFIRMATION OF 2017/18 BUDGET AND OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN:

Mr Wilson stated that the budget and OWP had been updated to take into consideration the recent National Budget round.

It was moved;

that the 2017/18 OWP and Budget of \$789,339 be approved.

Williamson/S. Smith CARRIED

9. BUDGET POLICY FOR CONSULTATION AS NATIONAL POLICY:

The Memorandum on budget policy by Alison Lyall, NZF&GC Financial Manager, was discussed.

Councillors expressed their opposition to the proposed policy emphasising that it was against the principle of autonomy of the regions and reduced the incentive for regions to seek external funding. Councillors were especially concerned that expenditure from restricted and dedicated revenues would have to be approved as part of the budget round and that interest from such revenues would be included as income in the budget process.

It was moved;

that the proposed changes to the national budget policy are opposed.

Williamson/Cocks CARRIED

10. AERIAL TRANSECT COUNTS OF MALLARD AND GREY DUCK 2017:

The high variability observed in the aerial transect counts were noted with agreement that several more years of data was required before any trends could be determined. Councillors then discussed the mallard banding programme and agreed that this was providing valuable data that couldn't be provided by aerial transects.

11. NZF&GC MEETING 21-23 JULY 2017:

Councillor Sherrard summarised the discussions held by the NZF&GC at their recent meeting:

- Issues regarding biodegradable wads for shotgun shells
- The standardisation of fish regulations throughout all F&G regions
- The appointment of Mr Martin Taylor as Chief Executive of F&G.
- NZF&GC Councillors greatly appreciated David Klee's research reports.

In reply to a question, Councillor Sherrard updated Councillors on the situation regarding trout releases into the Kai Iwi Lakes in Northland. The District Council had agreed to releases being continued while native fish monitoring was being carried out.

It was noted from the NZF&G Council's Environmental Scan that lead contamination has become an issue with the Clay Target Association and concern for apiculture in Wairarapa.

The meeting rose for lunch at 1pm and resumed at 1.45pm.

12. OSH REPORT:

It was moved;

that the OSH Report for August 2017 be accepted.

Annan/Kerr CARRIED

13. GENERAL BUSINESS:

Councillor Sherrard observed that swan numbers in the north Waikato were well up from previous winters. Other Councillors agreed and it was suggested that swans had moved out onto farmland as there was little food available in wetlands due to the impact of recent floods.

Councillor Annan informed that at a recent Ward 6 meeting it was reported that anglers fishing the Upper Awakino River were catching a lot of spent fish and the question was asked as to whether the season length was too long. Mr Wilson replied that long-term monitoring by the drift dive surveys had shown no decline in the trout fishery due to the extended season and that recruitment was directly related to autumn floods.

Councillor Sherrard thanked David Klee for attending a recent meeting of gamebird hunters at Huntly.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 1.50pm.

Bi Monthly Managers Report

Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game Meeting October 2017

OUTPUT 1: SPECIES MANAGEMENT

Project 1111 Drift diving:

Adam completed the Whakapapa River Drift Dive Report and forwarded the report, in addition to the Angler Use Study Report to Genesis Energy. Both reports were send out with the agenda.

Project 1112 Banding

Staff have once again constructed a band reporting table based on interviews of hunters as part of the last Gamebird Harvest (Phone) Survey. This asks if hunters obtained a band this year and, if so, did they report it? Although not part of the survey, they were also asked did anyone they know get a band this year? Quite a number of bands were flushed out by both questions; three still in a glovebox, another left on a paint tin lid and so on. Tracking these people down can often be quite time consuming. The worry is not so much the people who sheepishly admitted they “hadn’t got around to it”, (4 months after opening), but those who even when they are reminded more than once, still can’t be bothered. Short of a home visit and search warrant, what do we have to do?

Project 1114 Shoveler

Annual shoveler count completed in early August with the invaluable help of a number of regular volunteer observers. There were 1600 shoveler at one site, on Lake Waikare, One thing noticeable this year was the large increase in the number of scaup, NZ’s only extant diving duck. These were legal gamebirds up to 1930.

The extremely wet year has made access to some count sites impractical. Alternative routes in have had to be found. Full credit to the farm manager who offered F&G staff his farm-quad to do so!

John Dyer has been assisting the Field & Game Assn of Australia with shoveler information, about how to find, trap and band this species. There is a surprising amount of historic material in a variety of different NZ publications including photos and descriptions of traps. Those persons that took part then have also been very helpful in filling in information gaps. Lake Whangape was the major Waikato shoveler banding site, but since the collapse of macrophytes there and also the transformed landscape, (particularly willow invasion according to Neil Deans when he looked over it somewhat recently), it is not known if they persist moulting there. Something to confirm this summer.

The DoC Banding Office wrote: Of 4580 records of shovelers banded between 1964 and 2015, 2414 were at Lake Whangape.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 7 January 1975 – 7 (Crombie) | 21 February 1978 – 112 (Cheyne, McFadden) |
| 9 February 1979 – 180 (Cheyne, McFadden) | 28 January 1981 – 666 (Cheyne, Andrew) |
| 26 January 1982 – 1208 (Cheyne) | 11 February 1982 – 166 (Cheyne) |
| 26 February 1982 – 25 (Cheyne) | 3 February 1984 – 50 (Roxburgh) |

The 1982 banding was and still is a world-record for this hard to trap species and John Cheyne has been especially helpful about details.

There was speculation that Australian shoveler were being found in NZ but this was discounted by Dr Murray Williams who pointed out it was simply our local shoveler being seen in eclipse plumage alongside others in full breeding plumage. However we do occasionally see northern shoveler in this country, (the species normally only found in the northern hemisphere). One was very recently seen by ornithologists at Miranda.

Project 1117 Gamebird Research

Mallard Telemetry Project: Jenn Sheppard submitted her thesis at the end of August and will begin working on manuscripts later this month after some well-earned R&R. She hopes to have 2-3 publications submitted for review by the end of October. Jenn will need to go through a defence of her PhD, and once that has been done, and any edits completed the final document will be provided to Council.

The first manuscript, "Effects of surgically implanted transmitters on reproduction and survival in mallards" has been accepted for publication to the Wildlife Society Bulletin and will be published in the next few weeks. This manuscript is being funded by Auckland University. Jenn has some limited funding in her press account but further research publications will cost more. If publications are to be open source they cost more to publish. Having peer-reviewed and published literature is important to ensure it withstands the rigor of scientific process. It is something that F&G has not done in the past which has led to a dearth of published research in the last two decades. The large amount of data that has been collected has the potential to be analysed further. Certain issues such as the effects of hybridisation and habitat influences on duckling survival have not yet been canvassed. They will require additional analysis and report writing. These potential projects will be raised with the research committee and they will be included in the prioritisation review which will be conducted.

Heavy Metals Study: All sample results have been received from the lab, with a total of 170 pre-season-bloods, 140 post-season bloods, 60 eggshells, and 343 livers and gizzards. Elevated level of copper was interesting; the levels reported in the livers were much higher than other studies in wild mallards, with 23.1% of samples having concentrations above level 70mg/kg which have been observed to result in acute copper toxicosis in other studies. Males were found to have higher concentrations than females - the mechanism behind this is expected to be that females can off load trace elements into eggs. Copper blood levels were the highest out of the three heavy metals tested for, however elevated blood copper levels have not been well established.

Cadmium was found to be elevated above environmental levels in 32.4% of bird livers, with 5.1% having levels elevated above the level which is considered to induce adverse effects. Interestingly Southland was found to have higher concentrations of Cd compared to Waikato even though the Waikato has a higher environmental load. It has been hypothesised that the differences are a function of diet. Trace element concentrations in pasture do not necessarily follow the same trend as soil. Females were found to have higher concentrations than males for both livers and blood levels. This is an interesting result as females should technically be able to rid a portion of their body load through eggs, but only two of the 60 eggshells tested had levels above the limit of detection for the lab. Age was also found to be significant, with adults having higher levels - this is a well-established trend as Cd is known to bio-accumulate over a lifetime.

3.9% of the livers had lead levels considered elevated enough to have subclinical poisoning (levels which cause physiological effects but are insufficient to impair biological functions, resulting in no outward signs of poisoning, animal has a high chance of recovering if exposure ceased). Lead levels in 2.4% of livers were high enough to be considered in danger of clinical poisoning (threshold where pathological manifestations of physiological effects are observed, such as anaemia, muscular incoordination, anorexia and microscopic lesions in tissues). In all sample types, Waikato was significantly higher than Southland, with males having higher concentrations than females. 13.6% of the eggshells had levels above the limit of detection, however, nesting attempt was found to be significant with the amount of lead higher in 2nd and 3rd attempts compared to the first. Pre-season bloods found 9.4% elevated above environmental levels, with 5.3% high enough to assume toxicity. This was slightly decreased in post season, with 7.1% elevated and 2.1% toxic.

David also gave a presentation to the Environmental Performance Committee of the Waikato Regional Council regarding these results which was part of a wider discussion on cadmium issues.

Gamebird Harvest Survey: All surveys complete, the information gained such as whole season harvest will be used in concert with band returns to calculate population estimates and presented at the next council meeting.

Project 1161 Fish Release:

New Tank: Adam has ordered and received the new trout tank for his truck. The tank will replace the old barrels that were top heavy and had broken lids. The new tank will be fitted with a window so they can be used for display and educational purposes.

Koi Carp: Koi carp turned up at a new storm-water reservoir next to a new West-Auckland subdivision almost as soon as it was built. They have since invaded another similar reservoir downstream. Stewart Smith is no longer with us, so who is doing this? More importantly, who is doing anything about it to stop their spread?

Project 1170 Regulations

Report on Falcon hunting: Laurence Barea reports that 2 falconers hunted with harriers and a total of 24 pukeko were taken. Despite trying, no other game birds were taken, but the opportunity was appreciated.

OUTPUT 2 HABITAT PROTECTION/MANAGEMENT

Project 1211 R.M.A.

Inghams Application: This consent has now been signed off after a successful negotiation.

Pukekohe Waste Water Treatment Plant: David, Mischa Adam and Anna all gave evidence at the Pukekohe WWTP hearing. The regional council took a very weak position on the discharge endorsing conditions that allow for substantial increases in key contaminants (small decrease in phosphorous paired with a doubling of nitrogen) and we are somewhat perplexed by this approach given the strong policy directives in the Waikato River catchment to improve water quality. The application would lead to decline in water quality in the Waikato River and

therefore did not meet the requirements of the Vision and Strategy, and the broader planning context including the requirements of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management. Science staff from the WRC were told not to attend the hearing and the overall effort by WRC was extremely weak. David has requested a meeting between F&G staff and regulator/science managers at WRC in order to understand why they adopted the position they did and to discuss process issues when it comes to the re-consenting of discharges in general.

Evidence also covered the planning context for the near-field effects on the Parker Lane Stream and the Piggott Wetland Wetland. The evidence was received by the commissioners.

Waikare/Whangamarino Catchment Management Plan: David attended the meeting of a group dubbed the 'technical leaders group' which encompasses members of DOC, Iwi and a group calling themselves the 'primary stakeholder catchment trust' which has a number of sitting WRC councillors and other landowners in the catchment. A report prepared by Doug Edmeades who owns AgKnowledge, "the independent fertiliser experts" was tabled which has subsequently been embargoed. It was explained that the purpose of this report was to "summarise current work to make it more digestible and less full of guff for landowners to understand". What has resulted is actually a report that focuses largely on the author's opinions on what the current water quality issues are and where they stem from. Needless to say opinion of neither fertiliser use or farming practices are highlighted as requiring modification. Despite being received for information at the meeting it has not been provided to other members of the technical leaders group and members that were not present at the meeting have not seen it. In our opinion, this report is full of flaws and some of the conclusions are clearly wrong. They contravene the scientific literature and current understanding of the Waikare/Whangamarino catchment. The report was paid for by rate payer money which in our opinion means it should be made publicly available. David has expressed our concerns to Clare Cricket, manager of ICM, and will raise these issues again at the next meeting.

Whangamarino Weir: Anna and David attended a meeting at the Regional Council to discuss the next steps in the s128 process for the Whangamarino Weir consent review. The Council initiated a review earlier in the year raising a number of issues it claimed were associated with the operation of the weir.

The meeting was with Regional Council consenting staff and DOC staff. It was agreed that continued and timely progress was a priority for processing the review, and that this would be facilitated by setting a clear technical starting point for determining how the weir should perform. It was agreed that Regional Council experts would caucus with an expert elected by DoC and Fish and Game (as co-consent holders) to ideally arrive at an agreed understanding of the physical context and report back before determining the next step.

Te Kauwhata Proposed Private Plan Change 20: The private plan change for a large subdivision at Te Kauwhata on the North West of Lake Waikare has been lodged with the Waikato District Council, with submissions due next month. Anna has started reviewing documentation to determine what issues might arise for Fish and Game (ie, reverse sensitivity, roading, access, wetlands etc).

Healthy Rivers (PC1) Ongoing: There has been no further movement on this from the Council.

Future Proof Strategy: Anna made a presentation summarising Fish and Game's Future Proof Strategy Update submission to the Future Proof Hearing Committee. The presentation emphasised the effects on wetlands and hunting activities which would be caused by expansion of living zones into existing rural-zoned areas, particularly in the northern Waikato (Te Kauwhata, Meremere, Pokeno, Tuakau areas).

Hyndmans Quarry: Adam has come to a settlement with Hyndmans Quarry for gradual reduction in suspended solids over the life of their consent.

Clevedon Quarry: We met with Fulton Hogan to discuss our concerns and negotiations are continuing.

Salmon Farm: Adam has been responding to questions related to a Salmon Farm proposal in Helensville. The project is in its conception phase at this time.

Hauraki Plains Flooding: I attend the open day held by the WRC where their experts were available to discuss the recent flooding on the Hauraki Plains. I also had a meeting with an enforcement officer from the WRC who was investigating whether any illegal structures/earthworks contributed to the magnitude of the floods. I doubt whether there will be any enforcement action regarding structures maintained by hunters, and certainly F&G responsibility is minimal.

Cleanfill site at Bluff Road: Grander Investments Ltd has applied for a resource consent for a cleanfill operation to dump 1.7 million cubic metres of soil from the Pokeno subdivision at 62 Bluff Road and reprocess it for resale. The site is within a gully that contains a couple of degraded wetlands. The gully itself and surrounding area is also erosion prone having already suffered some recent major slips. Of most concern to Fish and Game is that wetlands in the gully drain into the Dean Wetland. We are concerned that the cleanfill operation will have a significant adverse effect on our wetlands. It is not clear yet whether the application will be publically notified. Currently the application is on hold while the Council waits to receive further information from the applicant. We have been pressuring the Council to publically notify in which case we will be making a full submission.

Northland Regional Plan: The Plan has been notified and Mischa is preparing a submission on behalf of Northland F&G.

Project 1221 Council Land

Giant kokopu: New Zealand Premium Whitebait Ltd is breeding whitebait commercially in Warkworth. This year they're aiming for 5 tonnes and ultimately 500 tonnes. They are focusing on Giant Kokopu at present as the most commercially viable species but have bred the other four whitebait species so are able to do those to order for environmental projects if required. They have an ongoing surplus of 3 year old males and we have had a brief discussion with the company about releasing adult Giant Kokopu in the ponds in our wetlands for the control of Gambusia (mosquito fish).

Eastern Whangamarino Predator Control: David went out and checked and rebaited the trap lines along the Falls Road section of the project. A number of traps were completely overgrown and catches only had skeletal remains and for some of the smaller species like rats, the bones had decomposed. A few traps also appear to have been run over by a digger. It appears that most of the traps have not been checked for at least a year. There were three or four that had been done more recently, likely during the hunting season, but that's it. The

trapping is supposed to work through a roster system that requires each pond to do a trap run once a year. A few keen guys on the river section are consistently doing those traps, but again it's only a few. If hunters can't be bothered to do their one day a year trapping we may need to look at getting money from them to have contractors to do it for them. About \$300 a year per pond would cover it. That may be preferential for some that are time poor. It took three hours to walk the Falls Road section and that included a lot of clearing traps and grass around them. On a quad bike it could be done in half that time so it's hardly arduous.

Piggott Wetland: Past correspondence from Franklin District Council to Franklin Acclimatisation Society Inc., has been searched to support our interests in the Watercare weir adjoining the Piggott Wetland, (essential for maintaining the wetland there). This weir is now being reviewed as part of the Waste Water Treatment Plant consent renewal. The District Council made weir repair payments in 1996, 2002/3 and 2003/4 to the local F&G club explaining that they were responsible for the weir's maintenance after that.

A timeline of the activities around this weir's construction has also been prepared to assist with our objection. Also notes on the past use of this area for sawmilling, (by E. Piggott & Son's), the presence of bats, bittern, spotless crane and so on.

Dean Wetland: The floating island and nest box at the Railway pond has sprung a small leak. However Native Awa who supplied it have been very helpful at replacing the buoyancy part and it should be back in place shortly.

McKenzie Wetland: A meeting is planned shortly to discuss the Counties Power pylon steel, stacked near the entrance to the McKenzie Wetland, but also pylon bases remaining in the Dean and McKenzie wetlands. The bulk of these pylons and also the copper wire have been removed by helicopter previously but high water stalled the remainder of the job.

Williamson Wetland: Met with EcoFX and some 170 bait stations should be installed during October in the Williamson Wetland.

Project 1231 Non Council Land

Small Scale Community Initiatives Fund: David lodged funding applications in conjunction with landowners and F&G clubs in order to fund predator control projects on Private, DoC and F&G land.

Game bird Habitat Trust: David helped put together an application for a wetland restoration project which received partial funding of \$6000 from the GBHT.

Ferrets: A game camera was set up to monitor a mallard nest on an island in a small pond. This duck hatched out her 10 eggs successfully despite the camera showing a harrier hawk and a pukeko both checking out her nest, a large ferret being caught close nearby and two wild cats in the immediate area. Northland, where this nest was, used to be ferret free in surveys done in the 1950's and 60's. However MAF promoted fitch farming as a get rich quick opportunity and as many as 17 fitch farms established in this region alone. The nearest one to this pond site, (4.7km away), had 2,000 ferrets when it wound up around 1987/88. The owner of this nearest farm was recently interviewed by a F&G staff member and said he had never been inspected by DoC, (who administered the fitch-farm security fencing laws), but he said he pelted them all out at the end. However he couldn't rule out that he lost some. It was around then that poultry started dying in the adjoining district and the first ferret turned up in a Fenn

trap in 28/12/1989 by this aforementioned pond and in every year trapped ever since. That was 28 years ago and although the fitch industry has entirely collapsed and in many regional plans is now retrospectively prohibited, the descendants of these ferrets are still there. In fact, DoC staff suspect they are now “at carrying capacity” throughout Northland.

DoC Waikato have obtained a number of traps as part of a new initiative called a “trap library”. This takes a bond and then loans out traps for perhaps 3 months, (the exact details are currently being worked out). However the traps must afterwards be returned to get at least part of the bond back. The problem is that predators don’t disappear after 3 months of trapping effort. There are other options for supplying traps longer term and F&G can help with these. One trap worth investigating further seems to be the modestly priced plastic Holden See-Saw trap. This is used for Tb monitoring in the South Island and has the advantage it can be used with salted-rabbit without the corrosion issues that this bait creates around steel traps. However salted-rabbit does not get fly-blown meaning that bait life is very much longer. Long time F&G stalwart the late Tony Nooyen used wooden versions of these. The advantage is that they can be safely used in areas where children have access. The ferrets these catch are frequently found asleep in them! So it would appear to satisfy humane requirements. However like all traps of this type, they have to be inspected by law every 24 hours. So it is not suitable for remote locations.

Lake Whangape Track: The state of the track into “the domain” and boat ramp, (at the outlet), at Lake Whangape is deplorable and the reason now apparent. Waikato District Council seems to have been unaware it is responsible for this reserve. When its staff needed to access it they did so off nearby Annie’s Way, though they didn’t want the public to do likewise. So clearly they didn’t have to deal with the mess. It has taken some months but eventually we have been able to convince WDC that they do own it. Now we have established beyond doubt that in fact it is the District Council who administer it and that is why it is in their Reserve Management Plan. They have subsequently told us it should really be administered by the Regional Council, and that they will transfer it accordingly. We have written to their CE to find out how long this transfer will take and have they started this process. If you are a gamebird hunter, a boat-owner, a bow-hunter or a coarse fisherman, it doesn’t look like this track that could bog a water buffalo is getting fixed any time soon.

OUTPUT 3 PARTICIPATION

Project 1311 Access Negotiation

Waipapa River: Adam dropped off the new self-closing deer fence gates and signs to improve access to the River on the existing legal access. Adam has updated some of the WAMS locations at the request of WAMS staff to include access on Moakurarua Stream.

Project 1331 Magazine/Supplement

Safety Message: Mindful of the national publicity surrounding the loss of a hunter’s eye by a pellet ricochet, an article has been prepared for our F&G magazine that looks at a number of similar incidents, how to mitigate the risk by good shooting etiquette, but also the role of cheap but effective shooting/safety glasses. The cost of these imported is only around the \$20 mark. Particularly for group hunts, these are a smart option.

Adam, Ben and Nigel completed the 2017 flyer.

Project 1341 Other Publications

Website Article on Traps: An article has been prepared for the Fish & Game website that looks at how to get the best from DoC 200 and 250 traps, which are the type most often used on our own F&G wetlands. This includes several small modifications which should help up catch rates.

OUTPUT 4 PUBLIC INTERFACE

Project 1431 Liaison/Advocacy

Huntly F&G club. David gave a presentation on some of the recent research work we have been doing. Unfortunately only six people turned up and some of the vocal members who wanted F&G staff to attend didn't show.

Seven Rivers Walking Film: John Dyer attended an Auckland Event Cinema film-opening of Seven Rivers Walking. This looked at seven rivers around Canterbury where trampers walked them from the river's headwaters to the sea and noted the effect of irrigation takes, pollution runoff, etc. There was a panel discussion afterwards in which we took part along with Greenpeace, Forest and Bird and others. It's very useful to make these connections with other parties who, like us, are working for cleaner waterways.

Also attended in Auckland was the well-attended Rise Fly Fishing film festival, which also tours the country promoting fly fishing in NZ and around the world.

Hamilton Anglers: Adam spoke to the Hamilton anglers and gave a water quality talk to a local school.

OUTPUT 8: PLANNING REPORTING

Project 1841 National Liaison

National Aquatic Invasive Species Group: Adam attended the meeting held by MPI in Wellington. MPI plan to hire two half-time staff to manage invasive species working groups in the North and South Islands. There has been some slow responses in the past including a plant invasion in an Auckland pond that has been unattended to.

OUTPUT 9: ADMINISTRATION

Project 1900 Administration:

First Aid Refresher: David attended a one day refresher course held in Eastern

Safety Inspection: Maritime NZ inspected the boat and our systems and found everything on the boat in good order but wanted us to conduct and record our man overboard drills.

B. Wilson
Chief Executive.