



**EASTERN
FISH AND GAME COUNCIL**

***MEETING
AGENDA***

3 December 2020

AGENDA

For the 186th Meeting of the Eastern Fish and Game Council

Venue: Eastern Fish & Game Office
Paradise Valley Road
ROTORUA

Date: **Thursday 3 December 2020**

Commences: **12.00 PM**

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10	2020 Upland Game Property Report (12.45 PM, 5 mins)	(I)	34
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16	General Business (2.00 PM, 30 mins)		
17	Meeting Closes (at or before 3.00 PM)		

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

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE 185th MEETING OF THE EASTERN FISH
AND GAME COUNCIL, HELD AT THE ROTORUA OFFICES OF FISH & GAME
NEW ZEALAND ON THURSDAY 15th OCTOBER 2020 AT 12.00PM**

Present

Crs David Woolner, Lindsay Lyons, Murray Ferris, Barry Roderick, Laurance Tamati, Alan Baird, Ken Coombes, Debbie Oakley, and Ngahi Bidois (arrived 1 pm).

IN ATTENDANCE

Andy Garrick, Kate Thompson, Matthew McDougall (Eastern Fish & Game).

1.0 WELCOME AND KARAKIA

1.1 Cr David Woolner (Chairman) opened the meeting at 12.00pm, welcomed all present, and invited Cr Laurance Tamati to open the meeting with a karakia.

2.0 APOLOGIES

2.1 Apologies were received from Crs Geoff Thomas and Adam Rayner.

2.2 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Alan Baird) that the apologies for the 185th meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [20/10/2.2]*

3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (13 AUGUST 2020)

3.1 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Alan Baird) that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 August 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [20/10/3.1]*

4.0 IDENTIFICATION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN COUNCIL POLICY

4.1 No items were identified for inclusion in Council policy.

5.0 MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Cr Barry Roderick asked the Chairman to communicate the outcome of the Manager's remuneration review to Council by phone.

5.2 In relation to the Council's proposal to open lakes Tarawera, Okataina, and Rotoiti on the first Saturday in October next season, Cr Lyndsay Lyons advised Council to put the proposition forward to the New Zealand Council outlining the reasons for the change and proposing a change to the start of the fishing season nationwide. Lindsay said that many of the high-country fisheries currently open on the first Saturday and this proposal would see lakes in the Eastern Region as well as lakes such as Wanaka and Wakatipu move to Saturday opening also.

5.3 Cr Lindsay Lyons asked whether Steve Doughty could follow up with a potential sponsor for the Fish for Gold Promotion which he had initiated discussions with last season. Andy Garrick advised that he had followed up with this sponsor and advised that it was not feasible to gain sponsorship from them at the time but agreed it warranted revisiting. Cr Barry Roderick was surprised that few anglers had made comments regarding the promotion not being held this opening day.

6.0 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR GENERAL BUSINESS

- Cr Barry Roderick - Red Stag Hunters Programme
- Cr Barry Roderick - Agency online sales
- Cr Lindsay Lyons - Election tick box
- Cr Murray Ferris - Waikaremoana Boating & Fishing Association

7.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

- 7.1 Councillors were asked to inform the chair of any conflicts of interest. No conflicts of interest were recorded.

8.0 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS

- 8.1 Andy Garrick advised that Matt McDougall had identified a number of items for Council consideration, and this agenda item provided the opportunity for Council to raise any additional items it wished to be incorporated into the Game Season Conditions review. Following approval by Council the proposed conditions including recommended changes would be circulated to clubs for feedback which would be considered at the next meeting of Council.
- 8.2 Cr Debbie Oakley queried the dates for the special pukeko season as growers in the Western BOP area had been experiencing increasing issues with pukeko and usually at this time of year rather than in February. Matt McDougall advised that the main four month season for pukeko had just ended, and that growers were encouraged to deal with pukeko issues within the season. Growers could however, apply for a permit to disturb outside of the season if they had a particular problem.
- 8.3 Cr Ken Coombes requested that items 1-8 included within the 2021 Game Season Conditions agenda item be put forward as being supported and recommended by Council.
- 8.4 Cr Lindsay Lyons queried the need for ballot applicants to prepay their game licence with many having just purchased their season fishing licence meaning it was a significant outlay for some at the commencement of the fishing season. Matt McDougall informed Council that the requirement to pay up front was a Council decision which had been made because some hunters were putting their names in for a balloted stand but failing to turn up and occupy their stand. This meant that stands were often left vacant and denying others the opportunity to hunt on opening weekend. Matt also advised that if any hunter had difficulty in paying ahead of time, we would endeavour to accommodate them if they contacted us.
- 8.5 Cr Barry Roderick commented on the possibility of black swan on Tauranga Harbour developing into a greater issue as Regional Council progressed its plans around improving water quality, and this could apply to Ohiwa harbour as well. Matt McDougall expressed concern over pinpointing swan as a contributing cause to water quality issues and loss of zostera beds in the harbours as sediment washing down the rivers was known to be a major contributor to the declines in zostera. He noted that the swan population in Ohiwa harbour was relatively small and comprised approximately 50 birds only. Matt noted that special shoots took out relatively few birds and addressing Tauranga swan numbers in a meaningful way was not a straightforward task. Barry suggested Council needs to develop a plan to deal with this. Andy Garrick agreed a management strategy was required but before we're able to do this we need a much better understanding of population dynamics. We have an insight into seasonal numbers which vary immensely between winter and summer, but we don't know where the birds breed other than it not being on the harbour, and we don't have sufficient knowledge of where they come from and go to to devise an effective and socially acceptable way of significantly reducing and numbers and maintaining these. Two or three years ago BOPRC and the University of Waikato's Coastal Marine Field Station were keen to collaborate with us and sponsor research to answer the critical questions we have but for various reasons this didn't eventuate. Andy noted we'll continue to monitor summer numbers but we needed to avoid adverse publicity generated from

culls as we have had in the past. Cr David Woolner agreed ongoing monitoring of the situation was required.

9.0 WAIKAREMOANA SPORTS FISH HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND

- 9.1 Andy Garrick provided a summary of spending from the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund for the 2019-20 financial year advising that not all funds which were allocated had been utilised as some of the planned work had coincided with an unprogrammed project funded by Genesis Energy.
- 9.2 Cr David Woolner acknowledged Council having received the update.

10.0 2019-2020 PERFORMANCE REPORT

- 10.1 Cr David Woolner provided Council with the opportunity to comment on the Draft 2019-2020 Performance Report which had been circulated to Council prior to the meeting. Andy Garrick informed Council that the auditor was due to arrive on 27 October to commence their audit of the report, and the final audited copy would be presented at Council's next meeting.
- 10.2 There was no feedback on the draft report, and Cr David Woolner asked that it be recorded that Council had received the Performance Report comprising the Statement of Service Performance and Financial Statements for the 2019-2020 year.

11.0 DRAFT NATIONAL POLICY FOR RESERVES

- 11.1 Cr David Woolner informed Council that this item was for discussion only and did not require resolutions from Council at this stage. He advised that the NZ Council Standing Finance Committee had been tasked with establishing a "Reserves Policy". A questionnaire had come out for feedback a few months ago which staff and some councillors had provided feedback on. He advised that although the item was labelled as "Draft Policy" he understood it was more of a discussion document for further feedback. David invited Carmel Veitch to talk to the item.
- 11.2 Carmel summarised several points which she felt needed further modelling and consideration. Council and staff also provided feedback and items discussed included the following:
- Rather than being a governance committee, the proposed National Audit and Risk Committee should be comprised of management staff as collating information and monitoring are operational matters. This committee would report to the NZC.
 - 30-50% required reserve levels – more modelling and region specific assessment required as some regions could operate on lower levels.
 - Holding reserves in excess of 50% beyond a defined period of time should require quarterly explanation rather than approval from the NZC.
 - Drawing down reserves to below minimum level outside the annual budgeting process however, should require approval to avoid regions doing this at will, as spending of reserves has an impact on the whole organisation. The current but not always followed policy of requiring exceptional funding to be approved is appropriate.
 - There is a need for better monitoring and reporting of reserves than is currently the case.
 - Assets/trust funds not related to cash reserves should be dealt with via a separate policy.
 - Smaller regions need higher reserve levels to support cashflow.

- Regions receiving grants should have those adjusted in accordance with the level of reserves they hold and are able to draw on.
 - It would be more appropriate to review reserves policy once the National Governance and Organisational Review has been completed.
 - There are currently no consequences to operating outside of policy, and changes to the legislation may be required to enable enforcement.
 - Trigger points are needed which when met or exceeded must be reported.
 - Bequests for specific use, if not restricted reserves more generally, should be notified to the NZC to ensure these are not used for any other purpose.
 - NZC reserves should be separated out into reserves for NZC and reserves retained and administered for national purposes, e.g. Dedicated Reserves to meet statutory obligations (RMA and Research) should be National Reserves, not NZC Reserves.
- 11.3 Cr Barry Roderick asked whether the Back-Country Fishery Reserve balance could be included within the finance report. Kate Thompson confirmed that she could incorporate a balance sheet from Xero to show the Reserve levels.
- 11.4 Cr David Woolner welcomed Cr Ngahi Bidois to the meeting at 1pm. Ngahi apologised to the meeting for his late arrival.
- 11.5 Andy Garrick added that we want to develop a policy that does not encourage frivolous spending but also does not discourage regions from gaining alternative sources of revenue in addition to licence income and R3 initiatives.
- 11.6 Cr David Woolner requested Andy prepare a report with staff comments, Council's feedback to date, and Carmel's recommendations, and distribute this to Council via email for additional comment. He asked Councillors to submit their feedback to Andy promptly in order to get a response through to the New Zealand Council as soon as possible.
- 11.7 Andy Garrick informed Council that he had omitted adding text to this agenda item specifically addressing the treatment of Non-Resident Levy Income and the letter relating to such which had been received from the NZ Council and included in the Papers for Information for this meeting. Andy had recently received feedback from other regions that Councils were not comfortable with the New Zealand Council's decision to transfer Non-Resident Licence Levy Reserve funds to the General Reserves pool for operational use. Andy reminded Council of the criteria that this Council had put in place for spending non-resident reserve funds, and agreed with comments from other Managers that we should be able to demonstrate some level of accountability to non-resident anglers. Andy advised that the NZ Council had not consulted regions on this proposition prior to its resolution, and would like to understand what this Council's position was.
- 11.8 Cr Ken Coombes queried what the justification was for requiring non-resident anglers to pay more for their licence if it was simply going to go into a general slush fund?
- 11.9 Cr Lindsay Lyons was concerned that the item was not on the agenda and therefore should not be included in today's discussions. Cr Murray Ferris suggested it be moved to General Business to enable further discussion. Cr Barry Roderick felt it should be dealt with under this Reserves Policy agenda item and proposed the following:
- 11.10 Agreed (Barry Roderick/Murray Ferris) that Council discussion on the "Treatment of Non-Resident Levy Income" form part of the "Reserves Policy" discussion. [20/10/11.10]**

- 11.11 Carmel Veitch confirmed that Council needed to discuss the item now as the outcome of today's discussion would impact where these funds would sit in the 2019-2020 annual accounts.
- 11.12 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that the New Zealand Council be asked to put on hold its decision to treat Non-Resident Levy income as Licence income and all Non-Resident Levy Reserves to become General Reserves in the regions in which they are currently held, on the basis that regions had not been consulted prior to the decision being taken and needed to be. [20/10/11.12]***
- 11.13 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Murray Ferris) that for the purpose of the 2019-2020 Annual Performance Report, the Non-Resident Levy Reserve funds shall remain set aside for the purposes originally established, and will not be transferred to the General Reserves pool at this time. [20/10/11.13]***

12.0 IMPORT PROHIBITION CUSTOMS (TROUT) ORDER

- 12.1 Andy Garrick advised that typically this item had not come before Council as historically DOC have liaised directly with Regional Managers, but DOC have asked the NZ Council for their position on the matter. He advised that Fish & Game have always opposed the importation of trout flesh or associated products to protect wild populations from illegal harvest and from introduced disease. Andy also suggested that should the Trout Farming propositions go ahead, and New Zealand becomes an exporter of trout, this might mean that it is obliged to accept the importation of trout products under some reciprocal trade agreements.
- 12.2 *Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Alan Baird) that Council advocates for the ongoing prohibition of trout (live or dead), and any product or derivative obtained from trout (e.g. milt or ova). [20/10/12.2]***

13.0 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS AND OTHER POSITIONS FOR 2021

- 13.1 Cr David Woolner left the Chair and Andy Garrick called for nominations for the position of Chair.
- 13.2 *Moved (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that Cr David Woolner be nominated for Council Chair. [20/10/13.2]***
- 13.3 There were no further nominations, and Cr David Woolner was declared Council Chairman.
- 13.4 Cr David Woolner called for nominations for the position of Deputy Chair.
- 13.5 *Moved (Debbie Oakley/Laurance Tamati) that Cr Ngahi Bidois be nominated for Council Deputy Chair. [20/10/13.5]***
- 13.6 There were no further nominations, and Cr Ngahi Bidois was declared Council Deputy Chair.
- 13.7 Cr David Woolner wished to acknowledge Cr Lindsay Lyons decision to step down from the New Zealand Council appointee role and his incredible 12 years' service to the New Zealand Council, six of those as its Chairman. David called for nominations for the position of New Zealand Council appointee.
- 13.8 *Moved (David Woolner/Ken Coombes) that Debbie Oakley be nominated for NZ Council appointee. [20/10/13.8]***
- 13.9 There were no further nominations and Cr Debbie Oakley was declared NZ Council appointee.
- 13.10 Cr Barry Roderick suggested that Cr Lindsay Lyons should attend the final NZ Council meeting for this year in the role of the Eastern Region appointee, and felt it would be a great opportunity for Cr Debbie Oakley to attend also as an observer. Council supported

this approach and Cr Lindsay Lyons suggested it would be a good opportunity for him to introduce Debbie to the existing Council and the role in general, acknowledging the huge time commitment and the importance of having a good understanding of each meeting's agenda. Lindsay was thrilled to have Debbie take on the role and wished her all the best, confirming he was willing to help where he could. Cr Debbie Oakley was happy to attend the first meeting, and asked that a space be reserved on this Council's agenda in future for discussing agenda items the NZ Council would be considering that warranted consideration and input from this region.

13.11 Council proceeded with confirmation of Matt McDougall's appointment as its representative on the Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust.

13.12 Moved (Ken Coombes/Murray Ferris) that Council confirms Matthew McDougall as its representative on the Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust. [20/10/13.12]

14.0 DATES FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2021

14.1 Agreed (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that the following schedule of meeting dates and locations be confirmed:

	Date	Venue	Key Topics
1	<i>11 February 2021</i>	Rotorua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Priorities
2	<i>8 April 2021</i>	Rotorua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OWP – first draft plus bids proposed for contestable funds
3	<i>10 June 2021</i>	Rotorua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licence Fees • OWP – second draft
4	<i>5 August 2021</i>	Rotorua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise OWP
5	<i>7 October 2021</i>	Rotorua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Game Conditions – initial consideration • Annual Performance Report - draft
6	<i>2 December 2021</i>	Rotorua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Game Conditions – finalise recommendations
AGM	<i>2 December 2021</i>	Rotorua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present Annual Performance Report

[20/10/14.1]

15.0 SPECIES MONITORING REPORTS

15.1 Cr Ken Coombes understood that hunters had been impressed with the way that Fish & Game had dealt with the Covid lockdown and the uncertainties it had created around the Game Hunting Season. However, he had been surveyed for the Game Hunter Survey and was surprised that he had not been asked whether he enjoyed the season this year. He said that despite not personally getting many birds, his wife had got a few, and they had had a great season. Matt McDougall advised this question had not been asked this year, and noted there was a need to design a non-leading and better phrased question than had previously been used to assess hunter satisfaction.

15.2 Cr Barry Roderick acknowledged the staff effort that went into these surveys and the value of the data collected.

15.3 Council received the summaries for the 2019-20 Summer Creel Survey, the 2020 Paradise Shelduck and Black Swan Trend Counts, the 2020 National Shoveler Count, and the 2020 Eastern Region Game Hunter Survey.

16.0 LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS

16.1 *Department of Conservation*

No report.

16.1 *Te Arawa Lakes Trust*

No report.

Andy Garrick briefed Council on the Te Arawa Lakes Trust contribution to the opening of the fishing season on the lakes and acknowledged and thanked Crs Roderick, Lyons, and Ferris for their help on the day also. Lindsay noted that there had been some good coverage on TV1 news from Lake Tarawera, and Andy said that Lake Rotoiti had seen some good coverage on Facebook as well.

16.2 *The New Zealand Fish and Game Council*

Cr Lindsay Lyons advised that a good proportion of the most recent NZ Council meeting had been held in Public Excluded Session. He advised that the Governance Review Committee had spoken to the New Zealand Council for the first time. Lindsay noted that the decision taken to enable Pheasant Preserves to continue to operate under Schedule 3 by removing the current expiry date was contentious. He commented this would pave the way for anyone to charge fees to fish for sports fish or hunt game birds or access resources on or adjoining their land. Cr Alan Baird noted that Fish & Game sells licences and the right to hunt, and private individuals doing the same thing is no different. Cr Debbie Oakley expressed concern about a NZC Councillor being allowed to vote despite having declared a conflict of interest in this matter, and Eben Herbert commented that a major issue associated with the decision was that it removed Fish & Game's mandate and ability to manage this species wherever it occurred.

17.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

17.1 Cr Barry Roderick queried the Regional Council removal of willows and other trees on the Ngongotaha. Andy Garrick advised this had been undertaken in close association with Fish & Game, the areas affected were to be replanted bearing in mind the need to retain access for anglers.

17.2 Cr Ken Coombes queried whether Fish & Game used to undertake the Ohau Channel surveys? Andy Garrick advised that Fish & Game designed the survey and Regional Council funded and implemented it using contractors. He understood that this year the survey had been undertaken by a local person nominated by Te Arawa Lakes Trust.

17.3 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that Council receives the Management Report. [20/10/17.3]*

17.4 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that Council receives the Health and Safety Report. [20/10/17.4]*

17.5 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that Council receives the Finance Report and approves payments for July and August 2020 totalling \$269,233.56. [20/10/17.5]*

14.8 Kate Thompson provided Council with licence sales worm graphs showing a comparison of the early season sales by LEQ and category compared with last season.

18.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

18.1 Cr Barry Roderick expressed some concern over a recent airing of the Red Stag Hunters Programme which appeared to focus on hunters taking down as many birds as possible

and felt it was not a good look for Fish and Game. Cr Ngahi Bidois suggested that concerns could be raised in writing with the programme producers to ensure they portrayed processing/plucking and the food to the table message as well in segments such as these. Eben Herbert felt that this particular segment was unusual for the show and overall, it was very professional and high on promoting the food for the table message.

18.2 Cr Barry Roderick noted the early season Agent Online sales and highlighted the need to maintain good relationships with licence agents.

18.3 Cr Laurance Tamati excused himself from the meeting at 2.30pm.

18.4 Questions were raised in relation to the Fish & Game Council election tick box linked to the process of purchasing a licence and whether its default setting should be "yes". Recently some Councillors had not been asked by agents whether they wished to vote and this appears to be quite a common occurrence. Kate Thompson advised that the current legislation requires licence holders to indicate their wish to vote rather than being automatically enrolled. Andy Garrick said that after the 2015 election a review had been undertaken of the election process and that had recommended automatic enrolment. He advised he had communicated Council's 2015 electoral review recommendations to the Organisational Review Panel when they visited recently. Cr Ken Coombes suggested licence holders needed to be educated on Fish & Game Councils and the election process.

18.5 Cr Murray Ferris informed Council that the Waikaremoana Boating and Fishing Association had recently considered disbanding but were now back up and running. They were keen to reapply for funding for the shallow water navigation markers Council had previously approved, and were keen to attend a Council meeting in the near future.

19.0 MEETING CLOSED

19.1 The meeting closed at 2.47pm with a closing karakia by Cr Ngahi Bidois.

.....
David Woolner
Chairman

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

2.0 APOLOGIES

- 2.2 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Alan Baird) that the apologies for the 185th meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [20/10/2.2]*

3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (13 AUGUST 2020)

- 3.1 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Alan Baird) that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 August 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [20/10/3.1]*

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- 11.10 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Murray Ferris) that Council discussion on the “Treatment of Non-Resident Levy Income” form part of the “Reserves Policy” discussion. [20/10/11.10]*
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- 13.2 *Moved (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that Cr David Woolner be nominated for Council Chair. [20/10/13.2]*
- 13.5 *Moved (Debbie Oakley/Laurance Tamati) that Cr Ngahi Bidois be nominated for Council Deputy Chair. [20/10/13.5]*
- 13.8 *Moved (David Woolner/Ken Coombes) that Debbie Oakley be nominated for NZ Council appointee. [20/10/13.8]*
- 13.12 *Moved (Ken Coombes/Murray Ferris) that Council confirms Matthew McDougall as its representative on the Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust. [20/10/13.12]*

14.0 DATES FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2021

- 14.1 *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that the following schedule of meeting dates and locations be confirmed:*

	Date	Venue	Key Topics
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3	10 June 2021	Rotorua	• Licence Fees
4	5 August 2021	Rotorua	• Finalise OWP
5	7 October 2021	Rotorua	• Game Conditions – initial
6	2 December 2021	Rotorua	• Game Conditions – finalise
AGM	2 December 2021	Rotorua	• Present Annual Performance Report

[20/10/14.1]

17.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

- 17.3** *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that Council receives the Management Report. [20/10/17.3]*
- 17.4** *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that Council receives the Health and Safety Report. [20/10/17.4]*
- 17.5** *Agreed (Murray Ferris/Ken Coombes) that Council receives the Finance Report and approves payments for July and August 2020 totalling \$269,233.56. [20/10/17.5]*

7. CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

Ref: 7.02.01

18 November 2020

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

The Eastern Fish and Game Council at its October 2016 meeting adopted a policy and rules for dealing with Conflicts of Interest and must provide 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;
- (ii) The member’s other interest could specifically affect, or be affected by, the actions of the Council in relation to a matter;

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.

- (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. 2019-2020 PERFORMANCE REPORT

Ref: 8.03.04

18 November 2020

1. Purpose

To adopt the Performance Report for the 2019-2020 year.

2. Background

The Performance Report for the 2019-2020 year has been completed and audited by Owen McLeod. The draft Performance Report was provided for consideration at Council's 15 October meeting, and a final copy which includes the Independent Auditor's Report will be tabled at this meeting.

3. Reporting Standards

The Performance Report has been prepared under a Public Benefit Entity Simple Format reporting - Accrual (Public Sector) (PBE SFR A (PS)).

4. Variance against Budget

The net surplus for the year was \$26,320 against a budget deficit of (\$4,455). This final result is significantly lower than the \$67,715 net surplus reported in the draft Performance Report provided at Council's October meeting. Final accruals for ACC levies and interest were processed following that meeting and the revaluation of the Forestry asset onsite was received which resulted in a non-cash adjustment to the accounts of \$40,000. This reduction in value of the Forestry asset is due to falling log prices over the past 12 months and increased harvest costs.

The variance between the profit for the year and the budgeted deficit totalled \$30,775 and can be attributed to many factors. With the nation going into lockdown in March and uncertainties over whether the Game Bird hunting season would occur at all, the prudent decision was made to curtail all non-essential spending in order to offset the likelihood of not only receiving no revenue from the Game Bird hunting season but also loss of revenue from the sale of Fish licences, particularly to non-resident anglers.

With good fortune, and negotiation by the New Zealand Council, the Game Bird Season proceeded but game licence sales fell short of budget by some 16% or \$41,736. Fish licence revenue was also impacted by the period of lockdown and border closures ending the year 8.5% below budget, (\$106,339).

Direct expenditure was reduced by \$91,561 for the year and additional income earned through a non-budgeted contract to Genesis Energy for \$15,000 and rental income of \$13,938 offset a good proportion of lost licence revenue. Our application for the Covid 19 wages subsidy meant that all staff were paid in full over the period of lockdown, and this too has contributed to the final positive result at year end.

4.1 Income

Total revenue for the 2019-2020 year was \$18,027 under budget. This is made up from the following:

Amount	Note
\$81,526	Covid 19 Wages Subsidy
\$28,252	Increased Contract revenue
\$14,202	Revaluation of trout at year end
\$13,938	Increased Rental income
\$3,063	Insurance claim – Hatchery flooding offset direct costs
\$2,350	Increased Diversions for Junior Angler/Hunter Education
\$1,611	Other Habitat funding
\$697	Increased Interest income from Waikaremoana Fund
\$958	Donations, Huts, DVD's, Fish food, Children's fishing, Tours
\$398	Increased income from Prosecutions and Legal expense recovery
\$255	General income
-\$139,846	Reduced licence revenue
-\$9,350	Waikaremoana SFHEF – expense direct from fund
-\$8,229	Reduced income Non-Resident levies
-\$2,098	Reduced Hatchery revenue
-\$2,000	Rainbow Springs sponsorship
-\$1,735	Reduced general interest income
-\$1,314	Reduced ballot habitat maintenance fees
-\$391	Reduced fishing competitions
-\$314	Gain on sale of Fixed Assets
<u>-\$18,027</u>	

4.2 Expenditure (Direct)

4.2.1 Species Management

The total direct expenditure relating to species projects was \$31,924 under budget. The Population monitoring budgets were not fully utilised due primarily to funding which was approved from the Non-Resident reserve for the Lake Tarawera research projects not yet needing to be drawn on (\$20k from the Non-Resident reserve and c. \$2,500 from the bulk fund), drift dives, and aerial transect counts deferred/cancelled due to lockdown and cost saving measures. Hatchery expenditure was reduced with non-essential maintenance deferred (\$4,341).

4.2.2 Habitat Protection & Management

Habitat related direct expenditure ended the year \$16,842 less than budget due in part to under expenditure of funds budgeted from the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Fund (\$8,622) with the wages expense for the Waikaremoana work needing to be recorded against the salaries budget. Non-essential maintenance within the Reserves was deferred and no new Habitat projects were funded in order to reduced overall spending (\$8,020).

4.2.3 Angler & Hunter Participation

The total direct expenditure related to client service projects was \$6,767 under budget. Non-essential Angler Access activities were deferred (\$2,496), for the second year the pre-season Game Bird newsletter was not produced as additional space was allocated within the Fish & Game Magazine (\$2,346), and pamphlet reprints were also deferred (\$1,840).

4.2.4 Public Interface

Public Interface direct expenditure ended the year \$5,085 under budget. The Public Promotions budget was not fully utilised as a result of the cancellation of the Fish for Gold Promotion for the opening of the 2020-21 season, and the funds allocated for the insurance premium on the promotion were transferred to the Fish for Gold reserve at year end (\$3,500).

Communications and Grounds maintenance budget were also not fully utilised.

4.2.5 Compliance

The overall direct expense in the Compliance Output was under budget by \$5,151. This resulted from reduced legal costs with fewer prosecutions going through the courts and more going through the Diversion process. Ranger training, and equipment purchases were deferred to reduce overall costs.

4.2.6 Licensing

Licensing costs were lower than budgeted (\$12,136). This is due to lower than budgeted licence sales commissions and public online fees resulting from reduced licence sales.

4.2.7 Council

Council related expenditure was \$5,996 under budget. This was a consequence of a reduction in Councillor travel expenditure resulting from a change in the makeup of Council following the 2018 Election, and further savings made by Council meeting via zoom during the lockdown period.

4.2.8 Planning & Reporting

Planning and reporting expenditure is \$270 over budget due to an increase in the annual audit fee.

4.2.9 Overhead

The overhead expenses have been split into Employee related costs, Other expenses and Depreciation, and the combined end of year variance was \$34,829 (3.04%) over budget.

Employee related expenses were \$15,497 over budget resulting primarily from an increase to the wages expense due to unbudgeted wages for staff working for Hawke's Bay Fish & Game Council, an expense reported against salaries for the Waikaremoana project work, and an increase in annual leave accruals (\$22,420). FBT and ACC costs were reduced (\$1,195), and staff training and staff expenses were also reduced (\$6,563).

Other expenses were over budget by \$16,573. The unbudgeted non-cash reduction to the value of the Forestry asset by \$40,000 pushed total other expenses over budget despite cost saving measures undertaken under various overhead areas. Planned work on the Cottage was deferred reducing staff house expenses by \$6,342. Office premises expenses ended the year \$3,147 under budget as a result of reduced electricity, cleaning and maintenance costs primarily due to the period that staff were working from home. Office equipment spending was underbudget \$1,418 due to no cell phones being upgraded pending a response from Vodafone about issues with current devices. Communications expenditure was \$2,480 under budget as a result of timing of the purchasing of courier and postage items between financial years. General expenses were under budget by \$289 and Equipment expenditure also ended the year under budget (\$6,001) due to reduced Maritime Management expenditure and deferring of non-

essential maintenance. Vehicle expenses were less than budget (\$3,750) resulting from reduced fuel and servicing costs with vehicles being off the road during the lockdown period.

Depreciation was \$2,759 over budget.

4.2.10 NZ Fish & Game Levies

The levy of \$215,406 was in line with budget.

5. Financial Position

5.1 Liquidity

The Council's financial position remains secure with current liquidity ratios, which indicate the amount of working capital or quick assets available, of \$3.59 of current assets to every \$1 of current liabilities (\$3.46 in 2018-19). Note current assets figure for this calculation has been adjusted to exclude fish stock on hand at year end (ratio including fish stock \$4.04, cf \$3.89 in 2018-19).

The Statement of Cash Flows highlights that net cash received from operating activities for the year was \$140,437 compared to \$48,335 last year. The net increase in cash on hand at year-end of \$135,216 is a makeup of the inflow from operating (\$140,437) and the outflow transfer of cash to investments and fixed assets (\$5,221).

5.2 Debtors

The figure of \$140,265 is made up of current debtors, prepaid expenses, and accrued income (2018-19 figure, \$125,445).

5.3 Fish & Game General Reserves

The National Financial Reserves Policy requires that a region's net current assets (excluding Restricted reserves) shall be managed between 30 - 50% of licence revenue in Councils which have income greater than its bulk fund. This policy is currently under review and until the new Policy is finalised Councils will calculate reserve levels against their preceding year's bulk fund irrespective of licence revenue for the year ending 31 August 2020.

The Eastern Council's General Reserves (excluding Restricted Reserves) to 31 August 2020 totalled \$544,867. The Council's General Reserve sits at 48% of the 2019-20 bulk fund (\$1,127,970).

5.4 Restricted and Dedicated Reserves

Note 5 (page 52) in the Accounts gives a summary of the Dedicated and Restricted Reserves. These include the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund, the Asset Replacement Reserve, the Non-Resident Levy Reserve, the Fish for Gold Reserve, and the Breeding Programme Reserve which relates to a donation which has been earmarked for a specific purpose as requested by the benefactor.

6. Statement of Service Performance

The Statement of Service Performance commencing on page 5 of the Performance Report provides information on each output area including Projects & Objectives, Performance Measures, and Actual Results. The Summary Budget and Actual Expenditure table shown on page 5, and the more detailed Summary of Resources tables shown at the commencement of each output area, provide a summary of total expenses less income for each output area.

The total expense figures reported within the Summary of Resource tables not only include direct costs but also an allocation of the overhead costs based on the actual hours worked in each output area.

Note 12 on page 56 provides a summary of the total expense for each output area detailing the overhead component and hours that contribute to this.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 That Council adopts the Performance Report for the 2019-2020 year.

9. 2020 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS

Ref: 1.07.03

13 November 2020

1. Purpose

To determine game season conditions for the 2021 hunting season.

2. Background

Council has established policies and criteria for determining game season regulations based on monitoring programmes undertaken in the January preceding the game season. These are set out in Appendix 1 to this Agenda Item.

Mallard and grey duck (greylard) harvest regulations are determined from the estimated population size [18/11/10.16]. There are three sets of regulations depending on how large or small we believe the population is likely to be at the commencement of the game season (Figure 1). When our predictions are that the population will fall into the low category a set of restrictive regulations comes into effect, while a relaxed set is applied if we assess the population as being likely to be high. When the population is somewhere between an intermediate set of regulations is applied. What is important to understand is that we are unable to accurately assess population size until after the regulations have been set, and indeed, until after the hunting season has finished. This means we need to develop, refine, and utilise a predictive approach to determining population size that we have confidence in and is as robust as we can make it.

Population change from year to year is dependent on births, deaths, immigration, and emigration. Band recovery data suggest the bulk of the mallard population is relatively sedentary, and it is assumed that what emigration occurs will be offset by immigration. We have 24 years of population estimates and the same for survival rates. With this data we can estimate the productivity or recruitment (the number of juveniles that make it to the hunting season) from year to year. It is likely that productivity will be influenced by a number of different variables such as the previous year's population size, predator numbers, and climatic factors (e.g. rainfall and temperature). To predict population size, Matt McDougall has statistically examined how well these variables have explained changes in population numbers determined post game season from one year to another. The "best fit" combination of factors for greylard populations has been the previous year's population size coupled with subsequent summer rainfall and preceding winter temperature. This data has been used for the past two hunting seasons to predict the greylard population and has subsequently proven to have done a reasonably good job of it. Over the long term this method would have produced the "right" result in at least 20 of the last 23 years.

This data will be used again to predict the 2021 mallard population and in turn determine which set of regulations will apply. Given that the 2020 population has been determined to be as low as it is (see Figure 1) it is likely that restrictive conditions will apply for the 2021 season.

The Papers for Information accompanying this agenda provide a more in-depth explanation of this process.

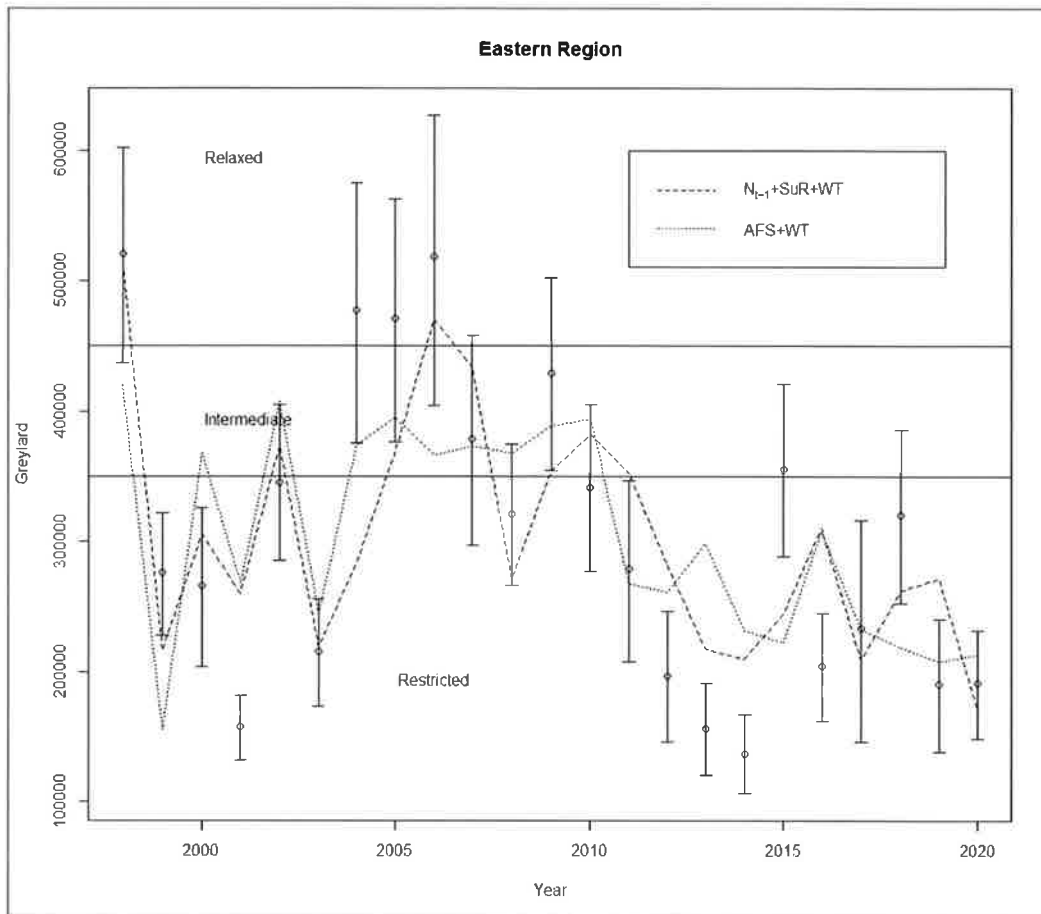


Figure 1 Eastern Region mallard population (open circle; mean \pm 95% BCI) 1998–2020, with three zones of regulation constraint, Restricted, Intermediate and Relaxed. The dashed line shows the model $N(t) = N(t-1) + SuR + WT$ where $N(t)$ =mallard population in year t , SuR =average summer rain (actual), WT =average winter temperature. The dotted line shows the predicted mallard population as a function of adult female survival rate (AFS) and average winter temperature (Whakatane weather station).

Black swan regulations are based on population size estimates and trends over the past eighteen years, and paradise shelduck regulations on population trends alone. Aerial counts of swans and parries are undertaken in mid-January. Analysis of this data is usually completed by Waitangi Weekend. Shoveler duck populations are assessed from ground based counts undertaken throughout New Zealand in August each year, but unlike other waterfowl species there are no established criteria for setting season regulations other than applying a conservative approach to the trend counts obtained. As a result, regulations have tended to remain the same each year.

Upland game regulations also tend to remain the same from year to year. Staff undertake some monitoring of pheasant populations by conducting crow counts in November, but this provides only limited insight into numbers as it is undertaken prior to the breeding season. At this stage we do not have a robust means of quantifying upland game populations to inform the setting of bag limits and duration of season. Quail are also recorded during the November survey, but the data collected is insufficient to enable a meaningful analysis. Staff have only seen a few brown quail in the Eastern Region in recent years, and for some years prior to that they were only ever observed in small, isolated coveys. This was recorded in Council's October 2019 agenda, along with the note that the annual Game Bird Hunter Survey has not recorded a brown

quail having been shot since 2007, which suggests that they are an inconsequential harvest, and/or that the population is too low to support a harvest.

At the October 2020 Council meeting, eight issues were raised for further consideration at this December meeting. The Western Bay of Plenty Fish & Game Club was subsequently invited (16 October 2020) to comment on these issues, or any others they thought pertinent, and an 11th hour response has just been received from them (see PFI).

Appendix 2 provides the proposed schedule and regulations for the 2021 game season. The content of the highlighted cells in the schedule is subject to the outcomes of summer monitoring in January 2021 and will be finalised as per the policy direction indicated in Appendix 1. Council will be advised in early February of the results of the summer monitoring programmes (trend counts), and the consequent regulations that will apply.

3. Resolutions from the December 2019 Meeting

Council agreed:

- 1. Agreed (Barry Roderick/Ngahi Bidois) that the restrictive season regulations (four week, four mallard & grey duck daily limit) for the Reporoa/Broadlands area apply for the 2020 season but if pre-season monitoring next year does not indicate a population increase then the season regulations should be brought back into alignment with the rest of the region during the 2021 season. [19/12/11.2]***
- 2. Agreed (Barry Roderick/Lindsay Lyons) that a special swan season be scheduled for the weekend of 27-28 February 2021 in Management Area A1. [19/12/11.4]***
- 3. Agreed (David Woolner/Alan Baird) that the Definition of Areas in the Game Gazette Notice includes the statement in the introduction that “The coastal boundaries of management units A1, B1 and, B2 are defined in Infomap 242-2”. [19/12/11.7]***
- 4. Agreed (Lindsay Lyons/Alan Baird) to retain the status quo in relation to the cutoff dates for upland game, swan (relaxed season) and pukeko seasons (i.e. the last full week in August). [19/12/11.8]***
- 5. Agreed (Alan Baird/Lindsay Lyons) that Council will not have an open season for brown quail during the 2020 Game Bird Hunting Season. [19/12/11.9]***
- 6. Agreed (Barry Roderick/Lindsay Lyons) that unless it is shown that there are additional benefits over and above what can be accomplished under the Litter Act 1979 (assuming Fish & Game Officers are authorised to be Litter Control Officers under that Act), then there is nothing to be gained from incorporating a special condition into the Second Schedule of Eastern Region’s Game Bird Regulations making it an offence to wilfully dump game birds or their carcasses, i.e. the status quo should remain. [19/12/11.11]***

4. Information for Further Discussion and/or Making of Resolutions

4.1 Lifting of the Restricted Season in the Reporoa/Broadlands area (resolution reqd)
Mallard harvest in the Reporoa/Broadlands area has been restricted (four-week season 4 bird limit) due to low populations since 2016. It has previously been agreed to lift these restrictions if monitoring (refer to Figure 1, Agenda Item 8, October 2020 Agenda) does not detect an increase in numbers (see resolution [19/12/11.2] above). As explained in the October 2020

agenda, Covid-19 lockdown meant that this monitoring could not be completed before the 2020 game season. Nevertheless, there appears to be a general consensus that the restriction should be lifted as the regulations are probably not restrictive enough to be effective, and lower bag limits and a shorter season would not be politically acceptable.

Recommendation

4.1 That the Reporoa/Broadlands area has the same mallard and grey duck regulations as the rest of the Eastern Region for the 2021 season.

4.2 Special Swan Season (resolution required)

In February 2019 and 2020 a special swan season was held in management Area A1 in response to a growing population in this subregion (Figure 3). The summer population of black swan, on Tauranga Harbour (>6,000, see Figure 2, Agenda Item 8, October 2020 Agenda) remains high. The large population on Tauranga Harbour, staff believe, is a consequence of the collapse of the macrophyte beds in many of the Waikato lakes (e.g. there is a strong correlation between the decrease in swan on Lake Whangape and the increase on Tauranga Harbour; $r=0.58$ $p=0.0012$).

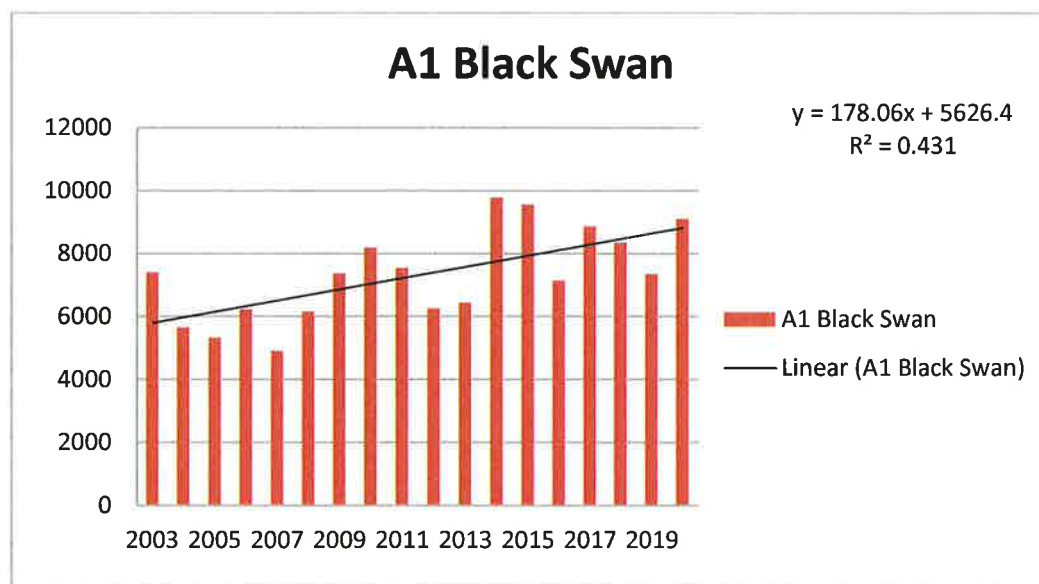


Figure 2. Black swan counts (total) for Management Area A1 2003-2020

As previously advised to Council, some locals, along with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, have expressed concerns at the impact they perceive swan to be having on the sea grass beds (*Zostera sp.*)². Similar concerns have been expressed for Ohiwa Harbour despite the very low population there (50-60 birds). Fish & Game notes that other factors, such as catchment derived sedimentation, has played a major part in the demise of *Zostera*, but recognises too that grazing by black swan may be retarding the recovery of these beds given the numbers of birds present at times during the year.

Another special season is gazetted for 27–28 February 2021. The swan harvest during the normal 2020 season (2,806; 95% CI 1,734–4,541) was up on previous years (Figure 4).

² *Zostera* beds provide habitat for a large variety of marine life and are particularly important rearing habitat for commercial and recreational species such as snapper.

Given that there has been no substantive change in the swan population within Management Area A1 since the Council first agreed to a special season in 2018 (Figure 3) the rationale to hold another special two day season in February/March 2022 is consistent with previous Council decisions. The Western Bay of Plenty Fish & Game Club supports holding another special swan season.

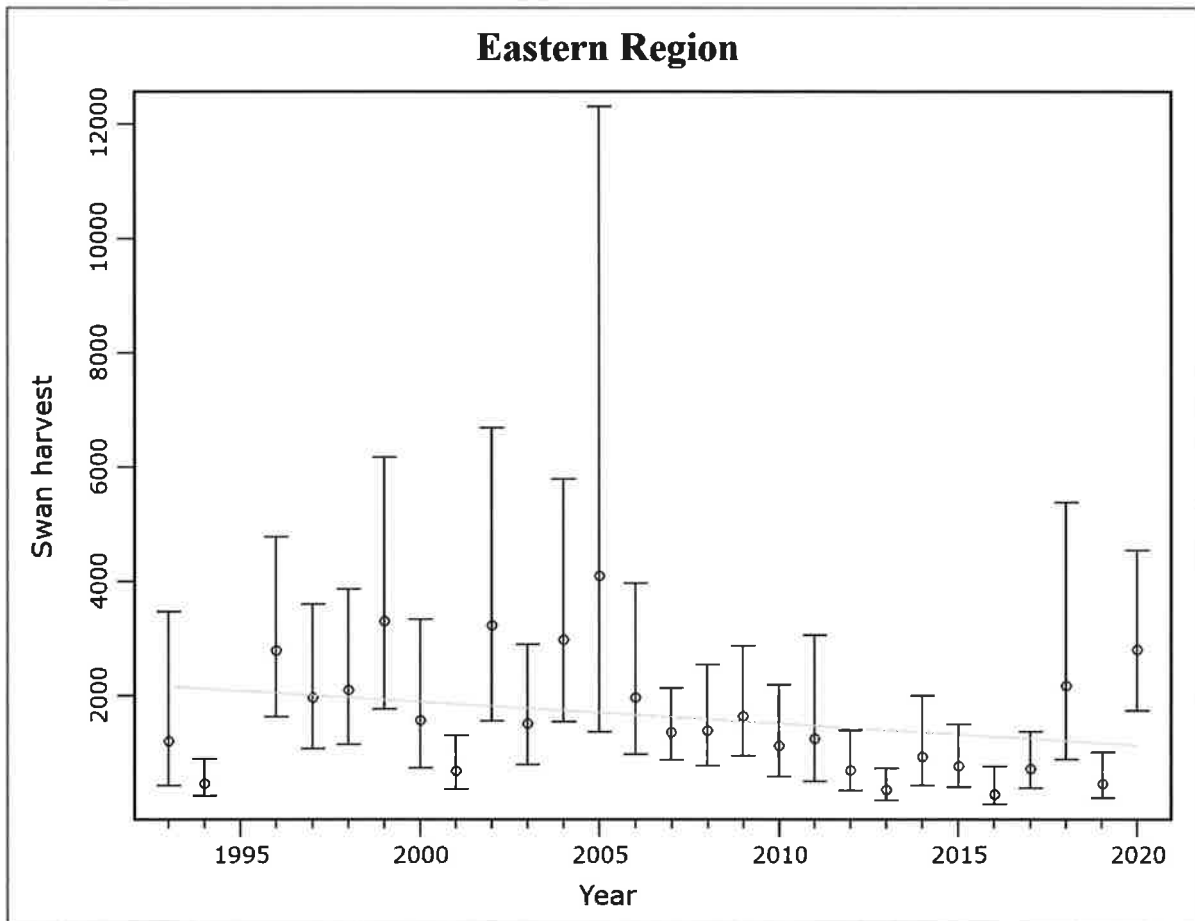


Figure 3. Estimated swan harvest in the Eastern Region 1993–2020 (NB the 1995 survey was not done).

Recommendation

4.2 *That a special swan season be scheduled for the weekend of 26–27 February 2022 in Management Area A1.*

4.3 Pukeko Special Season (resolution required)

As with swan in Management Area A1, there will be a special season in February 2021 for pukeko over the same weekend, the difference being that it applied to the whole region. The season provides an opportunity for landowners who have issues with crop damage caused from pukekos, hunters who want additional hunt time, and for young hunters to get their eye in. We do not monitor this harvest, so it is not clear how popular it is and we haven't heard from any hunters who participated.

Since September 2004, two hundred and twenty-two permits to disturb pukeko have been issued, seven of these since 1 September 2020. Over that time there has been a gradual but small increase in the number of pukeko shot under these permits (Figure 4). This small increase

is not necessarily a reflection of more pukeko being shot but may reflect better reporting of numbers of pukeko killed. Further to this, annual harvest has been fairly consistent (Figure 5).

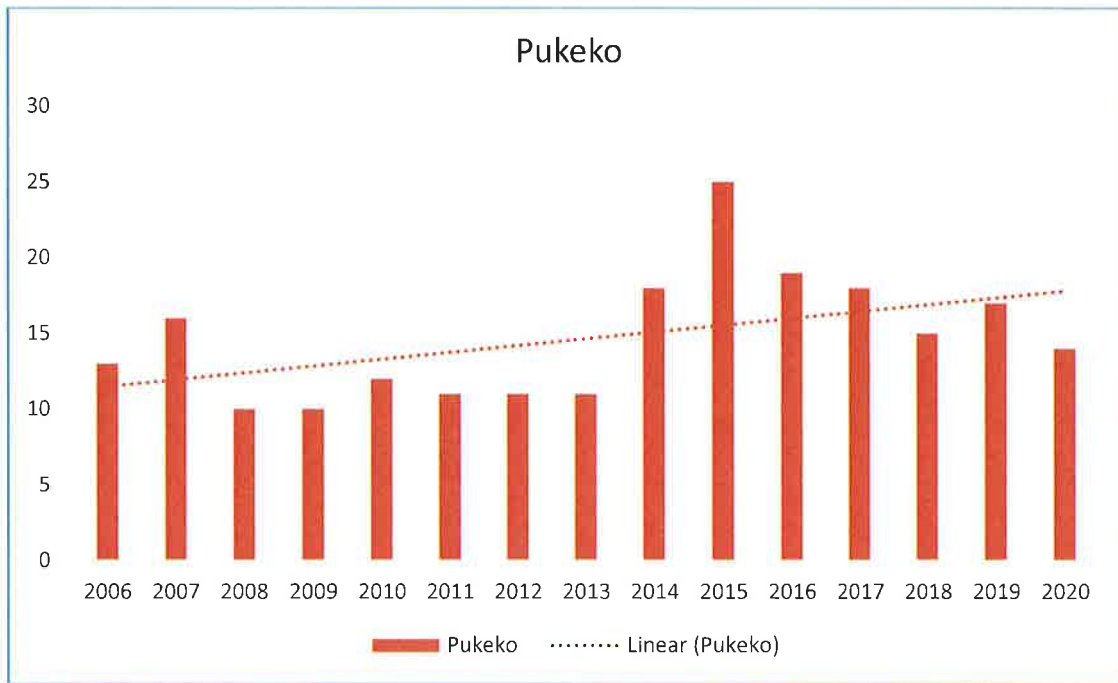


Figure 4. Pukeko reported shot September 2006 – November 2020 under Authorities to Disturb. Note that the 2020 is not a full year.

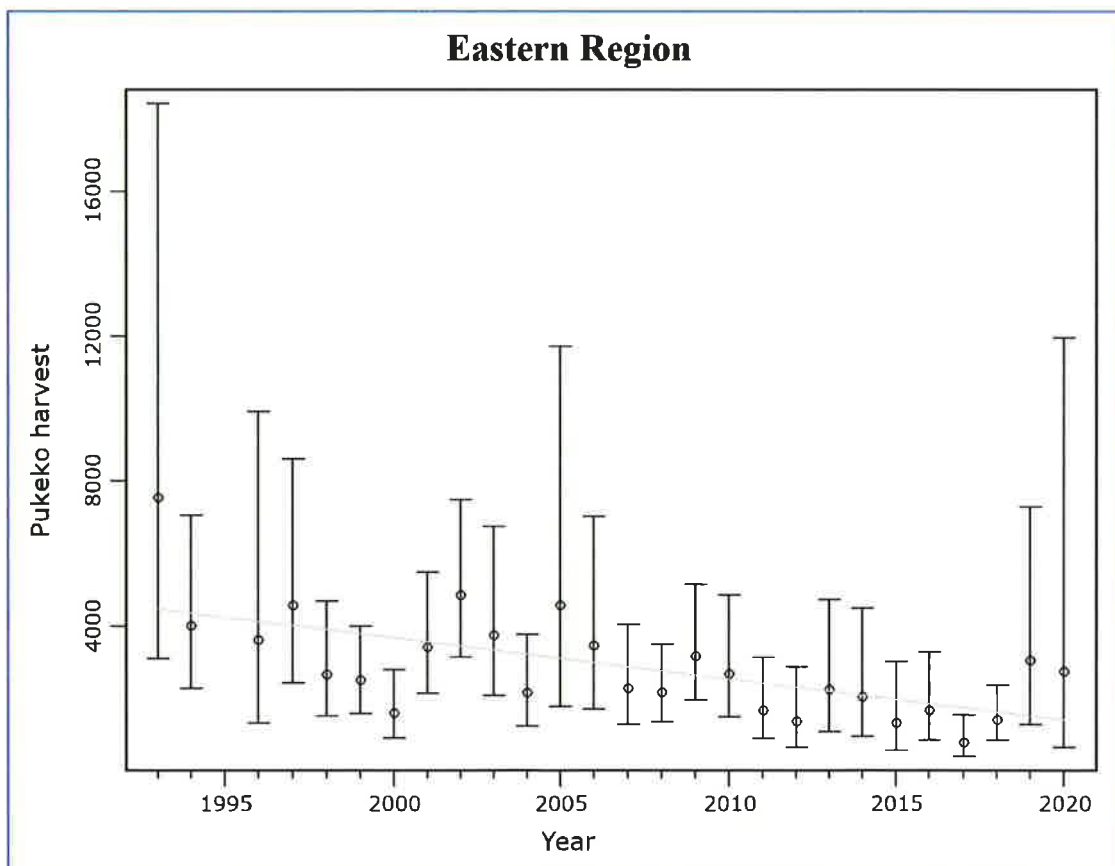


Figure 5. Annual pukeko harvest (mean ±95%CI) in the Eastern Region 1993–2020.

Another season is gazetted for February 2021. Given that it is unlikely that a lot of hunters will participate in the special pukeko season and that it offers land owners an opportunity to control birds causing damage to their operations, there is probably no reason not to have another special season in 2022 for the whole of the region at the same time as the swan season. The Western Bay of Plenty Fish & Game Club supports holding another special pukeko season.

Recommendation

4.3. *That a special pukeko season be scheduled for the weekend of 26–27 February 2022 for the Eastern Region.*

4.4 Brown Quail Season (resolution required)

Last season (2020) there was no season to hunt brown quail. Brown quail populations in the Eastern Region may have decreased in recent years. Hunter harvest appears to be minimal, but may be an important factor in the apparent decrease. Given that we have concerns that any harvest may be unsustainable, and that we have no way of determining the current status of brown populations, the prudent course of action is to not have a season until we can establish whether the population can withstand hunting. The Western Bay of Plenty Fish & Game Club supports an ongoing closed season for brown quail.

Recommendation

4.4. *To not have an open season for brown quail in the 2021 season.*

4.5 Dumping of Game Bird Carcasses (resolution required)

Dumping game bird carcasses in public areas has at times drawn the public ire. Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game has a special condition in its Second Schedule relating to the wilful dumping of game birds or their carcasses. The Litter Act 1979 deems dumping litter (which includes animal remains), in any public place (which includes reserves, public recreation areas, beaches, bank of any river etc.) to be an offence, and a Litter Control Officer includes a person appointed as a Ranger (any ranger appointed pursuant to section 38 of the Wildlife Act 1953 [38(c) any servant of a Fish and Game Council to be a ranger for the purposes of this Act]). However, it appears that since Fish and Game Rangers are appointed under Section 26FA of the Conservation Act this provision does not apply. Therefore, if the Council wish Rangers to have powers in relation to dumping of game bird carcasses then an additional clause needs to be included in the Gazette Notice. The Western Bay of Plenty Fish & Game Club advises it does not condone the dumping of game bird carcasses.

Southland Fish & Game has the following provision:

“No person shall in or on a public place, or in or on private land without the consent of its occupier, in the Southland Fish and Game Region:

- (a) deposit any litter, including shotgun cartridge cases and/or the bodies or parts of the bodies of shot game; or
- (b) having deposited any litter, including shotgun cartridge cases and/or the bodies or parts of the bodies of shot game, leave it.”

while Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game’ is:

“No person may wilfully leave on the hunting ground any game bird(s) shot or parts of any game birds shot.”

Recommendation

4.5. No person shall within the Eastern Fish & Game Region, in or on any public place, or in or on any private land without consent of the land occupier, with intent:

(a) deposit any type of litter, including carcasses or parts thereof, of any shot game.

(b) having deposited any type of litter, including carcasses or parts thereof, of any shot game, leaves it after having been deposited.

(c) for the purposes of this regulation litter includes any refuse, animal or game remains, or waste matter or items of any type used in the course of hunting, which is abandoned or intended to be abandoned.

4.6 Extension to the Upland Game Season on Upland Game Properties (resolution)

As detailed in the October 2020 agenda in recent history there has been a two-week extension to the upland game season for junior hunters only. This has not been utilised for some years to our knowledge and further, the properties that used to offer this opportunity are no longer covered by the Open Season for Game Gazette Notice.

Recommendation

4.6. That the extension to the upland game season for junior hunters be dropped.

4.7 Drones (resolution required)

There have been reported incidents of people using drones to scare waterfowl to assist with their hunting. It is a little ambiguous whether the Wildlife Act prohibits such activity. For clarity staff are recommending that the gazette notice should prohibit the use of drones to disturb waterfowl. The Western Bay of Plenty Fish & Game Club does not support the general use of drones to scare waterfowl but suggests there may be a place for them in situations such as the special season for black swan in Tauranga Harbour where there is a need to drive birds to a particular area.

Recommendation

4.7. That the use of drones to disturb game birds is not permitted.

4.8 Magazine Extensions (recommendation required)

The Arms Act was amended on 12 April 2019 to include:

2B Meaning of prohibited magazine

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, prohibited magazine, —

(a) in relation to a shotgun, means a magazine, whether or not detachable, that is capable of holding more than 5 cartridges commensurate with that shotgun's chamber size:

Section 3 of the Open Season for Game Gazette Notice refers to magazine shotguns including magazine extensions it may be helpful for all concerned if the Gazette Notice clarifies that magazines are now limited to 5 shells.

Recommendation

4.8. That the Council write to the New Zealand Council suggesting that Section 3 of the First Schedule (Magazine Shotguns) of the Open Season for Game Gazette Notice notes the 5-shell limit.

APPENDIX 1: CURRENT POLICY AND CRITERIA

1. GREYLARD (Mallard and Grey Duck) POLICY

- (i) *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Ngahi Bidois) that Council re-affirms the current threshold levels, criteria, and conditions for regulation setting for grey duck/mallard, paradise shelduck and black swan. [18/11/10.16]*
- (ii) *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Alan Baird) that the threshold levels are set at 350,000 and 450,000 such that at or below 350,000 a set of restricted conditions apply; above 350,000 and, at or below 450,000 a set of intermediate harvest regulations apply; and above 450,000 a relaxed set of conditions apply. [16/12/10.3]*
- (iii) *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Alan Baird) that restricted conditions shall comprise a 4-week season (including Queens Birthday when appropriate) with a bag limit of 6 mallard and grey duck; intermediate conditions shall comprise a 6-week season with a bag limit of 8 mallard and grey duck; and relaxed conditions shall comprise an 8-week season with a bag limit of 10 mallard and grey duck. [16/12/10.4]*
- (iv) *Agreed (Ian Pirani/Lindsay Lyons) that Council authorises staff to make a decision on Game Season Regulations outside of policy when an issue has been flagged. [12/10/8.2]*

2. Paradise Shelduck

- (i) *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Alan Baird) that paradise shelduck and black swan thresholds and regulations remain the status quo and are subject to January monitoring results. [16/12/10.5]*

Threshold Criteria

Table 1: Eastern Paradise Shelduck threshold levels

LONG TERM POPULATION TREND	SEASON
Negative ie. population declining	Restricted
Zero ie. population stable	Intermediate
Positive ie. population growing.	Relaxed

Table 2: Eastern Paradise Shelduck season conditions

SEASON	Area	Specific Conditions	
		Length (weeks)	Bag Limit
Restricted	A1 & A2	4	4
	B2 & B1 South of true right bank Uawa River	4	4
Intermediate	A1, A2	8	6
	B2 & B1 South of the true right bank Uawa River	8	10
Relaxed	A1, A2, B2 & B1 South of the true right bank Uawa River Mouth	10	10
Fixed Season condition	B1 North of the true right bank Uawa River Mouth	10	20

3. Black Swan

- (i) *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Alan Baird) that paradise shelduck and black swan thresholds and regulations remain the status quo and are subject to January monitoring results. [16/12/10.5]*
- (ii) *Agreed (Alan Baird/Adam Rayner) that Council supports changing the “Intermediate” regulations for black swan from a daily bag limit of 2 to 5 birds (i.e, when the population is assessed at 1,000-3,000 birds) to provide more incentive to hunt swan once the mallard season finishes. [18/11/10.15]*

Threshold Criteria

Table 3: Eastern Black Swan threshold levels

POPULATION SIZE	TREND	SEASON
Low (below 1,000)	Negative	Restricted
Low (below 1,000)	Zero	Restricted
Low (below 1,000)	Positive	Restricted
Moderate (between 1,000 and 3,000)	Negative	Intermediate
Moderate (between 1,000 and 3,000)	Zero	Intermediate
Moderate (between 1,000 and 3,000)	Positive	Relaxed
Greater than 3,000	Negative	Relaxed
Greater than 3,000	Zero	Relaxed
Greater than 3,000	Positive	Relaxed

Table 4: Eastern Black Swan season conditions

SEASON	SPECIFIC CONDITIONS (LENGTH AND DAILY BAG)
Restricted	No season
Intermediate	8-week season with a 5-bird limit for Management Units A1, A2 and B1. 6-week season with a 4-bird limit for Management Unit B2.
Relaxed	16-week season with a no-bird limit

4. Hunting with Australasian Harriers Policy

- (i) *Agreed (Mike Little/Murray Ferris) that Council approves the application submitted by the NZ Falconers Association and Wingspan to hunt Pukeko with Australasian Harriers in the Eastern Region subject to the game bird season conditions and bag limits. [13/10/8.2]*
- (ii) *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Lindsay Lyons) that Council supports the proposal to allow registered falconers, who hold a game bird licence and an Authority to Handle birds from the Department of Conservation, to hunt other game bird species as listed within the Game Bird hunting regulations. [16/10/9.11] Cr Alan Baird opposed the motion.*

APPENDIX 2: PROPOSED 2020 GAME SEASON

The First Schedule below is an extract from the 2020 game season and has been included for information only. The Second Schedule has been updated to reflect what's proposed for the 2021 season, but it needs to be noted that some daily bag limits and season lengths are subject to the outcome of population monitoring in January 2021.

FIRST SCHEDULE

Hunting conditions generally common to all fish and game regions

1 Bag limits

- 1.1** No person shall possess on any one day, more than the number of game birds specified as the daily bag limit for the Fish and Game Region in which the game is taken, except on Sunday 3 May 2020, when that person may have in his or her possession twice the number of game birds specified as the daily bag limit for Saturday 2 May 2020.
- 1.2** A person may possess more game than specified in sub-clause (1) of this Schedule, if all such game is labelled with the following details:
- (a) The name and address of the person by whom the game was taken;
 - (b) The number of the licence to hunt or kill game held by the person by whom the game was taken;
 - (c) The name of the Fish and Game Region by which that licence was issued;
 - (d) The name of the Fish and Game Region in which the game was taken; and
 - (e) The date on which the game was taken.

2 Waiver of Restrictions on Baiting for Waterfowl

A person³ may hunt or kill game of the family Anatidae (waterfowl) during the open season for game in all Fish and Game Regions, except Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region, where food has been cast, thrown, placed or planted any time during the year. In the Second Schedule, Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region, Special Condition 4(9), applies to restrictions on baiting.

3 Magazine Shotguns

A person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, in any Fish and Game Regions with any magazine shotgun of a calibre 10 gauge or less, which includes magazine extensions⁴, other than in the:

- (a) Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region;
- (b) Eastern Fish and Game Region;
- (c) Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Region;
- (d) Wellington Fish and Game Region;
- (e) Nelson/Marlborough Fish and Game Region;

³Section 17 of the Wildlife Act 1953

⁴Amended notification to section 18(1)(c) (iii) and (v) of the Wildlife Act 1953 as authorised by the Minister of Conservation under section 18(1) of that Act

(f) West Coast Fish and Game Region.

For these six Regions special conditions in the Second Schedule apply.

4 Shot Size

No person shall use, in any shotgun used for the purposes of hunting and killing game, any cartridge containing any shot size having a larger retained, per-pellet energy at 90 metres than lead BB.

5 Use of Lead Shot Prohibited

5.1 No person may possess lead shot, or use lead shot, while hunting or killing waterfowl within 200 metres of open water on Department of Conservation or Fish and Game administered lands with any shotgun, except those using a .410 cartridge. Non-toxic alternative shot must be used, including steel.

5.2 No person, with any shotgun using a 10 or 12 gauge cartridge, may possess lead shot, or use lead shot, while hunting or killing waterfowl within 200m of open water. Non-toxic alternative shot must be used, including steel.

5.3 For the purposes of this requirement, “waterfowl” means any of the following game species:

Black swan (*Cygnus atratus*);

Grey duck (*Anas superciliosa*) and any cross of that species with any other species, variety, or kind of duck;

Mallard duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and any cross of that species with any other species, variety, or kind of duck;

Paradise shelduck (*Tadorna variegata*) also known as Paradise duck;

Spoonbill duck (New Zealand shoveler) (*Anas rhynchos*);

Pukeko (*Porphyrio porphyrio melanotus*).

5.4 For the purposes of this requirement, “open water” means either:

(a) any area of land or seabed covered permanently or seasonally by water wider than 3 metres; or

(b) any area which is temporarily covered by water wider than 3 metres at the time of such possession or use, and that is contiguous to an area referred to in paragraph (4)(a).

5.5 In 2021 lead shot will be prohibited for all licence holders (irrespective of gauge used, excepting 0.410) across all lands (public and private) when hunting waterfowl within 200 metres of all waterways and wetlands.

6 Camouflaged Rowboats

A person⁵ may hunt or kill game within the following Fish and Game Regions, from unmoored camouflaged rowboats, subject to the excluded periods for the regions specified below:

Northland – no excluded period

Auckland/Waikato – excluding 2 and 3 May 2020

⁵Section 18(1)(f)(vi) of the Wildlife Act 1953

Eastern – excluding 2 and 3 May 2020
Hawke’s Bay – excluding 2 and 3 May 2020
Taranaki – no excluded period
Wellington – excluding 2 and 3 May 2020
Nelson/Marlborough – no excluded period
West Coast – no excluded period
North Canterbury – excluding 2 and 3 May 2020
Central South Island – excluding 2 and 3 May 2020
Otago – excluding Clutha River 2 to 10 May 2020 inclusive
Southland – excluding the Matarua, Aparima, Oreti, Waiau and Waimatuku rivers and their tributaries 2 to 31 May 2020 inclusive.

7 Restriction on Taking of Game

No person shall use any vehicle propelled by mechanical power (including motorised watercraft)⁶ to chase or kill game, except in such circumstances and at such times as authorised by the Conservation Act 1987 and Wildlife Act 1953.

8 Pegging Day

- 8.1** Stand claimants who claimed and occupied a stand during the 2019 Game Season may claim that stand at any time prior to pegging day (up to 10.00 a.m. on 5 April 2020) following the purchase of the 2020 game licence. If you are in the Auckland/Waikato Region, then the above mentioned applies **only to Adult Whole Season Licence Holders** and does not apply to Junior Licence Holders as it does in all other Fish and Game Regions.
- 8.2** Otherwise, unclaimed stands can only be claimed any time after 10.00am on 5 April 2020 in all Fish and Game Regions.
- 8.3** A stand may be claimed by planting on it a stake having either a board or identifying label attached, plainly identifying the name of the claimant and the number of his/her licence. The hunting stand claim tag provided with the licence must be completed with the name of the claimant and affixed to the board or identifying label.
- 8.4** The licence holder claiming a stand must be present in person at the stand when marking it up.
- 8.5** No one can claim more than one stand.
- 8.6** A stand cannot be claimed closer than 90 metres to a stand already claimed by another person without that person’s consent.
- 8.7** Any stand not occupied by the claimant within one hour after the opening hour of hunting, on any day, can be occupied by another licence holder for the remainder of the day.

9 Conditions

These conditions will expire at the end of the open season for game specified under the Second Schedule for each Fish and Game Region.

⁶Section 18(1)(f)(v) of the Wildlife Act 1953

SECOND SCHEDULE

EASTERN FISH AND GAME REGION⁷

1 Game That May be Hunted or Killed—Duration of 2021/2022 Season

Species	Season Duration (dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit	Hunting Area
Grey/mallard duck	1 May to 31 May 2021	6	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	1 May to 31 May 2021	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	1 May to 27 June 2021	6	Area A1, A2
	1 May to 27 June 2021	10	Area B2 and that part of B1, which lies south of the true right bank of the Uawa River Mouth, Tolaga Bay
	1 May to 11 July 2021	20	That part of B1, which lies north of the true right bank of the Uawa River Mouth, Tolaga Bay
Pukeko	1 May to 29 Aug 2021	10	All areas
	26 Feb and 27 Feb 2022	10	All areas
Black swan	1 May to 29 Aug 2021	No limit	Area A1
	26 Feb and 27 Feb 2022	No limit	Area A1
	1 May to 29 Aug 2021	5	Area A2
	Closed season	0	Area B1 & B2
Bobwhite (Virginian) quail	1 May to 29 Aug 2021	No limit	All areas
Brown quail	Closed season	5	All areas
California quail	1 May to 29 Aug 2021	No limit	Area A1 & A2
	1 May to 29 Aug 2021	5	Area B1 & B2
Cock pheasant	1 May to 29 Aug 2021	5	All areas excluding upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 7 for this Region
Pheasant, both sexes	1 May to 29 Aug 2021	No limit	Upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 6 for this Region

2 Definition of Areas

The following descriptions refer to Management Units within the Eastern Region (described on Infomap 242B-2 Land Information New Zealand). The Management Units are defined using both District Council and Eastern Region Fish & Game boundaries. The coastal boundaries of Management Units A1, B1 and, B2 follow the coastline as per Infomap 242-2.

⁷Reference to Description: *Gazette*, No. 83, of 22 May 1990, at page 1861

- 2.1 **Area A1:** Tauranga District, Western Bay of Plenty District, that part of the South Waikato District within the Eastern Fish and Game region and east of State Highway 1, Rotorua District, Kawerau District, Whakatane District and Opotiki District.
- 2.2 **Area A2:** Those parts of the South Waikato District west of State Highway 1 within the Eastern Fish and Game region, Taupo District and Ruapehu District, which lie within the Eastern Fish and Game region.
- 2.3 **Area B1:** Gisborne District.
- 2.4 **Area B2:** That part of Wairoa District within the Eastern Fish and Game region.

3 Shooting Hours

6.15am to 6.15pm in all areas for all species during their respective seasons.

4 Decoy Limit

No limit.

5 Special Conditions

- 5.1 No person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, within the Eastern region with any magazine shotgun unless the shotgun:
 - (a) has a magazine of any type adjusted with a one piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun; or
 - (b) the magazine is pinned in accordance with Regulations made under this Act; so that the magazine shotgun is incapable of holding more than 2 shells in the magazine, with no more than 3 shells in the magazine and chamber combined, at any one time.
- 5.2 No maimai shall impede the use of navigable channels in the Tauranga Harbour, Ohiwa Harbour, Little Waihi Estuary, Lake Aniwhenua and Lake Taupo.
- 5.3 A person who erects a maimai in the Little Waihi Estuary, Lake Aniwhenua, Ohiwa Harbour, Stump and Waihi Bays of Lake Taupo must dismantle and remove it within 2 weeks of the close of the season (ie by 12 September 2021).
- 5.4 Any licensed game bird hunter who has a Department of Conservation permit to take or kill wildlife for the purpose of hawking may hunt with an Australasian Harrier (*Circus approximans*) to take game birds. This is subject to the season length and bag limit for game birds specified in clause 1 of this notice for this Region and subject to any condition imposed by the Director-General of Conservation under such a permit.

6 Hunting From a Boat Under Power

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 purpose 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.

7 Upland Game Properties with Special Conditions

Pirini Family Trust: The property is located 8 kilometres up the Bush Road from Pongokawa. It is bounded by Pongakawa River, Rotoehu Forest and Bush Road, Sections 4, 5 and 7 SO 7437 Block IX Waihi South Survey District.

10. 2020 UPLAND GAME PROPERTY REPORT

Ref: 3.01.06

18 November 2020

1. Purpose

To review harvest and hunter effort during the 2020 season for one of the five previously gazetted Upland Game Properties with special conditions within the Eastern Region.

2. Background

Since 2001 the Council has reviewed the operations of the Upland Game Properties gazetted for that game season within the Eastern Region. These properties are operated in accordance with Council Policy and have a list of criteria they need to meet which includes maintaining and submitting an annual register of hunter activity and harvest. This report summarises results for the past 20 years for the Upland Game Properties for which returns are available. During the 2018 game season there were five gazetted Upland Game Properties with Special Conditions within the region but only one of these, the Pirini Family Trust, was included in the gazette notice for the 2019 game season. That season the other four properties opted to operate under a new regime prescribed in an Order of Council issued in August and valid until 2021 which reclassified pheasants and red-legged partridges within the boundaries of these properties from Schedule 1 (Wildlife Declared to be Game) of the Wildlife Act to Schedule 3 (Wildlife that may be Hunted or Killed subject to Minister's Notification). This removed all jurisdiction Fish & Game previously had over the upland game operations at these locations including the requirement for hunters to hold a current game season licence to hunt these species.

Accordingly, in 2019 there was a mandatory requirement for only one of the operators (the Pirini Family Trust) to submit a return that year. However, Equine and Cropp Farms voluntarily chose to in the interests of preserving continuity. Equine also chose to require its clients to hold a current 2019 game licence to hunt within its boundaries. The same situation prevailed this year. The Pirini Family Trust did not receive a diary for the 2020 season due to Covid disruptions, and this is in the course of being followed up. Equine did obtain and return a 2020 diary, and the results of that are reported below.

3. Results

Equine's summary results are presented in the tables below. Hunter activity and harvest overall is shown in Table 1. A comparison of total harvest and total birds released is shown in Table 2.

Table 1: Summary of hunter effort and harvest annually

Season	# Days Hunted	Number of Hunter/Days	Pheasants Shot				Birds Per Hunter/Day
			Cocks	Hens	Total	% Hens	
2001	31	209	828	631	1,459	43.25	7.0
2002	34	220	1,633	1,440	3,073	46.88	14.0
2003	30	251	2,815	2,440	5,255	46.43	20.9
2004	44	320	3,004	3,526	6,530	54.00	20.4
2005	36	334	4,304	3,265	7,569	43.14	22.7

2006	41	263	2,728	1,853	4,581	40.45	17.4
2007	54	399	3,682	3,575	7,257	49.26	18.2
2008	70	556	5,203	4,837	10,040	48.18	18.1
2009	60	496	4,665	4,351	9,016	48.26	18.2
2010	58	475	3,613	3,307	6,920	47.80	14.6
2011	67	532	5,165	4,894	10,701	45.73	20.1
2012	73	548	5,350	5,588	10,484	53.30	19.1
2013	92	655	6,642	6,279	12,916	41.55	19.7
2014	104	733	7,242	6,615	13,877	47.67	18.9
2015	91	613	6,699	5,641	12,340	45.71	20.1
2016	77	561	4,936	3,633	8,569	42.40	15.9
2017	90	607	6,872	6,416	13,294	48.26	21.9
2018	98	615	6,582	5,750	12,340	46.60	20.1
2019 ⁸	32	200	2,543	1,608	4,151	38.74	20.8
2020 ¹¹	17	143	1,832	1,089	2,921	37.28	20.4

Table 2: Summary of harvest annually

Season	Pheasants Released	Birds Shot & Recovered	% Harvested
2001	5,938	1,459	24.6
2002	7,400	3,073	41.5
2003	12,400	5,255	42.4
2004	15,200	6,473	42.6
2005	19,400	7,569	39.0
2006	15,200	5,319	35.0
2007	19,700	7,257	36.8
2008	24,436	10,040	41.1
2009	22,004	9,016	41.0
2010	18,200	6,920	38.0
2011	26,389	10,701	40.6
2012	26,820	10,484	39.1
2013	31,084	12,564	40.4
2014	31,084	13,877	44.6
2015	24,631	12,340	50.1
2016	26,800	8,569	32.0
2017	29,240	13,294	45.5
2018	27,700	12,340	44.5
2019 ¹¹	10,150	4,151	40.9
2020 ¹¹	10,000	2,921	29.2

4. Recommendation

4.1 That Council receives the summary results for the Equine Upland Game Property's 2020 season.

⁸ Note, of the five previously designated Upland Game Properties within the Eastern Region only one (Pirini Family Trust) was required to furnish a hunting register at the conclusion of the season in 2019 and 2020. One other however (Equine and Cropp Farms) did so voluntarily. These statistics therefore, do not provide a comprehensive picture of birds released or harvested within the region as a whole in 2019 or 2020 (Pirini Family Trust data also missing from 2020 records).

11. INTRODUCE A MATE TO HUNTING & FISHING

Ref: 3.04.08

23 November 2020

1. Purpose

To discuss the merits of introducing and promoting a Take A Mate Hunting or a Take A Mate Fishing concessionary facilities within the Eastern Region.

2. Background

For some years the Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Council has offered, to the first 100 game bird hunters who apply for it, the opportunity to take a mate hunting on opening weekend for the equivalent and current cost, of the Game Bird Habitat Trust stamp. This year that was \$4, last year it was \$3. Strict conditions apply, e.g. the mate must not have held a game licence previously, it's for opening weekend only, and it can only be used within the Auckland/Waikato Region. Uptake over the years has reportedly been quite limited (14 only this season) but the opportunity has not been vigorously marketed.

The concept has potential as an R3 recruiting initiative which could be relatively easily deployed and may warrant trialling within this region. The concept might also have merit for recruiting new anglers.

NZC staff have advised that it is legal to issue game licences for the price of the GBHT stamp under clause 13 of the Wildlife Regulations 1955:

13 Forms and classes of licences

(1) Licences to hunt or kill game must be in the forms and for the classes fixed by notice in the *Gazette*.

(2) It is lawful for a society to issue a complimentary licence where this has been approved of by the society, or to issue a licence to any person for either no fee or at such reduced fee as the society may approve when adequate compassionate grounds are shown. The annual report of each society must include a list of persons to whom complimentary licences were issued during the year of the report.

The legislation is clearly dated as it refers to a society rather than a Council, but the intent and provision still applies.

The situation as it relates to fishing is not quite so straight forward as clause 14 of the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1953 requires:

14 Licence fees

The fees fixed by notice in the *Gazette* for a licence **must** be paid and received for that licence.

Notwithstanding that, we can issue a special licence at no fee under clause 14A of the Freshwater Fishing Regulations using our standing authorisation from the Minister. We currently do provide dispensations from time to time for purposes such as scientific research, introducing groups of school children under the age of 14 to fishing, or to enable disabled anglers to fish in a manner contrary to the Anglers' Notice. There is in fact provision to issue

licences for any purpose approved by the Minister of Conservation, and NZC staff have suggested that if Eastern wishes to pursue this further they could put a paper to the Minister seeking explicit approval for issuing special licences as a means of increasing participation and licence sales.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 *That Council considers the merits of offering concessionary licences with strict conditions attached, for the purpose of introducing people who have never held a game licence or fishing licence previously, to game bird hunting or trout fishing within the Eastern Fish and Game Region.***

12. USE OF LICENCE SALES DATA

Ref: 8.04.10

24 November 2020

1. Purpose

To provide feedback to the New Zealand Council on a draft MOU between itself and regional Fish and Game Councils on the use of data collected through the sale of licences.

2. Background

At its meeting 21-23 August this year, the NZC agreed that there needed to be a Memorandum of Understanding around access to the national licence sales database as set out in the following recommendation:

“Agree that the NZC has access to the national database in order to represent the interests of anglers and hunters and to meet its national advocacy and national research functions subject to a policy and/or MOU negotiated with regions.” Moved Crs Grubb/Duley and carried.

The draft MOU has been circulated to regional Fish and Game Councils for their review. The accompanying email from the NZC CE noted that the draft had considered feedback from the three managers appointed to the Licence Sub Committee (though those managers subsequently advised they had not sighted nor endorsed the final draft that went out to regions). Since then the regional Managers/CE collective has reviewed the draft and agreed a number of minor additions and amendments are required for clarification, while a couple of items should be removed from the second schedule as these don't make sense.

The original two page draft circulated to regions is reproduced on pages 39-40 below. Following that (pp 41-45) an amended version based on the collective input of managers is provided, along with some explanatory comments appended to that to provide background and justification for the proposed changes to the original draft.

Another matter to be considered is whether this should be produced as a MOU or as a national policy, as it appears there is no provision within the Act for an MOU. A national policy may be a more robust mechanism to address access to licence databases, and it could potentially be linked to the Licence Management Policy it has been agreed will be prepared.

3. Recommendation

3.1 That Council reviews the two drafts provided and advises its position in relation to each of these along with any other related considerations it might wish to convey to the NZC.

DRAFT CIRCULATED 27 October 2020

**Memorandum of Understanding
on
Use of Data Collected through the Sales of Licences
Between
NZ Council and Regional Fish and Game Councils**

Context

1. The sale of fishing and game bird licences creates a data set of licence holder details (the database).
2. The principal purpose of the database is to support regional Fish and Game councils (Regional Councils) to carry out their statutory functions at a regional level and to support the New Zealand Fish and Game Council (NZ Council) to carry out its statutory functions at a national level.
3. The principle functions at a regional level are to validate a sports fishing or game bird hunting licence, communicate and promote recreation with licence holders, compliance monitoring, and to assess and monitor the success rate and satisfaction of licence holders.
4. The principle functions at a national level are to advocate in the best interests of all licence holders, co-ordinate across regions and research.

Purpose

5. The purpose of this MOU is to agree on the access to licence holder data between Regional Councils and between Regional Councils and the NZ Council.

Regional Council's Access to Licence Holder Data

6. A Regional Council has access to licence holder details contained in the database to carry out its statutory functions, including
 - communication with, and promotion of the recreation to, licence holders within its region
 - monitoring of compliance and enforcement of regulations for all licence holder details,
 - assessment and monitoring success rate and satisfaction of licence holders within its regions.
7. Tasks which may be typically undertaken by Regional Councils are described further in Schedule 1.
8. Regional Councils may access the database for the reasons listed in Schedule 1 without the need to consult with other Regional Councils or the New Zealand Fish and Game Council.

NZ Council's Access to Licence Holder Data

9. The NZ Council has access to licence holder details contained in the database to carry out its statutory functions, including:
 - a. Advocating in the best interests of all licence holders
 - b. Co-ordinating the distribution of Fish & Game print and electronic magazines, marketing campaigns and the election of Fish & Game councils.
 - c. Research, such as the National Angler Survey, licence holder surveys, market analysis.
10. Tasks which may be typically undertaken by the NZ Council are set out in Schedule 2.

11. The NZ Council may access the database for the reasons listed in Schedule 2 and will consult with Regional Councils when it uses the national database to carry out its statutory functions. Where NZ Council seeks access to the database for reasons other than those listed in Schedule 2 it requires the permission of the relevant Regional Council.

Schedule 1 Regional Councils

- Communication with Licence Holders in its own regions, such as:
 - Newsletter distribution by post and email
 - Weekly reports distributed by email
- Promotion and Management of Recreation Resource:
 - Marketing: Part of regional marketing programme, e.g. contacting previous year's licence holders but 'yet to purchase' current season
 - Part of regional marketing programme to re-engage lapsed licence holder – e.g. assessment of licence holder purchase patterns
 - Surveys of back country licence holders for the express purpose of management of those designated fisheries.
- Compliance and Enforcement
 - Assessing whether an alleged offence has occurred – e.g. licence /no licence, or licence purchase history
- Assessment and Monitoring of Success Rate
 - Assessing harvest rate from Game Bird Harvest Survey
- Assessment and Monitoring Licence Holder Satisfaction
- Assessing hunter or angler opinion on issues relating to satisfaction
- Research
 - Assess patterns of a region's licence holder purchase patterns and licence category switching

Schedule 2 NZ Fish and Game Council

- Advocacy
 - Contact licence holders to seek views and support on national level issues
 - Contact licence holders to inform them on national level issues
- Coordination:
 - Co-ordinating Fish & Game's financial viability from an organisational perspective
 - Fish and Game magazine distribution
 - Electronic Magazine distribution, such as Reel life and Both Barrels ezines
 - Marketing to promote programmes, including marketing communication actions e.g. early bird licence communications to previous year's licence holders for the upcoming new season.
 - Triennial Fish and Game elections
- Research
 - National Angler Survey
 - Licence holder surveys
 - User surveys to test licencing, categories, switching and other buyer behaviour
 - Marketing analysis
 - Financial viability analysis
 - Licence holder behaviour analysis

Amended Draft Produced 19 November 2020

Memorandum of Understanding
on
Use of Data Collected through the Sales of Licences
Between
NZ Council and Regional Fish and Game Councils

Context

1. The sale of fishing and game bird licences creates a data set of licence holder details - the database.
2. The principal purpose of the database is to collect personal details as a requirement to validate a sports fishing or game bird hunting licence and to collectively store this data set of licence holder details for all regions.
3. The secondary purpose of the database is to support regional Fish and Game councils (Regional Councils) to carry out their statutory functions at a regional level and to support the New Zealand Fish and Game Council (NZ Council) to carry out its statutory functions at a national level.
4. The principal functions at a regional level¹ are to:
 - assess and monitor the success rate and degree of satisfaction of users (licence holders) of the sports fish and game resource within its region,
 - promote and educate by promoting recreation based on sports fish and game,
 - promote and educate by keeping anglers and hunters informed on matters affecting their interests, and
 - issue licences to hunt game and/or to take sports fish and maintain a register of current sports fishing or game bird hunting licence holders, for compliance monitoring.
5. The principal functions at a national level² are to:
 - represent and advocate nationally the interests of anglers and hunters (licence holders), and
 - provide co-ordination of the management, enhancement, and maintenance of sports fish and game, including development of a research programme promoting the management of sports fish and game.

Purpose

6. The purpose of this MOU is to agree on how Regional Councils and NZ Council will have access to licence holder data contained in the national database, and to work constructively and respectfully in a co-ordinated way in the interests of licence holders.

¹ Conservation Act 1987 section 26Q Functions of Fish and Game Councils.

² Conservation Act 1987 section 26B and 26C Functions of New Zealand Fish and Game Council.

Regional Council's Access to Licence Holder Data

7. A Regional Council has access to licence holder details contained in the database to carry out its statutory functions including:
 - communication with licence holders within its region to promote the recreation based on sports fish and game and to educate by keeping anglers and hunters informed on matters affecting their interests,
 - monitoring of compliance and enforcement of regulations for all licence holders, and
 - assessment and monitoring success rate and degrees of satisfaction of users (licence holders) of the sports fish and game resource within its regions.
8. Tasks which may be typically undertaken by Regional Councils are described further in Schedule 1.
9. Regional Councils may access the database for compliance purposes without the agreement of other Regional Councils.
10. Regional Councils may access the database for all other tasks listed in Schedule 1 within their regions and by agreement of other Regional Councils or as part of an agreed work plan (e.g., an agreed collective Marketing Plan with defined tasks).

NZ Council's Access to Licence Holder Data

11. The NZ Council has access to licence holder details contained in the database to carry out its statutory functions including:
 - representing and advocating nationally in the interests of anglers and hunters (licence holders),
 - co-ordinating the communications and marketing tasks agreed with Regional Councils, and
 - Undertaking research as part of an agreed research programme.
12. Tasks which may be typically undertaken by the NZ Council are set out in Schedule 2.
13. The NZ Council may access licence holder details from the database for the tasks listed in Schedule 2 which are part of an agreed work plan (e.g., an agreed collective Marketing Plan with defined tasks).
14. The NZ Council will consult with Regional Councils when it uses the national database to carry out its advocacy functions. This consultation will be critiqued by a reference panel of at least two regional managers, with the NZ Council chairman signing off permission.
15. If NZ Council is required to make use of the database and there is an urgency in a response, then consultation with the regions will be via a reference panel of at least two regional managers, with the NZ Council chairman signing off permission.
16. Where NZ Council seeks access to the database for reasons other than those listed in Schedule 2 it requires the approval of the relevant Regional Council(s). From time to time there will be new tasks that need to be considered which will be dealt with by the consultation process outlined in paragraph 14 and paragraph 15 (for urgent items).

Schedule 1 - Regional Councils

- **Communication with Licence Holders in its own region, such as:**
 - Newsletter distribution by post and email.
 - Weekly reports distributed by email.
- **Promotion and Management of Recreation Resource:**
 - Marketing: Part of regional marketing programme, e.g., contacting previous year's licence holders but 'yet to purchase' current season.
 - Marketing: Part of regional marketing programme to re-engage lapsed licence holder – e.g., assessment of licence holder purchase patterns.
 - Surveys of back country licence holders for the express purpose of management of those designated fisheries.
- **Compliance and Enforcement**
 - Investigating an alleged offence – e.g., licence /no licence, or licence purchase history
- **Assessment and Monitoring of Success Rate**
 - Assessing harvest rate from Game Bird Harvest Survey and sports fish harvest surveys.
- **Assessment and Monitoring Licence Holder Satisfaction**
 - Assessing hunter or angler opinion on issues relating to satisfaction.
- **Research**
 - Assess patterns of a region's licence holder purchase patterns and licence category switching.
- **Governance**
 - Triennial Fish and Game elections

Schedule 2 - NZ Fish and Game Council

- **Advocacy**
 - Contact licence holders to seek views and support on national level issues (refer to paragraph 14 and paragraph 15 regarding regional consultation).
 - Contact licence holders to inform them on national level issues (refer to paragraph 14 and paragraph 15 regarding regional consultation).
- **Coordination:**
 - ~~○ Co-ordinating Fish & Game's financial viability from an organisational perspective~~
 - Distribution of Fish and Game NZ magazine.
 - Distribution of Electronic Magazine (E-zine), such as Reel life and Both Barrels ezines.
 - An agreed programme of marketing communication actions e.g., early bird licence communications to previous year's licence holders for the upcoming new season.
- **Research** – under an agreed research work programme for each of the following potential tasks:
 - National Angler Survey (co-ordination).
 - Licence holder surveys.
 - User surveys to test licencing, categories, switching and other buyer behaviour.
 - Marketing analysis.
 - ~~○ Financial viability analysis.~~
 - Licence holder behaviour analysis.

Memorandum of Understanding

Use of Details in the Fish and Game Database

Additional Commentary

Paragraph 2 – clarifies that the principal purpose of collecting the data is to validate the licence sale as per the Fisheries Act 2983 and its Regulations, the Wildlife Act 1953 and its Regulations, and the Conservation Act 1987 which relates to regional Fish and Game Councils being empowered to issue and sell fishing and game hunting licences.

An operational protocol for use of data from the database was agreed in 2007 which clarified that the licence holder enters into an agreement with the (regional) Fish and Game Council that the information supplied in applying for a licence is correct and available to that council to enable it to carry out its functions.

The protocol also confirmed that all data and intellectual property in that data will be owned by the Fish and Game region nominated by the individual licence holder.

The Privacy Act 2020 also provides some guidance that given the principal purpose of the data collection (to validate a licence) that the regional Fish and Game Councils would be the lead agency in ensuring data is used only for appropriate purposes.

The MOU will act as information sharing agreement within the organisation, and to provide for use in secondary functions of communication, assessment and monitoring, research, promotion, and education.

Paragraph 4 and 5 - clarifies as per the Conservation Act 1987 the functions of regional Fish and Game Councils and NZ Fish and Game Council as they pertain to the potential use of personal data from the database.

Paragraph 6 – includes a clarification that the organisation should be using the data in a constructive and co-operative way. This MOU should help clarify expectations and codify use of data.

Paragraph 7 – clarifies that the data should be accessible across all regions for compliance purposes (paragraph 9), and that communication to, and assessment of, licence holders should be limited to those within their regional sub-set unless agree to otherwise (paragraph 10).

Paragraph 11 – clarifies that NZ Fish and Game Council is undertaking these functions as part of their co-ordination function and therefore the tasks should be endorsed by the Regional Councils.

Paragraph 14 – this provides for NZ Council to use the details in the database for advocacy purposes where there is no significant urgency, but it is not 'normal' and agreed to-day-to-day business. Regions would be consulted on the nature of the advocacy and requirements for data use. To avoid tensions that have existed in the past, it is suggested that a timely pragmatic outcome could be reached by having a small group of 2-3 regional managers critiquing what is going to be sent out to licence holders and the extent of consultation with regions, and for the NZ Council Chairman to make a final judgment call on the appropriateness of the communication/advocacy action. When

considering the consultation process undertaken, it needs to be confirmed whether it is predominantly an operational decision and/or requires governance oversight.

Paragraph 15 – to retain nimbleness of action/reaction this provides for an urgent response (less than 24 hours turnaround), where a pragmatic outcome is achieved by having 2-3 regional managers critiquing what is going to be sent out to licence holders and be the link to provide consultation on behalf of all regions in a timely manner and for the NZ Council Chairman to make a final judgment call on the appropriateness of the communication action.

Schedule 1 Regional Councils - Add for clarity that while NZ Fish and Game Council has a role in co-ordination of the triennial elections it is the role of the Regional Councils to maintain an up-to-date electoral roll for the Returning Officer.

Schedule 2 NZ Fish and Game Council

Advocacy – Use of personal data for advocacy function are provided for by paragraph 14 and 15 to retain flexibility, transparency, and responsiveness.

Co-ordination – remove *assessment for financial viability* as not sure why you'd need licence holder details for this task without first seeking agreement from Regional Councils.

Research –

- remove *assessment for financial viability* as per above comment in co-ordination
- All personal data required for research would be part of an agreed work programme. NZ Fish and Game Council is responsible for developing a research programme – not necessarily undertaking one per se. The projects would be considered part of the co-ordination function.

**13. PRESENTATION BY MATT OSBORNE:
“2020 WAIKAREMOANA FISHERY SURVEYS”**

14. LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS

14.1 Conservation Boards

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

14.2 Reports from Other Agencies

- Department of Conservation

14.3 Report from New Zealand Council

15. OPERATIONAL REPORTS

15.1 MANAGEMENT REPORT

18 November 2020

SPECIES MANAGEMENT

1111 River Fisheries Investigations

Upper Streams Opening & Check, Clean, Dry Promotion

The upper sections of Lake Rotorua's tributaries (Ngongotaha, Waiteti, and Utuhina Streams) open to angling on 1 December. Staff will be checking angler compliance and providing advocacy messages for biosecurity.

River Fishery Drift Dive Investigations 2020-21 season

An investigation into the Rangitaiki River within the upper Kaingaroa Forest is again planned for late February/early March 2021. Which other regional rivers will be drift dived this summer has yet to be determined but Ngamuwahine (tributary of the Wairoa River, Tauranga) and the Whirinaki River have been shortlisted.

1112 Datawatch

During the first four weeks following the season opening, a total of 41 datawatch tags have been returned and entered into the database. The distribution is as follows:

Lake Okareka	5
Lake Okataina	6
Lake Rerewhakaaitu	4
Lake Rotoehu	2
Lake Rotoiti	4
Lake Rotoma	5
Lake Rotorua	4
Lake Tarawera	11
Lake Tutira	0
Lake Waikaremoana	0

**Datawatch returns (entered to 5/11/2020)*

At the time of writing the 40 returns from the opening day surveys had not been entered into the database, meaning that overall there have been more tags returned to date than was the case to the same point in time during the 2019-20 season.

1113 Lake Waikaremoana

Waikaremoana Water Quality Monitoring Buoy

The Lake Waikaremoana monitoring buoy is continuing to log and transmit data via the HBRC portal. It has identified the beginning of the summer stratification cycle within the lake as having occurred around 10 October. There is a link to the buoy data and weather parameters on Fish & Game's website on the Eastern Region pages/River flow and Lake information.

1114 Lake Tarawera

Lake Tarawera Fishery Research Update

Acoustic Smelt Monitoring

The post-lake turnover acoustic transects are due to be undertaken during early December. This will follow on from DOC Taupo fishery staff undertaking their own monitoring on Taupo. The acoustic gear will be picked up from Turangi and brought back to Rotorua when it appears we're likely to have two days without too much wind to undertake the field work required.

1115 Other Lake Fisheries Investigations

The Ngongotaha trap was operated for four nights during early November. Brown trout were found to be already leaving Lake Rotorua heading for cold water refuge as the lake starts to warm. The largest fish recorded was a 660mm, 4.3kg brown female. Other notable large browns weighed 4.1kg, 3.7kg and 3.4kg.

Ngongotaha Stream trap run (October 2020)

The Ngongotaha trap was not operated during October 2020.

Ngongotaha Stream trap run (November 2020)

	<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>	459	1.26	16	4	0	
<i>Brown</i>	585	2.82	11	3	0	41%

Angler Diaries

Entries continue to slowly come in from the online angler diary scheme. The diary scheme was advertised in the 2020-21 Season newsletter along with the winner of the 2019-20 angler diary draw. To date, only 13 have been returned via Survey Monkey for this financial year (starting 1 September 2020). Ongoing periodic advertising and promotion will be required through online media and through club visits to remind anglers about the diary scheme. The majority of returns have been from the main lake areas that are also covered by creel surveys, although there have been several entries for the Rangitaiki system.

Lake Rotoiti Catfish Update

Bay of Plenty District Council's fyke netting programme is continuing to employ a contracted operator to reduce biomass. The 2019-20 netting season has seen a large increase in the catch even with the reduced effort during the C-19 lockdown. Over the season 60,000 catfish have been caught compared to 25,000 in 2018-19 and 35,000 in 2017-18.

Biocontrol using sterile male catfish is being investigated as a long-term control/eradication strategy. Recently, a number of catfish captured from Rotoiti have been delivered to the Bream Bay (NIWA) facility to produce sterile male stock. These are aimed at being released in large numbers to interfere with natural breeding as they will compete for females and block fertile males from access. NIWA will undertake a 6-month trial and proof of concept plan.

Shane Grayling's MSc thesis tracking movement of spawning catfish to identify spawning zones is nearing completion. Thirty tagged catfish have been at large for a year in Rotoiti. Forty acoustic receivers at the western end of the lake have received 70,000 hits. The work has shown that the fish are being found to a maximum depth of 18 - 20m. This is deeper than DOC have found Taupo catfish reach, and has negative ramifications for koura and bully populations.

The community catfish fyke netting programme led by Te Arawa Lakes Trust (TALT) known as 'The Te Arawa Catfish Killas', currently includes 20 school groups. They are getting some large catfish captures. A few large red eared sliders (turtles) have also been caught.

1116 Waterfowl Monitoring

Brood Counts

Annual duck brood counts were undertaken on the coastal Bay of Plenty drainage network during October and November. Results will be reported at the next Council Meeting.

1119 Upland Game Assessments

Annual pheasant call counts were conducted in Kaingaroa Forest in early November. Results will be reported at the next Council Meeting.

1121 Lake Fisheries Creel Surveys

Ohau Creel Survey

A firm date for the Ohau Channel Fishery Panel meeting has not been set at the time of writing. Fish & Game staff will present information from the 2019-20 Ohau Angler Creel Survey conducted by Aquatek consultants. Presentations on the smelt monitoring will be provided by NIWA; koura and kakahi monitoring information by Dr Ian Kusabs; and boat based electro-fishing survey information by the University of Waikato. The Ohau creel is being undertaken again this year with Sam Sutton from Rotorua Rafting collecting the information.

Opening Day Creel Survey 2020-21

The 2020-21 Opening Day Survey information from 1 October 2020 has been entered into the opening database and analysed. Report writing is underway.

Summer Creel Survey 2020-21

A plan for the 2020-21 summer creel surveys has been created. This summer we have a less intensive schedule (on paper) focussing more on peak times to better allocate staff time as work schedules and staff availability are at a premium. Surveys will focus on Lakes Rotorua, Rotoiti, Tarawera and Okataina, and will if practicable, include visits to several other lakes. Surveys began mid October 2020 and will go through to the end of April 2021.

1141 Hatchery Operations

Final spring liberations to the Rotorua lakes were completed during October and November and a number of fish were distributed to other Fish & Game regions as outlined below.

Rearing ponds have been drained and cleaned in preparation for populating during December with next season's liberations.

Fish locations at 17 November 2020:

Location	Type	Qty (approx)	Comment
Tank A	1+ Rt	15	Best of selection
Hatchery	0+ Rt	125,000	Production for 2021 and onward
Pond 2	1+ Rt	600	Spring liberations 2019
Pond 9/RW	1+ Rt	5,500	Sales and children's fishing 2020

1161 Sports Fish Liberations

Liberations, Eastern Region 29 September – 17 November 2020

Water	Date	Mark	Tag	Species	Age Class	Number
Rotoma	30/09/2020	Rp	D20	RT	1+	2,000
Rotoma	30/09/2020	Rp	-	RT	1+	500
Rotorua	6/10/2020	Rp	A20	RT	1+	1,000
Okataina	13/10/2020	Rp	-	RT	1+	1,000
Rotoiti	14/10/2020	Rp	-	RT	1+	3,500
Rotoiti	15/10/2020	Rp	-	RT	1+	3,000
Ngahewa	20/10/2020	Rp	-	RT	1+	50
Okaro	20/10/2020	Rp	-	RT	1+	500
Ngapouri	21/10/2020	Rp	-	RT	1+	500
McLaren	13/11/2020	Rp	-	BT	1+	400
McLaren	13/11/2020	Rp	-	RT	1+	1,000
McLaren	13/11/2020	-	-	RT	3+	14
Tuai/Kaitawa	17/11/2020	Rp	-	RT	1+	500
Tuai/Kaitawa	17/11/2020	Rp	-	BT	1+	200

Fish were also despatched or delivered to Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game, Wellington Fish & Game, and Taranaki Fish & Game.

HABITAT PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE

1211 RMA Planning

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. Following positive pre-mediation discussions, Council have proposed some amendments to address our concerns. We had good agreement in principle to resolve our appeal, but unfortunately in February Council resolved to withdraw PC 9 in its entirety. This decision is under appeal from a number of parties. We are keeping a watching brief on developments in this regard. In the interim we are continuing discussions with BOPRC around a future plan change, along with reviewing the Schedule of Important Trout Habitats in the region. BOPRC is looking at getting various plan changes underway in the next year or two in order to meet its new obligations under the National Policy Statement (Freshwater) 2020.

Waikato Regional Council

In March 2018 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. Council hearings were held mid-2019. Decisions were released in May. A/W Fish and Game Council, with support from Eastern, have appealed a number of matters.

Gisborne District Council

Following the conclusion of the Gisborne Freshwater Plan, it is expected that the catchment planning processes should be getting underway in the near future. Eben has made enquiries to get some timeframes around dates for these processes. The Motu Catchment Plan process is underway and Fish & Game will have some involvement in its drafting over the next 12 months.

Regional Pest Management Plans

Fish & Game remains involved in the Bay of Plenty Regional Water Advisory Panel and community catchment groups. Progress seems to have stalled on these groups, probably due to the withdrawal of PC 9, and the influence of Covid 19.

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 2018 opposing the inclusion of sports fish (perch and tench) in the document. Discussions are ongoing with other parties in relation to improving the management of the accidental transfer of aquatic pests on boats and trailers in the Rotorua Lakes area. Council decisions on the PMP have now been released, and include amendments which satisfy Fish & Game's initial concerns around the inclusion of sports fish within the plan.

Waikato Regional Council is in the early stages of proposing changes to its Regional Pest Management Plan. A positive meeting was attended in mid-February to discuss. No new developments.

Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy

The draft Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy has recently been notified. We have had some previous input into this version of this document. Submissions close at the end of January 2021.

1212 Consent Applications

Date	Authority	Applicant	Type	Resource Involved	Action
29 Sep	GDC	Fulton Hogan	LUC- gravel abstraction	Karakatwhero River, Ta Aroha	No Concerns
7 Oct	BOPRC	T Addison	DP- pasture irrigation	Kopuaroe Canal, Te Puke	No Concerns
7 Oct	RLC	DF Butler	SC- Spencer Road Boundary realignment	Lake Tarawera	No Concerns
15 Oct	BOPRC	Opotiki DC	LUC- bridge maintenance and stream diversion	Tutaetoko Stream, Opotiki	S95E3a
22 Oct	RLC	Te Weehi Properties	SC- 98 Lake Road, Rotorua	Utuhina Stream, Rotorua	No Concerns
22 Oct	RLC	Amalmo Quarry	LUC – quarry operations	Te Weta Rd, Lake Ohakuri	No Concerns
6 Nov	GDC	Mangapoike Station	LUC – temporary stream crossings for logging ops	Mangapoike Stream trib	No Concerns

1221 Reserves Management

Lower Kaituna WMR

The replacement of the 1800mm culvert plastic floodgate was completed on 14 October and has resulted in significant increases in water inflows to the wetland.

The second stage of the 20 ha pastureland conversion to wetland commenced on Tuesday 13 November with an onsite blessing by local iwi. This was immediately followed up with machines making a start on mulching pest plants, constructing/maintaining access tracks, and re-establishing the Waiomamae Stream path.

Works over the next two months will focus on establishing shallow and ephemeral wetlands similar in design to those within the recently completed Tumu Kawa block. Design and construction of an enlarged main entrance into the reserve will also be undertaken. While works are occurring, water levels in the western oxbow will be reduced by blocking off selected culverts. This will not have any impact on water levels within the remainder of the wetland.

Awakaponga WMR

The security gate for Awakaponga has been erected and re-installation of the solar system and pump for water supply (previously stolen) is currently underway. This will include installation of a more robust security system to reduce the issues we've previously had. The works have been contracted to a local organisation and we're hoping the system will be up and running in the very near future,

Other Reserves

No significant works have been undertaken in any of the other reserves since the last Council meeting. The first spring mowing cycle of access tracks has been completed and another round is planned for prior to Christmas.

The recently installed water level sensor at Awaiti which enables daily monitoring of the levels has proved invaluable already and identified an otherwise unrecognised ongoing loss of water. A previously restricted outlet culvert was found to be open, and this has since been adjusted to ensure the water levels within the wetland remain within the parameters required to sustain the wetland.

1231 Respond to Landowner Requests for Assistance

One new landowner request has been received but full discussions with the owner have yet to occur.

One significant wetland enhancement project near Te Puke has received a visit by Fish & Game staff along with a BOPRC land management officer and an ecologist. BOPRC staff are keen but some issues regarding status and legalities of the dam structure need to be sorted prior to any enhancement works being able to be undertaken. This is a work in progress.

1232 Habitat Creation and Enhancement Projects

The Torepatutahi Stream (Deep Creek) and wetland, below Broadlands Road bridge, has received pest plant control and enhancement plantings for the past five years as an off-site mitigation for Contact Energy's effects on the Waikato River. An aerial pest plant spray programme undertaken in March 2020 has resulted in considerable sedge and native plant by kill, which has significantly degraded the ecological values of the wetland. Habitat values have been greatly compromised and the site is even more vulnerable now to pest plant invasion. Fish & Game is working with DOC and iwi to investigate how this came about, and will set up a meeting with Contact Energy (who funded the aerial spraying) to discuss this prior to meeting with Waikato Regional Council. All options for remediation will need to be considered.

1241 Monitor Waterfowl Habitats

Wetland Forum

A Wetland Forum meeting was attended on 21 October with a subsequent site visit to local wetlands. Most of these were in Waikato Regional Council's area but the issues and lessons to be learnt were no less relevant to the Bay of Plenty for forum members.

ANGLER AND HUNTER PARTICIPATION

1311 Maintain & Enhance Access

Whirinaki Access Enhancement

Follow up with DOC and Ngati Whare regarding the proposal to restore an old walking track on the Whirinaki River at Minginui is showing promise. We have been in contact with Ngati Whare and while further consultation is required, we are hopeful that in due course we will obtain approval to enhance access in this area which will be beneficial not just to anglers but to the wider community who may wish to use the track. Further consultation is also pending with DOC.

Timberlands

There is currently no angler access through Timberlands Forests (to Rangitaiki River or to Lake Rotomahana) other than via the Kiorenui public easement to the Rangitaiki River, or by walking access to the upper river from SH5. Access work in this system is in progress, some of which is being undertaken by contractors. Once again Timberlands has made a contribution towards contracted work costs.

Other Access Maintenance

Annual access maintenance work has been carried out or is underway in parts of the Kaituna River, the Waiteti Stream, Ngongotaha Stream, Waioeka River, and Motu River. Other locations will have work carried out within them as we progress into and through summer.

Sign updates and maintenance work is under way around the region, with angler access signs progressively being updated to include wording on the signs that a fishing licence is required to fish for trout.

We continue to work with Walking Access Commission on various access matters.

1331 Electronic Newsletters

Reel Life was produced in October and November covering local fishing report.

1333 Fish & Game Website

Updates or changes to the Eastern Web site included Council agendas and minutes.

1334 Social Media

A number of posts have been added to the Facebook page ahead of the opening of the streams on 1 December. The release of trout at Lake McLaren generated a huge amount of interest.

1354 Fishing Competitions

Two fishing competition permits were processed.

1361 Fish & Game Club Communications

There were no club visits for the period.

1371 Fish & Game Huts

Maintenance carried out as required at both Wairua and Waikaremoana.

PUBLIC INTERFACE

1411 Statutory Liaison

The Manager set up two meetings with senior Bay of Plenty Regional Council staff (including General Manager Integrated Catchments, and Manager Coastal Catchments) to discuss various matters, and in particular concerns we have relating to flood control and river protection works being undertaken in-stream with little regard to, or mitigation for the immediate and cumulative impacts of these on biodiversity and trout habitat more specifically. Recent works in the Eastern Bay of Plenty in the Waimana, Otara and Waioeka were held up as examples along with riverbank armouring in the Kaituna River. Both meetings were positive.

Andy also met with Zane Jensen from the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board who has recently been assigned along with Mark Copeland to be the Board's liaison officers for Eastern Fish & Game.

1421 Public Communications

Three media releases were produced and distributed for the reporting period.

Lake Waikaremoana Genesis Consultative Meeting

The Genesis Consultative meeting was held at Tuai on Wednesday, 11 November. Matt Osborne attended and presented information on the Waikaremoana monitoring that occurred during the 2019-20 winter, East Coast access works, and the Tuai lakes trout liberations which were programmed and undertaken the week after.

Fonterra

Andy Garrick was approached by a senior land and water management staff member to investigate whether we could assist Fonterra and NIWA with the development of guidelines for farmers on how to construct wetlands for the treatment of farm runoff.

1451 Education

One tour was completed for the period for a Probus group of 45 from Ohope.

COMPLIANCE

1511 Ranging

Compliance activities have focused on angler checks following the opening of the fishing season on 1 October, and continued monitoring of late spawning areas particularly within the Lake Rotorua catchment.

During October seven anglers were located fishing without a licence, and this is up on what we would usually expect during this period. What has been noticeable is that many of these offenders were on planned trips that had involved preparation and some considerable travelling but had failed to go to the relatively effortless exercise of obtaining a licence to fish.

This year we had a presence on Lake Tarawera on the evening prior to the new fishing season opening. This was to encourage good behaviours in the area and to interact with anglers who were gathering in anticipation of the new season the following day. This was a worthwhile exercise in support of DOC's interests also, and while there we dealt with an incident involving disturbance of black swan near Wairua.

Figures for the 2020-21 year to date show 10 offenders have been dealt with for a total of 12 offences.

Contacts and angler checks total 724 year to date (September and October). Compliance rate continues to be in excess of 98% of persons checked.

Ranging has been undertaken in various parts of the region including at Waikaremoana, and in the Ruakituri, Waioeka, and Motu Rivers. Honorary rangers put in a significant effort in those areas during October, and dealt with a number of offenders.

Contacts: Year 2020-2021

Month	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Last 5 yr average
September	29	21	21	46	16	27
October	903	836	893	726	724	816
November	62	69	20	126		69
December	310	390	309	237		312
January	217	195	442	246		275
February	293	137	307	265		251
March	191	199	180	23		148
April	214	178	124	7		131
May	292	226	252	143		228
June	171	172	168	162		168
July	94	80	63	75		78
August	27	33	54	20		34
Total	2,803	2,536	2,833	2,076	7,40	2,562

Contacts Year to Date 2020-2021.

Figures to date – 724 contacts, tracking similar to last season.

North Island/National CLE liaison role

This role continues with input from Eastern Region, lately mostly providing assistance and advice to various regional compliance staff as required.

1531 Prosecutions

Currently 10 offenders have offences pending resolution, of which six have warrants for arrest, some of which are now reasonably historic. The other four are pending resolution including court prosecutions.

Prosecutions have been proceeding well with most matters dealt with resolved via diversion processes.

Offences 2020-2021 Year:

10 persons dealt with for 12 offences as tabled below.

Offence table 2020-2021 year

Offence name	Number of offences
Disturbing wildlife	1
Fish with illegal tackle	1
Fish closed waters	1
Fish without a licence	7
Gives false details	2
Total number of offences	12

Offences Pending Resolution

To date (04/11/2020) 18 separate offences are pending resolution, by 10 offenders.

The table below shows offences currently pending resolution:

Offence name	Numbers
Fish without licence	9
Illegal tackle	1
Possess net-spear-gaff	2
Fish closed waters	1
False details	4
Possess sports fish unlawfully taken	1
Total	18

LICENSING

1612 Analysis of Licence Information

Kate Thompson continues to provide regular updates of licence sales for the New Zealand Council and regions. She has been assisting Steve Doughty with extracting information needed for various projects he has underway currently.

1621 Licence Agent Support

Agents requests for licence corrections, brochures, and information attended to as and when required.

PLANNING AND REPORTING

1812 R3 Programme

Ongoing liaison has been undertaken with Steve Doughty and others in relation to initiatives around marketing and promotion of trout fishing in the Rotorua Lakes district.

1831 & 1832 Performance Report and Audit

The Annual Report for 2019-20 has been audited, and the signed, audited copy will be distributed prior to the meeting, with hard copies being available at the meeting.

1841 National Liaison

A Regional Managers' Meeting was held on 9 November to discuss the proposed National Reserves Policy and concerns around provisions within the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater relating to maimai and wetland management.

ADMINISTRATION

1931 Staff Buildings

The brick house has recently been re-tenanted with rental adjusted to market rates. Two Wingspan interns have also taken up residence on site in the staff quarters, and are expected to be with us until February next year.

The Deed of Lease with Fire and Emergency NZ for use of the Fire Depot onsite was finalised and signed off in early November.

15.2 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Ref: 9.01.07

20 November 2020

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 and 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.

July-September 2020

1. Implementation and Adherence to the Health and Safety Plan

Regular (weekly) staff meetings.

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

Visitors are required to sign our register, and our hazard register is updated as required.

Tail Gate forms completed for:

October 2020 Opening Weekend Ranging/Brood Surveys

November 2020 Brood Surveys/Pheasant Call Counts

2020-2021 Budget for Health & Safety \$2,000

2. Monitoring and Reporting

Work Place Accident Register

	31/10/2020	31/08/2020
Number of Workplace injuries in 2019-2020 year	1	1
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
Total Number of Workplace injuries since 1 Sept 1995	41	40
Total Number of lost work injuries since 1 Sept 1995	3	2
Total number of days since last lost work injury 19/07/2020	104	1,034
Total number of days since prior lost work injury 13/08/2017	1,071	
Total number of days since prior lost work injury 17/12/2013	1,335	
Total number of days since formal register commenced 1/09/95 to first lost work injury 17/12/2013	6,682	

3. Risk Management (identification and treatment)

COVID 19 alert level 1 came into effect in all regions except Auckland at 11.59pm 21 September 2020.

The following procedures were implemented.

- Property opened to public, additional Covid tracing signs put up around property
- If unwell stay at home
- Sanitiser available throughout office for public and staff use

Notes taken for the H&S minutes at the weekly staff meeting and emailed to all staff:

5/10/2020 Reminder just to ensure staff identify any new hazards in various areas of work for updating of tail gate forms and procedures etc

12/10/2020 Watch for sheep on Paradise Valley Road

19/10/2020 Care around drains while undertaking brood counts

26/10/2020 Take care on roads, lots of accidents lately

2/11/2020 Take care on roads for Crow and Brood counts - complete tailgate forms

9/11/2020 Don't use push mower until serviced

16/11/2020 Care when driving - if tired stop & rest

4. Training Programme

Nil

5. H&S Incidents

Nil

6. Recommendation

That Council acknowledges it has received this report.

15.3 FINANCE REPORT

Ref: 8.03.01

19 November 2020

1. Purpose

To inform the Council of the year to date financial position and approve payments for the months of September and October 2020.

Tables within this report:

Table 1	Variance Report to 31 October 2020
Table 2	Balance Sheet as at 31 October 2020
Table 3	Profit and Loss to 31 October 2020
Table 4	Bank Transactions 1 to 30 September 2020
Table 5	Bank Transactions 1 to 31 October 2020
Table 6	Credit Card Transactions 1 September to 31 October 2020
Table 7	Reconciliation of OWP to Financial Statement Budget 2020-2021
Table 8	Fixed Asset Budget for 2020-2021
Table 9	Statement of Financial Performance Budget for the year ended 31 August 2021
Table 10	Statement of Financial Position Budget as at 31 August 2021
Table 11	Statement of Cashflows Budget for the year ended 31 August 2021

2. YTD Profit and Loss

The Profit & Loss statement for the period ending 31 October is appended to this report (Table 3).

Income

Licence revenue is ahead of budget for the year to date \$52,784 and includes \$6,044 collected for game hunter ballots. A more up to date and detailed picture of licence sales performance YTD can be found within the licence sales report.

Revenue from other sources over the period totalled \$80,612 and was made up of the following: hatchery (\$13,144), fishing competitions (\$791), grazing (\$947) and rentals (\$5,579). Fines from prosecutions collected through the courts totalled \$678 and funds were also received from diversion processes for expense recovery and junior education programmes (\$300 and \$1,050 respectively). Funds were received from Genesis Energy for Waikaremoana contract work (\$7,299), from the Bay of Plenty Regional Council for the Awakaponga Solar Pump System replacement (\$6,000) and mowing of the Whakapoukorero wetland tracks (\$405), DOC Whakatane for a half share of the water level sensor at Awaiti WMR (\$414), and Habitat fees were collected for game hunter ballots (\$2,254). Interest was a negative figure for the period at \$1,276, this being a result of year end accruals and this will return to the black when deposits mature and interest is paid.

Income received in advance in the prior financial year and accrued to the 2020-21 year includes the following;

- \$5,000 donation from Mr Galbraith, held in a dedicated reserve for the Breeding Programme
- \$13,748 insurance proceeds for the Awakaponga WMR solar pump system replacement
- \$23,640 insurance proceeds for the Christmas 2019 flooding event to be held in a dedicated reserve for improvements to the hatchery water supply

Species Management

Datawatch free licences are now reported as an expense within the Datawatch budget (\$2,411), previously these were offset within the licence sales totals. A progress payment was made to Cawthron Institute relating to the Lake Tarawera food web study (\$910), and expenses incurred relating to the work undertaken for Genesis Energy at Lake Waikaremoana. Within budget YTD.

The Harvest Assessment spending relates to the game hunter surveys and batteries and sanitiser for the opening day surveys. Within budget YTD.

Hatchery expenses for the period included insurance (\$6,233), rates, fuel and oxygen. Equipment/consumable purchases included chest waders, a raincoat, Aqual-S fish anaesthetic, Halamid disinfectant, and knap sack sprayer. Fish food was purchased in September (\$13,636) and minor expenses related to maintenance materials were incurred. Within budget YTD.

Habitat

Works and Management spending for the period included the following;

- Water sensor/timber, Awaiti WMR (\$979)
- Deposit on solar pump installation, Awakaponga WMR (\$5,217)
- Cemix, Awakaponga WMR gate (\$103)
- Cemix, Lake Tamurenuui gate (\$73)
- Spray, paint, keys/padlocks/tyre swap (\$315)

The Habitat output is over budget YTD (\$5,727) due to the unbudgeted solar install at Awakaponga WMR which has been funded by insurance proceeds currently sitting within "Other Income".

Participation

Within the Participation output, expenses are reported relating to the update and reprints of the Lake Rotorua and Tributaries brochure and the Boat Fishing for Trout brochure (\$2,196). Expenses are also reported for access equipment, and signage at Lake Tarawera, Mokau Stream and the Hopurahine Stream. A hot plate was purchased for the Waikaremoana hut and the hut electricity is also reported. Over budget YTD \$545 related to timing of brochure printing.

Public Interface

Minimal spending for the period relating to cleaning of the public toilet facility. Within budget YTD.

Compliance

The Compliance expenses for the period related to the 0800 Poaching service and cell phone, and legal fees for prosecutions. Training expenses included catering and travel for the September ranger training day. Within budget YTD.

Licensing

The Licensing cost includes agent commissions and the fees associated with the Public Online and 0800 sales. Overbudget YTD (\$793) due to licence sales also being ahead of budget.

Council

Expenses were incurred relating to travel reimbursement and catering for the October meeting of Council, and for the additional meeting for the Governance Review in September. Over budget YTD as a result of the additional unbudgeted meeting.

Planning

Levies were paid in October to the New Zealand Council, and an accrual is reported for the audit fee in September. Within budget YTD.

Administration

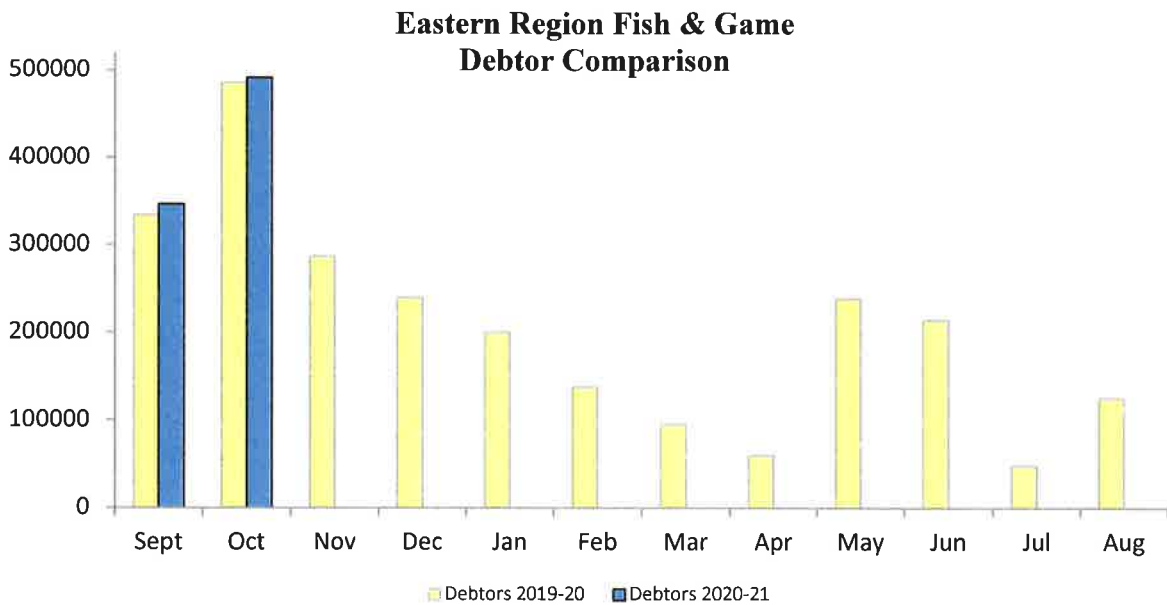
Notes on individual areas:

Salaries	Within budget YTD.
Staff Expenses	ACC levies were accrued in September paid in October – net \$895.
Staff Houses	The shower lining in the timber house was replaced as the lower sheets were found to be rotten and had not been replaced when the property was refurbished (\$1,812). This expense was unanticipated and draws upon funds budgeted for improvements to other buildings. Insurance was paid on the staff houses in September (\$2,611), and rates in October (\$563).
Office Premises	Rates and insurance were paid within the period and the usual expenses relating to electricity, cleaning, and alarm monitoring were incurred. Over budget \$150, but this will reduce over the coming period.
Office Equipment	The usual expenses relating to the phone & eftpos leases are reported. Within budget YTD.
Communications/ Consumables	Standard communications expenses are reported for the period including phones, broadband, stationery, and photocopying. Two boxes of prepaid envelopes were purchased utilising the entire postage budget for the year. Within budget YTD.
General	General insurances were paid in September (\$8,424) which covers all other buildings not covered elsewhere and liability covers. Minor expenses are reported for the Survey Monkey subscription, bank fees and morning teas. Within budget YTD.
General Equipment	Insurance on boats and equipment was paid in September (\$2,835) and other equipment expenses include registration, WoF's and minor repairs to trailers. Field equipment and boat fuel expenses are also reported. Within budget YTD.
Vehicles	Vehicle expenses for the period included the annual insurance premium (\$3,341), six vehicle services (\$1,044), and fuel. Within budget YTD.

Cash Position: \$724,606 (includes \$86,785 for Asset Replacement Reserve) as at 31 October 2020.

\$469,535 for Waikaremoana Fund as at 31 October 2020.

Debtors: Outstanding Debtors \$491,434 as at 31 October 2020 (\$485,530 as at 31 October 2019).



Debtors outstanding as at 31 October were made up primarily of licence sales \$467,509. All debtor accounts are paid up to date. One licence agent is overdue \$224 without explanation.

Fixed Assets

There were no fixed asset purchases within the period.

3. Variance Report (Table 1)

The variance report is shown on the following two pages and is near complete for the year. There are a small number of accruals to be processed once the required information comes to hand. 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.

2020/2021 REPORT OF VARIANCES BETWEEN TOTAL BUDGET AND YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME

as at 31 October 2020

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	\$ 26,450	\$ 3,413	257	2,132	\$ 136,996	\$ 15,681	\$ 8,000	\$ -	\$ 155,446	\$ 19,094	\$ 136,352	12.3	
1120	Harvest Assessment	\$ 2,400	\$ 60	293	784	\$ 50,378	\$ 17,913	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52,778	\$ 17,973	\$ 34,805	34.1	
1140	Hatchery Operations	\$ 74,550	\$ 24,146	603	2,900	\$ 186,346	\$ 36,880	\$ 56,500	\$ 36,784	\$ 204,396	\$ 24,242	\$ 180,154	11.9	
1160	Releases	\$ -	\$ -	50	154	\$ 9,896	\$ 3,026	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,896	\$ 3,026	\$ 6,869	30.6	
1170	Regulations	\$ 500	\$ -	1	165	\$ 10,602	\$ 61	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,602	\$ 61	\$ 10,541	0.6	
1180	Control	\$ 500	\$ -	4	36	\$ 2,313	\$ 214	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,813	\$ 214	\$ 2,599	7.6	
	TOTAL - SPECIES MANAGEMENT	\$ 103,900	\$ 27,619	1,207	6,171	\$ 396,531	\$ 73,775	\$ 64,500	\$ 36,784	\$ 435,931	\$ 64,610	\$ 371,321	14.8	
1210	Resource Management Act	\$ 200	\$ -	241	1,476	\$ 94,844	\$ 14,718	\$ -	\$ 7,289	\$ 95,044	\$ 7,419	\$ 87,624	7.8	
1220	Works & Management	\$ 18,000	\$ 6,777	173	932	\$ 59,888	\$ 10,546	\$ 12,150	\$ 22,949	\$ 65,738	\$ (5,626)	\$ 71,364	-8.6	
1230	Assisted Habitat	\$ 2,700	\$ -	86	770	\$ 49,478	\$ 5,227	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52,178	\$ 5,227	\$ 46,951	10.0	
1240	Assess & Monitor	\$ -	\$ -	0	72	\$ 4,627	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,627	\$ -	\$ 4,627	0.0	
1250	Lake Waikaremoana	\$ -	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0	
	TOTAL - HABITAT PROTECTION & MANGROVES	\$ 20,900	\$ 6,777	499	3,250	\$ 208,836	\$ 30,491	\$ 12,150	\$ 30,248	\$ 217,586	\$ 7,020	\$ 210,566	3.2	
1310	ACCESS	\$ 5,700	\$ 242	115	650	\$ 41,767	\$ 7,031	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47,467	\$ 7,273	\$ 40,195	15.3	
1330	Newsletters/Information	\$ -	\$ -	17	286	\$ 18,378	\$ 1,009	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,378	\$ 1,009	\$ 17,369	5.5	
1340	Other Publications	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,196	2	40	\$ 2,570	\$ 92	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,570	\$ 2,288	\$ 2,283	50.1	
1350	Training	\$ 800	\$ 3	92	755	\$ 48,514	\$ 5,624	\$ 7,000	\$ 1,851	\$ 42,314	\$ 3,776	\$ 38,538	8.9	
1360	Club Relations	\$ -	\$ -	0	32	\$ 2,056	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,056	\$ -	\$ 2,056	0.0	
1370	Huts	\$ 1,450	\$ 194	4	32	\$ 2,056	\$ 245	\$ 400	\$ 65	\$ 3,106	\$ 374	\$ 2,733	12.0	
	TOTAL - ANGLER & HUNTER PARTICIPATION	\$ 9,950	\$ 2,635	229	1,795	\$ 115,342	\$ 14,000	\$ 7,400	\$ 1,916	\$ 117,892	\$ 14,719	\$ 103,173	12.5	
1410	Liaison	\$ -	\$ -	0	72	\$ 4,627	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,627	\$ -	\$ 4,627	0.0	
1420	Communication	\$ 500	\$ -	18	120	\$ 7,711	\$ 1,070	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,211	\$ 1,070	\$ 7,141	13.0	
1440	Public Promotions	\$ 4,500	\$ -	3	104	\$ 6,683	\$ 168	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,183	\$ 168	\$ 11,015	7.5	
1450	Visitor Facilities/Education	\$ 500	\$ 36	26	392	\$ 25,189	\$ 1,590	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,689	\$ 1,626	\$ 24,063	6.3	
	TOTAL - PUBLIC INTERFACE	\$ 5,500	\$ 36	46	688	\$ 44,209	\$ 2,828	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 49,709	\$ 2,864	\$ 46,845	5.8	
1510	Ranging	\$ 1,000	\$ 283	74	914	\$ 58,731	\$ 4,524	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 59,731	\$ 4,807	\$ 54,924	8.0	
1520	Ranger Training	\$ 1,000	\$ 325	20	104	\$ 6,683	\$ 1,223	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,683	\$ 1,548	\$ 6,135	20.1	
1530	Compliance Prosecutions	\$ 5,000	\$ 607	65	336	\$ 21,590	\$ 3,974	\$ 6,000	\$ 978	\$ 20,590	\$ 3,603	\$ 16,988	17.5	
	TOTAL - COMPLIANCE	\$ 7,000	\$ 1,215	159	1,354	\$ 87,004	\$ 9,721	\$ 6,000	\$ 978	\$ 88,004	\$ 9,958	\$ 78,047	11.3	
1610	Licensing	\$ 600	\$ -	28	140	\$ 8,996	\$ 1,727	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,596	\$ 1,727	\$ 7,869	18.0	
1620	Agent Servicing	\$ -	\$ -	11	164	\$ 10,538	\$ 657	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,538	\$ 657	\$ 9,881	6.2	
	TOTAL - LICENSING	\$ 600	\$ -	39	304	\$ 19,534	\$ 2,384	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,134	\$ 2,384	\$ 17,750	11.8	
1710	Council Elections	\$ -	\$ -	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0	
1720	Council Meetings	\$ 6,000	\$ 1,515	67	463	\$ 29,751	\$ 4,096	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,751	\$ 5,611	\$ 30,140	15.7	
	TOTAL - COUNCILS	\$ 6,000	\$ 1,515	67	463	\$ 29,751	\$ 4,096	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,751	\$ 5,611	\$ 30,140	15.7	
1810	Management Planning	\$ 8,500	\$ -	0	240	\$ 15,422	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,922	\$ -	\$ 23,922	0.0	
1820	Annual Planning	\$ -	\$ -	0	66	\$ 4,241	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,241	\$ -	\$ 4,241	0.0	
1830	Reporting/Audit	\$ 9,750	\$ (3,410)	96	419	\$ 26,924	\$ 5,854	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,674	\$ 2,444	\$ 34,230	6.7	
1840	National Liaison	\$ 100	\$ -	30	260	\$ 16,707	\$ 1,803	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,807	\$ 1,803	\$ 15,003	10.7	
	TOTAL - PLANNING/REPORTING	\$ 18,350	\$ (3,410)	125	985	\$ 63,293	\$ 7,657	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 81,643	\$ 4,247	\$ 77,396	5.2	
	TOTAL	\$ 172,200	\$ 36,387	2,371	15,010	\$ 964,501	\$ 144,952	\$ 90,050	\$ 69,926	\$ 1,046,651	\$ 111,413	\$ 935,238	10.6	

Table 2

Balance Sheet
Eastern Fish and Game Council
As at 31 October 2020

	31 Oct 2020	31 Oct 2019
Assets		
Bank		
Investments	458,089	402,504
Waikaremoana Fund Investments	469,535	455,699
Westpac Call Account	156,734	99,803
Westpac Current Account	109,782	15,365
Total Bank	1,194,140	973,372
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	491,436	485,530
Accounts Receivable - Hawkes Bay & External parties	(635)	0
Inventory - Fish Stock	161,122	146,920
Petty Cash & Licence Float	200	200
Total Current Assets	652,124	632,650
Fixed Assets		
Accum Dep Land & Buildings	(678,378)	(650,551)
Accum Dep Motor Vehicles	(124,108)	(127,570)
Accum Dep Office Equipment	(43,388)	(38,226)
Accum Dep Plant & Equipment	(145,513)	(137,665)
Buildings	1,043,849	1,043,849
Land	93,500	93,500
Motor Vehicles	347,592	345,990
Office Equipment	54,075	53,714
Plant & Equipment	183,866	183,866
Tree Plantation	91,600	131,600
Total Fixed Assets	823,096	898,507
Total Assets	2,669,360	2,504,529
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	69,553	83,791
Accruals and Prepaid Licences	79,254	100,144
Business Credit Card	1,700	1,170
Employee Entitlements	97,413	75,079
Game Bird Habitat Stamp Levy Clearing	0	3
GST	80,562	64,334
PAYE Clearing	18,191	20,215
Rounding	0	0
Staff Social Club	3,278	3,381
Total Current Liabilities	349,951	348,116
Total Liabilities	349,951	348,116
Net Assets	2,319,409	2,156,413
Equity		
Accumulated Funds	1,218,065	1,248,858
Asset Replacement Reserve	86,785	80,877
Back Country Fisheries Reserve	134,244	98,802
Current Year Earnings	403,014	266,339
Fish for Gold Reserve	7,000	3,500
Breeding Programme Reserve	5,000	0
Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund Reserve	465,300	458,037
Total Equity	2,319,409	2,156,413

Table 3 Profit and Loss - Council
Eastern Fish and Game Council for the 2 months ended 31 October 2020

Income	Sep 2020	Oct 2020	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Total Budget	Variance YTD	Var YTD%
Licence Income	339,528	252,220	591,747	540,000	1,184,799	51,747	10%
Non-Resident Licence Levy Revenue	388	649	1,037	0	0	1,037	0%
Other Income	50,596	30,015	80,612	30,650	168,580	49,962	163%
Total Income	390,512	282,884	673,396	570,650	1,353,379	102,746	18%
Operating Expenses							
Depreciation	5,876	5,812	11,688	12,054	72,326	(366)	-3%
1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT							
1110 Population Monitoring	2,388	1,026	3,413	3500	46,450	2,163	173%
1120 Harvest Assessment	25	35	60	200	2,400	(140)	-70%
1140 Hatchery Operations	21,800	2,346	24,146	32,520	74,550	(8,374)	-26%
1180 Game Bird Control	0	0	0	0	500	0	0%
Total 1100 SPECIES MANAGEMENT	24,213	3,407	27,619	36,220	123,900	(6,351)	-19%
1200 HABITAT PROTECTION/MANAGEMENT							
1210 Resource Management Act	0	0	0	0	200	0	0%
1220 Works & Management	6,381	396	6,777	1,000	18,000	5,777	578%
1230 Assisted Habitat	0	0	0	50	10,700	(50)	-100%
Total 1200 HABITAT PROTECTION	6,381	396	6,777	1,050	28,900	5,727	545%
1300 PARTICIPATION							
1310 Access	0	242	242	850	5,700	(608)	-71%
1340 Other Publications	1,161	1,035	2,196	1,000	2,000	1,196	120%
1350 Training	0	3	3	100	800	(97)	-97%
1370 Huts	80	114	194	140	1,450	54	38%
Total 1300 PARTICIPATION	1,241	1,394	2,635	2,090	9,950	545	26%
1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE							
1420 Communication	0	0	0	100	500	(100)	-100%
1440 Public Promotions	0	0	0	0	4,500	0	0%
1450 Visitor Facilities/Education	0	36	36	50	500	(14)	-28%
Total 1400 PUBLIC INTERFACE	0	36	36	150	5,500	(114)	-76%
1500 COMPLIANCE							
1510 Ranging	226	57	283	175	1,000	108	62%
1520 Ranger Training	308	17	325	300	1,000	25	8%
1530 Compliance	137	470	607	830	5,000	(223)	-27%
Total 1500 COMPLIANCE	671	544	1,215	1,305	7,000	(90)	-7%
1600 LICENSING							
1610 Licence Prod/Distribution	0	0	0	0	600	0	0%
1630 Commission	13,017	9,199	22,217	21,600	53,316	617	3%
Total 1600 LICENSING	13,017	9,199	22,217	21,600	53,916	617	3%
1700 COUNCIL							
1720 Council Meetings	912	603	1,515	1,000	6,000	515	51%
Total 1700 COUNCIL	912	603	1,515	1,000	6,000	515	51%
1800 PLANNING/REPORTING							
1810 Management & Strategic Planning	0	0	0	0	8,500	0	0%
1830 Reporting/Audit	(3,410)	0	(3,410)	(3,410)	9,750	(0)	0%
1840 National Liaison	0	43,177	43,177	43,177	172,809	0	0%
Total 1800 PLANNING/REPORTING	(3,410)	43,177	39,767	39,767	191,059	0	0%
1900 ADMINISTRATION							
1910 Salaries	58,409	62,173	120,582	135,249	879,056	(14,667)	-11%
1920 Staff Expenses	(1,492)	2,309	817	1,800	23,000	(983)	-55%
1930 Staff Houses	4,518	563	5,081	5,220	13,060	(139)	-3%
1940 Office Premises	4,691	1,823	6,514	6,364	18,750	150	2%
1950 Office Equipment	150	154	304	384	3,600	(80)	-21%
1960 Communications/Consumables	1,639	2,311	3,950	4,430	18,357	(480)	-11%
1970 General	8,623	202	8,826	8,603	11,058	223	3%
1980 General Equipment	3,353	108	3,461	4,950	16,000	(1,489)	-30%
1990 Vehicles	5,589	1,789	7,379	10,800	44,700	(3,421)	-32%
Total 1900 ADMINISTRATION	85,480	71,433	156,914	177,800	1,027,581	(20,886)	-12%
Total Operating Expenses	134,381	136,001	270,382	293,036	1,526,132	(20,404)	-7%
Net Profit	256,131	146,883	403,014	277,614	(172,753)	123,150	44%

4. Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Financial Performance and Statement of Cash Flows – Budget 2020-2021

The Public Finance Act 1989 requires that Council approve the Budget Statement of Financial Performance, Budget Statement of Financial Position, and Budget Statement of Cash Flows. While this does not change any aspect of the OWP or the way in which we operate, it is necessary to complete this process.

Proposed budget figures for the Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Financial Performance and Cash Flows are set out on the following pages. This information is directly obtained from the expenditure budget approved by Council in August 2020 and the anticipated income as determined by the New Zealand Council. The Budget Statement of Financial Performance and Budget Statement of Financial Position are prepared using PBE-SFR-A (PS) Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting - Accrual (Public Sector).

There are a number of financial adjustments necessary to move from the OWP to the Financial Statements Budget. These adjustments include licence revenue, asset replacement reserves/depreciation, spending from dedicated reserves, levies and budgeted Capital purchases for the year. These items are not included in the Fish and Game budget (OWP), which is used to calculate licence fees.

The Budget Deficit for 2020-2021 financial year is **\$172,753**.

Table 7: Reconciliation of the OWP to the Financial Statement Budget

Reconciliation of OWP to Tier 3 Reporting		
Approved Budget - per OWP		(1,071,572)
Adjustments to Financial Budget		
Plus Licence Revenue	1,184,799	
Plus Non Resident Licence Levy	-	
less Commission	(53,316)	
Less levies	(172,709)	
Less Depreciation	(72,326)	
Plus Net Gain on Sale	3,135	
Plus ARF	33,121	
Plus Waikaremoana Interest	4,115	
Less Waikaremoana Spending	(8,000)	
Less Non Resident Reserve Spending (Lake Tarawera)	(20,000)	
Net Adjustments		898,819
Net Surplus (Deficit)		(172,753)

Table 8: Fixed Asset Budget

Asset	Budgeted Asset purchases (excl. GST)	Budgeted Asset sales (excl. GST)
Two Vehicles	\$70,800	\$45,865
Three Computers	\$4,500	
Total	\$75,300	\$45,865

Table 9: Statement of Financial Performance Budget

Eastern Fish and Game Council
Statement of Financial Performance - BUDGET
For the year ended
31 August 2021

	Note	Budget 2021 \$	Actual 2020 \$
REVENUE			
Fish and Game licence sales	1	1,184,799	1,303,235
Grants and donations	1	750	85,104
Interest	1	12,315	24,350
Other revenue	1	155,515	213,298
Total Revenue		1,353,379	1,625,987
EXPENSES			
Outputs			
Species management	2	123,900	105,926
Habitat protection & management	2	28,900	17,408
Angler & Hunter participation	2	9,950	13,183
Public interface	2	5,500	1,915
Compliance	2	7,000	2,349
Licensing	2	53,916	51,864
Council	2	6,000	3,004
Planning & reporting	2	18,350	9,555
Overheads			
Employee related costs	2	902,056	956,129
Depreciation	4	72,326	76,962
Other expenses	2	125,525	105,966
Total Expenses		1,353,423	1,344,261
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		(44)	281,726
Less Other Expenses			
Levies to NZFGC		172,709	215,406
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		(172,753)	66,320

Table 10: Statement of Financial Position Budget

Eastern Fish and Game Council
Statement of Financial Position - BUDGET

As at
31 August 2021

	Note	Budget 2021 \$	Actual 2020 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank accounts and cash	3	34,682	263,009
Debtors and prepayments	3	144,945	140,265
Investments	3	880,000	872,615
Inventory	3	161,122	161,122
Total Current Assets		1,220,749	1,437,011
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	4	700,292	743,183
Investments	3	-	-
Forestry Asset	3	131,600	131,600
Total Non-Current Assets		831,892	874,783
TOTAL ASSETS		2,052,641	2,311,794
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Creditors and accrued expenses	3	138,000	226,710
Employee costs payable	3	131,000	128,690
Total Current Liabilities		269,000	355,400
TOTAL LIABILITES		269,000	355,400
NET ASSETS		1,783,641	1,956,394
EQUITY		1,783,641	1,956,394

Table 11: Statement of Cash Flows Budget

Eastern Fish and Game Council
Statement of Cash Flows - BUDGET

For the year ended
31 August 2021

	Budget 2021 \$	Actual 2020 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash was received from:		
Licence Sales	1,094,343	1,321,529
Grants, donations and fundraising	750	85,104
Interest	15,122	27,377
Other revenue	182,276	180,160
Cash was applied to:		
Payments to suppliers	574,179	526,689
Payments to employees	899,746	959,441
GST (net)	13,208	(12,397)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(194,642)	140,437
CASHFLOW FROM INVESTING & FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Cash was received from:		
Sale of property, plant and equipment	49,000	73,108
Sale of investments/deposits	-	29,581
Cash was applied to:		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	75,300	107,910
Purchase of investments/deposits	7,385	-
Net Cash Flows from Investing and Financing	(33,685)	(5,221)
Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash	(228,327)	135,216
Opening Cash	263,009	127,793
Closing Cash	34,682	263,009
This is represented by:		
Bank accounts and cash	34,682	263,009

5. Recommendation

5.1 That the payments for September and October 2020 totalling \$269,233.56 be approved.

<i>September - Current account</i>	<i>\$109,864.02</i>
<i>October - Current account</i>	<i>\$121,793.77</i>
<i>September/October - Credit card (AG)</i>	<i>\$1,862.64</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$233,520.43</i>

5.2 That Council approves the proposed budget figures for the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Financial Performance and Cash flow for the 2020-2021 financial year.

15.4 LICENCE SALES REPORT

20 November 2020

1. 2020-2021 Fish Licence Sales YTD 19 November 2020

- 1.1 Fish Licence sales for the 2020-2021 season comparison against the 2019-20 season YTD are summarised in *Table One*.
- 1.2 Fish licence sales to 19 November 2020 are reporting to be 8.1% ahead of the 2019-20 season results for the same period. Nationally the 2020-21 sales are reporting to be 6% ahead of the prior season YTD.

Table One Fish Licence Sales 2020-21 vs 2019-20 Seasons YTD to 19 November 2020

Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWIA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWC	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish
Agency Online	1046	783	61	235	750	0	2	94	263	101	92	9	23	3	0	3	3	3,468
Public Online	688	536	72	142	263	0	8	119	344	77	52	4	42	1	0	4	0	2,352
Eyede Call Centre	13	1	1	6	2	0	0	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33
Total YTD 2019-20	1747	1320	134	383	1015	0	10	219	611	178	144	13	65	4	0	7	3	5,853
Agency Online	953	766	9	253	718	0	2	100	280	3	104	1	23	2	0	0	0	3,214
Public Online	910	761	13	209	363	0	3	183	429	22	89	1	33	2	0	0	0	3,018
Eyede Call Centre	7	4	0	15	4	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	37
Total YTD 2020-21	1870	1531	22	477	1085	0	5	287	711	25	193	2	57	4	0	0	0	6,269

Summary LEQs YTD to 19 November 2020 (Whole Season Licence Equivalent)

Season	Fish LEQ	Fish Var	Fish \$	Inc/Dec
Total YTD 2019-2020	5,109		\$590,858	
Total YTD 2020-2021	5,521	8.1%	\$638,523	\$47,666

2020-21 Summary YTD Actual vs Total Budget

2020-21 Annual Budgeted FISH LEQs	8,150	100.0%	\$942,605
2020-21 YTD Actual	5,521	67.7%	\$638,523
Remaining to meet budget	-2,629	-32.3%	-\$304,082

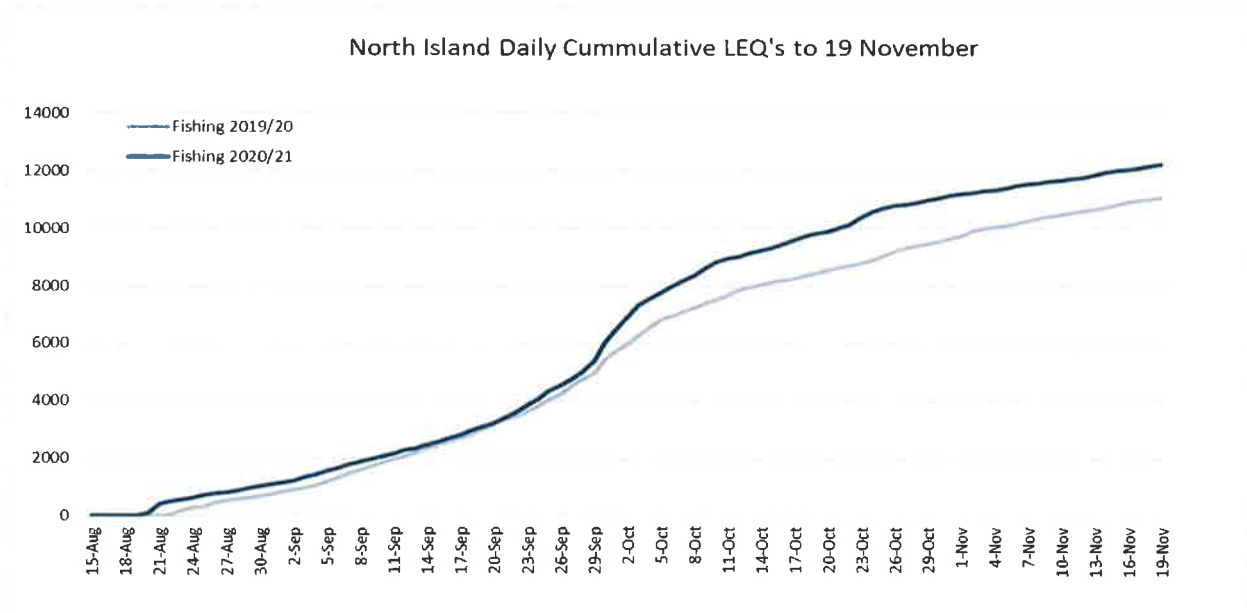
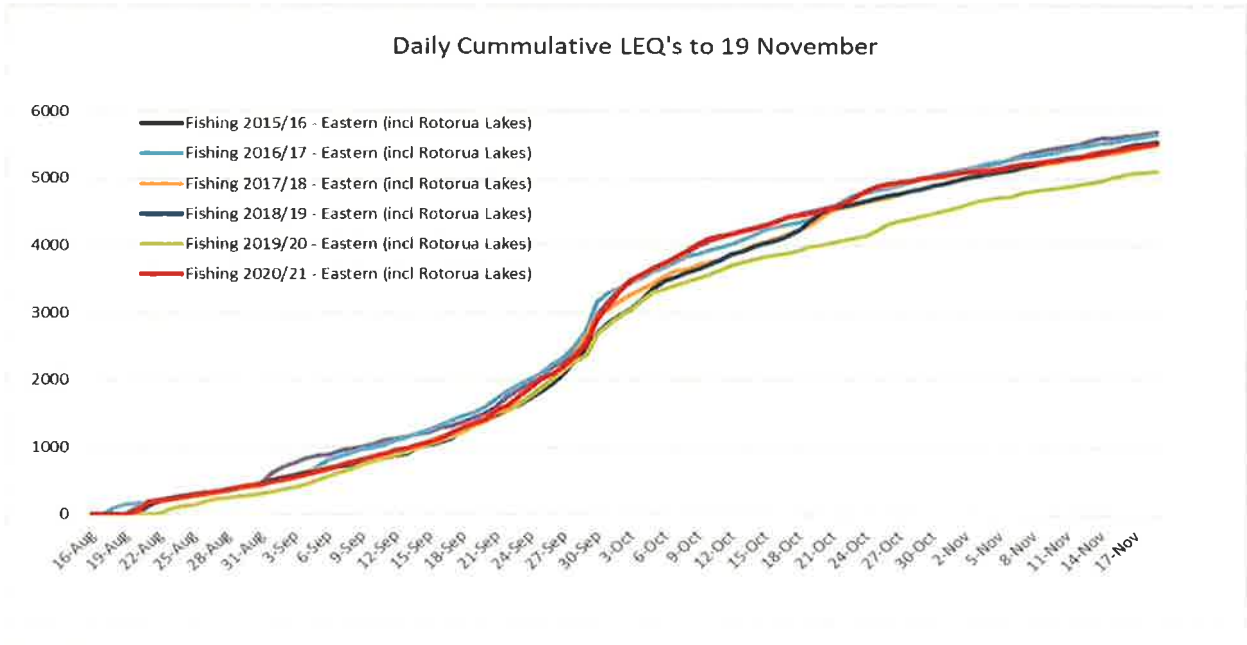
Resident Licence Categories

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

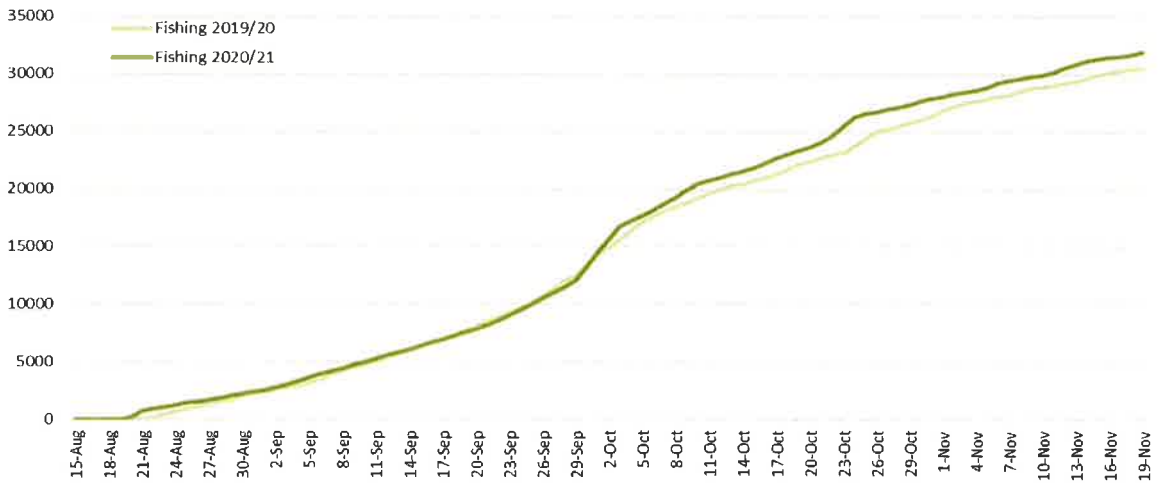
Non-Resident Licence Categories

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

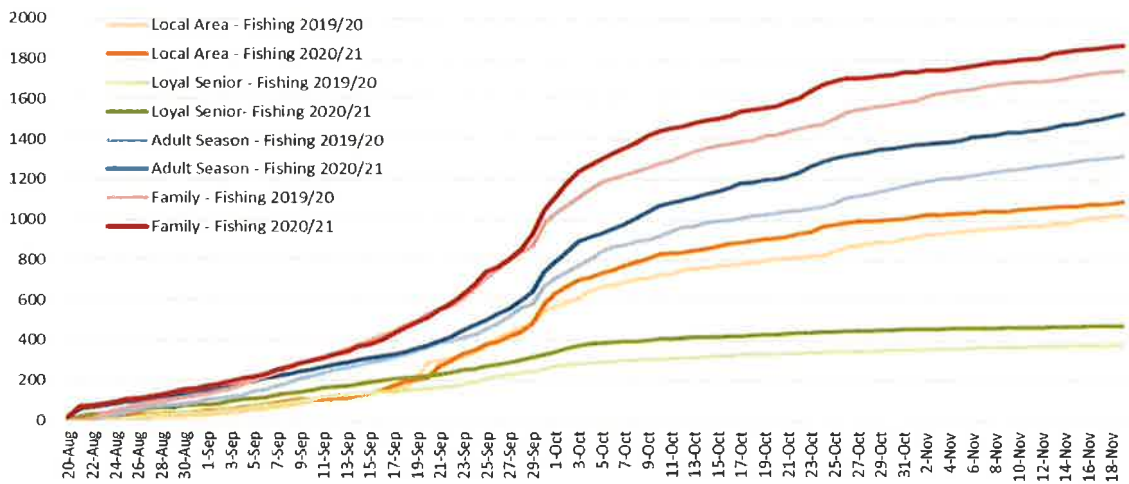
- 1.3 The following graphs provide a summary of daily cumulative sales YTD to 19 November by LEQ and Licence Category.



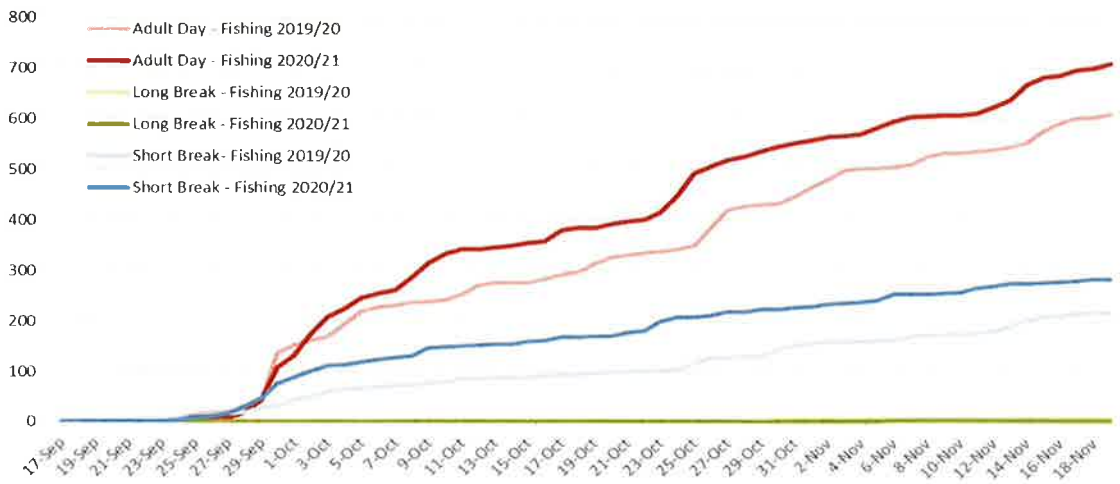
South Island Daily Cumulative LEQ's to 19 November



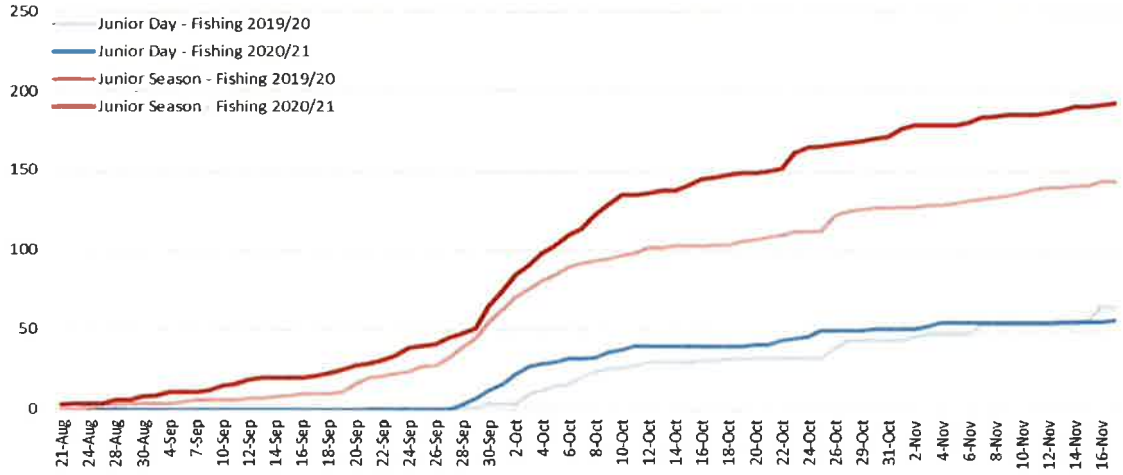
Daily Cumulative Sales by Category to 19 November



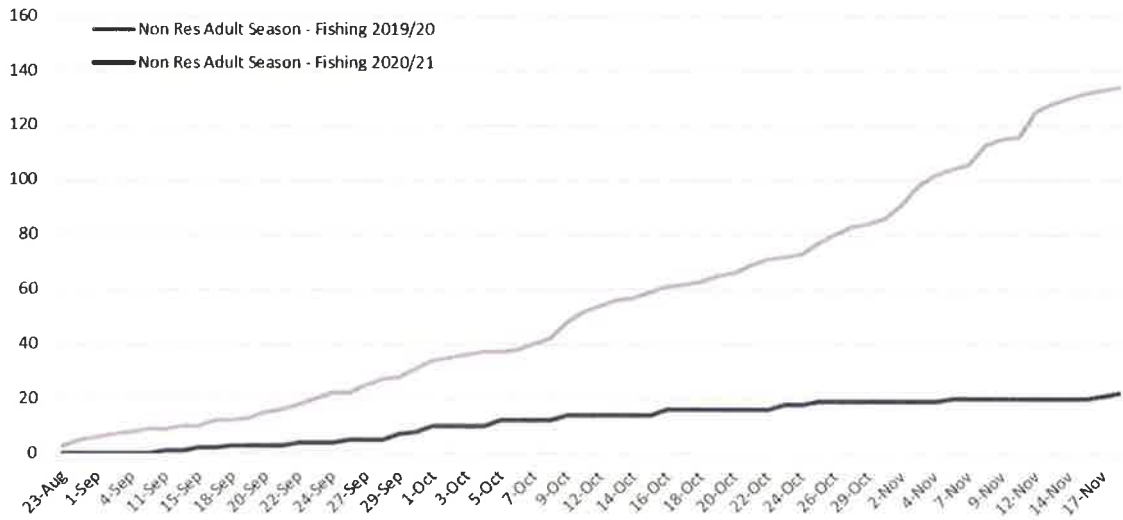
Daily Cumulative Sales by Category to 19 November



Daily Cumulative Sales by Category to 19 November



Daily Cumulative Sales by Category to 19 November



Daily Cumulative Sales by Category to 19 November

