



**EASTERN
FISH AND GAME COUNCIL**

***MEETING
AGENDA***

12 February 2019

AGENDA

The 174th Meeting of the Eastern Fish and Game Council

Venue: Eastern Fish & Game Region Offices
Paradise Valley Road
ROTORUA

Date: Tuesday, 12 February 2019

Commences: 12.00 PM

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16	General Business (3.10 PM, 20 min)		
17	Meeting Closes (3.30 PM)		

R = resolution required, D = for discussion/advice, I = for information only

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE 173rd MEETING OF THE EASTERN FISH
AND GAME COUNCIL, HELD AT THE ROTORUA OFFICES OF FISH & GAME
NEW ZEALAND ON THURSDAY 6th DECEMBER 2018 AT 12.00PM**

Present

Crs Murray Ferris, Barry Roderick, David Woolner, Neal Hawes, Laurance Tamati, Sandy Bull, Adam Rayner, Alan Baird, and Annaka Davis (arrived 12.15pm).

IN ATTENDANCE

Andy Garrick, Kate Thompson, Matt McDougall, Carmel Veitch, Anthony van Dorp, Lynne Sands, Mark Sherburn, John Meikle, Eben Herbert, and Lloyd Gledhill (Eastern Fish & Game); Ken Raureti (Bay of Plenty Conservation Board) arrived 1.10pm.

1.0 WELCOME

1.1 Cr Murray Ferris (Chairman) opened the meeting at 12.00pm and welcomed Councillors and staff.

2.0 APOLOGIES

2.1 Apologies were received from Crs Steve Scragg, Peter Storey, Lindsay Lyons, Ken Coombes, Ngahi Bidois, and Geoff Thomas; Helen Neale (Department of Conservation); and Ray Bushell. Cr Annaka Davis had advised earlier that she might be delayed.

2.2 *Agreed (Alan Baird/Adam Rayner) that the apologies for the 173rd meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [18/12/2.2]*

3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (1 NOVEMBER 2018)

3.1 *Agreed (David Woolner/Adam Rayner) that the minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2018 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [18/12/3.1]*

4.0 IDENTIFICATION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN COUNCIL POLICY

4.1 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Adam Rayner) that Item 10.15 relating to a change to the "Intermediate" regulations for black swan be incorporated into Council Policy. [18/12/4.1]*

5.0 MATTERS ARISING

5.1 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2018.

6.0 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR GENERAL BUSINESS

- Alan Baird – Upland Game Properties

7.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

7.1 Andy Garrick explained the conflict of interest process and provided those Councillors present with a "Declaration of Interest" form for completion and return. Andy advised that these completed forms would be held in the front of the register for future reference, as had been suggested by Cr Ngahi Bidois at Council's November meeting.

8.0 2017-2018 PERFORMANCE REPORT

8.1 The audited copy of the 2017-2018 Performance Report for the Eastern Fish & Game Region was tabled at the meeting. Andy Garrick explained that there had only been some very minor changes made to wording since the draft report had been provided to Council.

8.2 Andy provided an overview of the outcomes of the audit, and noted that while the Auditor had not identified any issues with the Performance Report or our financial management and controls, two additional undertakings were suggested in relation to our processes. The first of these was that there should be independent checking and sign off of datasets and data collection processes and reports which were undertaken and provided to Council as per the Statement of Service Performance. Questions raised during the audit in support of this recommendation were how, otherwise, could Council be assured that the numbers and size of trout reported from drift dive counts or Te Wairoa trap monitoring, or the number of ova and fish produced by the hatchery be a true and correct record and not subject to processing errors or fabrication? Council discussed this, and agreed that operational activities and information/reports submitted to Council had sufficient oversight from peers and/or the Regional Manager (who not only edited all reports presented to Council, but retained a close connection to, and oversight of staff and projects) to make material departures from reality a very low risk/unlikely event. Furthermore, independent checks of the veracity of data collected would in most cases be impractical if indeed feasible, and an unjustifiable use of our limited resources.

The second item related to independent review and approval of manual journal entries. Carmel Veitch highlighted that changes to items within our Xero accounting software were able to be undertaken by editing the original transaction rather than by way of a journal entry meaning independent sign off of the manual journals would not capture all amendments made. She said the use of manual journals during the year was minimal, and they were primarily used for end of financial year accruals. Council noted that the processes the region currently uses to review and report transactions was robust with several staff members involved at each step along the way, i.e. processing, checking, manager sign off, and reporting of expenditure.

8.3 *Agreed (David Woolner/Alan Baird) that Council receives the Audit Management letter for the year ended 31 August 2018 and requests that the Chairman provide a written response to the Auditor regarding the items raised. [18/12/8.3]*

8.4 *Agreed (Neal Hawes/Sandy Bull) that Council adopts the Performance Report for the 2017-2018 year. [18/12/8.4]*

9.0 PRESENTATION: "A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF A GAME BIRD MANAGER"

9.1 Power Point presentation by Senior Fish & Game Officer, Matt McDougall.

10.0 Cr Murray Ferris welcomed Ken Raureti from the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board to the meeting.

11.0 2019 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS

11.1 Andy Garrick noted that a number of the conditions proposed for the 2019 Game Season had been agreed at Council's last meeting in November and therefore, did not

- need to be revisited. Andy suggested Council focus their discussion from Item 4 onwards.
- 11.2 *Shooting from a Moving Boat* – Andy advised that this item had been raised at Council’s November meeting, the outcome of which was a request for staff to review Auckland/Waikato Region’s Second Schedule regulation aimed at curbing the practice, and whether there was merit in the Eastern Region adopting it. Council supported an amended version of the regulation recommended by staff and agreed to its inclusion in Eastern Region’s proposed Second Schedule.
- 11.3 ***Agreed (Barry Roderick/Alan Baird) that Council supports the inclusion of an additional regulation to its Second Schedule which would enable more effective compliance action to be taken in relation to the hunting and killing of game from a moving boat. Accepted wording - “No person may possess a firearm that can be rapidly deployed in or on any unmoored vessel, except (1) where the unmoored vessel is not being propelled at the time by a motorised device, or (2) the firearm is needed to retrieve wounded game. For the purposes of this rule a firearm is considered unable to be rapidly deployed if it has been dismantled or secured in a case, gunslip or other secure compartment”. [18/12/11.3]***
- 11.4 *Pukeko limit* – Since this item was raised at the November meeting staff had reviewed the proposal to lift the daily bag limit on pukeko and provided some additional background information in support of retaining the status quo until results from the special pukeko season to be held in February 2020 were evident. Cr Sandy Bull, who had suggested a higher limit, particularly in Area B1, at the earlier meeting advised he was comfortable retaining the status quo as it was now clear that the average hunter daily harvest of pukeko was low despite a 10-bird limit being available.
- 11.5 ***Agreed (Murray Ferris/Alan Baird) that Council supports retaining the status quo for the pukeko daily bag limit until outcomes from the special pukeko season in February 2020 have been determined. [18/12/11.5]***
- 11.6 *Special Swan Season* - Council reviewed the information provided by Matt McDougall and the proposed recommendation to continue the special swan season in Area A1 for the 2019-20 Season.
- 11.7 ***Agreed (Alan Baird/Adam Rayner) that Council supports the proposed special swan season for the weekend of 29 February/1 March 2020 in Management Area A1. [18/12/11.7]***
- 11.8 *Split bag limits* – Council considered the proposal to increase bag limits for mallard and grey duck over opening weekend only. Eben Herbert commented from his experience, that most hunters rarely took their limit on opening weekend and reducing limits following the opening might be a disincentive for further hunting during the remainder of the season. Cr Adam Rayner commented that for hunters such as himself, the bag limit did not make any difference to him as opening weekend was more about the duck hunting experience than taking home the limit. Cr Alan Baird had a different view in that some hunters do go out to take their limit and it’s those hunters that could potentially have a significant impact on the population should limits over opening weekend be increased.
- 11.9 ***Agreed (Adam Rayner/Alan Baird) that the existing set of season regulations tied to the threshold management approach remains the status quo. [18/12/11.9]***
- 11.10 Council briefly discussed the following;
- *Shooting greenheads* – instead of setting sex-based bag limits which are impractical due to the difficulty in identifying males from females in flight, a

better option is to continue encouraging hunter to take males rather than females where they are able to do so.

- *Robo ducks* – Matt McDougall advised that David Klee from Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game had undertaken some work on the effects of robo ducks on overall harvest of mallards and studies had also been undertaken overseas. Studies indicate harvest rates vary in space and time, and between species. Overseas studies show that harvest rates of mallards are generally higher using robo or spinning wing ducks than not using them, and observations here suggest their effectiveness is likely to be greater earlier in the season rather than later on. It's appropriate to note that we have daily bag limits and season lengths available to limit overall harvest if we need to do so, and it could be argued that this is a more appropriate way of reducing harvest than attempting to do so by prohibiting the use of hunting aids such as robo ducks. Staff could obtain further information if Council wished to pursue this further.
- *Pond feeding* – Cr Barry Roderick questioned whether this was legal given Sir Geoffrey Palmers opinion relating to the legality of pheasant hunting on upland game properties and the fact that this practice has been facilitated by Fish & Game and unintentionally or unknowingly condoned by the Minister despite it being unlawful. Could the same be true of pond feeding which is allowed in 11 Fish & Game regions? Eben Herbert advised that section 17 of the Wildlife Act prohibits pond feeding without the consent of the Minister. This being so pond feeding is legal as the Minister approves the game season conditions each year which for some years have provided for pond feeding in all regions except Auckland/Waikato. The Minister does not have this discretion in relation to the sale of hunting rights.

12.0 LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS AND COUNCILLOR INDUCTION

- 12.1 Andy Garrick provided a brief overview of the Governance Manual and advised Council that a session on Governance would be included in the February 2019 meeting agenda. Cr David Woolner asked whether all regions utilised the same Governance Policies to which Andy Garrick replied that Eastern Region and Hawke's Bay's documents are based on New Zealand Council's Governance Policy and Standing Orders documents as all other regions probably are, or should be. Eastern Region had made minor amendments to its documents to 'regionalise' these when they were updated in 2016.

13.0 DATES FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2019

- 13.1 Andy Garrick advised that the proposed schedule for Council's 2019 meeting dates presented in Agenda Item 12 was based on the corresponding Thursdays in the current schedule, and these in turn were timed to accommodate traditional operational deadlines set by the New Zealand Council. However, since the agenda was prepared, the NZ Council had voted to bring forward by three weeks the joint meeting it had with managers last year to finalise licence fee recommendations. Licence fee recommendations are based on a critical review of proposed budgets and contestable fund bids from the 13 Fish & Game Councils. To accommodate the earlier meeting date, regional budgets and contestable funding bids will this year need to be forwarded to the NZ Council Office by 20 March 2019, and will be adopted or rejected by the NZ Council prior to, in the case of Eastern's budget, being reviewed and signed off as is customarily the case by the Eastern Fish and Game Council at its meeting in mid April.

It's not practical nor justifiable bringing Eastern's meeting forward to accommodate the NZC's directive, and this really only leaves one option, which is for staff to develop a draft budget and present this along with tentative contestable fund bids to Eastern's Executive Committee for sign off prior to 20 March rather than it being considered by a full meeting of Council. Cr Alan Baird queried whether details would be reported to the whole Council at its April meeting? Andy confirmed that would occur and suggested that the information provided to the Executive Committee and the outcome of its deliberations could be forwarded to all Councillors at the same time its submitted to the NZ Council Office or just before if possible.

- 13.2** *Agreed (Laurance Tamati/Adam Rayner) that Council supports the proposal to have funding requirements and contestable fund bids signed off by the Council's Executive Committee in order to meet the New Zealand Council's deadline of 20 March 2019, and that a summary of the proposed budget and draft funding bids would be supplied to the full Council at the same time, or prior to if possible, that its submitted to the NZ Council Office. [18/12/13.2]*
- 13.3** *Agreed (Alan Baird/David Woolner) that Council confirms all proposed 2019 meeting dates as proposed with the final meeting date for the year being 5 December 2019. [18/12/13.3]*

14.0 LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS

14.1 Tongariro-Taupo Conservation Board

Annaka Davis was unable to attend the most recent meeting of the Board and had nothing new to report.

14.2 Bay of Plenty Conservation Board

Ken Raureti spoke on behalf of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board on several matters including;

- Intimidation experienced by Department of Conservation staff and Board members by anti-1080 activists, particularly through the use of social media.
- Delay with the Wairua Hut concession. Fish & Game staff had been advised this would be resolved in the near future and highlighted issues resulting from the overuse of the hut toilet by boaties and trampers.
- Catfish are a real concern for the Board, and in particular preventing their spread to other lakes.
- Water quality continues to be high on the Board's agenda.

- 14.3** Ken Raureti also spoke on behalf of Te Komiti Whakahaere (Te Arawa Lakes Fisheries Management Committee). Referring to its management plan for taonga species, Ken provided Council with a heads up that the committee was intending to submit a request to Fish & Game to halt the release of trout into Lake Okataina. Ken advised that there was no wish to stop trout fishing or to remove trout from the lake, rather the aim was to reduce trout numbers in an effort to give koura the opportunity to thrive and re-establish what had once been a bountiful population. Council raised a number of questions about the potential impacts on licence holders, and items discussed included wild spawning, angler use, research and monitoring, harvest, and compliance. Chairman Murray Ferris advised that Council would welcome a full and frank discussion on the topic.
- 14.4** Ken thanked Andy and the team at Eastern Fish & Game for the relationship we have with the Board and DOC staff.

14.5 *New Zealand Fish and Game Council*

Having attended the recent meeting of the NZ Council hosted in this region, and given Cr Lindsay Lyons wasn't able to be present today, Cr Barry Roderick advised that positive comments had been made by NZ Councillors regarding the great facility we have here, and the Eastern Region staff who are involved with national matters, particularly Carmel Veitch who had taken on the finance role for the NZ Council. Barry commented on the tremendous job Cr Geoff Thomas had done in hosting the group at Lake Tarawera, and added that a highlight for him was Ken Raureti's blessing of the meal and speaking about the history of the lake. On the other side of the coin Barry noted that one or two NZ Councillors still held a less than positive view on this region's budget versus revenue and the number of staff we had given that Eastern was no longer leading the country in terms of licence revenue.

14.6 Cr Murray Ferris read aloud a letter of thanks received from the New Zealand Council.

15.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

15.1 Cr Neal Hawes queried how the online angler diary was going and where this is located as he had difficulty in finding it on the website. Mark Sherburn advised that he would check that the link had not been removed, and advised that use of the diary had been low to date and it would be likely to take some time before anglers became regular users of it.

15.2 Cr Barry Roderick asked whether the forest managers for Kaingaroa would consider opening the forest to anglers earlier considering recent significant rainfall? Anthony van Dorp confirmed that this was unlikely as opening of the forest was not only determined by rainfall, but extended weather forecasts and wind were also taken in to consideration. Anthony assured Council that staff liaison with the forest managers about access to the forest was ongoing.

15.3 Cr Barry Roderick queried the need for an arborist to remove an at-risk cabbage tree which had been identified in the Health & Safety report. Mark Sherburn advised that this large tree, located by the hatchery building, needed to be climbed and dismantled in sections which was not something staff had the necessary skills and training to do.

15.4 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/David Woolner) that Council receives the Management and Health and Safety reports. [18/12/15.4]*

15.5 Andy Garrick informed Council that the proposed budget for the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Financial Performance and Statement of Cashflows which had been included within the agenda for approval had omitted funding required for the Lake Tarawera Research project. The proposal was not part of the contestable funding process, rather the funds were to be sourced from the region's Non-Resident Levy Reserve and this had been supported by Council at its April meeting. Kate Thompson distributed replacement documents highlighting the inclusion of the additional \$20,000 within the budgets and cashflow for Council to review.

15.6 *Agreed (Adam Rayner/Laurance Tamati) that Council receives and approves the updated budget figures for the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Financial Performance, and Statement of Cashflows for the 2018-2019 financial year including the proposed Non-Resident Levy Reserve funding of \$20,000 for the Lake Tarawera research project. [18/12/15.6]*

15.7 *Agreed (David Woolner/Barry Roderick) that Council receives the Finance Report and approves payments for September and October 2018 totalling \$314,275.57. [18/12/15.7]*

- 15.8 Council received the Licence sales report and Kate Thompson provided a brief update advising that sales had fallen on the back of the recent poor weather and it appeared to have had a more significant impact on the South Island regions. Cr Barry Roderick asked what was happening with the Taupo fishery and their licence sales? Andy Garrick advised that he did not have a recent report from the Department of Conservation. Cr Annaka Davis commented that the condition of the fish in the rivers appeared to be down this year and Cr Barry Roderick also felt that fish were in better condition last year.

16.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

- 16.1 Cr Alan Beard queried whether the days are numbered for pheasant preserves in response to the correspondence sent out to Upland Game Property operators in late November. Alan also asked whether the Wildlife Act could be changed to accommodate the sale of pheasant hunting on pheasant preserves? Andy Garrick commented that it would be difficult to amend the Act and changing the Act was a proposition that was very unlikely to gain the support it required to get off the ground. A number of related items were discussed including the economic benefits and additional hunting opportunities provided by Upland Game Properties, impacts on licence revenue, what prompted the legal opinion obtained from Sir Geoffrey Palmer, and why has what has widely been recognised as an illegal activity been allowed to go on for so long? Andy noted that in addition to Upland Game Property operators being provided with an opportunity to provide feedback on the future of Upland Game Properties, the NZ Council would be inviting feedback from Fish & Game regions on the topic. It was currently in the process of preparing a paper that would be incorporated into the agenda for Council's February 2019 meeting.
- 16.2 Cr David Woolner provided a brief overview of changes he proposed for the Council and Manager annual assessment forms. David advised that he would provide a draft to the Executive Committee after which they would be tabled for Council's comment. In the meantime, David requested that questions or comments be emailed to him.

17.0 FAREWELL TO DEPARTING COUNCILLORS

- 17.1 On behalf of Council and staff, Cr Barry Roderick extended thanks to departing Councillors Sandy Bull, Peter Storey, Neal Hawes, Annaka Davis, and Steve Scragg for their time and the effort they had contributed on a voluntary basis on behalf of licence holders. Barry commented on each of the departing Councillors in turn, and presented them with a certificate of appreciation and acknowledgement of their time on the Council.
- 17.2 Sandy Bull had been involved in wildlife and an environmentalist all of his life. Sandy has made a tremendous commitment in the field and is still actively involved.
- 17.3 Sandy thanked Barry, Council and staff and felt that he was very lucky to have been involved. Sandy had been a warranted officer for some 40 years and he said it had been a pleasure knowing and working with this Council and staff.
- 17.4 Peter Storey was not present but had passed on his thanks saying he had enjoyed his time on Council and working with a team of professional staff. His particular concern is with the quality of fish in Lake Tarawera, and since working with Council and staff he now understands the processes and recognises that time is needed to establish what is occurring. Peter will continue to assist Fish & Game and staff with monitoring of the Te Wairoa trap.

- 17.5 While Neal Hawes needed a bit of a nudge to take on the Councillor role initially, he had become competent in his position, and a good solid Councillor bringing a lot of wisdom to the room.
- 17.6 Neal Hawes responded saying that he had enjoyed the last nine years on Council although it did take some time to get there. Neal thanked Council, he had enjoyed working with them, and to staff, he recalled a comment made by Rotorua Anglers' past member Terry Kelso, "you don't know how lucky you are...to have the staff, the facility, and the fantastic fishery".
- 17.7 Annaka Davis, a Councillor for 15 years had brought a different and unique angle to Council. Always frugal with licence holder money, she brought a lot to the table and a lot of professional expertise through her work in public health. Barry said that Council and staff would miss her contribution and wished her all the best for the future.
- 17.8 Annaka, like Neal Hawes, said that she was also encouraged to take up a position on Council, this being when she was actively involved with the Tauranga Anglers Club. At the time within her club there seemed to be an us and you mentality about Fish & Game so when she finally came to Council she was pleasantly surprised by the staff team, their expertise and credibility. She took this back to her club and hoped that she had altered some views. Her role within Environmental Health aligned with Council priorities of water quality and quantity, access, and social aspects. Annaka said that she was stepping down due to work commitments but hoped to be back in the future. Ultimately, she would love to see Fish & Game government funded and managed under one agency rather than 13. The highlight of her time on Council was the review of the Region's Sports Fish & Game Management Plan and she was particularly pleased about the production of lake maps to assist with interpretation of regulations.
- 17.8 Steve Scragg, who was unable to be present today, had joined Council early in the establishment of Fish & Game, around the same time as staff member Lloyd Gledhill. He said that in the early years it was a difficult time for staff and Council so it was a highlight for him getting through those difficult times with the Council establishing policies, and getting good staff and structures in place. Steve had enjoyed and gained a lot from his position on the Game Bird Habitat Trust which he would also miss.
- 17.9 Cr Murray Ferris added that over his time on Council there had been amazing passion and commitment around the table and those leaving today would be missed. Murray appreciated Annaka Davis' contribution and said that it would be great to have another female on the Council to continue to bring a different perspective.

18.0 MEETING CLOSED

- 18.1 Murray thanked Council and the staff for their support and wished everyone and their families a Merry Christmas and great New Year.
- 18.2 The meeting was closed at 3.25pm.

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Murray Ferris
Chairman

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

- 2.0 APOLOGIES**
2.2 *Agreed (Alan Baird/Adam Rayner) that the apologies for the 173rd meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [18/12/2.2]*
- 3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (1 NOVEMBER 2018)**
3.1 *Agreed (David Woolner/Adam Rayner) that the minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2018 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [18/12/3.1]*
- 4.0 IDENTIFICATION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN COUNCIL POLICY**
4.1 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Adam Rayner) that Item 10.15 relating to a change to the “Intermediate” regulations for black swan be incorporated into Council Policy. [18/12/4.1]*
- 8.0 2017-2018 PERFORMANCE REPORT**
8.3 *Agreed (David Woolner/Alan Baird) that Council receives the Audit Management letter for the year ended 31 August 2018 and requests that the Chairman provide a written response to the Auditor regarding the items raised. [18/12/8.3]*
8.4 *Agreed (Neal Hawes/Sandy Bull) that Council adopts the Performance Report for the 2017-2018 year. [18/12/8.4]*
- 11.0 2019 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS**
11.3 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Alan Baird) that Council supports the inclusion of an additional regulation to its Second Schedule which would enable more effective compliance action to be taken in relation to the hunting and killing of game from a moving boat. Accepted wording - “No person may possess a firearm that can be rapidly deployed in or on any unmoored vessel, except (1) where the unmoored vessel is not being propelled at the time by a motorised device, or (2) the firearm is needed to retrieve wounded game. For the purposes of this rule a firearm is considered unable to be rapidly deployed if it has been dismantled or secured in a case, gunslip or other secure compartment”. [18/12/11.3]*
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- 13.0 DATES FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2019**
13.2 *Agreed (Laurance Tamati/Adam Rayner) that Council supports the proposal to have funding requirements and contestable fund bids signed off by the Council’s Executive Committee in order to meet the New Zealand Council’s deadline of 20 March 2019, and that a summary of the proposed budget and draft funding bids would be supplied to the full Council at the same time, or prior to if possible, that its submitted to the NZ Council Office. [18/12/13.2]*
13.3 *Agreed (Alan Baird/David Woolner) that Council confirms all proposed 2019 meeting dates as proposed with the final meeting date for the year being 5 December 2019. [18/12/13.3]*
- 15.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS**
15.4 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/David Woolner) that Council receives the Management and Health and Safety reports. [18/12/15.4]*
15.6 *Agreed (Adam Rayner/Laurance Tamati) that Council receives and approves the updated budget figures for the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Financial Performance, and Statement of Cashflows for the 2018-2019 financial year including the proposed Non-Resident Levy Reserve funding of \$20,000 for the Lake Tarawera research project. [18/12/15.6]*
15.7 *Agreed (David Woolner/Barry Roderick) that Council receives the Finance Report and approves payments for September and October 2018 totalling \$314,275.57. [18/12/15.7]*

7. CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

Ref: 7.02.01

21 January 2019

1. Purpose

A standing agenda item to disclose any Councillor (“Member”) Conflict of Interest or potential Conflict of Interest, and record this in the Councillor Conflict of Interest Register.

2. Background

In 2016 the Eastern Fish and Game Council adopted a revised policy and rules for dealing with Conflicts of Interest and these include providing a standing agenda item to allow Councillors to disclose any Conflict or highlight any potential conflict. The “Interest Register” ring binder will be circulated in the first part of each meeting for Councillors to record any interests. The Council should then discuss how it wants to deal with any interest or perceived interest identified.

Conflict of Interest (refer s2.7 Governance Policies) means when the member can be shown to have actual bias or apparent bias in respect of a matter¹ i.e:

- (i) A member can be shown to have actual bias when a member’s decision or act in relation to a matter could give rise to an expectation of financial gain or loss (that is more than trivial) to the member (and/or to the member’s parent(s), child(ren), spouse, civil union partner, de facto partner, business partner(s)/associate(s), debtor(s) or creditor(s)).
- (ii) A member can be shown to have apparent bias when a member’s official duties or responsibilities to the Council in relation to a matter could reasonably be said to be affected by some other interest or duty that the member has.
- (iii) A member’s “interest or duty” includes the interests of that member’s parent(s), child(ren), spouse, civil union partner or de facto partner that may be affected by the matter at issue. It also includes the interests of a person with whom the member has a close, personal relationship where there is a real danger of personal favouritism.
- (iv) There is no Conflict of Interest where the member’s other interest or duty is so remote or insignificant that it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to influence him or her in carrying out his or her responsibility.

A potential conflict of interest (refer s2.8 Governance Policies) arises when:

- (i) There is a realistic connection between the member’s private interest(s) and the interest(s) of the Council;

¹ “Matter” means:

(i) The Council’s performance of its functions or exercise of its powers as set out in Part 5A of the Conservation Act 1987, subject to the Council’s statutory purpose set out in section 26P(1) of the Conservation Act; or

(ii) An arrangement, agreement, or contract made or entered into, or proposed to be entered into, by the Council.

- (ii) The member's other interest could specifically affect, or be affected by, the actions of the Council in relation to a matter;
- (iii) A fair-minded lay observer might reasonably consider that the member's private interest or duty may influence or motivate the actions of the member in relation to a matter; and
- (iv) There is a risk that the situation could undermine public trust and confidence in the member or the Council.

Conflicts of Interest should be dealt with as follows (refer s1.13 Standing Orders):

- 1.13.1 Every member present at a meeting must declare any direct or indirect conflict of interest that they hold in any matter being discussed at the meeting, other than an interest that they hold in common with the public.
- 1.13.2 When a conflict of interest arises in respect of a matter, the affected member will:
- (i) not vote on issues related to the matter;
 - (ii) not discuss the matter with other members;
 - (iii) conform to the majority view of other members present as to whether to be excluded from discussions regarding the matter and/or leave the room when the matter is discussed;
 - (iv) not, subject to the discretion of the Chairperson, receive further papers or other information related to the matter.
- 1.13.3 Where a member can be shown to have a potential conflict of interest, the Council (excluding the affected member) will determine an appropriate course of action, which may include the following:
- (i) applying some or all of the actions applied to a member with a conflict of interest (set out in 1.13.2 i) – iv) above);
 - (ii) providing a written explanation outlining why there is no legal conflict of interest that can be made available to all Fish and Game Councils, licence holders and other interested parties.
- 1.13.4 The conflicted member will be given the opportunity to be heard by the Council on the points raised and the member's submissions will be taken into consideration by the Council.
- 1.13.5 The minutes must record the declaration and member's subsequent abstention from discussion and voting.

Councillors should take this opportunity to disclose any Conflict of Interest they are aware of now and record it in the circulated Conflict of Interest Register. If during the course of the meeting a conflict or perceived conflict is recognised, then this should be disclosed at that point in time.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 That Councillors disclose any Conflict or potential Conflict of Interest, record it in the Interest Register, and Council agrees on how to deal with any Conflict of Interest raised.***

8. GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW

Ref: 7.02.01

21 January 2019

1. Purpose

To discuss the principles of governance and what it means for Councils, Councillors, and staff.

2. Background

With this being the first full meeting of the new Eastern Fish and Game Council since it took office at the end of October 2018, it is appropriate to have a discussion relating to governance and the roles and responsibilities of Governors (Councillors) versus Management (staff). Robert Sowman, Policy and Planning Manager for the New Zealand Council Office has summarised some of those differences in the table on the page following, and more insight is available in the Councillor Guide and Eastern Fish and Game Governance Policies provided in the Governance Manual handed out to Councillors earlier. Cr Lindsay Lyons will lead this discussion and draw on some recent examples close to home of major issues that can arise when policies and protocols or rules such as Standing Orders are not adhered to.

The roles of Governance and Management

Responsibility/function	Governor Role	Management Role
Long-Term Direction and Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exhibits leadership in strategic thinking and planning sessions, reviewing relevant materials and engaging in robust debate and dialogue about critical issues impacting on the organisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enables well-informed, data driven Council discussions, debate and decision-making by providing relevant data, information and background materials and input
Development and Review of Ten Year Sports Fish and Game Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approves and helps formulate. Participates in annual strategic planning that reviews and updates the current plans and statements, when necessary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides input and background materials for Council review and discussion prior to formulating and/or updating the statements.
Implementation of Strategic Direction and Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Makes decisions that support the Strategic Direction and Vision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops strategic recommendations, measurable objectives, action plans and budgets to support and implement strategic goals and direction
Short-Term Plans e.g. Annual OWPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensures progress towards goals through regular monitoring and oversight 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops and implements plans
Project Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluates management recommendations Approves new projects and programmes with supportive budgets Advises and ensures progress in development through regular monitoring and oversight 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies, scopes and formulates projects and programmes Present plans and recommendations to Council Provides programme reports to the Council
Monitoring Strategic Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly review measures Asks probing questions to ensure Council members understanding and progress towards goals and objectives Advises and collaborates with management on corrective measures as appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defines measures for tracking performance Reports measures to the Council, interprets meaning and identifies barriers for challenges to success
Day-to-Day Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No role 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Makes all management decisions. Develops policies and procedures consistent with the strategy. Advises Council, as appropriate.

9. R3 PRESENTATION FROM STEVE DOUGHTY

10. GOALS AND PRIORITIES FOR THE 2019-20 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN

Ref: 8.02.01

22 January 2019

1. Purpose

To review Council's goals and priorities for the 2018-2019 year, and identify changes in priorities or work areas and projects that Council would like to see incorporated into the 2019-2020 Operational Work Plan.

2. Background

Operational Work Plans (which come into force on 1 September each year) are developed over several months from February onwards, and involve a review by Council of strategic priorities, core functions, project objectives, allocation of resources, and performance measures. The process may include seeking Council's approval for the submission of applications to the national Contestable Fund to increase bulk funding for specific purposes.

The steps involved in developing the OWP for the 2019-2020 year are as follows:

- Council reviews priorities and project areas it wishes to focus on over and above core functions (this meeting).
- Staff compile a draft work plan and budget (excluding internal costs) and identify potential contestable funding bids.
- Council's Executive Committee reviews draft projects, budget, and contestable funding bids by 15 March.
- Contestable funding bids and draft budget (revised if necessary following review by Executive Committee) are submitted to the NZ Council by 20 March for consideration at the Managers Meeting on 3/4 April and the combined Managers/NZ Council meeting on 5 April. The draft work plan, budget and bids will also be circulated to all Eastern Fish & Game Councillors by 20 March.
- Staff revise projects and resourcing including hours and internal costs to take into account outcomes of the combined Managers/NZ Council meeting on 5 April, and circulate the second draft of the OWP to Council ahead of its 13 June meeting.
- The second draft of the OWP is considered at the June meeting and projects, budgets and targets are reviewed and refined as necessary.
- This draft is then circulated to clubs for comment if they wish to.
- Club comments are considered and incorporated if Council considers appropriate into the final OWP presented for approval at Council's meeting on 8 August.

As indicated above, the operational planning cycle commences as of now with a review of current priorities and goals. Council needs to determine whether changes to these are needed within the next OWP year in response to changing circumstances, and/or outcomes from the preliminary strategic planning workshop Council had last November, and/or a need to incorporate R3 concepts and actions into the programme. These decisions are required now so that staff can undertake initial planning and costing of projects prior to mid-March.

3. Current (2018-2019) Priorities

- Enhancing habitat for greylard production – in particular activities that increase duck numbers and as a result, hunter opportunities;
- Water quality and quantity – addressing in particular, the pressures on our free-flowing water resources and the water quality of the Rotorua lakes;
- Access – making it easier for anglers and hunters to use the resource;
- Maximising fishery opportunities;
- Increasing licence revenue.

Note, until Council's recent planning workshop there appears to have been no attempt to rank these priorities in terms of their relative importance.

The Council has also agreed to support long term aspirational outcomes for Fish & Game identified by the NZ Fish and Game Council, and these need to be provided for where possible in the OWP. The NZ Council's current aspirations are:

- Fish & Game NZ is well recognised and well regarded as a manager of fish and game resources based on a user says/user pays system.
- Fish & Game's values and aspirations continue to be reflected in statute.
- Sports fish and game birds are recognised as valued public resources and access to such cannot be charged for.
- There is general recognition that wildlife habitat is a finite resource that must be protected.
- Water Conservation Orders are finalised and defended.
- The New Zealand public is sympathetic to Fish & Game NZ's goals.

The current (2018-19) regional priorities, with the exception of the fifth (increasing licence revenue) which was introduced in 2017-18, have been a focus of the Eastern Council for well over a decade now. Over this time we have gained a much greater understanding of what can and can't be influenced in terms of achieving the outcomes we are seeking. With this understanding we have adaptively managed our approach and refined projects or changed our focus more towards what we can do to meet the priorities of Council. An overview of achievements and significant issues identified for each of the key priority areas are provided below. Project areas and associated tasks for the current OWP year are presented in the tables appended to each of the overviews given below.

Regional Priority: Enhancement of habitat for greylard production

- Over the past decade we have developed, or facilitated the development of significant areas of wetland within the region using both licence holders' income and external funding from trusts, regional councils and other funding agencies. Projects have been implemented on both private and public lands. Additional hunting opportunities have almost always been created, but some projects, particularly smaller private land initiatives, have not always resulted in habitat as productive as we'd have liked in terms of greylard productivity. There have been a number of reasons for this and we have, and will continue to learn from these. Given the positive track record we have with funding agencies there are ongoing opportunities for projects of this nature, particularly where collaboration with other parties or individuals is involved. One of the issues that it's

imperative we keep in mind and provide for in doing this though, is ensuring we don't overburden ourselves with ongoing management requirements and ever increasing commitments. We already have a large number of habitats we need to maintain (e.g. our existing Wildlife Management Reserves), and we need to be confident we have, or can find the means and resources needed to prevent these areas from going backwards as we add new habitat to our management register, and/or other agencies such as DOC withdraw funding from. Over the past year or so we have become involved in managing a number of projects on behalf of other organisations e.g. for Bay of Plenty Regional Council within the Lower Kaituna wetland, and a collective of DOC, Ngati Tahu-Ngati Whaeo, Te Arawa Lakes Trust and Waikato Regional Council at Lakes Ngapouri and Tutaeinanga, and we need to continue looking at ways to leverage inputs and outcomes.

- We have increased our expectations and requirements of ballot holders in Fish & Game managed reserves in relation to maintaining habitat and hunting opportunities, and late last year Council agreed to the concept of levying an annual Habitat Maintenance Fee on ballot holders to contribute to the costs of essential maintenance works (weed control and water reticulation) in these wetlands. While adequate resourcing is critical to maintaining this habitat and maximising its potential for producing more ducks, it appears there may be another, or other limiting factors to productivity coming into play in some of the wetlands that are not being addressed. Much of the open water habitat that has been developed in areas such as the Lower Kaituna WMR has been created in peaty soils and/or into inorganic sandy substrates which typically support quite different invertebrate communities than 'mineralised' wetlands like the old river loops. Aquatic invertebrates are a critical source of protein for ducklings and its possible some of these excavated wetlands are deficient in this regard. We need to establish whether this is the case, and what options we might have to improve the situation.
- We have concluded that a stronger focus on habitat quality rather than quantity (the latter being the case in the past) is a better option for increasing duck numbers, and there is much more to be done in this area including leveraging the assistance of other parties and encouraging greater input from volunteers and interest groups as indicated above.
- Intensive regional research and monitoring has provided us with a good insight into the effects of harvest and game season conditions on greylard populations and productivity in ensuing seasons. We also know that trying to manage harvest through our current regulation options is very difficult due to changes in hunter behaviour resulting from regulation manipulation, and licence holders' expectations in relation to season length and bag limits. If regulations are to make a difference when mallard populations are depressed, it's apparent that very restrictive harvest conditions need to apply and there are political implications/difficulties in the use of these tools. Having said that, our research shows that extended game seasons impact on the survival of hens, and therefore, may negatively affect next season's productivity. This should be taken into account during the annual regulation setting process.
- The national mallard research programme has demonstrated that duckling survival rates, and to a lesser extent survival rates of nesting hens can have a profound effect on juvenile recruitment and hence population size going into the game season. Facilitating a relatively small increase in the numbers of ducklings that fledge from each clutch laid has the potential to significantly lift productivity. Other outcomes of the research projects in the Waikato and Southland indicate the extent to which predators prey on

ducklings and nesting females, and the information derived from these studies will be useful for guiding when, where and how to target predators to get maximum bang for bucks. This is critical, as predator programmes are really only effective if they're well targeted, sufficiently intensive to reduce predator numbers to predetermined levels, and well executed. Programmes such as these are also, very resource demanding particularly on a larger landscape scale.

- Productivity is a key driver for “more ducks”, and as stated above, quality rather than quantity is a more effective area in which to place our efforts than simply creating more habitat of the type we have focussed on in the past. We do not have the resources to put significantly more effort into enhancing productivity ourselves without impacting on resources that are currently being utilised elsewhere, or finding external resources to cover what is needed. Expanding habitat programmes requires additional and/or novel approaches to resourcing. Providing advice and technical support to landowners, or helping them to access funding rather than directing our own funds towards these projects as tended to be the case in previous years, is an area in which we need to be more proactive and put greater effort into. To this end, we have undertaken aerial surveys of parts of coastal Bay of Plenty and the Waikite area to identify existing wetlands and or bodies of open water that could be readily enhanced if landowners could be encouraged or enticed into doing so. Many such areas are also present on the East Coast.
- Each year we gain a rudimentary insight into duckling production on lowland Bay of Plenty drains, and three years ago we implemented a field programme to identify the physical characteristics of drains utilised by mallards more than others during brood rearing. We found that drain width explained the presence of ducks and broods better than any other factor, while presence of floating vegetation in the drain, extent of grass cover on the banks, the presence of a small number of overhanging trees and shrubs, and no recent drain maintenance activity having been undertaken were all important in explaining the number of mallards and broods observed in the drains.
- Drafting of a 3-5 year strategic plan for greylard habitat enhancement has been commenced.
- Eastern Region has had an ongoing input to National research projects on mallards and factor affecting productivity and it is appropriate that it continues to do so by contributing to the identification and delivery of research priorities

2018-19 programme

Project Area	Projects/Objectives
Species Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboratively monitor greylard populations within proposed Duck Management Units with adjoining Fish & Game regions via a combination of trapping/banding, aerial surveys, and brood counts to investigate productivity, survival, harvest and movements. • Monitor the status of greylard populations in the Reporoa/Broadlands area. • Monitor the survival and dispersal of captive reared mallards released in the Reporoa/Broadlands area. • Undertake a game bird hunter survey. • Review game season conditions and make changes where needed to

	<p>address issues impacting on greylard populations and productivity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to national research programmes on mallards. • Refine as appropriate the five-year strategic research and management work plan for greylards drafted in 2017-2018.
Wildlife Management Reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement, monitor, and refine if necessary, the annual maintenance strategy supported in part by a habitat management fee imposed on ballot holders that was developed in 2017-2018. • Review rotational maintenance programmes undertaken by staff in Fish & Game managed wetlands and re-assess/confirm existing priorities.
Assisted Habitat on Non-Public Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage in statutory planning processes and make submissions to regional and district plans to amend rules that are barriers to habitat enhancement or hunter opportunities, and support or oppose consent applications that impact on game bird habitat values or hunter access. • Develop positive working relationships with landowners and other parties with an interest or involvement in rural land management including local and regional authorities, DOC, Federated Farmers, Fonterra and Dairy NZ.
Habitat Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice to enable and encourage hunters/landowners to develop quality, productive wetland habitat. • Advocate for better drain management and enhance habitat in drainage canals. • Provide advice on enhancement of stock ponds and implement enhancement projects. • Make at least two external funding applications for wetland habitat development. • Participate on Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust and oversee appropriate projects.
Social and rural media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use media to encourage the creation and enhancement of wetland habitats.

Regional Priority: Water Quality and Quantity

- We have had a very active role in the Rotorua Lakes Action Planning processes to improve water quality in the Rotorua Lakes. Many of the lakes have shown marked improvements with the interventions the Bay of Plenty Regional Council has put in place. Lake Tarawera's water quality however, has continued to deteriorate and we suspect this is a primary factor for the protracted decline in the size and condition of trout we have been observing there since 2012. Some of Regional Council's interventions may have had negative impacts on some fisheries (e.g. Ohau Channel Diversion Wall), but improved water quality is benefitting or will benefit other fisheries. In the case of the Ohau Channel wall there is an ongoing requirement to monitor fisheries to ensure that any impacts as a result of interventions are detected and if necessary mitigated for. Fish passes were installed into the wall about a year ago, and a new panel of Fisheries Experts has been appointed to monitor effects.
- The BOPRC's Regional Policy Statement has outlined plans for land use change in sensitive lake catchments to ensure nutrient inputs from agriculture decrease, and processes associated with this are ongoing and likely to be for some time. We retain a strong presence in regional water quality planning and collaborative processes

advocating for sustainable land use and a reduction in nutrient and sediment leaching, and over the past two years or so have been heavily engaged with Gisborne District Council planning processes and the Gisborne Freshwater Plan.

- We have highlighted Rangitaiki River water quality issues to the BOPRC and the Rangitaiki River Forum. Water quality issues have been ‘acknowledged’ and provisions made in the RPS to use the Forum to create a catchment management plan for the river but there appears to have been little action yet to identify and address the causes. Efforts need to be ramped up in this area as water quality this year is no better than it has been over the past three years to the extent its we’ve been unable to conduct drift dives in it for the third year running. We are also involved with other “Freshwater Futures Community Groups in the Kaituna, Pongakawa, Tauranga, Whakatane, Ohiva Harbour/Waiotaha and Tarawera catchments.
- There are other catchments within the region, e.g. the upper Motu, where intensification of land use and conversion from lesser nutrient leaching dry stock farming to higher nutrient leaching dairy farming has been mooted or is well underway. In some areas we have limited ability under current plans to influence these activities and their subsequent impacts on water quality, but need to continue to advocate effectively for such during plan change processes. We need to have robust evidence and be able to present strong cases to support our position and secure the outcomes we seek, and to this end are attempting to conduct annual drift dives to back up our concerns for the Motu. Elsewhere we have to prioritise what we can and can’t get involved with.
- Overlying regional water quality issues in recent years have been National Government initiatives to increase primary production via more intensive land use and increased irrigation. The change in government in 2017 has led to a review of the National Policy Statement for Fresh Water, and the National Office of Fish & Game has co-ordinated a submission identifying amendments we wish to see incorporated into it e.g. the inclusion of the MCI (Macroinvertebrate Community Index), revision of the standard concerned with nitrate toxicity along with a considerable number of other changes.
- There is a far greater awareness and concern within the wider community now in relation to water issues (refer recent Colmar Brunton poll), and we have a government that is far more sympathetic to environmental issues than was the case for the previous nine years before it came into power. As an organisation we have an opportunity to harness and encourage public support more widely to effect change for the better i.e. by using political pressure and the ‘court of public opinion’ in addition to engaging in RMA processes. To effectively advocate for the protection of freshwater habitats both approaches are going to be required because we simply don’t have the resources or capacity to engage in statutory advocacy alone.

2018-19 programme

Project Area	Projects/Objectives
Rivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to assess trout numbers in the Rangitaiki River fishery and communicate water quality issues to Regional Council and the Rangitaiki River Forum. • Monitor trout numbers in the Motu River fishery and communicate water quality related issues to the Gisborne District Council.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain input to the didymo awareness and surveillance programme. • Participate in collaborative processes and submit on water allocation processes in planning and consenting matters on sensitive waters. • Maintain water quality register of Regional Councils' performance.
Lakes Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue Rotorua lakes fisheries monitoring programmes and participate in fisheries research projects. • Monitor and support the Waikaremoana water quality buoy programme. • Participate in Rotorua lakes' collaborative processes and use creel survey and NAS results to advocate for improved water quality.

Regional Priority: Angler and hunter access

- We have maintained extensive physical access tracks and signage for angling to priority waters for over a decade. The current programme is only just manageable however, and is subject to unforeseeable demands in other areas (e.g. CLE) that need to be addressed then and there on occasions. Maintaining hunter access to our reserves is undertaken in conjunction with other habitat management activities and is currently achievable with the resources that are being directed into this area.
- Forest access for both angling and hunting has been affected by Treaty of Waitangi Settlements, and forest managers, e.g. Timberlands. Many of our access problems arise due to land ownership issues and the rights of landowners (or occupiers/managers in the case of Timberlands) to control access across their land. Restoring access to these areas depends on relationship building with land owners and is time consuming and frustratingly slow at times.
- We maintain comprehensive printed access information and continue to expand our inventory of information that is available digitally. We produced a pamphlet for fisheries within the Wairoa catchment a couple of years ago, we update access information as required, and we have made provisions for extending access investigations to other East Coast fisheries i.e. within the eastern Bay of Plenty and north of Gisborne. We have also been investigating opportunities for enhancing access to parts of the Rangitaiki River below Murupara to offset loss of summer opportunity further upriver.
- Opportunities to develop joint initiatives and work more collaboratively with the Walking Access Commission are worthy of ongoing investigation.

2018-19 programme

<i>Project Area</i>	<i>Projects/Objectives</i>
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain current access tracks to the Rangitaiki River and its tributaries (and investigate new opportunities there), the Waioeka River and Tarawera River, and the Ngongotaha and Waiteti Streams. Improve access to Wairoa catchment tributaries including those in the Waiau River, and continue investigation of East Coast fisheries north of Gisborne as opportunity permits. • Allocate balloted hunting stands. • Upgrade signs to brand specifications where required, and maintain signage database.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for improved access through forestry and resolution of identified captured access areas. Submit to regional/district plans for improved angler/hunter access. Continue to press for greater access to the Rangitaiki River fishery and the Otamatea summer fishery in particular. • Liaise with the Walking Access Commission and lobby for provision for public access in Treaty of Waitangi Settlements and Overseas Investment Act sale and purchase conditions. • Maintain the Fish & Game hut at Wairua.
Licence holder information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain access pamphlets and website to ensure effective communication of angling and hunting access information.

Regional Priority: Maximising fishery opportunities

- We have a successful supplementary stocking programme on the Rotorua lakes based on maximising returns to anglers. We undertake intensive monitoring of these fisheries and regularly review stocking rates. We have recent research findings that have modified our liberation strategies and we adaptively manage liberations to maximise returns and effectiveness to the extent it is possible to within various constraints imposed by environmental conditions.
- In 2015 we instigated a more intensive fisheries monitoring programme at Waikaremoana to fill some gaps, and assess concerns raised in an earlier petition and submission to Council for regulation changes. This work has produced some very useful information and although there is a need to scale it back to enable other programmes to proceed elsewhere, needs to be ongoing.
- Most monitoring and angler survey effort within the Rotorua lakes is directed towards lakes Tarawera, Rotoiti, Okataina and Rotorua. It's appropriate that these lakes continue to be the primary focus for this effort but there is a need, periodically at least, to monitor some of the 'lesser' lake fisheries i.e. Rotoma, Rotochu, Okareka, Rerewhakaaitu and the Waikato River lakes.
- We have developed a research programme in conjunction with a recent post doctorate student now employed by Cawthron Institute to better understand the impacts of water quality on Lake Tarawera's trout fishery, and other valued species, and the mechanisms underlying these. Our aim is to be in a better position to predict downturns ahead of time, and offset these if it's possible to do so, by implementing a management response such as modifying our liberation strategy or introducing a change to fishing regulations. The programme includes an acoustic monitoring trial of smelt which got underway last November in conjunction with DOC and NIWA. Sampling for the first year of the overall programme commenced in January this year and will be undertaken quarterly. Costs for the first year of the programme (c.\$40k) will be met by Fish & Game. All going well, subsequent years will be funded through an MBIE grant to the University of Waikato's towards it's Rotorua Lakes initiatives.
- Non-resident licence income is being held in a dedicated fund and currently amounts to approximately \$74k. Council has developed criteria for identifying and prioritising

fisheries eligible for funding from the “Non-Resident Levy Reserve”, and there may be projects worthy of funding from this source during the 2019-2020 OWP year.

- We have increased information distribution on fishing opportunities available to our angling licence holders through printed and electronic channels. We need to maintain if not step up our social media presence to ensure licence holders are aware of the opportunities available to them. We have increased angler training efforts to improve angler success, and there is additional potential to increase participation in angling with assistance from angling clubs and other partners across the region.

2018-19 programme

Project Area	Projects/Objectives
Species Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor growth and performance of liberations into lake fisheries via the Datawatch programme. Tag and release 8,500 trout. • Monitor Lake Tarawera wild spawning runs. • Monitor the Lake Rotorua and Ngongotaha fisheries. • Monitor the Ohau Channel fishery. • Monitor the Lake Waikaremoana fishery. • Investigate/deploy recently developed sounding techniques for monitoring smelt abundance in lake fisheries. • Provide support to external research projects aimed at better understanding lake fisheries.
Harvest Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake lake fisheries creel surveys to monitor angler catch and satisfaction, and Opening Day surveys to evaluate stocking programmes. Extend current programme on Tarawera, Rotoiti and Okataina to some of the smaller fisheries (Rotoma, Rotoehu, Okareka, Rerewhakaaitu).
Hatchery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the current approach to selecting brood stock for the hatchery programme. • Produce c. 80,000 quality fish to maintain trout fisheries within the region.
Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain/enhance sports fish resources through refinement if necessary, of the anglers notice using a policy driven review process. • Look for opportunities to increase participation and remove barriers to fishing including simplifying regulations in some fisheries.
RMA planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represent anglers in water quality and quantity planning and consenting processes and advocate for improved habitat, angling experience and access opportunities.
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and enhance access. • Increase angler communication and information using social media and identify options for increasing participation. • Support childrens’ fishing programmes, angler training and angling competitions, and maintain club relations. • Investigate options for establishing put and take ‘fish out’ facilities in ponds or canals.
Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a high level of participant contact and protect fishery sustainability.
Licensing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make fishing licences readily available and continue to market and

	assess recently introduced licence categories to existing and potential licence holders.
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Regional Priority: Increasing licence revenue

- Based on the ongoing decline in licence revenue that this region has been experiencing for some years now, Council has identified this issue as being a significant risk to Fish & Game’s operations. To that end a number of projects have been identified in this and the last couple of year’s OWPs as initiatives worthy of putting effort into. Some of these, such as licence sales analyses and participation in the Licence Working Party are ongoing, while other activities such as tagged fish events, kids fishing days, ‘how to be successful’ events, and a novice hunting programme have been implemented and are likely to be worth pursuing further in the same, or possibly, revised form. Some projects which we’re keen to get underway have been on hold due to staff resourcing constraints we’ve had, but we do need to make progress in this area sooner rather than later.
- The National Office has engaged marketing and business consultant Steve Doughty to review issues and options for Fish & Game as a whole, and to assist four regions (Eastern being one of these), to review its current activities and what it can do to increase participation, a key objective of which is to increase licence revenue. Steve will introduce Council, during the meeting for which this agenda has been prepared, to the R3 programme (Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation), that has been used very successfully to boost participation in sport fisheries in the United States. Steve will also provide an overview of where we’re at in relation to instigating similar initiatives here.
- Some preliminary discussions have been conducted on the concept of developing a fish out facility of some sort capitalising on potential markets in Tauranga, and further work scoping issues and options relating to an undertaking of this nature is warranted.

2018-19 programme

<i>Project Area</i>	<i>Projects/Objectives</i>
Niche Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct further research into ‘licence churn’, establish reasons why particular demographics drop out (e.g. first time licence holders and young adults), and devise strategies to reduce this. • Develop and implement regional R3 strategies (recruitment, retention, reactivation) in accordance with national initiatives. • Investigate ways of increasing sales of licences to non-resident anglers.
Promotions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate and develop strategies with Destination Rotorua and other marketing agencies. • Investigate opportunities for promoting hunting and fishing in partnership with organisations such as travel agencies, accommodation providers, real estate agencies, and hunting and fishing outlets. • Investigate means of, or incentives for agents to up sell licence types. • Run another tagged fish event and consider attending a fishing and/or boat show. • Run ‘how to be successful’ events.
Opportunity Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise the profile of under-utilised fisheries e.g. Waikato River, and develop and market ‘new’ opportunities e.g. summer river fisheries.
Licensing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to contribute to national Licence Working Party and explore

	opportunities for increasing revenue via fine tuning licence categories and/or pricing of such.
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NZ Council Aspirational outcomes

The New Zealand Council has a focus on increasing public awareness and support of Fish & Game as managers of sports fish and game bird resources, and as advocates for the interests of anglers and hunters, and often in doing so, for those of the wider public. Protecting and enhancing habitats and access to wild areas and resources is important to all New Zealanders, and a fundamental role of the Eastern Council. The Eastern Council contributes significant regional resources to supporting national projects associated with species monitoring and management, public awareness, compliance, licensing and administrative (e.g. financial management) outputs.

2018-19 programme

<i>Project Area</i>	<i>Projects/Objectives</i>
Public Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the national public awareness network and support national public awareness events. • Manage our website and use social media to increase awareness of Fish & Game activities. • Produce regular media releases and support the NZ Council North Island PA Adviser. • Engage and communicate with the rural community and landowners. • Promote Fish & Game at appropriate events and in the rural media. • Give presentations to schools and outside organisations and use the Ngongotaha hatchery and grounds to promote Fish & Game to the wider public.
Statutory Liaison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Manager to periodically meet with senior local and regional authority managers, senior DOC staff, Conservation Boards, and MPs where appropriate. • Continue to meet with Te Urewera iwi entities towards the development of a MOU with Eastern Region Fish & Game. • Develop a closer/more formal working relationship with Te Arawa iwi. • Regional Manager to attend meetings of the Taupo Fisheries Advisory Committee as the NZ Fish & Game Council representative.
Habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the improvement of water quality in the Rotorua lakes via Regional Council planning and collaborative processes. • Utilise river investigation projects to advocate for improved water quality in key regional rivers. • Review and support/oppose plans and consents that impact significantly upon sports fish/game bird habitat values, or angler and hunter access. • Maintain inventory of wetlands, assess their vulnerability and identify wetland deficient areas and opportunities for enhancement through stakeholder collaborative processes.
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for improved access and submit to the Walking Access Commission on key issues, and ensure provision for public access is made in relevant Treaty of Waitangi settlements.

4. Outcomes from Strategic Planning Workshop

Insufficient time was available during last year's workshop to identify new programmes needing to be introduced or changes in direction required, or existing programmes that could be dropped or scaled back to accommodate these. There appeared to be general support however, for ranking Access, Maximising Fishery Opportunities, and Increasing Revenue as high priorities. Without access to sports fish and game bird resources we have little to offer to many licence holders, and without adequate revenue we are unable to perform many of the operational undertakings needed to provide sustainable populations of sports fish and game birds for recreational harvest. Maximising fishery opportunities was seen as a means of increasing participation, and revenue. Notes from the workshop have been included in this meeting's Papers for Information.

5. R3 Proposals

Steve Doughty and staff have identified five potential projects or programmes where R3 activities or approaches could be incorporated as a place from which to start. These are:

- Access promotion and information distribution channels
- Kid's fishing days
- Adult beginners' class
- Promotion with Destination Rotorua
- Potential kayak fishing promotion/class

6. Recommendations

6.1 That Council reviews its priorities and programmes for the 2018-2019 year, and identifies any changes it wishes to see incorporated into its draft operational work plan for the 2019-2020 year.

11. UPLAND GAME PROPERTIES

Ref: 3.01.06

29 January 2019

1. Purpose

To provide feedback to the NZ Council on proposed changes to the operation of Upland Game Properties with Special Conditions (also known as Game Preserves).

2. Background

In 2018 a legal opinion was sought from Sir Geoffrey Palmer in relation to the hunting of captive-reared mallards. That opinion concluded that operations providing access to private land for the purpose of shooting game birds of any species on that land in return for a fee, in circumstances where access would not otherwise be available to hunters, would be in breach of s23(2) of the Wildlife Act as it constitutes selling a right to hunt game. Sir Geoffrey concluded also, that it did not make a difference whether the fee was set on a commercial (for profit) basis or a non-commercial (cost-recovery) basis. On these grounds its likely that many of the 21 Upland Game Properties in total that were gazetted in 2018 are operating unlawfully, albeit as a consequence of having been allowed to do so for many years in the case of some.

In late November last year, following National Office consultation with the Department of Conservation, the NZ Council resolved to write to each of the currently gazetted property operators advising that having accepted Sir Geoffrey's opinion it can no longer recommend to the Minister of Conservation a game notice for properties which are operating in a manner that is inconsistent with the Act. The letter to operators recognised that many game preserves were well established and had been for many years, and advised that the NZ Council would like to recommend to the Minister that a transitional measure enabling existing game preserves to operate for another three years be implemented by temporarily using other provisions in the Wildlife Act. This would enable operators to restructure their operations if necessary, or develop an exit strategy if this or other options were not available.

The measure proposed would involve reclassifying pheasant and red-legged partridge inside the boundaries of designated Upland Game Properties from Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Act (wildlife declared to be game) to Schedule 3 of the Act (wildlife able to be hunted subject to approval of the Minister). The Minister has the discretion to declare species listed in Schedule 3 as being able to be hunted or killed subject to such conditions as he or she may prescribe, and in this case its likely there would continue to be conditions around season length, and no bag limits on pheasant or red-legged partridge, or restrictions on the taking of hen pheasants as currently applies. If this proposal was adopted there would be no requirement for hunters hunting pheasant or red-legged partridge within the boundaries of a game preserve to hold a game bird licence. However, all conditions relating to the hunting of pheasant and red-legged partridge beyond the boundaries of the preserve would be as apply to all other game bird licence holders hunting within that Fish & Game region, and under the oversight and day to day management of Fish & Game.

Sir Geoffrey's opinion and other relevant information previously provided to Council have been collated for convenience and are available in this meeting's Papers for Information. A summary of the 2018 Upland Game Properties report for the Eastern Region is reprinted

there, and a summary of results and observations from the past three years for three Hawke’s Bay game preserves prepared by the Hawke’s Bay Fish and Game Council has also been included for Council’s information.

3. Types of Designated Upland Game Properties with Special Conditions

A variety of approaches are evident in the way in which game preserves have been set up and are currently managed. The following figure has been prepared by Robert Sowman, Policy and Planning Manager for the NZ Fish and Game Council and demonstrates how approaches span the spectrum from private arrangements involving one or more hunters through to fully commercial and large-scale operations.

	Fully commercial	Property purposely designed with feed and shelter belts, may include lodging and other hosting facilities. Hunting fee required. May provide a keeper, arranges for dog handlers and beaters. Offers booking/ reservation for any or all of the following: driven game, guided hunting, and walk-up.	<i>No daily bag limit, harvest both sexes, & potential for extending season length beyond 'normal' game season</i>	Public by arrangement	
	Personal cost	Hunting fee paid by syndicate holders (usually hunters are the same group of people). Landowner arrangement with syndicate. No non-invited hunting allowed.		Private	
		Hunting costs shared by one or more hunters (with non-paying invited friend(s) on particular days). Landowner arrangement excludes non-invited hunting.			

In the 2018 Open Season for Game Gazette there were 21 registered upland game properties with special conditions across New Zealand. On these properties, season duration varied from the period 5 May 2018 to 3 May 2019, to two open periods from 5 May to 26 August 2018 and 6 April 2019 to 3 May 2019. In three regions the season was 5 May to 26 August 2018 (i.e. aligned with the public open season for pheasant).

Special conditions common to all properties were no daily bag limits and the ability to harvest hen pheasants in addition to cock birds.

There are five Upland Game Properties currently gazetted within the Eastern Fish and Game Region. Two of these, Equine and Cropp Farms, and Totara Lodge are commercial operations which between them released 26,500 pheasants last year. Two others, Prime Pine and Pirini Family Trust are syndicates with two to eight members. These two syndicates released a combined total of 1,200 pheasants last year. The fifth property, Coates Road, Waikite was gazetted as an Upland Game Property in 2018. 400 pheasants were released there in early 2018 but the property has yet to be operated as a preserve.

If there are cases within the 21 gazetted properties nationally where the opportunity to hunt does not involve a fee to the landowner and/or operator, then there could be a case made that these might legitimately continue to operate within the legal advice provided by Sir Geoffrey. This may apply to one or more of the Eastern Region operations.

4. Feedback Sought

The NZ Council has requested comment from regional Fish and Game Councils on Upland Game Properties and its proposed changes to the operation of these. To assist feedback, which is required by 29 March 2019, it has provided a number of questions for Council to consider. The NZ Council has also invited feedback by the same date from each of the 21 gazetted properties. Staff have invited representatives from the five preserves present within the Eastern Region to attend and address any queries Councillors might have when this agenda item is being considered on 12 February, and to convey any comments to Council that they individually or collectively might wish to make.

4.1 Items To Consider

The following questions have been raised by the NZ Council:

1. Does your Council support the operation of Upland Game Properties with special conditions for the principal purpose of providing an alternative or more productive hunting/shooting experience for a fee?

Staff suggest this be discussed on the basis that legislation would allow for this to occur.

2. Is there support for continuing to allow non-fee paying Upland Game Properties with special conditions operated by families, private syndicates or friends for the purpose of providing an alternative, or more productive hunting/shooting experience, that are compliant with current legislation?
3. If Fish & Game/the legislation allows pheasant/partridge hunting on Upland Game Properties with special conditions for a fee, should it also allow hunting of mallards or other game birds on that property for a fee?

See 4.2 below re resolutions concerning mallards previously agreed to by this Council.

4. If Fish & Game allows pheasant/partridge hunting on Upland Game Properties with special conditions and no fee involved, should it also allow hunting of mallards or other game birds on that property?

If so under what conditions? (Note too, resolution reproduced below that was previously made by this Council in relation to hunting of mallards on game preserves). Matters Council might wish to consider:

- *If special conditions are to apply to the hunting of mallards or other game birds should this be allowed only where these species have been captive-reared and released, or could it apply to wild birds that are naturally present on the property?*
 - *If hunting of mallards or other game birds is allowed should the regulations be the same as those gazetted for hunting of these species immediately beyond the boundaries of the preserve?*
 - *If birds produced in the wild can be hunted should this be able to take place on the same day/occasion that pheasant/partridge hunting is being undertaken?*
5. Would you support legislation being changed to allow the sale of hunting rights on Upland Game Properties with special conditions but maintain the prohibition on the sale of hunting rights in all other hunting situations?

Staff note another option that could be raised would be to remove pheasant and red-legged partridge located inside the boundaries of a designated game preserve from Schedule 1 and retain these within Schedule 3 in the long term. This could however, pose political and/or financial risks to Fish & Game as an organisation if this was used as a precedent for these and/or other species to be permanently removed from Schedule 1.

4.2 Current Policy To Be Taken into Account

Question 3 in particular, and 4 potentially, introduce the concept of hunting captive-reared mallards (CRMs) that have been released into a game preserve in addition to wild birds that have naturally arrived there. This is a complex and controversial topic that was discussed in length by Council in early and mid 2018. Resolutions made by Council and communicated to the NZ Council at that point in time that are of relevance to the current discussion are as follows:

Agreed (Ken Coombes/Steve Scragg) that the Eastern Fish and Game Council supports the concept of 'put and take' operations where CRMs are released for the principal purpose of providing an immediate hunting opportunity. Carried eight/two, 1 abstained. [18/02/11.3] Note Council expressed concern that large 'put and take' operations could impact adversely on opportunities for neighbouring hunters by decoying wild mallards to the 'put and take' property, but it was also noted that this can occur in situations where landowners heavily pond feed. Support for 'put and take' operations was premised on there being appropriate conditions attached to ensure there are no adverse effects arising from these on wild mallard populations, operational activities (e.g. wild mallard monitoring programmes, CLE, administration workloads etc), or other hunters.

Agreed (Barry Roderick/Lindsay Lyons) that CRM 'put and take' operations are to be of a non-commercial nature only. Carried six/four, Cr Alan Baird abstained. [18/02/11.16]

Agreed (Barry Roderick/Sandy Bull) that if CRM 'put and take' is allowed for non-commercial operators then those birds need to be hunted according to the game season regulations in place at the time. [18/02/11.18]

Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Steve Scragg) that ducks may be hunted on Upland Game Properties on non-commercial hunting days provided that there is no commercial or pecuniary gain associated in doing so. Opposed by Cr Mike Little [14/11/9.11]
Note Council had previously prohibited hunting of waterfowl at any time on Registered Upland Game Properties (13/11/8.3) in accordance with national policy.

4.3 Other Suggestions

Staff suggest that Council's feedback also includes:

- (i) acknowledgement of Sir Geoffrey's opinion and an endorsement of the NZ Council's position that Upland Game Properties currently charging a fee cannot continue to operate under the current structure;
- (ii) strong support for an interim measure such as that proposed that will enable time for currently non-compliant Upland Game Properties to restructure or implement exit strategies minimising the financial impact that that might have on their businesses;
- (iii) a need to review the operational guidelines/conditions associated with Upland Game Properties to ensure that these are relevant and appropriate. For example, requirements relating to the ongoing welfare of released birds following the conclusion of the season, and protocols/procedures for disposal of carcasses.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1** *That Council determines its position in relation to the operation of Upland Game Properties with Special Conditions and the changes that have been proposed to these, and highlights any other comments it wishes to include in feedback to the NZ Council.*

12. SETTING NATIONAL POLICY

Ref: 8.04.10

31 January 2019

1. Purpose

To provide feedback to the NZ Council on its draft policy for Setting National Policy.

2. Background

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council approved a draft policy setting out the processes associated with the preparation and approval of national policy at its meeting on 23 November 2018, and has requested feedback on the draft from regional Fish and Game Councils. The draft policy and recommendations put to the NZ Council are provided in the two pages following.

Comments are required by 17 May 2019 for consideration at NZ Council's meeting in June.

3. Recommendation

3.1 That Council reviews the draft policy and provides its comments for feedback to the NZ Council.

SETTING NATIONAL POLICY

New Zealand Council Meeting, November 2018

Prepared by: Robert Sowman, Policy & Planning Manager

Purpose:

1. National policy provides guidance, cohesion and direction to be consistently applied across the organisation. This paper seeks agreement on the process for setting national policy.

Background:

2. The Conservation Act 1987 provides for national policy to be developed by the NZ Fish and Game Council (NZ Council) "*for the carrying out of its functions for sports fish and game*".
3. In setting these functions, Parliament has given the NZ Council a leadership role at the centre of the sports fish and game system to ensure that all parts of the system work together as a coherent whole.

Statutory relevance for FGNZ:

4. As already noted, a central aspect of the NZ Council's co-ordination purpose is its function to "*develop, in consultation with Fish and Game Councils, national policies for the carrying out of its functions for sports fish and game*" (section 26C(1)(a)).1
5. This function is accompanied by the requirement that Fish and Game Councils "*implement national policy determined by the New Zealand Fish and Game Council*" (section 26Q(1)(e)(v)).

Process:

6. The following provisions shall apply in the preparation and approval of such policy:
 - a. proposed policy initiatives can be put forward by the NZ Council or any Fish and Game Council for consideration by the NZ Council.
 - b. the initiative will be drafted as policy and submitted to the NZ Council for its consideration.
 - c. in determining that policy warrants becoming national policy, the NZ Council must agree to it as draft national policy and consult with Fish and Game Councils.
 - d. following a period (such as one meeting cycle) that allows Fish and Game Councils to consider and provide feedback on the draft national policy, the NZ Council can consider and where necessary amend that policy before resolving to adopt it as national policy.
 - e. once adopted, the NZ Council must circulate the document to all Fish and Game Councils, recording the date it was approved as National Policy.
7. In doing so, there is an expectation that the NZ Council will approach the development of national policies with an open mind to the views of Fish and Game Councils. That said, it

does not require that there be complete agreement by all Fish and Game Councils in arriving at that policy.

8. The NZ Council may at any time prepare an amendment to any National Policy. In doing so it is required to follow the same consultation process of notifying Fish and Game Councils and allowing for feedback on what is proposed before the policy is amended.

Recommendation:

That the NZ Council:

1. **Note that national policy provides guidance, cohesion and direction for all 13 Fish and Game Councils.**
2. **Agree, subject to any modifications determined at the November 2018 NZ Council meeting, that this policy be approved for consultation with Fish and Game Councils.**
3. **Agree that once approved, this policy be consulted with Fish and Game Councils to seek feedback by 17 May 2019, with the intention of it becoming national policy at the June 2019 NZ Council meeting.**

Document Status

File Reference.	Version	Date prepared	Author	Date Submitted to NZC:
H\NZC1800 Organisational Coordination, Planning & Reporting\Coordination General\Policies	v.1	24 Oct 2018	Robert Sowman	November 2018
Summary				Date approved
				23 November 2018

13. BEQUEST POLICY

Ref: 8.04.10

31 January 2019

1. Purpose

To provide feedback to the NZ Council on its draft Bequest Policy.

2. Background

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council approved a draft Bequest Policy at its meeting on 23 November 2018, and has requested feedback on the draft from regional Fish and Game Councils. The Eastern Fish and Game Council wrote to the NZ Council on the urgent need for a policy on bequests and donations prior to that meeting, a copy of which was circulated to Councillors in Eastern's December 2018 Papers for Information.

The draft policy and recommendations put to the NZ Council are provided in the pages following. Comments are required by 17 May 2019 for consideration at NZ Council's meeting in June.

3. Recommendation

3.1 That Council reviews the draft policy and provides its comments for feedback to the NZ Council.

FISH & GAME NEW ZEALAND BEQUESTS POLICY

New Zealand Council Meeting, November 2018

Prepared by: Robert Sowman, Policy & Planning Manager

Purpose

1. To establish a uniform policy relating to the acceptance and utilisation of bequests.

Background

2. It has been agreed Fish & Game NZ (FGNZ) need to establish a bequest policy for all councils to establish the parameters for the general management of bequests.
3. There have been several cases over the years where individual New Zealanders have enquired about making a bequest to FGNZ. Having no policy or guidelines in place at the time meant that these opportunities were not followed up. The legal implications for FGNZ were canvassed and it was established that FGNZ is entitled to receive bequeathed funds and/or other donations.
4. Recently issues have been raised in relation to a bequest accepted by one of the Fish and Game Councils and a national bequest policy would have assisted in this situation.
5. Eastern Fish and Game Council have written (see attached) to the NZ Council Chairperson supporting the development of national bequest policy.

Statutory relevance for FGNZ

6. The thirteen councils within FGNZ (NZ Council and 12 regional councils) are established as public entities under the Conservation Act 1987 and, under that Act, F&G councils are not prohibited from receiving funds under a bequest policy.
7. A constraint on FGNZ is that it must exercise its powers, rights or privileges for the purpose of performing its functions (according to section 26(B)(3)). Furthermore, although FGNZ is not a Crown Entity under the Crown Entities Act 2004, it is a public entity which has Crown Entity obligations under subpart 2 of Part 5 of the Public Finance Act 1989.
8. This means that FGNZ can use such (bequest) money received for performing its functions under the Conservation Act 1987, provided it does not engage in any activity that has the predominant purpose of making a commercial gain (section 26R of the CA 1987).

BEQUEST POLICY

9. The Bequest Policy (BP) covers:

- the process for accepting a bequest.
- the process for rejecting a bequest.
- the process for determining the use of bequeathed funds.
- monitoring and reporting requirements.

The process for accepting a bequest

10. The Council must agree, at a formal meeting, to accept a bequest and the conditions and terms of the bequest. These decisions to accept must be recorded in the minutes of that meeting.
11. If accepted, the funds must be retained in a specified reserve or specified investment account, to be used expressly for holding bequeathed funds. The use of such bank accounts must operate in accordance with section 158 of the Crown Entities Act 2004 (Bank Accounts of Crown Entities).
12. If the funds are required to be held in trust, then the council must set up the appropriate trust structure, ensuring control of the trust sits with the receiving council.
13. The council will not make public any name or other details about a donor without their permission. However, donors may choose to have their contributions acknowledged, to adopt naming rights where the contribution is significant, or to have their names publicly recorded.
14. The specified reserve or trust and accompanying bequest programme should have a name which portrays the use/benefits of the fund.
15. If required, the council and NZC will maintain the confidentiality of all donor and contribution information.
16. Where possible, bequests should allow flexibility, but give pre-eminence to the wishes of the donor.

The process for rejecting a bequest

17. Decisions to accept or reject a bequest must be recorded in the minutes of that meeting.
18. If a bequest is deemed unsuitable for FG NZ to administer, (being outside of its statutory functions or conflicted with the agency in question), the council must notify the benefactor and graciously decline the bequest. All cases where offers are declined will remain confidential between FGHNZ and the proposed donor. Such situations might include:
 - where the conditions attached seriously restrict the use to which FG NZ can put the contribution
 - where the cost or administrative work involved is more than the bequest donation is worth
 - results from illegal activity (perceived or known).

The process for determining the use of bequeathed funds

19. Uses of the bequest could be as follows:
 - for special purposes not covered by the usual operational activities of councils or FGZ
 - for activities which could benefit either the whole country or a particular region
 - for unexpected 'disaster management' situations
 - a scholarship programme introduced once a certain level of investment is reached with a defined focus e.g. wildlife management practices or licence holder retention.

20. The following systems and processes need to be established to facilitate the management of the fund:
 - bequeathed funds should be deposited into the specified account and no interest distributed until a council agrees that use of the funds is consistent with the conditions of the bequest.
 - any bequests which have a specified purpose must be used for that purpose
 - all specific bequests should be limited in time, or discretion provided to direct the funds to another project, prize or scholarship should the original intention of the bequest become obsolete or not feasible.
 - the criteria by which fund application projects are assessed need to be finalised and agreed formally by a council.
 - When a council considers using bequest money, it must be addressed in a formal meeting, and have a supporting paper which sets out all the details, including the conditions on which the bequest is accepted and the impact on the funds remaining.
 - All decisions on the use of bequest money need to be recorded in council minutes, either in committee or in public, as deemed appropriate by the council.

Monitoring and reporting requirements

21. A council must inform the NZ Council when an offer has been made, how it is to be established and the conditions of the bequest.

22. After a Council has agreed to use bequest funds, in a timely manner, that council must report to the NZ Council on how the conditions of bequests are being met and funds are being distributed.

23. An annual report on the operation of the bequest account(s), copied to the NZ Council, must include the basis of spending, name of the successful applicants receiving funds, where conditions of the bequest may have been amended, and the capital sum remaining.

Recommendation

That the NZ Council:

4. **Agree to receive the letter from Eastern Fish and Game Council dated 12 November 2018 on the need for a national bequest policy.**
5. **Note that a bequest policy will provide guidance and consistency for all 13 Fish and Game Councils.**
6. **Agree, subject to any modifications determined at the November 2018 NZ Council meeting, that this bequest policy be approved.**
7. **Agree that once approved, this policy be consulted with Fish and Game Councils to seek feedback by 17 May 2019, with the intention of it becoming national policy at the June 2019 NZ Council meeting.**

Document Status

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H\NZC1800 Organisational Coordination, Planning & Reporting\ Bequeathing Policy	v.1.1	13 November 2018	Robert Sowman	November 2018
Summary				Date approved
				23 November 2018

14. SPECIES MONITORING REPORT

Ref: 1.02.01

31 January 2019

1. Purpose

To receive the Rotorua Lakes 2018 Winter Creel Survey report.

2. Background

The Eastern Council operates a significant species monitoring programme for both sports fisheries and game birds across the region. This monitoring involves investigations on the populations we manage and the characteristics of the harvest on these species. Understanding what we manage, and key characteristics of how our licence holders use these resources is a fundamental aspect to fish and game management.

The winter creel surveys were established in the late 1990s to monitor changes in the highly valued winter shoreline fishery on Lakes Rotoiti, Okataina and Tarawera. The first survey in 1997 established total effort from this group of anglers and ascertained characteristics of the catch as well as angler perceptions, attractions and detractions. These surveys have continued annually to monitor the catch from these fisheries each year. Data collected has been used to adjust seasonal liberations into the lakes to increase opportunities for winter anglers, as well as monitor regulation changes to try and further enhance these fisheries.

The full Rotorua Lakes 2018 Winter Creel Survey Report will be emailed out to Council with February 2019's Papers for Information, and will be posted on the Eastern Region pages of the www.fishandgame.org.nz web site. The Executive Summary is replicated below.

3. Rotorua Lakes 2018 Winter Creel Survey Report

Executive Summary

- The creel survey of winter shoreline anglers on Lakes Rotoiti, Okataina and Tarawera has been undertaken relatively unchanged for the past twenty-two years. A total of 173 angler encounters were recorded. This is less than we ideally would have liked, and attributable in part to staff resourcing for the creel being constrained by other regional operating demands.
- Lake Rotoiti anglers experienced a lower average catch rate compared with the 2017 winter. However, the fish caught by Rotoiti anglers during the 2018 winter were larger and heavier on average than the fish caught during the 2017 winter and were 3mm smaller but 10g heavier than the past 10-year average (591mm, 2.86kg). The average angler's level of satisfaction was unchanged from recent winters with 96% of Rotoiti winter anglers saying they were satisfied with their fishing.
- Lake Okataina creel surveys over the 2018 winter encountered a low number of anglers. Catch rates at Lake Okataina during the 2018 winter were up on both the 2016 and 2017 winters and equalled the past 10-year average (0.18 fish/hr). Fish size may have been larger compared to the past three winter creel surveys. Anglers rated their level of satisfaction slightly lower than during the 2017 winter. A total of 98% of anglers

interviewed stated they were satisfied with their 2018 winter's fishing at Okataina, which was just ahead of the past 10-year average.

- Lake Tarawera anglers interviewed over the 2018 winter were recorded as having a much reduced catch rate compared to the 2017 winter. This contrasted with the winter spawning run recorded through the Te Wairoa fish trap which produced a record total of 2,122 fish. Just five shoreline caught fish were measured during Tarawera creel surveys. The Te Wairoa trapped fish were slightly shorter than the 2017 run but heavier and in significantly better condition ($P < 0.001$ for hatchery fish and $P = 0.014$ for wild fish). All Tarawera anglers interviewed stated they were satisfied with their 2018 winter's fishing. This was much improved on what was recorded during the 2017 winter and ahead of the past 10-year average.

3. Recommendation

3.1 That Council receives the Rotorua Lakes 2018 Winter Creel Survey report.

15. LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS

15.1 Conservation Boards

- *Bay of Plenty Conservation Board*
- *Tongariro-Taupo Conservation Board*
- *East Coast/Hawkes Bay Conservation Board*

15.2 Reports from Other Agencies

- Department of Conservation

15.3 Report from New Zealand Council

16. OPERATIONAL REPORTS

16.1 MANAGEMENT REPORT

31 January 2019

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

1111 River Fisheries Investigations

Drift Dive Investigations 2018-19

Staff are planning on undertaking a drift dive investigation in the Motu River in February. The last check was undertaken in 2017 as weather and river conditions made it untenable to carry out work during the 2018 summer. Reports have continued to be received of low fish numbers in the upper river. The Waioeka River has similarly been reported as having low fish numbers and/or low catch rates in the several kilometres upstream of the Opato confluence. This area sees regular and intensive fishing pressure due to the easy access and scenic attributes that the area offers.

Eastern Region staff have been invited to assist with Hawke's Bay Region's monitoring of the Ngaruroro and Mohaka rivers during mid-February and have undertaken to assist provided this doesn't compromise our own activities.

Rangitaiki River Water Quality Monitoring

Fish & Game staff visited the upper Rangitaiki River within the Kaingaroa Forest on 11 January 2019. Over the past three seasons, staff have been unable to undertake drift dive trout counts due to the poor visibility within the river, and this proved to be the case again this year. Water quality parameters (secchi, temperature and dissolved oxygen) were recorded at a number of sites on the Upper Rangitaiki and at the confluence with two of its tributaries (Otamatea and Otangimoana).

1112 Datawatch

During the four and a half months following the season opening, a total of 255 datawatch tags have been returned and entered into the database. The distribution is as follows:

Lake Hawkstone	3
Lake Okareka	4
Lake Okataina	61
Lake Rerewhakaaitu	15
Lake Rotoehu	4
Lake Rotoiti	59
Lake Rotoma	8
Lake Rotorua	5
Lake Tarawera	93
Lake Tutira	3
Lake Waikaremoana	0

**Datawatch returns (entered to 23/01/2019)*

This total is 97 tags ahead compared to that at approximately the same time last year. Lake Tarawera returns are up by 94%, Rotoiti is ahead by 74%, and Okataina by 31%. All other lakes are within one or two tags of last season's tallies to date.

1113 Lake Waikaremoana

Lake Waikaremoana Monitoring Buoy Update

Following the re-installation of the Waikaremoana buoy, an issue occurred with the system that meant data was not being transmitted. The sensor unit was retrieved and returned to University of Waikato to ascertain and fix the issue. The logger was found to have broken down, and this has been replaced. The unit will be run for a period to ensure that there is not another underlying fault that caused the malfunction. We expect this work to be completed by the end of the first week in February following which staff will return it to the lake at our earliest convenience.

1114 Lake Tarawera

Lake Tarawera Fishery Research Update

The food web study at Lake Tarawera was initiated during the period 14-16 January. Fish & Game staff were joined by Simon Stewart from Cawthron, and Te Arawa representatives including Ken Raureti and William Anaru. Samples were collected from four shallow (shoreline sites) and three deep (mid-lake) sites. A range of species were collected including smelt, bullies, worms, snails, lakeweeds, zooplankton and algae. Trout were provided by Geoff Thomas. Several more specimens of taonga species have still to be collected (12 each of koura, kakahi, and morihana if practicable) and Te Arawa have been approached to see if they can assist with this. Cawthron will analyse these samples in due course the results of which will be reported in 12 months or so. The next quarterly sample collection is scheduled to be undertaken in April.

1115 Other Lake Fisheries Investigations

Ngongotaha Trap-run

December and January 2018

The Ngongotaha fish trap was not operated during December but was operated for four nights during January prior to the preparation of this report.

January 2018

	<i>Av. Length</i>	<i>Av. Weight</i>	<i>Trap Run</i>	<i>Fish/night</i>	<i>10 pound+</i>	<i>% Brown</i>
<i>Rainbow</i>	484	1.41	27	7	0	
<i>Brown</i>	549	2.08	16	4	0	37%

1116 Waterfowl Monitoring

Trend counts were undertaken earlier than usual (7-9 January) due to a spell of good weather. Counts from aerial photos were completed and results sent to NZ Fish & Game in support of Council's regulation recommendations (see this agenda's Papers for Information). Results suggest populations are relatively stable though swan numbers on the Rotorua lakes were low compared with previous years and paradise numbers in B1 look like they might be on the decline.

At the time of preparing this report we have finished banding at all sites other than two in Broadlands. To date we have banded 1,318 mallard and grey duck which is down on last year's tally of 2,297, but good in comparison with the previous 13 years.

1121 Lake Fisheries Creel Surveys

Winter Creel Survey 2017-18

The report for this has been completed (see Agenda Item 14 and Papers for Information).

Summer Creel Survey 2018-19

Summer Angler Creel Surveys commenced started during late November and will continue through to April. To mid-January 2019, 458 angler interviews had been undertaken during 24 survey events across the four surveyed lakes. A total of 253 fish were presented for measuring. Number of contacts to date is up on that made during the same period last year (175 contacts from 16 surveys). During the early summer through to the Christmas period, angling proved challenging on many of the lakes due to a shallow thermocline being formed (6-10m deep). Lake Tarawera proved hard fishing whilst Rotoiti fished well in the lead up to Christmas. From the New Year holiday onward, Tarawera has improved, especially for trolling anglers. Rotoiti has become much harder fishing but has been producing the best conditioned fish.

Hot, still conditions have really pushed the trout in toward the stream mouths on Lake Rotorua producing top class fishing for many. Fish condition has been highly variable however with some nice conditioned fish but the majority poor conditioned slabs. The trophy size fish released pre-Christmas from Pond 8 (during maintenance) stirred a lot of hype and caught the imagination of the media. A number of these have been caught and or reported hooked and lost by anglers. Lake Okataina has been at a moderately high lake level allowing boats to launch from the ramp with relative ease. Okataina's fish size and condition has declined from recent highpoints, but anglers are enjoying the peaceful and scenic nature of the lake. Anglers fishing deep (downriggers and jigs) are getting the best results.

1122 Opening Day Angler Survey

The 2018-19 Opening Day Survey information has been entered in to the database ready for analysis and report writing.

1141 Hatchery Operations

Juvenile rainbows from the 2018 brood were counted and moved to external rearing ponds during December.

Fish locations at 18 January 2019

Location	Type	Qty (approx)	Comment
Tank A	1+ Bt	1,000	Sales Wgtn F&G, Feb 2019
Tank B	0+ Tiger	20	Display
Tank C	1+ Bt	1,000	
Tank E	1+ Bt	1,000	
Tank F	1+ Brook	25	Display/sales
Pond 4	0+ Rt	8,750	Autumn liberations 2019
Pond 5	0+ Rt	8,250	Autumn liberations 2019

Pond 6	0+ Rt	8,500	Autumn liberations 2019
Pond 7	0+ Rt	7,750	Autumn liberations 2019

1142 Hatchery Maintenance

The children's fishing pond and Pond 8 were drained and repaired. They have now both been re-filled and re-stocked.

1161 Sports Fish Liberations

Fish were liberated at Tuai (Lake Whakamarino) and Kaitawa as shown in the table below, and large fish from the Pond 8 display pond were released into Lake Rotorua to enable maintenance to be undertaken on the pond. Fish were also liberated to a local tourist facility for purposes of display.

Liberations, Eastern Region 17 November 2018 – 18 January 2019

Water	Date Liberated	Mark	Tag	Species	Age	Number
Tuai/Kaitawa	4/12/18	Rp	-	RT	1+	500
Tuai/Kaitawa	4/12/18	Rp	-	BT	1+	200
Rotorua	12/12/18	-	-	RT	3+	200

1171 Sports Fish Regulations

The 2018-19 season falls into the intermediate year between the comprehensive reviews of the Anglers Notice process for Eastern Fish & Game. A letter will be sent to clubs during February to advise them of this.

1173 Game Bird Authorities

Authority to Disturb

Eastern Fish & Game's Authority to Disturb was finally renewed by the Department of Conservation five and a half years after initiating discussions and applying for such.

HABITAT PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE

1211 RMA Planning

Gisborne District Council – Freshwater Advisory Group and Freshwater Plan

An appeal on parts of the Proposed Freshwater Plan was lodged in September 2017. The appeal points related to some fish passage provisions, the activity status for new maimai, crop survival water allocation provisions, and activities in riparian margins. Mediation was attended in May and Oct 2018, and we have negotiated positive outcomes on the majority of our appeal points. Once all the consent documentation is signed off we will not be proceeding to Environment Court.

Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Proposed Plan Change 9 (Water Quantity) submissions were lodged in December 2017. The Hearing was attended in March, and recommendations from the Panel were released in

October 2018. An appeal was lodged in November relating to the allocation of surface water after minimum flows are reached.

Waikato Regional Council

In March 2018 the Auckland/Waikato and Eastern Fish and Game Councils lodged a joint submission on Waikato Regional Council's Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora: Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1.

Bay of Plenty Water Advisory Panel

Fish & Game remains involved in the Bay of Plenty Regional Water Advisory Panel, community catchment groups, and Okareka Working Party.

Bay of Plenty Draft Regional Pest Management Plan

Bay of Plenty Regional Council's existing Pest Management Plan has recently expired and a new Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan released. Submissions on the proposed plan were lodged in November opposing the inclusion of sports fish (perch and tench) in the document, and a meeting was subsequently held with BOPRC senior staff to discuss our submission.

1212 Consent Applications

Date In	Authority	Applicant	Type	Resource Involved	Action
14-Jan-19	BOPRC	Red Stag Timber	DP- site stormwater discharge	Waipa Stream, Rotorua	S95E3A APPROVED
14-Jan-19	BOPRC	BOPRC Rivers & Drainage	LUC- gravel abstraction consent renewal	Otara & Waioeka Rivers	IN PROGRESS

Resource consents of note

Aquatic Herbicides

The BOPRC resource consent applications for discharging aquatic herbicides Endothall and Diquat to the Rotorua lakes and catchments for pest plant control have been heard by commissioners and their decisions have since been released. There were multiple submissions both supporting and opposing the applications. Eastern Fish & Game submitted that it wished to see additional monitoring conditions imposed than had been, and the maximum area (as a percentage) of a lake that can be treated at any one time to be defined. The commissioners have prescribed that no more than 5% of any lake area can be sprayed at any one time which we're happy with. Fewer monitoring conditions were proposed than we had requested, but this is less of an issue now given the reduction in area of lake that can be sprayed at any one time. Fish & Game will not be appealing the decisions.

1221 Reserves Management

Spring/summer track mowing and pest plant spraying has been ongoing. The additional spray programme to be undertaken by a contractor using funding from the ballot holder's habitat contribution fee will commence in February. Water reticulation and weed excavation works have been completed in Awaiti, and some track and water reticulation works in the Lower Kaituna are planned for late February.

Lower Kaituna WMR

No new BOPRC plans have been received since last Council meeting but sketch and engineering designs are due soon.

Ngapouri and Tutaeinanga

The Ngapouri and Tutaeinanga restoration project progresses within budget and timeframes. A site evaluation with Iwi and Fish & Game is programmed for mid February to ensure everything is on target before a report is prepared and submitted to the funding agency (Waikato River Authority).

Thornton WMR

Significant repair to fencing at Thornton WMR is required due to a stolen 4WD vehicle damaging approximately 700m of fence. Leased grazing cannot proceed until the fence is repaired as cattle would be able to access the lagoon and escape onto the beach area. Fencing contractors are currently being contacted with the aim of repairs being undertaken before April.

Joint Management Agreements

The final signing of joint management agreements between DOC and Fish & Game for the gazetted WMR wetlands we manage has still to happen.

1231 Respond to Landowner Requests for Assistance

A site visit to a Katikati property has been undertaken with advice provided on how to reconstruct dam walls, enhance waterfowl and upland game habitat, and manage the site. No further assistance is currently required.

1232 Habitat Creation and Enhancement Projects

A funding application to assist a landowner in Reporoa develop a small wetland has been completed, with one other Reporoa landowner yet to be visited and wetland design undertaken. This wetland remained wet until recently and precluded a full assessment of it at the time. The site will be visited during February with the aim of applying for funding to assist with its restoration.

A significant wetland in the Te Puke district has been visited, the owners being keen to enhance the site. Significant bund works are required to safeguard it along with willow control, and there is an opportunity to create additional ephemeral habitat. BOPRC has assigned a land management officer to assist Fish & Game with this project as the site contains significant ecological values as well as waterfowl habitat values.

ANGLER AND HUNTER PARTICIPATION

1311 Maintain & Enhance Access

Kaingaroa Forest access remains closed during the fire season. We have continued to promote the Ngahuinga access easement through the forest to the Rangitaiki River and foot access off SH5, as well as advising anglers to access the river in other locations outside of the forest.

Further access maintenance work to the Rangitaiki system within Kaingaroa has been undertaken including contracted work in some areas.

Other access work has been carried out as required including sign maintenance.

1331 Electronic Newsletters

Reel Life was produced for November and December covering seasonal prospects, Tarawera boat fishing tuition, river safety, upper streams opening, soft bait use, angling diaries, and children's fishing.

1332 Fish & Game Publications

We are well on track for compiling material for the game magazine together. This year we have increased the number of pages we will be submitting in lieu of not producing a newsletter. Download statistics have indicated that the newsletter was not widely read so we have decided to put more effort into the magazine.

1333 Fish & Game Website

Updates or changes to the Eastern website included Council agendas and minutes, and datawatch and angler diary pages and links.

1334 Social Media

Our Twitter account has 454 followers and received approximately 6,000 impressions for the reporting period. Regular posts are being made to our Facebook page which has 106 followers.

1341 Information Pamphlets

A stocktake of pamphlets has been completed. Work is underway on a Lake Waikaremoana fishery re-print.

1351 Junior Angler/Hunter Programmes

Te Awamutu Anglers' children's fish-out day was held in November. The Rotorua Anglers Association also hosted an old peoples' home from Te Puke. The pond has since been drained, repaired, refilled and restocked.

1352 Angler/Hunter Training

A successful boat fishing talk was held at Tarawera in January. About 75 people attended, and staff received favourable feedback from the event.

1354 Fishing Competitions

Five fishing competition permits were processed, and one weigh-in was attended for the period.

1361 Fish & Game Club Communications

No club visits were attended during this reporting period.

1371 Fish & Game Huts

The Wairua Hut concession process has finally been completed with DOC granting a 10 year term with right of renewal for a further 10 years. The facility will be promoted to clubs.

PUBLIC INTERFACE

1421 Public Communications

A total of eight media releases were issued from mid-November 2018 to the end of January 2019 but the most successful was one on banding operations at Waewaetutuki reserve. Our media release titled “ducks by the hundred get blinged up for scientific research” was run widely by newspapers and also caught the attention of a number of radio stations that interviewed Matt McDougall. A short video on the banding work posted on Facebook has to date attracted more than 2,400 views.

Other releases which made their mark covered the release into Lake Rotorua of “jumbo” trout from the hatchery’s display pond. The 200-odd fish were liberated to allow maintenance work on the pond. It was pleasing to report in a second release, that anglers had caught some of the big fish. One angler reported catching the “fish of a lifetime.”

Eastern Fish & Game also publicised the opening of Lake Rotorua’s well known streams from December 1, and pushed the ‘how to’ free talk on boat fishing held in early January. Duck calling also received a solid push with a release quoting Eastern Councillor Adam Rayner which focused on the Kiwis heading off to the world champs in Maryland. This was followed up by a report on their success, a release headed up: “Kiwis set quacking pace at world waterfowl calling champs”.

In late January, we reported that a Waikato dairy farmer had won a handcrafted fishing rod from Fish & Game. He won the rod in a prize draw for readers of Fish & Game’s angling newsletter Reel Life. Kevin Taylor turned up to be presented with the rod by Andy Garrick. Pleasingly, the story was picked up by the Waikato Times.

COMPLIANCE

1511 Ranging

Compliance checks over the summer holiday period and to date have focused on angler checks and surveys on the Rotorua lakes, and as Lake Rotorua has warmed with summer temperatures, on the Lake Rotorua stream mouths particularly Hamurana, Awahou, and Waiteti. A number of compliance issues are arising especially at the Waiteti Stream in the lower section and near the mouth into Lake Rotorua. Monitoring angler activity at these areas is ongoing. Compliance efforts are also being directed to other streams where trout have moved out of the lake to seek cool water refuge.

Ranging has also been carried out at various other locations within the region.

Wairoa Police are dealing with persons who in early January were using firearms from a boat on the Wairoa River and allegedly shooting at various game birds. We have been advised that Police charges have been filed and firearms licence reviews are under way.

Overall compliance rate is approximately 98 %.

Contacts: Year 2018-2019 to 31/12/2018.

Month	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Last 5 yr average
September	50	59	29	21	21	45
October	960	1,223	903	836	893	981
November	112	20	62	69	20	88
December	392	293	310	390	309	354
January	381	335	217	195		297
February	395	418	293	137		279
March	275	253	191	199		239
April	264	53	214	178		202
May	498	272	292	226		347
June	203	277	171	172		230
July	120	107	94	80		96
August	76	42	27	33		51
Total	3,726	3,352	2,803	2,536	1,243	3,208

Contacts Year to Date 2018-2019

1,243 contacts to end of December.

North Island/National CLE role

This role continues with input into CLE/training/prosecutions and legal matters. Work is currently underway on preparing an Infringement Notice System policy, and reviewing and updating the National Prosecution policy to reflect that reparation is no longer used, and that infringement notices will in due course be an option for offence resolution.

Rangers

Honorary Rangers continue to contribute around the region, with ranging carried out so far this season in a number of areas.

1521 Ranger Training

We have one person in training currently in the Rotorua area.

1531 Prosecutions

For the year 2018- 2019 to date we have dealt with 29 persons for 48 offences as tabled below.

Offence table 2018-2019 year

Offence name	Number of offences
Disturbing spawning gravels	14
Fishing closed waters	6
Fishing with more than one rod	3
Fishing without a licence	10

Give false details	1
Illegal Tackle	1
Possession of net/spear/implement	2
Take spawning fish with net/spear/implement	11
Total	48

Offences Pending Resolution

Currently 25 separate offences by 12 offenders are pending resolution, details as per the table below. Several have warrants to arrest for failing to appear in court. Other matters are pending prosecution outcomes and/or investigation.

Offences currently pending resolution:

Offence name	Numbers
Fish without licence	12
Illegal tackle	3
Possess spear-gaff	1
Fish closed waters	5
False details	3
Fish with more than 1 rod	1
Total	25

LICENSING

1612 Analysis of Licence Information

Kate Thompson continues to provide regular updates of licence sales for all regions. Additional reports have also been supplied to the Licence Working Party and R3 Working Group as required.

1621 Licence Agent Support

Administration staff continue to liaise with licence agents as required.

16.2 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Ref: 9.01.07

29 January 2019

Background

As part of its commitment to Health and Safety and providing a safe workplace, the Eastern Fish and Game Council is provided with a report at each meeting describing:

1. Implementation and adherence to the Health and Safety plan – including Health and Safety as an agenda item for staff & ranger meetings;
2. Monitoring and Reporting – in accordance with the Health and Safety plan;
3. Risk Management (identification and treatment) – any new issues or hazards that have arisen and how these have been addressed;
4. Training programme – information sharing and training of staff and volunteers;
5. Health and Safety incidents – near misses or injuries sustained, plus updates on past events;
6. Recommendations.

December 18 /January 2019

1. Implementation and Adherence to the Health and Safety Plan

Regular (weekly) staff meetings.

Minutes from the Health and Safety portion of meeting are emailed to all staff.

Visitor register updated as required.

Tail gate forms were prepared for:

22-23/11/18 Smelt Acoustic Survey

14/1/19 Preparations for staff house renovations

Contractors given letter to sign for maintenance and upgrading of staff house.

Verbal Health and Safety briefings were given for trapping and banding operations in January.

2. Monitoring and Reporting

Work Place Accident Register

	29/01/2019	22/11/2018
Number of Workplace injuries in 2018-2019 year	1	1
Number of Workplace injuries in 2017-2018 year	1	1
Number of Workplace injuries in 2016-2017 year	2	2
Number of Workplace injuries in 2015-2016 year	1	1
Number of Workplace injuries in 2014-2015 year	1	1
Number of Workplace injuries in 2013-2014 year	3	3
Total Number of Workplace injuries since 1 Sept 1995	35	35
Total number of days since last lost work injury 31/8/17	516	448
Total number of days prior to last lost work injury since 1 Sept 1995	8035	8035

3. Risk Management (identification and treatment)

Notes taken for the H&S minutes at the weekly staff meeting:

26/11/18	Cabbage trees at Hatchery and Staff qtrs.
3/12/18	Cabbage trees have been removed Tree fallen across track behind aviaries – being dealt with by Staff Take care on boats over the summer surveys
10/12/18	Purchase sunscreen for vehicles and office - done Wasps around the Country Purchase antihistamine for vehicles and EpiPen for field work
17/12/18	Pond 8 under the hatchery has been drained
7/1/19	Care when ranging – unsavoury characters hanging around Waiteti Take care on Roads
14/1/19	Care when ranging – unsavoury characters hanging around Waiteti Take care on Roads Be aware of wasp and wasp nests EpiPen is in the office Drawer – please sign it in and out in the PLB register
21/1/19	Please observe the 15km speed limit on the ground. Lots of visitors and children on site Beware of wasps and wasp nests EpiPen is to be stored with PLB. Please sign in and out in the PLB register.
29/1/19	Please observe the 15km speed limit on the ground. Lots of visitors and children on site Contractors are on site at the Wooden house Ranging Waiteti – frequent random visits to be made

4. Training Programme

None in period

5. H&S Incidents

None to report

6. Recommendation

That Council acknowledges it has received this report.

16.3 Finance Report

Ref: 8.03.01

01 February 2019

1. Purpose

To inform the Council of the current financial position and approve payments for the months of November and December 2018.

2. YTD Profit and Loss

The Profit & Loss statement for the period ending 31 December 2018 is attached. This report documents the income and expenditure for the period.

Income

Licence revenue is reporting to be just below budget YTD (\$1,637) and approximately \$8,600 below sales reported for the same period last season. A more up to date and detailed record of licence sales by category and LEQs can be found within the licence sales report included within this agenda.

Revenue from other sources over the period was made up of the following; hatchery (\$9,591), fishing competitions (\$1,660), rentals (\$9,328), and children's fishing (\$224). Fines from prosecutions collected through the courts totalled \$431 and funds were also received from diversion processes for expense recovery and junior education programmes (\$274 and \$654 respectively). Legal expenses were reimbursed by the NZ Fish and Game Council relating to the Gisborne Fresh Water Plan appeal (\$3,291), and donations were received from Mr Bruce Spooner (\$500), the Te Awamutu Kids fishing group (\$70), Hodgson House Retirement home fishing group (\$15) and Carter House lifecare fishing group (\$48). Interest income totalling \$1,838 was also received. Revenue from other sources is ahead of budget YTD (\$36,205) and this relates primarily to the following (\$33,600);

- NZC re Gisborne Fresh Water Plan appeal – offsetting expenses incurred
- Hawke's Bay Contract – invoicing actual hours, previously set contract
- Awakaponga pump shed insurance claim– equipment to be replaced
- Fire depot rental – change of tenant rental now being charged
- Genesis Energy – drift dive and report writing.

Species Management

Within the Population Monitoring output the banding project is underway with the purchase of maize and minor equipment, and payment of volunteer expenses. Minor staff expenses are also reported relating to Waikaremoana surveys and Tarawera acoustic monitoring work. Within budget YTD.

Hatchery expenses for the period related to fish food (\$7,474), fabrication of a pond outlet screen and repairs to others (\$1,185), and various other materials for repairs to the kids fishing pond and rearing ponds. Other expenditure included materials for the Te Wairoa trap fence, waders for the groundsman, and insurance and registration for the new hatchery vehicle. The regular expenses for electricity, fuel, and oxygen are also reported. The hatchery output is over budget \$2,434. This relates primarily to fish food of which a portion has been reimbursed by Taranaki Fish & Game and this is reported within "Other Income".

Habitat

Resource management expenditure related to professional advice associated with the Gisborne Regional Freshwater Plan (\$646), and court filing fees for the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Water Quantity appeal (\$444). The first of these expenses is to be reimbursed from the New Zealand Council's legal fund. Other expenditure within the works & management budget related to pest plant spraying at Awakaponga, Ohaaki, and Kaituna WMRs (\$400 of which was subsequently reimbursed by the Department of Conservation). Assisted habitat related expenses included meals and accommodation for a wetland enhancement meeting and materials for the Waikaremoana Buoy.

The overspend in the Habitat area is due to spending relating to the Gisborne Freshwater Plan appeal which has been reimbursed by the New Zealand Council's legal fund and this is reported within "Other Income".

Participation

Access spending for the period related to meals, accommodation and wages for Waioeka access work, accommodation and sign maintenance materials for the East Coast signs, and postage for hunter ballots. Various equipment purchases are reported for the children's fishing programme as well as an expense relating to a public notice for the concession process for the Wairua hut. As a whole, the Participation area is near budget. The overspend reported within the Newsletter budgets was detailed last period and will resolve in due course with the cancellation of the Game Bird newsletter as a result of the special magazine supplement now allowing more pages for regional information.

Public Interface

Minimal expenditure is reported within the Public Interface output and this relates to minor grounds expenses, asphalt repairs to the driveway, and cleaning of the public toilets. Within budget YTD.

Compliance

The Compliance expenses for the period related to the 0800 Poaching service and cell phone, out of town document servicing, and a complimentary licence. Within budget YTD.

Licensing

The Commission budget includes agent commissions and the fees associated with the Public Online and 0800 sales. Within budget YTD.

Council

Council expenditure for the period included catering and travel reimbursement for the November and December 2018 Council meetings, and picture frames which were purchased for the departing Councillors' certificates. Within budget YTD.

Planning

The audit fee was paid in December \$8,185. Expenses are also reported for the Annual Public Meeting BBQ and liaison meetings. Within budget YTD.

Administration

Notes on individual areas:

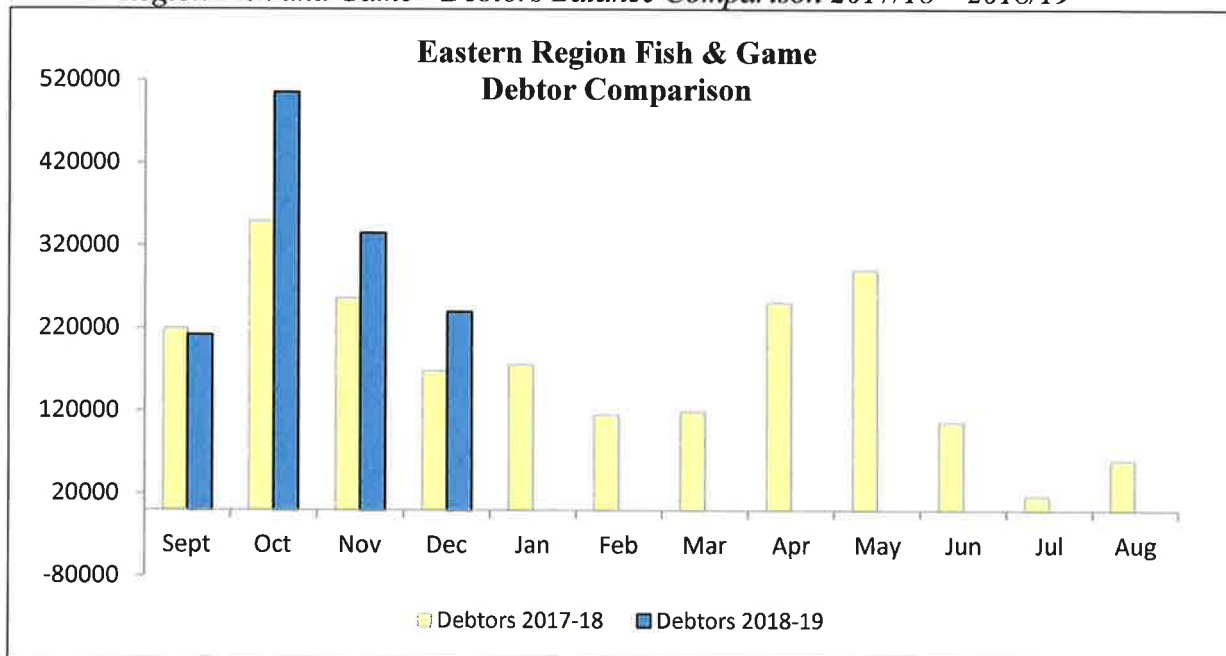
Salaries	Within budget YTD
Staff Expenses	Staff expenses included food for the staff Christmas BBQ, and accommodation and meals for various meetings. Heath and Safety sits within this area and the expenses for this period related to

	sunscreen and antihistamine for vehicles, and the removal of a tree of concern near the entrance to the hatchery building. Within budget YTD.
Staff Houses	Minimal expenditure is reported within the house budgets with the proposed painting and tidy up of the timber house commencing in the last week of January. Within budget YTD.
Office Premises	Expenses are reported within the maintenance budget relating to plumbing repairs in the administration building and Octagon (\$285). Electricity, rubbish removal, cleaning, and security expenses are also reported. The Office Premises area is over budget \$477 YTD and this is due to a faulty check meter on site which has since been replaced.
Office Equipment	The usual expenses relating to the phone system and eftpos leases are reported. Within budget YTD.
Communications/ Consumables	Standard communications expenses are reported for the period including phones, broadband, stationery, and photocopying. Computer related expenses included IT services following power outage, IMS Payroll support fee, and the Survey Monkey subscription. The overspend reported YTD is timing related and will reduce over the coming months.
General	Within the general expense budgets minor expenses are also reported for bank fees and morning teas. A credit was received in November relating to cancellation of the liability insurance policies as cover for all regions has since been arranged by the New Zealand Council. In due course the NZ Council will produce an invoice for this Region's share. Within budget YTD.
General Equipment	Equipment expenses for the period included a replacement propeller for Whio and repairs to the original (for retention as a spare), re-certification of an inflatable life jacket, repairs to the ride on mower, and repairs and WoF for the Parera boat trailer. The Coastguard membership was paid and boat and field equipment fuel expenses are also reported. Within budget YTD.
Vehicles	Vehicle expenses for the period included servicing of five vehicles (\$911), one set of tyres and one individual tyre. One vehicle was insured and five were registered. The standard fuel and RUC costs are also reported. Over budget \$598 YTD due to timing of registration and maintenance.

Cash Position: \$1,160,234.62 (includes \$99,541 for asset replacement reserve and \$453,014 for Waikaremoana Fund) as at 31 December 2018.

Debtors: Outstanding Debtors \$239,808 as at 31 December 2018 (\$168,507 as at 31 December 2017).

Eastern Region Fish and Game - Debtors Balance Comparison 2017/18 – 2018/19



From October this year we have processed our Public Online licence sales through our debtor ledger in order for those licence sales to be reported within the month that they were sold. This change will mean that our debtors ledger will be higher than it has been previously as these licence proceeds do not get settled to the region until the 9-10th of the month following. Of the total debtors outstanding as at 31 December, \$239,833 related to licence sales of which \$160,531 has been settled to the region in early January with the balance due early February. All debtor accounts are current.

Fixed Assets

The following fixed assets were purchased within the period:

Date	Assets Purchased	Assets Sold
23 Nov 2018	2018 Mazda Bounty DC	2016 Mazda Bounty DC to be sold
14 Dec 2018	2018 Mazda Bounty Flat deck	2016 Mazda Bounty Flat deck to be sold

3. Variance Report

The variance report is shown on the following two pages. The year to date actual including staff hours are entered for each project area to provide Council with an overview of the staff time component of the Operational Work Plan.

2018/2019 REPORT OF VARIANCES BETWEEN TOTAL BUDGET AND YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME

as of 31 December 2018

Schedule B Code	Project	EXTERNAL COSTS		HOURS		INTERNAL COST		NETABLE INCOME		NET COST		NET COST		%
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Variance		
1110	Species Monitoring	\$ 54,000	\$ 3,947	2,341	547	\$ 137,216	\$ 29,614	\$ 8,500	\$ -	\$ 182,716	\$ 33,561	\$ 149,155	18.4	
1120	Harvest Assessment	\$ 7,150	\$ -	884	322	\$ 51,815	\$ 17,427	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 58,965	\$ 17,427	\$ 41,538	29.6	
1140	Hatchery Operations	\$ 69,050	\$ 56,054	3,078	1,129	\$ 180,415	\$ 61,151	\$ 79,000	\$ 39,487	\$ 170,465	\$ 77,718	\$ 92,747	45.6	
1150	Game Farm	\$ -	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0	
1160	Releases	\$ -	\$ -	154	93	\$ 9,027	\$ 5,037	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,027	\$ 5,037	\$ 3,989	55.8	
1170	Regulations	\$ -	\$ -	140	22	\$ 8,206	\$ 1,178	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,206	\$ 1,178	\$ 7,028	14.4	
1180	Control	\$ 500	\$ -	52	20	\$ 3,048	\$ 1,070	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,548	\$ 1,070	\$ 2,478	30.2	
	TOTAL - SPECIES MANAGEMENT	\$ 130,700	\$ 60,001	6,649	2,132	\$ 389,727	\$ 115,478	\$ 87,500	\$ 39,487	\$ 432,927	\$ 135,992	\$ 296,936	31.4	
1210	Resource Management Act	\$ 200	\$ 9,521	1,160	682	\$ 67,993	\$ 36,954	\$ -	\$ 9,076	\$ 68,193	\$ 37,399	\$ 30,794	54.8	
1220	Works & Management	\$ 21,000	\$ 2,273	1,122	265	\$ 65,765	\$ 14,354	\$ 13,150	\$ 20,989	\$ 73,615	\$ (4,363)	\$ 77,978	-5.9	
1230	Assisted Habitat	\$ 8,700	\$ 376	912	200	\$ 53,456	\$ 10,806	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 62,156	\$ 11,181	\$ 50,975	16.0	
1240	Assess & Monitor	\$ -	\$ -	120	12	\$ 7,034	\$ 650	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,034	\$ 650	\$ 6,384	9.2	
	TOTAL - HABITAT PROTECTION & MAN	\$ 29,900	\$ 12,169	3,314	1,159	\$ 194,248	\$ 62,763	\$ 13,150	\$ 30,065	\$ 210,998	\$ 44,867	\$ 166,131	21.3	
1310	Access	\$ 7,500	\$ 1,871	592	354	\$ 34,700	\$ 19,188	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42,200	\$ 21,059	\$ 21,141	49.9	
1330	Newsletters/Information	\$ 11,500	\$ 8,666	350	31	\$ 20,515	\$ 1,652	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 32,015	\$ 10,318	\$ 21,697	32.2	
1340	Other Publications	\$ 2,500	\$ -	72	9	\$ 4,220	\$ 487	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,720	\$ 487	\$ 6,233	7.3	
1350	Training	\$ 600	\$ 235	996	231	\$ 58,380	\$ 12,525	\$ 11,500	\$ 4,227	\$ 47,480	\$ 8,533	\$ 38,947	18.0	
1360	Club Relations	\$ -	\$ -	72	3	\$ 4,220	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,220	\$ -	\$ 4,220	0.0	
1370	Hufts	\$ 1,450	\$ 723	36	3	\$ 2,110	\$ 135	\$ 400	\$ 57	\$ 3,160	\$ 802	\$ 2,358	25.4	
	TOTAL - ANGLER & HUNTER PARTICIP	\$ 23,550	\$ 11,495	2,118	628	\$ 124,145	\$ 33,988	\$ 11,900	\$ 4,284	\$ 135,795	\$ 41,200	\$ 94,595	30.3	
1410	Liaison	\$ -	\$ -	216	67	\$ 12,661	\$ 3,629	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,661	\$ 3,629	\$ 9,032	28.7	
1420	Communication	\$ 500	\$ -	204	71	\$ 11,957	\$ 3,819	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,457	\$ 3,819	\$ 8,639	30.7	
1440	Public Promotions	\$ 4,500	\$ 265	158	95	\$ 9,261	\$ 5,159	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,761	\$ 5,424	\$ 8,337	39.4	
1450	Visitor Facilities/Education	\$ 2,000	\$ 306	594	136	\$ 34,817	\$ 7,285	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,817	\$ 7,591	\$ 29,226	20.6	
	TOTAL - PUBLIC INTERFACE	\$ 7,000	\$ 571	1,172	367	\$ 68,696	\$ 19,892	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,696	\$ 20,463	\$ 55,233	27.0	
1510	Ranging	\$ 2,100	\$ 349	940	230	\$ 55,098	\$ 12,458	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,198	\$ 12,807	\$ 44,391	22.4	
1520	Ranger Training	\$ 1,000	\$ -	108	14	\$ 6,330	\$ 758	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,330	\$ 758	\$ 6,572	10.3	
1530	Compliance Prosecutions	\$ 7,500	\$ 1,484	360	105	\$ 21,101	\$ 5,660	\$ 8,000	\$ 2,107	\$ 20,601	\$ 5,037	\$ 15,564	24.5	
	TOTAL - COMPLIANCE	\$ 10,600	\$ 1,833	1,408	349	\$ 82,529	\$ 18,876	\$ 8,000	\$ 2,107	\$ 85,129	\$ 18,602	\$ 66,527	21.9	
1610	Licensing	\$ 700	\$ -	322	60	\$ 18,874	\$ 3,263	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,574	\$ 3,263	\$ 16,310	16.7	
1620	Agent Servicing	\$ -	\$ -	184	35	\$ 10,785	\$ 1,896	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,785	\$ 1,896	\$ 8,889	17.6	
	TOTAL - LICENSING	\$ 700	\$ -	506	95	\$ 29,659	\$ 5,159	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,359	\$ 5,159	\$ 25,200	17.0	
1710	Council Elections	\$ -	\$ -	20	0	\$ 1,172	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,172	\$ -	\$ 1,172	0.0	
1720	Council Meetings	\$ 10,000	\$ 1,815	878	372	\$ 51,463	\$ 20,163	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 61,463	\$ 21,977	\$ 39,486	35.8	
	TOTAL - COUNCILS	\$ 10,000	\$ 1,815	898	372	\$ 52,636	\$ 20,163	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 62,636	\$ 21,977	\$ 40,659	35.1	
1810	Management Planning	\$ -	\$ -	0	12	\$ -	\$ 650	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 650	\$ (650)	#DIV/0!	
1820	Annual Planning	\$ -	\$ -	126	25	\$ 7,385	\$ 1,327	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,385	\$ 1,327	\$ 6,058	18.0	
1830	Reporting/Audit	\$ 9,185	\$ 6,307	551	269	\$ 32,297	\$ 14,557	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,482	\$ 20,863	\$ 20,618	50.3	
1840	National Liaison	\$ 100	\$ 16	446	217	\$ 26,142	\$ 11,727	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 26,242	\$ 11,743	\$ 14,499	44.7	
	TOTAL - PLANNING/REPORTING	\$ 9,285	\$ 6,323	1,123	522	\$ 65,824	\$ 28,260	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,109	\$ 34,583	\$ 40,526	46.0	
	TOTAL	\$ 221,735	\$ 94,206	17,188	5,623	\$ 1,007,465	\$ 304,579	\$ 120,550	\$ 75,943	\$ 1,108,650	\$ 322,842	\$ 785,808	29.1	

Profit and Loss - Council

Eastern Fish and Game Council - For the 2 months ended 31 December 2018

Income	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Total Budget	Var. YTD	Var. %
Licence Income	108,052	135,071	806,363	808,000	1,418,918	(1,637)	(0)
Non-Resident Licence Levy Revenue	4,241	6,456	15,459	15,100	43,473	359	2
Other Income	37,093	5,539	104,830	68,625	212,335	36,205	53
	149,386	147,067	926,652	891,725	1,674,726	34,927	4
Operating Expenses							
Depreciation	5,898	6,189	23,882	23,992	72,378	(110)	(0)
1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT							
1110 Population Monitoring	2,708	229	3,947	4,625	54,000	(678)	(15)
1120 Harvest Assessment	0	0	0	2,300	7,150	(2,300)	(100)
1140 Hatchery Operations	11,675	2,255	56,054	53,590	69,050	2,464	5
1180 Game Bird Control	0	0	0	100	500	(100)	(100)
Total 1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT	14,384	2,484	60,001	60,615	130,700	(614)	(1)
1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MANAGEMENT							
1210 Resource Management Act	1,168	(77)	9,521	0	200	9,521	0
1220 Works & Management	1,698	523	2,273	3,000	21,000	(727)	(24)
1230 Assisted Habitat	376	0	376	400	39,200	(24)	(6)
Total 1200 HABITAT PROT/MNGMNT	3,241	446	12,169	3,400	60,400	8,769	258
1300 PARTICIPATION							
1310 Access	470	703	1,871	3,450	7,500	(1,579)	(46)
1330 Newsletters	0	0	8,666	7,500	11,500	1,166	16
1340 Other Publications	0	0	0	0	2,500	0	0
1350 Training	170	30	235	120	600	115	96
1370 Huts	485	97	723	400	1,450	323	81
Total 1300 PARTICIPATION	1,125	829	11,495	11,470	23,550	25	0
1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE							
1420 Communication	0	0	0	0	500	0	0
1440 Public Promotions	0	0	265	0	4,500	265	0
1450 Visitor Facilities/Education	0	194	306	665	2,000	(359)	(54)
Total 1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE	0	194	571	665	7,000	(94)	(14)
1500 COMPLIANCE							
1510 Ranging	148	35	349	700	2,100	(351)	(50)
1520 Ranger Training	0	0	0	0	1,000	0	0
1530 Compliance	648	90	1,484	2,600	7,500	(1,116)	(43)
Total 1500 COMPLIANCE	796	125	1,833	3,300	10,600	(1,467)	(44)
1600 LICENSING							
1610 Licence Prod/Distrib	0	0	0	0	700	0	0
1630 Commission	4,063	5,365	31,579	36,360	63,851	(4,781)	(13)
Total 1600 LICENSING	4,063	5,365	31,579	36,360	64,551	(4,781)	(13)
1700 COUNCIL							
1720 Council Meetings	938	587	1,815	4,000	10,000	(2,185)	(55)
Total 1700 COUNCIL	938	587	1,815	4,000	10,000	(2,185)	(55)
1800 PLANNING/REPORTING							
1830 Reporting/Audit	0	8,452	6,307	7,040	9,185	(733)	(10)
1840 National Liaison	17	0	61,052	61,066	244,243	(14)	(0)
Total 1800 PLANNING/REPORTING	17	8,452	67,359	68,106	253,428	(747)	(1)
1900 ADMINISTRATION							
1910 Salaries	71,305	74,991	283,641	283,852	919,325	(211)	(0)
1920 Staff Expenses	1,150	499	3,204	3,350	23,900	(146)	(4)
1930 Staff Houses	67	76	(84)	2,633	13,650	(2,717)	(103)
1940 Office Premises	1,329	1,631	9,231	8,754	21,300	477	5
1950 Office Equipment	150	150	599	800	4,000	(201)	(25)
1960 Communications/Consumables	1,602	1,369	7,146	6,508	17,750	638	10
1970 General	(906)	183	7,282	7,800	9,250	(518)	(7)
1980 General Equipment	608	906	5,328	7,020	16,300	(1,693)	(24)
1990 Vehicles	3,862	5,387	18,798	18,200	46,000	598	3
Total 1900 ADMINISTRATION	79,166	85,193	335,146	338,917	1,071,475	(3,771)	(1)
Total Operating Expenses	109,628	109,865	545,850	550,825	1,704,082	(4975)	(1)
Net Profit	39,758	37,202	380,803	340,900	(29,356)	39,903	12

4.0 Recommendation

4.1 *That the payments for November and December 2018 totalling \$390,879.17 be approved.*

<i>November – Current account</i>	<i>\$245,573.78</i>
<i>November – Credit card</i>	<i>\$1,644.25</i>
<i>December – Current account</i>	<i>\$140,164.88</i>
<i>December – Credit card</i>	<i>\$3,496.26</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$390,879.17</i>

16.4 LICENCE SALES REPORT

Ref: 6.01.05

1 February 2019

1. Introduction

This report provides an overview of Fish licence sales for the 2018-2019 financial year to 31 January 2019.

2. 2018-2019 Fish Licence Sales

- 3.1 Fish Licence sales for the 2018-2019 season comparison against the 2017-18 season YTD are summarised in *Table One*.
- 3.2 The total 2018-19 fish licence LEQs YTD are 3.5% behind the 2017-18 season results for the same period. 77.5% of the annual sales target has been achieved for the season to 31 January 2019.
- 3.3 Nationally at the same date YTD fish licence sales are reporting to be 4.9% below sales reported for the same period of the 2017-18 season.
- 3.4 Daily cumulative LEQ's are shown *Graph 1*. On 23 November 2018 the total LEQs for the 2018/19 season were near level with the sales reported for the 2017/18 season. The following ten days (to 3 December 2018) saw a fall in sales of some 206 LEQs against those reported for the same period of the 2017/18 season and by 31 December 2018 that variance had increased to 363. As at 31 January sales had improved to 287 LEQs below the same period of the prior season. Total rainfall for Rotorua over the three-month period is shown below.

	<i>Nov 17</i>	<i>Nov 18</i>	<i>Dec 17</i>	<i>Dec 18</i>	<i>Jan 17</i>	<i>Jan 18</i>
Rainfall (mm)	55	111	59	241	207	44

Graph 1

Daily Cumulative LEQ's to 31 January

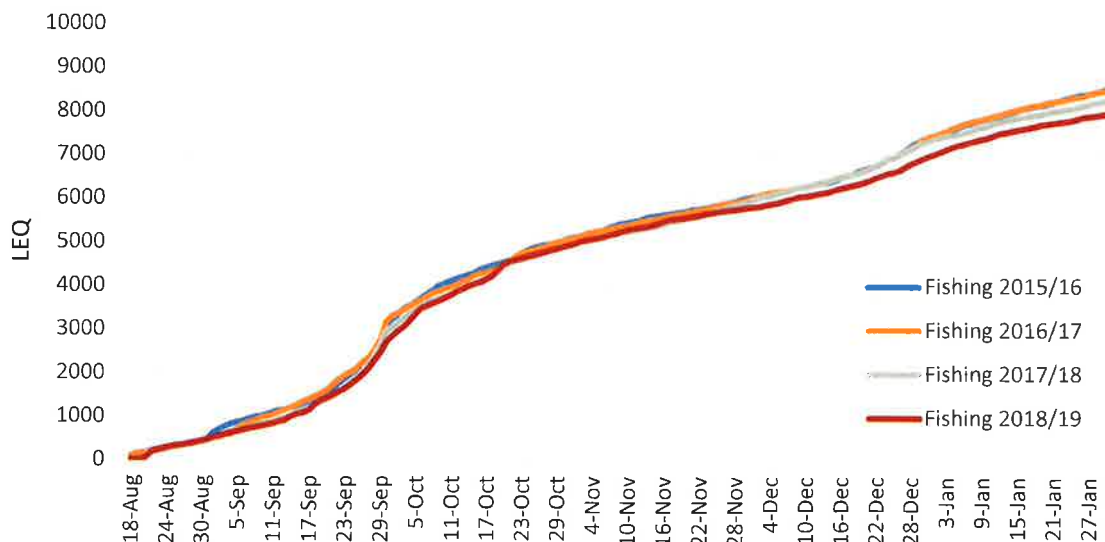


Table One

Fish Licence Sales 2018/19 vs 2017/18 Seasons YTD to 31 January 2018

Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWTA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWC	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish
Agency Online	1517	1171	179	237	1071	0	43	310	1062	621	215	6	142	48	0	0	0	6,622
Public Online	1189	865	133	155	434	0	29	234	973	482	119	9	75	17	0	0	0	4,714
Eyede Call Centre	11	8	0	12	7	0	0	0	5	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	46
Total YTD 2017-18	2717	2044	312	404	1512	0	72	544	2040	1104	334	15	219	65	0	0	0	11,382
Agency Online	1417	1059	200	226	1020	0	20	278	861	374	197	11	97	12	0	5	12	5,789
Public Online	1159	889	191	153	470	0	35	253	1049	341	124	12	101	7	0	10	7	4,801
Eyede Call Centre	14	4	0	12	7	0	0	0	8	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	47
Total YTD 2018-19	2590	1952	391	391	1497	0	55	531	1918	716	322	23	198	19	0	15	19	10,637

Summary LEQ's (Whole Season Licence Equivalent)

Season	Fish LEQ	Fish Var	Fish \$	Inc/Dec
Total YTD 2017-2018	8,271		913,360	0
Total YTD 2018-2019	7,984	-3.5%	902,508	-10,851

2018-19 Summary YTD Actual vs Total Budget

2018-19 Annual Budgeted FISH LEQs	10,296	100.0%	\$1,163,896
2018-19 YTD Actual	7,984	77.5%	\$902,508
Remaining to meet budget	-2,312	-22.5%	\$261,388

Estimate of Complete Season 2018-19 vs Total Budget 2018-19

2018-19 Budgeted FISH LEQs	10,296	100.0%	\$1,163,896
2017-18 Complete Season FISH LEQs	10,020		\$1,106,557
2018-19 Est. year end based on YTD variance	9,672	93.9%	\$1,093,410
Est Shortfall/Surplus 2018-19 Season vs Budget	-624	-6.1%	-\$70,486

Resident Licence Categories

FWF – Family Season, **FWA** – Adult Season, **FLSA** – Loyal Senior Season, **FLAA** – Local Area Season, **FWIA** – Adult Winter Season, **FLBA** – Adult Long Break, **FSBA** – Adult Short Break, **FDA** – Adult Day, **FWJ** – Junior Season, **FDJ** – Junior Day, **FWC** – Child Season

Non-Resident Licence Categories

FWNA – Adult Season, **FDNA** – Adult Day, **FWNJ** – Junior Season, **FDNJ** – Junior Day, **FWNC** – Child Season, **FDNC** – Child Day