

**Agenda for the Meeting of the  
Otago Fish & Game Council to be held on  
14<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at  
Grand Mercure Oakridge Resort  
Corner Cardrona Valley and Studholme Roads, Wanaka.  
Commencing at 12.30pm**

*Please note: A Lunch will be provided at 12:00 midday*

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## **1 Present and Apologies**

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## **2 Declaration of Interest**

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### **3 Council Elections**

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#### **3.1 Election of Chair**

#### **3.2 Election of Executive Committee**

## **4 Minutes and Matters arising from the minutes**

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### **Minutes of Otago Fish and Game Council Meeting Dunback Hotel, Dunback 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014, Commencing at 10.00am**

#### **1.0 Present:**

Monty Wright (Chair), Dr John Jillett, Dan Rae, Vicky Whyte, Dr Colin Aldridge, Adrian McIntyre, Alan Hammond, Dr Mike Turner, and Ray Grubb.

**In attendance:** Niall Watson (CE) Ian Hadland (OM), representatives of the Economics Department, University of Otago

**Apologies** were received from

Ian Cole, Dave Witherow, Murray Neilson, Pete Ravenscroft (DOC), Dr Terry Broad, Francie Diver (OCB) and John Barlow,

(Rae/Hammond)

**That apologies be accepted**

#### **2.0 Declarations of Interest**

Nil

#### **3.0 Minutes**

Resolved (Rae/Hammond)

**That the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of the meetings on the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2014 be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

#### **4.0 Matters Arising from Minutes**

**4.1 Double glazing of 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Windows at Dunedin Office** (Item 9.2) a second quote had now been received for the replacement of 10 windows at approximately the same price. The CE noted that the cost of the improvement to the building would not fall in one year but would be spread over several years.

Resolved (Rae/McIntyre)

**That the Council proceed with the replacement of the windows.**

#### **4.2 Hanlon and Partners**

The CE advised he had received written confirmation from Hanlon Partners (Engineers) that the Dunedin Office building in their view had an acceptable level of seismic risk without further strengthening.

## **5.0 Communications New Zealand Council**

### **5.1 NZC Correspondence to Otago**

#### **5.1.1 NZC Correspondence**

Nil

#### **5.1.2 Correspondence from Otago to NZC**

Council noted the responses on the Guides Licence and the Opinion on NZC audit and co-ordination functions

## **6.0 Chief Executive's Report**

### **6.1 Administration**

Finance reports to the end of October 2014 were discussed. The CE noted that the refrigerated container for storage of fish food had cost Fish & Game \$2,750 ex GST (Oceania Gold contributed half of the cost). The container is to be owned by Fish and Game.

With reference to the summary of income and expenditure, the CE explained that the budget overrun for bank fees was due to a misallocation of fees for licence purchases which was now covered in 'general expenses'. The overrun for habitat was in part due to initial expenditure on Takitakitoa works

He advised the audit was complete and the 2013/14 year end position was a small surplus of \$25,790.

Resolved (Jillett/Turner)

**That Finance and Licence sales reports to the end of October 2014 be approved**

### **6.2 Species**

Staff had initiated a survey on hunter opinions on a pukeko season, shotgun magazine extensions and season length in line with Southland's initiative. Southland planned to consider changes for the 2015 season and may seek to shorten the season.

### **6.3 Habitat**

#### **Minimum and Residual Flows**

The CE advised that recent RMA consent applications to replace mining privileges gave cause for concern because of the narrow focus taken by ORC on effects and the apparent lack of a strategic approach to the issue.

**Lindis River:** ORC's is still planning on public notification of a minimum flow plan change in autumn 2015.

**Pomahaka River:** Submissions were presented at a hearing for the Pomahaka Minimum flow consultation draft plan change based on a summer minimum flow of 3600 l/s and a 1000 l/s primary allocation. The plan change was supported.

## **Takitakitoa Consent for Wetland Development**

Preliminary works have been completed with costs covered by a GBHTB grant. There was a discussion on habitat components for wildlife and fish and it was resolved (Grubb/Hammond)

**That staff develop a planting plan for habitat enhancement at Takitakitoa utilising funds from the DoC wetland funds held in trust.**

The CE noted that DOC would need to approve the funding. There was **agreement** on a field trip to the Takitakitoa Wetland early in the New Year.

There was a discussion on escape cover and the need for dry land areas to compliment wetland areas. The dry land margins were not always recognised as important for wildlife by ORC.

### **6.4 User Participation**

An access closure on the Kaka Point side of the Clutha Mouth was noted.

### **6.5 Public Interface**

The CE reported that the draft MoU with DOC had been referred to Ngai Tahu for their input. There was agreement between DOC and F&G on content.

### **6.6 Compliance**

No discussion

### **6.7 Licencing**

No discussion

### **6.8 Council**

No discussion

### **6.9 Planning and Reporting**

Council noted the proposed working party plan review and Executive approval steps for the draft SFGMP prior to Christmas.

## **7.0 Committee Reports**

### **7.1 Clutha Fisheries Trust** – Mr Rae outlined Trust activity including:

- Completion of annual audit and annual report.
- Agreement on improved access arrangements to the Clutha upstream from the Luggate bridge with a ‘like for like’ swap of public roads.

### **7.2 New Zealand Council**

Mr Wright and Mr Watson reported on the recent NZC meeting and ‘Governors Forum.

### **NZC Meeting**

- Attendance at the NZC meeting had been useful in allowing informal contact and discussion of issues and in developing relationships with the new Chair and Councillors.
- It was clear Mr Witherow made a positive contribution to NZC debate and decision-making.
- While specific issues relating to the reasonableness of the NZC's conflict of interest policy and its recent application in Mr Witherow's case remained unresolved those issues were being addressed directly by Mr Witherow himself as the affected NZ Councillor. They are legitimate concerns because they potentially limit the Otago appointees ability to fully participate in NZC business
- The NZC Chair had been invited to the February Council and Planning Meetings and the NZC CE had been invited to the April Council meeting
- The NZC Policy and Planning Manager, Robert Sowman had also been invited to the February Planning meeting

### **Governors Forum**

- The forum was well run and positive with no significant differences of opinion emerging on the central topics – co-ordination and audit.
- There was general agreement that NZC's co-ordination and audit functional areas should add value to regional fish and game management by FGCs.
- The forum brainstormed potential areas for co-ordination and this threw up a broad range of topics which requires prioritisation and further discussion
- There was agreement on the merits of operational audits
- There was some minority interest in coercive powers to achieve full compliance with co-ordination initiatives.
- There were no proposals for changes away from a devolved Fish and Game structure or shifts in the balance of power between regional and national levels.
- There was limited discussion on external threats/opportunities with the sole issue discussed being non-point source pollution and water quality standards for ecosystem health as identified by Corina Jordan

## **8.0 Technical Reports**

### **8.1 A Precautionary Approach to Minimum Flows - Trotter**

The report was discussed.

Resolved (Aldridge/Turner)

**That the report be received and the issue discussed with ORC.**

Council requested a report back on the issue

### **8.2 Southern Reservoir Take a Kid Fishing - Dixon**

The report was discussed. Mr Wright noted Dr Sue Bidrose's (DCC Chief Executive) interest in angling and requested a copy of the report be sent to her.

There was a discussion about measures for participation in TAKF events at DCC reservoirs because of the numbers of adults attending as well as children

It was resolved (Wright/Whyte)

#### **That the report be received.**

It was **agreed** to refer the report to the planning meeting in order to discuss recruitment and following up on the TAKF effort. Vicky Whyte requested consideration for an expansion of the activity outside Dunedin, particularly in the Roxburgh area

### **8.3 Lindis Research Update - Trotter**

The report was discussed and the CE advised results would be able to be extrapolated to drought or over-allocation effects on other similar rivers.

Resolved (Rae/Jillett)

#### **That the report be received**

### **8.4 Staff Scholarship Report World Recreational Fisheries Conference – Keeling**

**Agreed** that the report be deferred until the February meeting.

### **8.5 Lower Clutha Salmon Angler Survey – Keeling**

Council noted that the salmon enhancement programme was not increasing the overall returns to the lower river but tagged fish were returning. The CE advised he would be meeting Contact personnel about the mitigation programme in the next few days.

### **8.6 Summary of Licence Sales 2013/14 – Hadland**

**Agreed** that the report be referred to the planning meeting

### **8.7 Hukarere Station Tenure Review – Wilson.**

It was noted that the Gem Lake tenure review outcome might give a positive example of how Hukarere Station tenure review might be dealt with.

Resolved (Hammond/McIntyre)

#### **That the report be received.**

## **9.0 Correspondence**

**9.1 West Coat Fish and Game** – The letter seeking support for removal of the felt soled wader ban given the widespread distribution of didymo in the South Island was discussed and the current status of didymo research was queried. It was noted that new footwear technology had overtaken felt soled waders in providing secure footing when wading and agreed that a reply be made along those lines.



Resolved (Rae/Grubb)

**That the letter be received**

**9.2 Glenorchy School Fishing Competition** – Letter of thanks for staff involvement in Glenorchy Fishing Competition – **Received**

**10. General Business**

**Nil**

**The meeting closed for the Annual General Meeting at 12 noon  
and was followed by a presentation by Otago University Economics Department**

## **5 Communications New Zealand Council**

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### **5.1 Correspondence from NZC to Otago**

**5.1.1 Nil**

### **5.2 Correspondence from Otago to NZC**

**5.2.1 Nil**

## 6 Chief Executives Report

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### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT FEBRUARY 2015

#### 6.1 ADMINISTRATION

##### **Finance and Administration**

###### *Financial Reports to 31 January 2015*

A financial report for the financial year to 31 January 2015 is attached for your information. The summary spreadsheet has been structured so that it can be more easily compared with the approved budget of \$933,451.

Expenditure to date is \$917,963 (including levies \$447,016 but excluding depreciation \$32,630) compared with the annual budget of \$1,827,484 composed of Otago's expenditure budget (\$933,451) and levies (\$894,033).

Total income to date is \$1,206,326 compared with budget of \$2,007,222.

Fishing licence sales revenue received for the year to date is \$1,165,690 (including commission). The fish budget figures for the full year is \$1,593,438 (\$1,266,959 plus commission \$79,672).

Game licence sales revenue received for the year to date is \$4,039 (including commission). The year's budget for game licence sales is \$330,229 (\$313,712 plus commission of \$16,511).

###### *Licence Sales to 31 January 2015*

(Please note: Figures in the licence sales tables are inclusive of GST. An LEQ is a whole season adult licence equivalent). Budgeted LEQs for the year are Fish 14898 and Game 4267)

Sales to 31 January 2015 are outlined for fish in the attached table. Current fish licence sales are equal to 12,882 LEQs or \$1,584,526.

###### *Funds Position at 31 January 2015*

ANZ 00 account	\$61,107.46
ANZ 70 account	\$735,034.72

###### *Reparation Trust Account*

Account balance to 31 August 2014	\$ 52,614
Revenue for current year to 31 January 2014	\$ 2,254
Less Grants	<u>\$ 3,000</u>
Total	\$ 51868

###### *Term investments as at 31 January 2015:*

ASB 0079	\$296,145 @ 4.5% maturing 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2015
ANZ 1006	\$423,746 @ 4.65% maturing 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2015

The sum of \$71,102 is held by Anderson Lloyd in trust for wetland management via DOC.

*Agents and Debts*

Nothing to report

*Capital Expenditure*

Supply of tablets to councillors for use on Council business has been slightly delayed due to pressure of work in other areas over the summer period.

*Staff*

As previously communicated Clare Morris has decided to resign to undertake further training in health sciences rather than to return to Fish and Game after her period of extended leave. The vacancy will be advertised in early March.

**CE to report**

*Land and Buildings*

A quote has been accepted for the double glazing of the first floor of the Dunedin office. The work should be undertaken in the next month or so.

The new internet based phone system is up and running.

**Recommendation**

**That the Finance and Licence Sales Report for the period ending 31 January 2015 be received.**

**6.2 SPECIES**

**Waterfowl Monitoring (1111)**

Waterfowl monitoring was completed at the end of January after some delays due to poor flying conditions. See separate report

**Spawning Surveys (1112)**

Nothing to report

**Population Monitoring: (1113)**

Fish survey work has been concentrated on the Lindis and Cardrona in support of upcoming minimum flow processes but has broadened out with the continuing dry conditions to monitor other waters including Kye Burn and Manuherikia mainstem and tributaries.

**Success & Satisfaction (1122)**

Lake monitoring has concentrated on Wanaka, Wakatipu and Hawea (peak season surveys) and Manorburn Poolburn (opening day surveys)

### **Fish Salvage (1131)**

Adult spawning trout were salvaged from Quartz Creek early in the season but despite widespread loss of flow in Central Otago tributary streams and related fish mortality there has been little opportunity for salvage.

### **Hatchery Operations (1141)**

The hatchery operation running normally despite quite high water temperatures and a requirement to utilise stored water from Lone Pine Dame because of restrictions on Taieri River water takes.

### **Releases (1161)**

Releases of large takeable fish have been made in Southern Reservoir (45) and Earnsclough Pond (40)

### **Game Notice (1171)**

See separate report

### **Anglers Notice (1172)**

Nothing to report

### **Game Bird Control (1181)**

Nothing to report.

## **6.3 HABITAT**

### **Resource Management (1211)**

#### **Resource Management Complaints 2014/15**

<b>Date/Agency</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
	Nil to date	

### **Resource Consents**

#### **Affected Party Status**

This continues to remain a live issue but there is agreement to meet with the aim of resolving differences. In brief the issue relates to the thresholds for involvement of affected parties in consent application processes. Where adverse effects of a consent application are 'more than minor' or 'minor' Fish and Game should be considered an affected party, but where they are 'less than minor' there is considered to be a negligible impact and so we are not considered affected and so not involved in the consent process.

An applicant can propose a mitigating condition on a consent that might reduce adverse effects into the 'less than minor' (negligible) range and so avoid affected party involvement but where ORC proposes a mitigating condition (called a 'super-added condition') affected parties remain involved.

Affected parties add considerably to the rigor of public processes, particularly the statutory interests (DOC, Ngai Tahu through KTKO and Fish and Game) and so consent processing is likely to result in better decision-making.

Despite the slow progress it is expected this issue can be resolved by discussion with ORC

## Planning (1212)

### QLDC Waterway Bylaws

The decision by QLDC on the upper Clutha waterway bylaw review was to maintain the existing regime above Albert Town in line with Fish and Game's submissions

### Manuherikia Catchment Water Strategy Group

Staff continue to be involved in the Manuherikia Catchment Water Strategy Group which is developing a catchment wide strategy for enhancement of irrigation water storage and use in the Manuherikia Catchment. Economic viability of water storage options at Falls Dam (increasing dam height) and on the Upper Ida Burn are still being assessed.

### Minimum and Residual Flow Setting

<b>Minimum and Residual Flows and Transition from Mining Privileges (TMP)</b>		
<b>River</b>	<b>Activity and status</b>	<b>Status</b>
Lindis	Minimum flow & TMP.  Over allocated  MALF 1800 l/s	Fisheries research continuing. Further consultative draft plan change expected to be advertised for submissions in April 2015. F&G proposal for a minimum flow of 1000 l/s. Informal meeting sought between F&G and Lindis irrigators (5 February)
Cardrona	Minimum Flow & TMP  Over allocated	Mainstem fisheries and flow surveys undertaken over the summer period. No date yet for further ORC public consultation
Waikouaiti	Resource consent application	Consent appeal resolved by mediation
Waikouaiti	Minimum Flow  Fully allocated  MALF 258 l/s	F&G have supported minimum flow of 220 l/s. Next step likely to be notification of consultative draft plan change
Pomahaka	Minimum flow  MALF 4300 l/s	F&G supported minimum flows of 3.6 cumecs (summer) 7 cumecs (winter) and the primary allocation limit of 1 cumec. Awaiting commissioners' report back from hearing
Waiwera	Minimum flow  MALF 310 l/s	Plan change publicly notified (16 <sup>th</sup> February deadline) F&G supported minimum flows of 260 l/s (summer) 400 (winter) but questioning primary allocation limit of 500 l/s.
Manuherikia	Minimum flow Irrigation scheme investigation.  MALF lower river 2126 l/s  Over allocated	Collaborative process underway involving F&G Irrigation scheme at feasibility study stage. Some movement on individual mining privileges with applications for replacement with RMA consents.

Benger Burn	Minimum flow &TMP. Over allocated	More research on water resources planned by ORC over next 12 months from March 2014. See separate report.
Sow Burn	TMP Over allocated	Negotiated agreement complete with some recent adjustments
Kye Burn	TMP Over allocated  MALF 500 l/s	Further response to Kye Burn irrigators and request for meeting. See separate report
Low Burn	Minimum flow TMP Over allocated	No action
Bannock Burn	Minimum flow TMP Over allocated	No action
Quartz Creek	TMP TMP Over allocated	Report on fishery values and issues in preparation

### **CE to report**

#### **Transition from Mining Privileges (MPs) to RMA Consents**

Continuing difficulties are arising from ORC's processing of individual consent applications replacing mining privileges in over allocated Central Otago catchments. Assessments of effects continue to take a narrow focus and do not include cumulative effects.

#### **Reserves Management (1221)**

Earthworks underway on the restoration of Takitakitoa Wetland following the granting of consents by ORC with rapid progress now being made.

#### **Wetland Protection (1232)**

Further meetings have been held with ORC on Lake Tuakitoto works particularly consenting of a new inlet weir and setting of Robsons Lagoon water level

#### **Assisted Habitat (1230)**

See habitat enhancement fund report

#### **River Management (1233)**

Nothing to report

## **6.4 USER PARTICIPATION**

#### **Access (1311)**

Nothing to report

#### **Signage (1312)**

New replacement signs installed at Butchers Dam, Glendhu Bay and Lindis Pass.

**Backcountry Fisheries (1321)**

BC licence registration and controlled fishery booking upgrade complete.

**Magazine Supplements and Newsletters (1331)**

Game Season supplement completed and forwarded to printer

**Reel Life/Both Barrels**

Monthly contributions to online newsletters Reel Life have continued.

**Newspaper Supplements (1332)**

Some advertising support given to angling and summer recreation newspaper supplements.

**River Reports (1333)**

River reports underway

**Publications (1342)**

Nothing to report

**Web Site (1343)**

Nothing to report

**Fishing and Hunting Events (1351)**

Nothing to report

**Take-a-kid-fishing (1352)**

Attendance at Girl Guides event in Cromwell at Lowburn Inlet in January and junior fish out day at Earnscleugh Pond in December

**Club Liaison (1361)**

Nothing to report

**Commercial Use (1362)**

Guides Newsletter circulated prior to Christmas holiday period

**6.5 PUBLIC INTERFACE****Liaison (1411)**

A draft MOU between DOC and Fish and Game has been completed with DOC and submitted to Te Ropu Kaitiaki I Araiteuru for feedback

**Media (1431)**

Some media coverage

**Advocacy (1432)**

Nothing to Report

**Tenure Reviews (1433)**

Early warning notification from LINZ on Hope Creek, a property in the Pomahaka catchment



## **6.6 COMPLIANCE**

### **Ranging (1511)**

There has been considerable ranging activity over the summer period involving rangers and staff. Generally compliance has been good

### **Ranger Support**

The annual ranger training event was held in Cromwell at the end of November.

### **Prosecutions**

Two incidents involving offences by non resident anglers are being dealt with. The first concerned a guided angler staying at a lodge who was fishing backcountry water. The angler had a backcountry licence but only had a 24 hour licence rather than the qualifying non resident licence. The angler has been offered and accepted reparation.

The second incident involved a family group who did not have current 24 hour licences although they had purchased them for the day before. Again they were staying at a lodge that caters for angler clients and were being guided by two experienced guides. The offence is still under investigation.

It is a concern that some angling guides and fishing lodges are not supporting their clients by ensuring they are properly licenced and informed about angling regulations.

### **CE to Report**

## **6.7 LICENCING**

### **Licencing System (1611)**

Nothing to report.

### **Agents (1612)**

Staff are liaising with agents over a number of issues including on-line licencing, phase out of paper licences, new licence categories and backcountry fisheries registration.

### **CE to Report**

## **6.8 COUNCIL**

### **Elections (1710)**

The triennial Fish and Game Council will be held in October 2015.

### **Council (1720)**

The proposed meeting schedule for 2015 and the 2016 planning meeting is as follows:

Thursday 16 April 2015 – Roxburgh

Thursday 18 June 2015 – Dunedin

Thursday 20 August 2015 – Cromwell

Thursday 15 October 2015 – Dunedin

Thursday 26 November 2015 – Cromwell

Saturday/Sunday 14/15 February 2016 – Dunedin

## **Recommendation**

**That the 2015 meeting schedule be adopted**

## **6.9 PLANNING AND REPORTING**

### **Strategic Planning (1811)**

The Draft Sports Fish and Game Management Plan for Otago is complete following the reworking of the significance section.

## **Recommendation**

**That Council adopt the draft Sports Fish and Game Plan and forward it to the Minister of Conservation requesting her approval**

### **Annual Plan (1821)**

Nothing to report

### **Annual Report (1821)**

The audited annual report for the year ended 31 August 2014 was presented at the public AGM in November last year. Because the report was not pre-circulated it is normal practice to make time for any questions or comments at the February meeting.

## **For discussion**

### **National Liaison (1841)**

Staff continue to be involved in the Licencing Working Party (NW) and the Licence Category Review (IH). Peter Wilson is assisting with planning advice in other regions.

NZC Chair Lindsay Lyons will be attending our February Planning and Council meetings in Wanaka. This follows attendance by myself and Monty Wright at their Council meeting and Governors Forum in November last year.

In both cases the aim is to develop better working relationships between the two Councils and with that in mind it makes sense to limit discussion in areas of disagreement – NZC's complex conflict of interest policy and its application in recent cases; and their restrictive interpretation of rules for NZ Councillor appointments. Those two issues do need to be addressed further but that is not the primary purpose of Monty's invitation to Mr Lyons

Niall Watson  
Chief Executive  
January 2015

Balance Sheet  
**Otago Fish & Game Council**  
 Balance Sheet  
 As at 31 January 2015

<b>CAPITAL</b>		This Year	Last Year End
7500	Opening Equity	1,039,201.00	1,039,201.00
9015	Retained Earnings Brght Fwd	<u>1,593,865.83</u>	<u>1,568,076.20</u>
		2,633,066.83	2,607,277.20
	Plus Current Year Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	255,733.03	25,789.63
	<b>TOTAL CAPITAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>2,888,799.86</u></u>	<u><u>2,633,066.83</u></u>
<b>REPRESENTED BY</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
5005	Cash on Hand	200.00	200.00
5022	Stock on Hand	7,354.00	7,354.00
5030	Accrued Interest	2,571.66	2,571.66
5040	Prepayments	625.69	11,078.69
5050	Investments - ANZ National Bank	423,746.24	423,746.24
5060	ASB Investments	292,932.55	289,684.20
5800	GST Paid	35,692.86	0.00
6805	GST Payments/Refunds IRD	1,763.04	1,763.04
ACCREC	Trade Debtors	218,751.55	125,053.35
ASB_00	ASB 00 Account	1.15	1.15
NB00	National/ANZ 00 Account	56,612.38	78,617.04
NB70	National/ANZ 70 Account	735,034.72	290,133.50
UNBANK	Unbanked	<u>0.00</u>	<u>314.00</u>
		1,775,285.84	1,230,516.87
<b>LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
6000	Sundry Creditors	37,328.12	37,328.12
6010	Holiday Pay Accrued	35,325.00	35,325.00
6040	PAYE Control	16,410.07	0.00
6800	GST Received	40,377.73	0.00
ACCSPAY	Trade Creditors	<u>272,438.56</u>	<u>67,477.48</u>
		401,879.48	140,130.60
	<b>NET WORKING CAPITAL</b>	1,373,406.36	1,090,386.27
<b>TERM ASSETS</b>			
5070	Anderson Lloyd Investment	<u>71,102.06</u>	<u>71,102.06</u>
		71,102.06	71,102.06
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
7000	Vehicles Purchases	235,177.60	235,177.60
7001	M/V Accum Deprn	(97,989.00)	(78,989.00)
7020	Boat Purchases	90,722.06	90,722.06
7021	Boat Accum Deprn	(69,243.00)	(67,343.00)
7200	Plant Purchases	56,644.10	53,894.10
7201	Plant Accum Deprn	(45,400.00)	(42,030.00)
7300	Furniture & Fittings	30,847.94	28,255.00
7301	Furniture Accum Deprn	(27,454.74)	(26,854.74)
7400	Field Equipment Purchases	34,610.96	34,610.96
7401	Field Eq Accum Deprn	(19,754.00)	(19,554.00)
7440	Land Purchases	414,410.77	414,410.77
7450	Buildings Purchases	596,081.14	596,081.14
7451	Buildings Accum Deprn	(297,845.50)	(291,935.50)
7460	Land @ Fair Value	426,260.00	426,260.00
7462	Building @ Fair Value	162,085.11	162,085.11
7463	Buildings @ FV - Accum Deprn	<u>(44,862.00)</u>	<u>(43,212.00)</u>
		1,444,291.44	1,471,578.50
	<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u><u>2,888,799.86</u></u>	<u><u>2,633,066.83</u></u>

Printed: Wednesday, 4 February 2015 8:19:06 a.m. \* may include unposted items - subject to change \*

Page 1

**Otago Fish & Game Council  
Profit and Loss - Summary  
for Period Ended Jan:2014/15**

		-----Month to Date-----			-----Year to Date-----					
		Actual	Budget	% of Budget	Actual	Budget	Variance	Annual Budget	YTD Actual Budget	Last YTD
<b>INCOME</b>										
<b>FISH AND GAME LICENCE SA...</b>										
1000	Fishing Licences Income	275,932	132,787	208%	1,165,690	663,935	501,755	1,593,438	73%	1,035,217
1006	Game Licences Income	0	27,519	0%	4,039	137,596	(133,557)	330,229	1%	(744)
		275,932	160,306	172%	1,169,729	801,531	368,198	1,923,667	61%	1,034,473
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>										
1010	Interest received	4,922	3,380	146%	8,449	16,900	(8,451)	40,555	21%	11,735
1020	Fines - Fishing & Game Offences	70	500	14%	824	2,500	(1,876)	6,000	10%	3,048
1022	Reparations Trust Fund	1,500	0	0%	(748)	0	(748)	0	0%	2,000
1025	Rent Received	2,892	3,083	94%	17,070	15,419	1,651	37,000	46%	13,744
1065	Fishing Competitions	0	0	0%	569	0	569	0	0%	936
1075	Commissions Income	0	0	0%	830	0	830	0	0%	960
1090	Sundry Income	1,217	0	0%	6,436	0	6,436	0	0%	913
1092	Merchandise Sales/Other	48	0	0%	421	0	421	0	0%	639
1094	Donations Received	0	0	0%	2,943	0	2,943	0	0%	3,000
1096	RMA Costs Reimbursed	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	14,433
		10,649	6,963	153%	36,596	34,819	1,777	83,555	44%	51,408
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>286,581</b>	<b>167,269</b>		<b>1,206,326</b>	<b>836,350</b>	<b>369,976</b>	<b>2,007,222</b>		<b>1,085,881</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>										
<b>SPECIES MANAGEMENT</b>										
	<b>POPULATION MONITOR / MMT</b>	2,184	967	227%	2,609	4,855	(2,228)	11,600	22%	209
	<b>HARVEST ASSESSMENT</b>	0	250	0%	0	1,250	(1,250)	3,000	0%	0
	<b>FISH SALVAGE</b>	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
	<b>HATCHERY OPERATIONS</b>	25	833	3%	10,105	4,169	5,936	10,000	101%	4,063
	<b>RELEASES</b>	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
	<b>REGULATIONS</b>	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
	<b>CONTROL</b>	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	2,938
	<b>SPECIES MANAGEMENT-TOTAL</b>	<b>2,219</b>	<b>2,050</b>	<b>108%</b>	<b>12,715</b>	<b>10,254</b>	<b>2,461</b>	<b>24,600</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>7,210</b>
<b>HABITAT PROTECTION</b>										
	<b>RESOURCE MANAGEMENT A...</b>	361	292	124%	4,353	1,460	2,893	3,500	124%	15,771
	<b>WORKS &amp; MMT COUNCIL LAND</b>	106	292	36%	7,967	1,460	6,507	3,500	228%	723
	<b>ASSISTED HABITAT</b>	0	83	0%	0	419	(419)	1,000	0%	3,868
	<b>HABITAT PROTECTION-TOTAL</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>12,320</b>	<b>3,339</b>	<b>8,981</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>154%</b>	<b>20,362</b>
<b>PARTICIPATION</b>										
	<b>ACCESS</b>	103	292	35%	2,055	1,460	595	3,500	59%	317
	<b>SATISFACTION SURVEYS</b>	1,092	417	262%	2,039	2,085	(46)	5,000	41%	1,385
	<b>NEWSLETTERS</b>	0	1,292	0%	12,035	6,460	5,575	15,500	78%	10,805
	<b>OTHER PUBLICATIONS</b>	0	583	0%	0	2,919	(2,919)	7,000	0%	0
	<b>TRAINING</b>	174	375	46%	4,300	1,875	2,425	4,500	96%	2,494
	<b>CLUB RELATIONS</b>	0	167	0%	451	835	(384)	2,000	23%	172
	<b>HUTS</b>	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	161
	<b>PARTICIPATION-TOTAL</b>	<b>1,369</b>	<b>3,126</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>20,881</b>	<b>15,634</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>37,500</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>15,335</b>

**Otago Fish & Game Council  
Profit and Loss - Summary  
for Period Ended Jan:2014/15**

	-----Month to Date-----			-----Year to Date-----			Annual Budget	% of Budget	
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance			
<b>PUBLIC INTERFACE</b>									
LIAISON	0	83	0%	0	419	(419)	1,000	0%	0
COMMUNICATIONS	0	0	0%	539	0	539	0	0%	0
ADVOCACY	0	667	0%	0	3,335	(3,335)	8,000	0%	83
<b>PUBLIC INTERFACE-TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>3,754</b>	<b>(3,215)</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>COMPLIANCE</b>									
RANGER ADMIN	26	208	12%	336	1,044	(708)	2,500	13%	322
RANGER TRAINING	13	375	3%	2,266	1,875	391	4,500	50%	0
COMPLIANCE	0	500	0%	0	2,500	(2,500)	6,000	0%	5,092
<b>COMPLIANCE-TOTAL</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>1,083</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>2,602</b>	<b>5,419</b>	<b>(2,817)</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>5,414</b>
<b>LICENCES</b>									
LICENCE PRODUCT/DISTN	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
AGENT SERVICING	3,362	42	8,004%	13,807	210	13,597	500	2,761%	5,077
COMMISSION	9,688	8,015	121%	41,803	40,078	1,725	96,183	43%	38,639
<b>NZFG LEVIES</b>	<b>223,508</b>	<b>74,503</b>	<b>300%</b>	<b>447,016</b>	<b>372,515</b>	<b>74,502</b>	<b>894,033</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>422,585</b>
<b>LICENSES-TOTAL</b>	<b>236,557</b>	<b>82,560</b>	<b>287%</b>	<b>502,626</b>	<b>412,803</b>	<b>89,823</b>	<b>990,716</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>485,301</b>
<b>COUNCIL</b>									
COUNCIL ELECTIONS	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
COUNCIL MEETINGS	0	833	0%	2,668	4,169	(1,501)	10,000	27%	8,462
<b>COUNCIL-TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>2,668</b>	<b>4,169</b>	<b>(1,501)</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>8,462</b>
<b>PLANNING / REPORTING</b>									
MMT/STRATEGIC PLANNING	423	0	0%	846	0	846	0	0%	819
1821 ANNUAL OWP/BUDGET	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	247
REPORTING/AUDIT	0	833	0%	12,835	4,169	8,666	10,000	128%	4,008
NATIONAL LIAISON	0	0	0%	34	0	34	0	0%	0
<b>PLAN/REPORT-TOTAL</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>13,716</b>	<b>4,169</b>	<b>9,547</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>137%</b>	<b>5,074</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>									
SALARIES	52,537	54,219	97%	280,237	271,095	9,142	650,623	43%	195,537
STAFF EXPENSES	113	1,933	6%	(2,805)	9,669	(12,474)	23,200	(12)%	8,937
STAFF HOUSES	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
OFFICE PREMISES	7,403	6,954	106%	32,464	34,772	(2,308)	83,450	39%	31,866
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	69	1,531	5%	1,657	7,657	(6,000)	18,374	9%	1,354
COMMUNICATIONS	1,786	2,389	75%	14,150	11,945	2,205	28,666	49%	9,098
GENERAL	669	1,500	45%	3,098	7,500	(4,402)	18,000	17%	9,562
GENERAL EQUIPMENT	107	1,162	9%	3,183	5,810	(2,627)	13,944	23%	3,324
VEHICLES	(95)	5,679	(2)%	17,911	28,396	(10,485)	68,149	26%	22,790
<b>ADMINISTRATION - TOTAL</b>	<b>62,589</b>	<b>75,367</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>349,896</b>	<b>376,844</b>	<b>(26,948)</b>	<b>904,406</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>282,467</b>
DEPRECIATION	6,526	0	0%	32,630	0	32,630	0	0%	32,630
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>310,190</b>	<b>167,269</b>	<b>185%</b>	<b>950,593</b>	<b>836,385</b>	<b>114,208</b>	<b>2,007,222</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>843,338</b>
<b>Profit (Loss)</b>	<b>(23,609)</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>265,733</b>	<b>(36)</b>	<b>265,768</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>242,543</b>

**Summary of Draft Profit and Loss Statement Expenses 31st January 2015**  
**As At 04/02/15**

<b>Expense</b>	<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure</b>	<b>YtD %</b>	<b>Comment</b>
		<b>Ytd</b>		
<b><u>Projects</u></b>				
<b>Species</b>	\$ 24,600.00	\$ 12,715.00	52%	
<b>Habitat</b>	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 12,320.00	154%	Takitakitoa road works
<b>Participation</b>	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 20,881.00	56%	
<b>Public Interface</b>	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 539.00	6%	
<b>Compliance</b>	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 2,602.00	20%	
<b>Licences</b>	\$ 500.00	\$ 13,807.00	2761%	Bank Fees Public Online
<b>Council</b>	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 2,668.00	27%	
<b>Planning</b>	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 13,716.00	137%	
<b>Projects Total</b>	<b>\$ 112,600.00</b>	<b>\$ 79,248.00</b>	<b>34%</b>	
<b><u>Administration</u></b>				
<b>Salaries</b>	\$ 650,623.00	\$ 280,237.00	43%	
<b>Staff Expenses</b>	\$ 23,200.00	-\$ 2,805.00	-12%	Helen Brazil flights and Morgan Masters reimbursements so negative
<b>Office Premises</b>	\$ 83,450.00	\$ 32,464.00	39%	
<b>Office Equipment</b>	\$ 18,374.00	\$ 1,657.00	9%	
<b>Communication</b>	\$ 28,666.00	\$ 14,150.00	49%	
<b>General</b>	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 3,098.00	17%	
<b>General Equipment</b>	\$ 13,944.00	\$ 3,183.00	23%	
<b>Vehicles</b>	\$ 68,149.00	\$ 17,911.00	26%	
<b>Administration Total</b>	<b>\$ 904,406.00</b>	<b>\$ 349,895.00</b>	<b>39%</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,017,006.00</b>	<b>\$ 429,143.00</b>	<b>42%</b>	

<b>Depreciation</b>		\$ 32,630.00		
<b>Commission Expense</b>	\$ 96,183.00	\$ 41,803.00	43%	
<b>RMA Expense reimbursed</b>		\$		
<b>Levies</b>	\$ 894,033.00	\$ 447,016.00	50%	

### **Summary of Profit and Loss Statement Income 31st January 2015**

**As At 04/02/15**

<b>Income</b>	<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>Actual Income</b>	<b>YtD %</b>	<b>Comment</b>
		<b>Ytd</b>		
-				
<b>Fish</b>	\$ 1,593,438.00	\$ 1,165,690.00	73%	
<b>Game</b>	\$ 330,229.00	\$ 4,039.00	1%	
<b>Prosecutions</b>	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 624.00	10%	
<b>Rent</b>	\$ 37,000.00	\$ 17,070.00	46%	
<b>Interest</b>	\$ 40,555.00	\$ 8,449.00	21%	
	<b>\$ 2,007,222.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,195,872.00</b>	<b>59%</b>	

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>		
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	\$ 1017006	\$ 429143		
<b>Less "Other Income"</b>	\$ 83555	\$ 26143		
<b>Approved Budget</b>	\$ 933457	\$ 403000	43%	

**Comparison of Fishing Licence Sales**  
**2013/14 and 2014/15 over the same**  
**period**

Otago	2014-2015	Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FWIA	FWIJ	F24A	F24J	Total	Fish LEQ	Fish \$
		<b>Agency</b>	2519	3581	262	422	4	0	0	435	42	<b>7293</b>		
		<b>Retail Book</b>	417	763	0	132	0	0	0	1362	152	<b>2826</b>		
		<b>Public Online</b>	1278	1474	399	140	14	0	0	954	59	<b>4521</b>		
		<b>Eyede Call Centre</b>	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>4</b>		
		<b>Mail Order</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>4215</b>	<b>5820</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2751</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>14644</b>	<b>12882</b>	<b>\$1,584,526</b>

Otago	2013-2014	Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FWIA	FWIJ	F24A	F24J	Total	Fish LEQ	Fish \$
		<b>Agency</b>	2101	2901	0	306	0	0	0	306	20	<b>5676</b>		
		<b>Retail Book</b>	836	1522	0	204	0	3	0	1579	142	<b>4286</b>		
		<b>Public Online</b>	1219	1544	0	125	0	0	0	827	72	<b>4062</b>		
		<b>Eyede Call Centre</b>	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	<b>7</b>		
		<b>Mail Order</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>4157</b>	<b>5972</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2713</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>14031</b>	<b>12023</b>	<b>\$1,454,757</b>

Report Parameters; Regions: Otago

Seasons 1: Fishing 2014/15 ; From: 1/05/2014 To: 30/01/2015

Seasons 2: Fishing 2013/14 ; From: 1/05/2013 To: 30/01/2014

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\*24 Hour licence count is based on number of days that the licence is valid for. Books are counted from the day they were Processed.





## **7 Committee Reports**

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**7.1 Clutha Fisheries Trust**

**7.2 NZC Meeting**

## 8 Staff and Technical Reports

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### 8.1 Benger Burn Values Assessment - H Keeling

#### COUNCIL REPORT FEBRUARY 2015

##### *Benger Burn Values Assessment*



*Figure 1: (left) Benger Burn above Moa Flat Road Bridge (Reach 1 & 2)  
(right) Downstream of Moa Flat Road Bridge (Reach 3)*

##### ***Background***

This assessment follows an earlier report to Council in June 2013 which described the trout and salmon spawning values of the Benger Burn. Summarised here are the results of an electrofishing survey was conducted on 26 November 2014 to assess juvenile salmonid production and rearing values of the Benger Burn. This information is intended to inform upcoming minimum flow discussions in the catchment.

##### ***Methods***

Four reaches were electrofished in a single pass without stop nets to document species diversity, distribution and relative abundance.

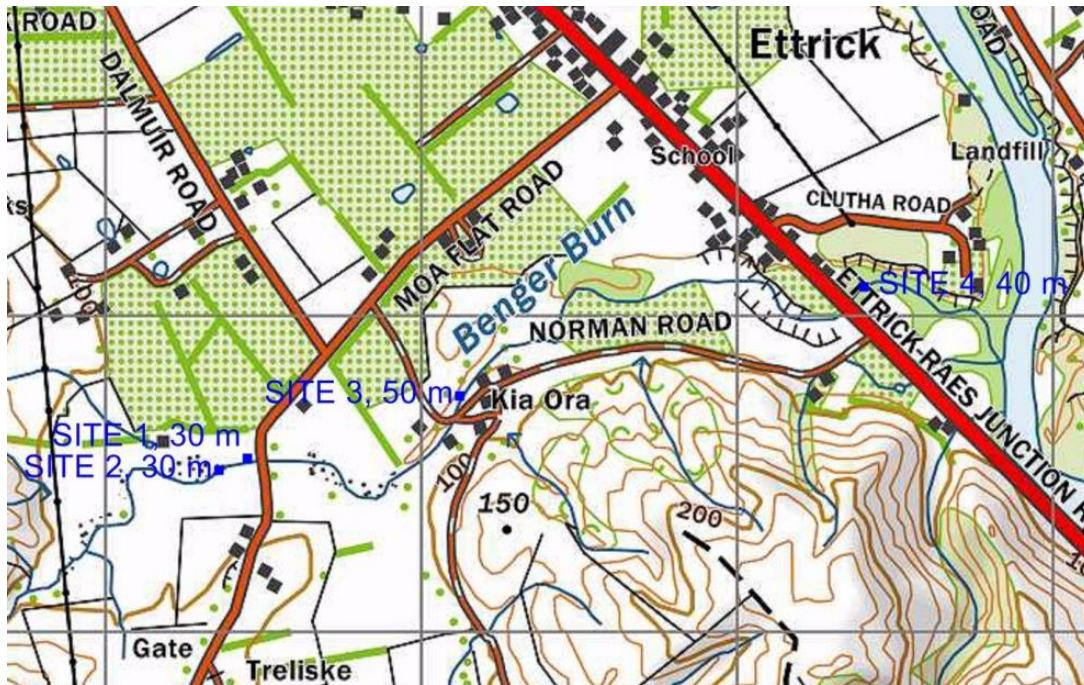


Figure 2: Electrofishing sites surveyed on the Benger Burn

## Results

### Fisheries

Reach	Species	Abundance	Length (mm)	Comment
1	brown trout	26	45	average length, age 0+
	upland bully	4	40	average length
	longfin eel	2	350,800	
2	brown trout	25	48	average length, age 0+
	upland bully	7	43	average length
	longfin eel	0		
3	brown trout	28	50	average length, age 0+
	upland bully	0		
	longfin eel*	2	~500	estimated length (*sighted only)
4	brown trout	9	42	average length, age 0+
	upland bully	0		
	longfin eel	1	500	



*Figure 3: (Left) Brown trout collected from Benger Burn below SH 8 (Right) Longfin eel captured above Moa Flat Road Bridge*

Juvenile (0+) brown trout were abundant at most survey sites. No juvenile Chinook salmon were documented however as just a small number of salmon are thought to spawn in the Benger Burn they will always be difficult to find when surveying a limited number of reaches. Longfin eels were captured at three of the four survey sites.

### *Habitat*

Above Moa Flat Road good juvenile salmonid habitat was present with runs and riffles. The substrate is comprised of small cobbles and gravels. While the banks are vegetated with grass/tussock there is no overhanging vegetation for cover although undercut banks and woody debris in places some instream cover.

The lower reaches (Sites 3 and 4) similarly provide good habitat although it is more varied with runs, riffles, pools and backwaters. The substrate mainly comprises small cobbles and gravels but becomes sandier in the lower stream. Willows, shrubs and grasses line the banks shading the stream and providing overhead cover. Woody debris and undercut banks are common.

At the time of this survey the Benger Burn was flowing at approximately 400 l/s. At this level the stream appeared to be in good condition and habitat was present for juvenile and older trout as well as adult eels.

Salmon and longfin eel habitat is particularly important in the Benger Burn because habitat with open access to the sea is seriously limited for these migratory fish species in the Clutha catchment.

### *Discussion*

Young of year 0+ brown trout were abundant at most sites surveyed however contribution of these fish to the mainstem Clutha fishery is potentially limited by low flows and complete drying of sections during the summer period. It is unknown whether the absence of yearling (1+) trout is a result of mortalities associated with low flows/dewatering in the Benger Burn or a result downstream movement to the Clutha. If juvenile trout are moving to Clutha within their first year it is unknown whether this is in response to low flows or what the survival rates for these fish are.

Low flows in the Bengier Burn are a result of water abstraction and significant losses to groundwater between where the stream leaves the hill country and SH 8 (there is a gaining reach between SH 8 and the Clutha). It is thought that due to these groundwater losses the Bengier Burn would naturally run dry in an average or dry year (ORC 2014). Based on this understanding ORC recommended the following minimum flow regime:

- A minimum flow of 400 l/s at the Booths flow recorder, for all takes from April to August, will provide for trout and salmon spawning.
- A minimum flow of 75 l/s is to be maintained at the Booths Road flow recorder from September to March for all takes upstream of the flow recorder.
- No minimum flow is to be implemented from September to March for all takes downstream of the Booths flow recorder.

ORC are conducting further hydrological investigations over the coming year which should provide additional information on water takes, and ground and surface water interactions before a final minimum flow proposal is released.

### ***Conclusion***

The Bengier Burn is a productive spawning area and provides significant habitat for juvenile salmonid rearing. Improved minimum flows would maintain and enhance the fishery values present.

### ***Recommendation***

**That this report be received.**

**Helen Keeling  
Fish & Game Officer  
Dec 2014**

## 8.2 Fisheries Monitoring Program and Standard Operating Procedures - H

### Keeling

#### COUNCIL REPORT FEBRUARY 2015

##### *Fisheries Monitoring Program and Standard Operating Procedures*

In recent years there has been ongoing discussion at both regional and national level about the need for the development of Standard Operating Procedures for fisheries monitoring. SOPs detailing standardized methods for fisheries sampling, data recording, analysis, reporting and storage are important for ensuring consistent and robust data is collected. While similar methods are employed across the regions there are certainly opportunities to improve consistency in many areas of the monitoring process.

The development of SOPs would provide staff with a 'toolbox' for fisheries monitoring. However without a fisheries monitoring plan with specific goals and objectives, stand alone SOPs are of limited value as there remains considerable uncertainty about how these tools should be applied or the purpose of the monitoring. Only once monitoring objectives are established can appropriate monitoring activities and application of tools be determined to achieve these goals. Failure to articulate specific objectives hampers the proper allocation of resources and sometimes results in the production of data of limited use.

In Otago regular fisheries monitoring is limited to a few high profile fisheries with most other monitoring work conducted on an ad hoc basis in response to a specific management issue or the need for an assessment of values. This means for most fisheries there is a lack of long-term data available limiting the ability to identify changes or trends over time. There is a need to review the planning of monitoring so that activities are carried out not only in response to specific management concerns but to assess the status of our fisheries over time. The introduction of the Non-Resident Licence with additional income dedicated to backcountry management will also require some consideration of backcountry fisheries monitoring (which has occurred sparingly in recent years), in order to appropriately allocate this additional funding.

While monitoring programs will vary between regions and with different fisheries there is potential for all regions to make improvements to their monitoring programs by considering both their objectives and SOPs. Standardized monitoring has been the subject of discussion at a Fish and Game fisheries workshop in Hamilton August 2013 and at the national staff conference in June 2014. The recent Governors Forum also identified the development of monitoring SOPs as an opportunity to improve co-ordination of regional monitoring activities. However while there is general agreement on the need for SOPs to date there has been no allocation of resources or responsibilities towards initiating this work.

Whether the review and development of a monitoring program and SOPs is undertaken at regional or national level the process will consist of several phases:

- i. **Assessment of goals and objectives** – *identify the specific purpose of monitoring activities, what population status and trends are of interest, what are the key questions, what level of change requires detection*

- ii. **Program design & SOP development** – *identify monitoring ‘tools’ available to achieve the goal and objectives, SOP/monitoring research – what is available and what do we need to develop, collaboration and input from fisheries experts, data management review*
- iii. **Pre-implementation** – *operational, technical, resourcing issues addressed*
- iv. **Implementation & review** – *regular review and refinements to ensure ongoing evolution of the monitoring plan in incorporate new technology, changes in fisheries etc*

It has been proposed to engage an external agency to develop fisheries SOPs for Fish & Game. This would be a costly exercise but more importantly would likely be unsuccessful (i.e. not meeting Fish & Games needs, poor buy-in and uptake in regions) if clear goals and objectives are not first set. Therefore regardless of whether SOP development occurs internally or externally the first step will require fisheries staff to establish the aims of the monitoring program. These aims should reflect the differing priorities, fishery types and resourcing capabilities of each region. Contracting an external agency is one option for the subsequent development of SOPs but with several highly qualified fisheries specialists within Fish & Game it would be appropriate for Fish & Game staff to undertake the project and seek subsequent external peer review. Internal development of SOPs may also be more likely to result in a product which is applicable to all regions.

A key part of this process will be identifying what is currently available and where additional investment (staff time, equipment purchase etc) is required. For example several excellent SOP documents have already been developed by DOC and the American Fisheries Society, and may be relevant and adaptable for Fish & Game purposes. Likewise for data storage the NIWA Freshwater Fisheries Database has recently been updated and Fish & Game now have administrative access to upload our own data allowing for more timely publishing of records to the database than in the past. There are also opportunities to utilize new technology such the electronic data capture tool from Waikato Regional Council designed for efficient data entry in the field with a touch screen ‘toughbook’.

Development of a monitoring plan should consider any current Sports Fish and Game Bird Management Plan objectives and policies and should be reflected in successive Annual Plans.

### ***Recommendations***

- Seek national commitment to the development of a fisheries monitoring plans and SOPs
- Seek national funding to provide for staff time and meetings for specialized fisheries staff to develop a monitoring plan and SOPs for fisheries monitoring, and external peer review
- Include a dedicated project in the 2015/16 work plan for a review and development of a monitoring plan for Otago fisheries and to collaborate with Fish and Game staff nationally. The project to include funding for external peer review if national funding does not eventuate

**Helen Keeling**  
**Fish & Game Officer**

**COUNCIL REPORT  
FEBRUARY 2015**

*Donald Stuart's Creek Values Assessment*



*Figure 1: Donald Stuart's Creek above the Loop Road Bridge (looking upstream)*

***Background***

Donald Stuart's Creek (Figure 1) near Cambrians in Central Otago is a tributary of Dunstan Creek, which supports a small stream trout fishery with back country characteristics, and Dunstan Creek itself is a tributary of the Manuherikia River. Both Donald Stuart's Creek and Dunstan Creek provide spawning and rearing areas for the Manuherikia River trout fishery.

To better understand fisheries values of Donald Stuart's Creek a site visit was made on 18 November 2014. A 60 m section of river upstream from the Loop Road Bridge was 'spot-fished' in a single pass without stop nets using a Smith-Root backpack electrofisher (Figure 2).



*Figure 2: Electrofishing in progress (looking downstream) in Donald Stuart's Creek, above the Loop Road Bridge*



Previous assessments of the stream (as reported on the NIWA NZ Freshwater Fisheries Database) have been conducted by DoC. Sites in the upper reaches were sampled in 1996 and brown trout abundance was reported to be occasional or rare, and multiple age classes were present (sizes ranging from 20-200 mm). One site above the Loop Road Bridge was fished in 2001 and found brown trout ranging in size from 84-227 mm, however no assessment of abundance was reported.

**Results** (Figures 3 and 4)

- Five juvenile brown trout were captured (33-205 mm) indicating multiple age classes (0+, 1+ and 2+). Three brown trout were sighted but not captured (estimated 120 mm / age 1+).
- Seven rainbow trout were sampled (111-163 mm / age 1+) and an additional two rainbow trout of similar size were sighted only.
- Two upland bullies were sampled (85 and 65 mm).



*Figure 3: A sample of brown and rainbow trout of multiple year classes (age 0+, 1+ and 2+) and an upland bully, collected from Donald Stuart's Creek above the Loop Road Bridge.*



*Figure 4: Upland bully collected from Donald Stuart's Creek above the Loop Road Bridge*

High abundance of aquatic invertebrates was observed and mayflies appeared to be the dominant taxa. The stream had good habitat values for juvenile trout including cobbles, woody debris, some bank vegetation (including some overhanging bank vegetation) and undercut banks.

### ***Conclusion***

Trout are common in lower reaches of Donald Stuart's Creek and the stream appears to provide significant juvenile rearing habitat for brown and rainbow trout.

The identification of rainbow trout rearing habitat is particularly important as there are relatively few records for this species in the Manuherikia catchment.

**H Keeling**  
**Fish & Game Officer**  
**February 2015**

**COUNCIL REPORT  
FEBRUARY 2015**

**FINAL GAME REGULATIONS 2015**

Provisional approval for the 2015 game season regulations was agreed to at the 2014 October Council meeting. This was in order to meet ministerial and game regulation printing deadlines which occur before the February 2015 Council meeting.

Trend count and game harvest surveys have been completed and results are comparable to records from recent years. Therefore there are no changes for 2015 other than the standard adjustments to dates and the removal of one upland game property at Wedderburn (Craigneuk). John and Judy Duncan have decided to close their operation.

**Otago Game Regulations for 2015**

The following outlines the final game season regulation recommendations for the 2015 season. In order to meet printing deadlines these have already been forwarded to the New Zealand Council for ministerial approval.

OTAGO FISH AND GAME REGION<sup>1</sup>

1.0 Game That May be Hunted or Killed—Duration of 2015/2016 Season

Species	Season Duration (dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit	Hunting Area
Grey/mallard duck and any hybrid of those species	2 May to 26 Jul 2015	25	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	2 May to 26 Jul 2015	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	2 May to 30 Aug 2015	12	All areas
	5 March 2016	5	All areas junior hunting day (refer to clause 5.4 for this Region)
Pukeko	Closed season	0	All areas
Black swan	Closed season	0	Area A
	2 May to 30 Aug 2015	5	Area B
California quail	30 May to 30 Aug 2015	10	All areas
Pheasant	30 May to 30 Aug 2015	5	All areas excluding upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 7 for this Region
	2 May to 30 Aug 2015	No limit	Upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 7 for this Region

Red-legged partridge	2 May to 30 Aug 2015	No limit	Upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 7 for this Region
Chukar	30 May to 30 Aug 2015	2	All areas

## 2.0 Definition of Areas

- (1) Area A: The Clutha River catchment upstream from the Clyde Dam.
- (2) Area B: The Clutha River catchment downstream from the Clyde Dam; the Taieri River catchment and all the coastal catchments between Shag Point and The Brothers Point on the east coast of the South Island.

## 3.0 Shooting Hours

Area A: 7.00am to 6.45pm

Area B: 7.00am to 6.30pm

## 4.0 Decoy Limit

No limit.

## 5.0 Special Conditions

- (1) No person shall use or cause to be used on any water within the region for the hunting or killing of game, any fixed stand, pontoon, hide, loo or maimai, except within a distance of 10 metres from the water margin in non-tidal waters, or from the low water mark in tidal waters, or from the outside edge of the raupo growth where raupo abounds, without the prior consent of the Otago Fish and Game Council.
- (2) No person may leave on the hunting ground the bodies or parts of bodies of Black swan or other game shot in the Otago Fish and Game region.
- (3) Shooting from a boat is prohibited on the Clutha River from 2 to 10 May 2015 (refer to First Schedule clause 7).
- (4) The summer paradise duck season is open on 5 March 2016 for junior licence holders only, and is restricted to locations 200 metres or more from open water.

## 6.0 Refuges and Closed Game Areas

The following wetland refuges and closed game areas are closed to hunting:

### Refuges

- |                      | Location                     |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| (1) Lake Hayes       | Queenstown/Arrowtown highway |
| (2) Hawksbury Lagoon | Waikouaiti – East Otago      |
| (3) Finegand         | Balclutha                    |

### Closed Game Areas

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| (4) Ashley Downs         | Near Clinton, South Otago                                      |
| (5) Tomahawk Lagoon      | Dunedin  |
| (6) Kawarau River outlet | From Lake Wakatipu downstream to the Shotover River confluence |

7.0 Upland Game Properties with Special Conditions

(2) Rough Ridge: The total area of Rough Ridge Farm with special conditions is described as Rough Ridge and defined as approximately 900 hectares of Rough Ridge Farm near Oturehua that includes Section 24 Block XV1 and Section 2 Block XV11 Blackstone Survey District, Section 3 Block V1 Poolburn Survey District, and Section 42 PT and Section 10 Block XV1 Blackstone Survey District. The boundaries are marked with signposts reading “Rough Ridge Game Preserve”. The property “Rough Ridge” is owned by Fraser and Murray McKnight.

**Recommendation**

That Council ratify these regulations

**Morgan Trotter**  
Fish & Game Officer  
28/02/15

8.5 **Confidential - Habitat Enhancement Application - M Trotter**

Confidential

8.6 **Confidential - Upper Fraser Hydro Electric Proposal Updated - P Wilson**

Confidential

8.7 **Confidential – Lower Clutha Report – N Watson**

This will be circulated separately.

8.8 **Aerial Trend Counts - M Trotter**

**COUNCIL REPORT  
FEBRUARY 2015**

*Aerial Trend Counts*

**Summary**

Aerial trend counts of paradise duck, Canada goose and black swan are undertaken annually in the last week of January (when the birds are molting) throughout Otago. Observed paradise duck numbers were lower than last year's count, while Canada goose and black swan numbers were higher. Recent counts lie within the range of historic records.

**Methods**

Approximately 90 sites, including lakes, rivers, ponds and estuaries throughout the Otago are investigated and bird numbers counted. Flights are made in a fixed-wing light aircraft. Count sites are circled at low level and the numbers of each species (paradise shelduck, black swan and Canada geese) are estimated by Fish & Game staff. Photographs are also taken of the birds and these are counted at a later date to increase accuracy. Trend counts are not designed to be a census of populations but to reflect population changes by regularly monitoring major molting sites.

**Results**

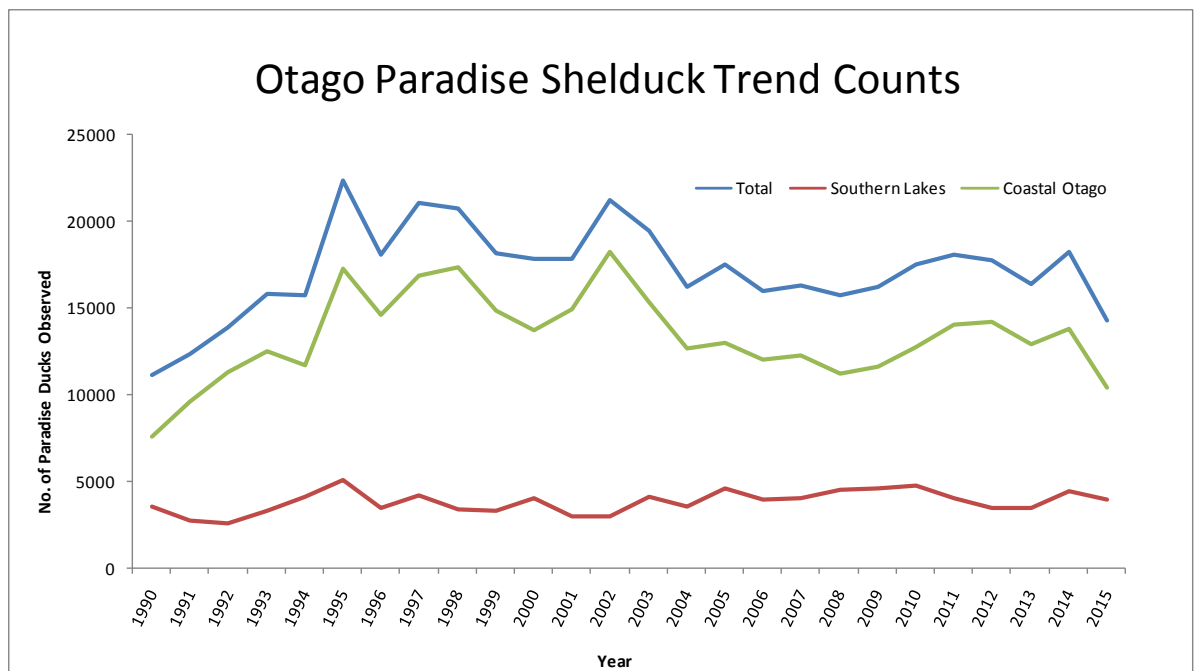


Figure 1: January aerial trend counts of paradise shelduck in the Otago Region, 1990 - 2015

The total number of paradise ducks counted in 2015 was 14320. A decrease from recent years counts but similar to historic results from the mid 2000s. In addition to the regularly monitored trend count sites 365 paradise ducks were counted on Lake Dunstan and 342 on the Cromwell oxidation ponds.

*Table 1: Otago region paradise duck summer trend counts: raw data 2010-2015 ('nc' - not counted)*

SITE	YEAR					
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Kaikorai Estuary	755	437	264	283	552	424
Tomahawk Lagoon	1060	243	290	541	195	320
Hoopers Inlet	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc
Papanui Inlet	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc
Waikouaiti Estuary	0	0	0	0	9	0
Waikouaiti Sewage	820	629	855	745	1054	1000
Hawksbury Lagoon	0	0	21	0	32	nc
Macraes Flat Ponds	565	157	457	309	275	390
Two Johns Dam	0	20	625	24	81	51
Peat Bog	35	0	6	0	0	0
Billy's Flat	65	287	85	233	120	15
Stewarts Dam	51	0	0	22	0	0
Shinglea Road Dams	0	0	9	18	0	2
Hunterleigh East Dams	0	0	0	0	0	nc
Sutton Pond	0	0	0	0	0	nc
Middlemarch Sewage	nc	nc	nc	0	0	nc
Kidds Rd (Bruhnes)	6	0	166	120	551	1002
Salt Lake	nc	0	0	0	0	0
Andersons Pond	0		nc	0	nc	nc
Springfield Dams	0	0	nc	0	nc	nc
Rocklands Road Ponds	45	909	490	473	945	621
Dunstan Rd Rocklands	0	0	0	207	250	417
Loaganburn Dam	12	580	485	637	490	482
Styx Basin	70	685	870	100	200	220
Linburn Dissipation	182	0	0	0	0	nc
Linnburn Dam	11	219	0	21	73	316
Falconers Dam	0	10	0	141	0	705
Totara Creek Confluence	208	12	198	21	300	nc
Maniototo Taieri River	0	0	0	19	0	0
Duffys Lane	538	0	0	0	0	0
Pateoroa/Creamery Rd Pond	0	715	511	0	0	695
Mathias Dam	0	0	0	32	0	6
Taieri Lake	90	350	408	587	550	0
Rutherfords Dam	0	0	246	0	0	0
Ranfurly Sewage	11	nc	nc	0	30	0
Blakleys Dam	0	0	0	0	20	0
Smiths Dam Wedderburn	0	50	0	0	550	0
White Sow Rd Ponds	nc	0	121	82	80	58

Gillespies Ida Ponds	45	455	264	700	223	358
McSkimmings Dam	24	30	82	0	0	0
Falls Dam	186	40	342	345	650	412
Pennyweight Ponds	69	130	191	0	75	70
Poplar Pump Ponds	nc	384	376	836	411	275
Merton Hill	223	595	459	0	311	325
McBreens, Patersons	1003	2305	1575	2000	2000	1500
Speargrass Dam	182	310	62	261	309	345
Upper Manorburn Dam	513	856	182	0	285	0
Poolburn Dam	9	0	31	0	0	0
Lake Onslow	487	847	900	1570	10	0
Raes Pond Teviot	779	10	19	20	nc	0
Chitocks Moa Flat	0	250	85	181	336	398
Toropuke Kelso	0	0	0	0	88	nc
Upper Waiwera Pond	nc	25	10	0	184	72
Mathersons Dam Waipahi	261	210	373	85	31	338
Dunvagan Dam Waipahi	216	80	196	251	150	423
Upper Owaka	nc	0	0	0	0	nc
Catlins Lake	605	755	640	553	608	665
Puerua Estuary	0	0	0	0	0	0
Old River Channel	12	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Tuakitoto	682	520	755	1883	1464	615
Lake Waihola	508	650	151	135	135	142
Sinclair Wetland	44	0	71	411	0	40
Lake Waipori	39	12	56	159	63	55
McLarens-Waipori	0	0	19	70	0	0
Ram Island-Waipori	0	60	0	165	375	nc
Mt Nicholas Lagoon	72	420	320	162	625	490
Von Lake	nc	nc	0	nc	nc	nc
Pondburn	nc	nc	nc	nc	0	nc
Lower Dart	nc	0	0	64	0	nc
Routeburn Station	nc	0	8	6	22	0
Lake Sylvan	39	180	6	70	nc	0
Upper Dart	0	nc	0	0	nc	nc
Diamond Lake	311	350	500	552	194	495
Reids Lake	0	190	15	4	25	11
Lower Rees	0	0	0	4	0	0
Glenorchy Lagoons	65	42	40	12	108	23
Lake Luna	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc
Moke Lake	60	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc
Lake Dispute	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc
Lake Johnson	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc
Hunter Road Pond	0	3	34	24	29	6
Mooneys Pond	74	40	136	nc	139	163
QT Sewage	356	523	280	482	569	377
Ham Hons Pond	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc
Dingle Lagoon	180	86	165	150	165	nc
Hunter Valley	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	165
Hunter Mouth	164	345	470	337	545	416
Makaroroa Mouth	755	585	455	32	265	305
Wilken Ponds	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc
Minaret Station	142	70	0	255	8	68



Matukituki Valley	188	22	93	19	73	275
Wanaka Oxidation Pd	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	filled in
Big Boggy Lagoon	518	502	380	270	285	580
Lovelocks pond Hawea flat	985	1024	565	1050	950	1350
<b>Total Region</b>	<b>14320</b>	<b>18209</b>	<b>16413</b>	<b>17733</b>	<b>18067</b>	<b>17481</b>
<b>Total East Coast</b>	3226	2031	1727	2509	2415	1981
<b>Total Strath Taieri</b>	767	1373	1838	1406	2222	2498
<b>Total Ida &amp; Manuherikia</b>	3520	5962	4483	5732	4274	3285
<b>Total West Otago</b>	0	250	85	181	424	398
<b>Total South Otago</b>	1776	1590	1974	2772	2437	2113
<b>Total Queenstown</b>	977	1748	1339	1380	1711	1565
<b>Total Upper Clutha</b>	2932	2634	2128	2113	2291	3159
<b>Total Maniototo</b>	1122	2621	2839	1640	2293	2482

### *Black Swan*

The total number of black swans counted in 2015 was 3179, it was 2284 in 2014.

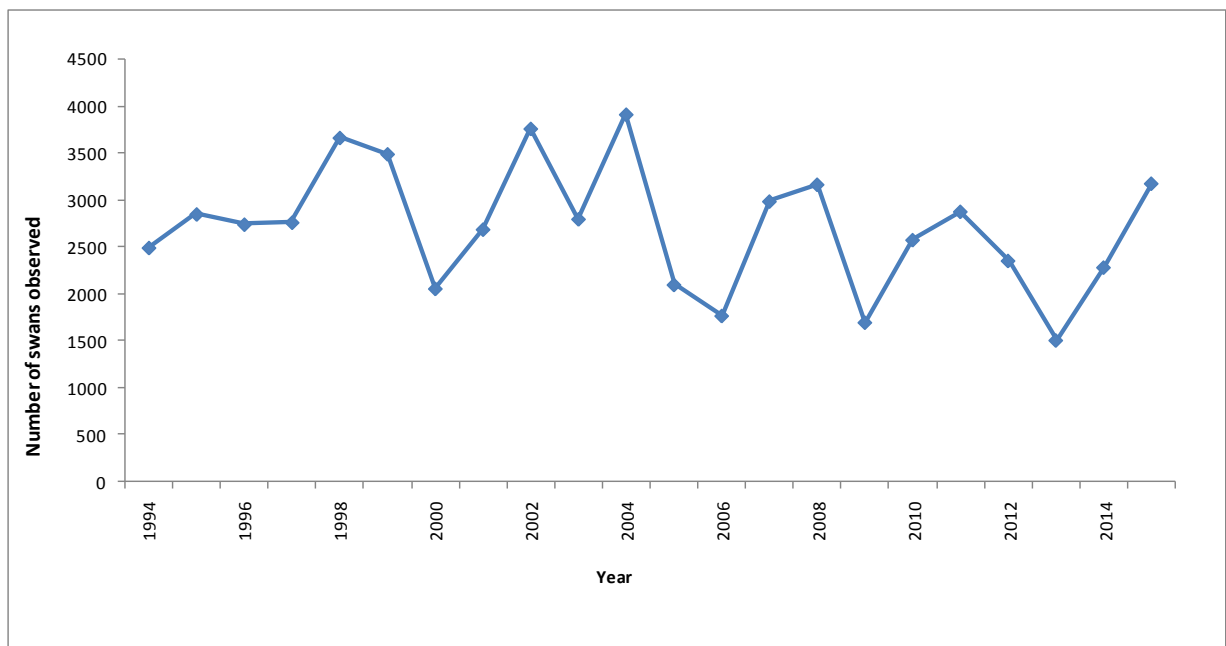


Figure 2: January aerial trend counts of black swans in the Otago region, 1994-2015

Table 2: Otago region black swan summer trend counts: raw data 2010-2015

	Area	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Kaikorai Estuary	EC	190	15	60	70	30	50
Tomahawk	EC	110	80				
Waikouaiti	EC	16	15				
Hawkesbury Lagoon	EC	0	60	98	40	50	50
Loganburn Dam	M	0	15	5	10	31	40
Styx Basin	M	45	110	290	355	130	200
Linnburn Dam	M	12	6	5	0	6	4
Falconers	M	0		0	0	0	0
Maniototo	M	0	6	0	6	60	50
Kidds Rd	M	0	2				
Mathias Dam	M	0		0	0	10	6
Taieri Lake	M	4		10	4	22	2
Rutherfords Dam	M	0		0	0	10	0
Falconers Dam	M	0	7				
Blakleys Dam	M	0		12	4	2	2
Lake Onslow	M	0	20	15	0	30	20
Falls Dam	I	0		15	5	10	5
Gillespes Ida	I	10		0	4	2	6
McBreens Pond	I	0		0	46	10	10
Upper Manorburn	I	0		0	15	20	4
Poolburn Dam	I	0		5	2	20	0
Mathersons Dam (Waipahi)	SO	0		10	4	2	0
Catlins Estuary	SO	110	120	11	111	20	4
Puerua Estuary	SO	150	0	15	49	10	2
Lower Clutha Mouth	SO	0		20	21	50	30
Clutha Ponding	SO	0		0	0	20	0
Lake Tuakitoto	SO	40	130	130	48	300	220
Old River Channel	SO	120	65				
Tokomairoro Estuary	SO	nc		nc	nc	nc	nc
Lake Waiholo	EC	1900	950	600	1200	1150	1150
Lake Waipori	EC	210	550	85	180	680	400
Sinclair Wetland	EC	0	9	5	111	12	30
Ram's Island Waipori	EC	100	22				
Makarora Mouth	UC	5	10	8	14	12	6
Big Boggy	UC	0		3	12	8	4
Paddock Bay	UC	0		nc	nc	nc	0
West Wanaka Lagoons	UC	0		5	nc	27	8
Dingle Lagoon	UC	2		4	4	4	0
Hunter Mouth	UC	8	33	12	16	18	52
Lake Dunstan	UC	64		nc	nc	32	65
Mt Nicholas	Q	11	6	2	8	4	7
Diamond Lake	Q	0		4	nc	17	8
Reid Lake	Q	42		60	4	47	83
Glenorchy Lagoon	Q	30	53	18	12	23	59
Lake Johnson	Q	nc		nc	nc	nc	nc
<b>Total Region</b>		<b>3179</b>	<b>2284</b>	<b>1507</b>	<b>2355</b>	<b>2879</b>	<b>2577</b>
East Coast		2526	1701	848	1601	1922	1680
Maniototo		61	166	322	379	301	324
Ida Valley & Manuherikia		10	0	35	72	62	25

South Otago		420	315	186	233	402	256
Upper Clutha		79	43	32	46	101	135
Queenstown/ Glenorchy		83	59	84	24	91	157

### Canada Geese

The 2015 summer Canada goose count was 3242 and in 2014 it was 2604. Five Cape Barren Geese were observed on a pond at Moonies Road, Queenstown.

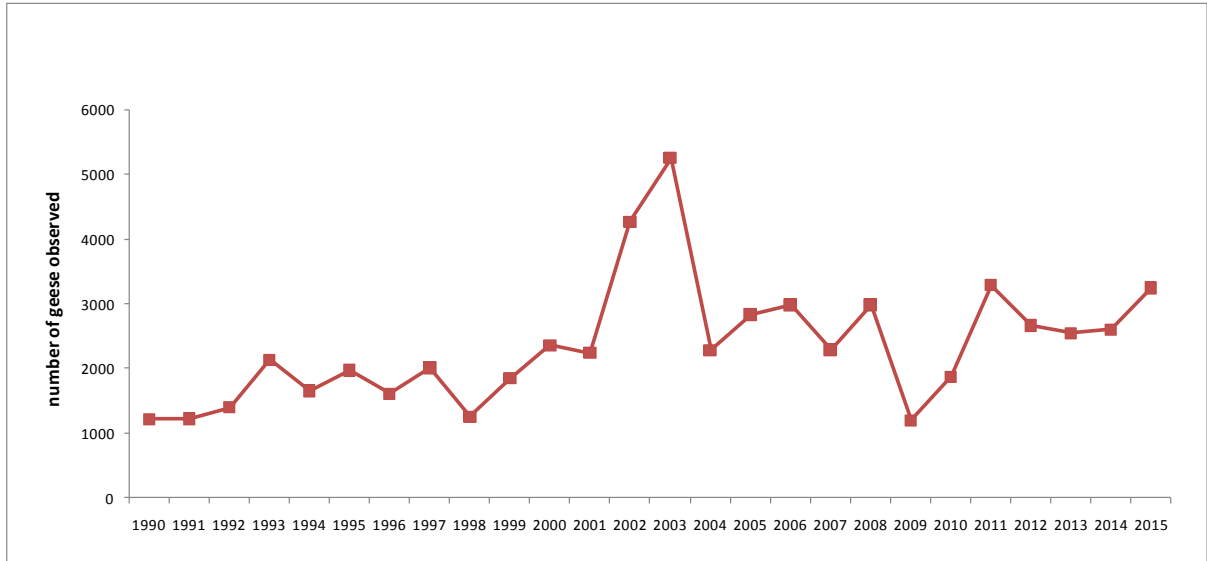


Figure 3: January aerial trend counts of Canada geese in the Otago Region, 1990-2015

Table 3: Otago region Canada geese summer trend counts: raw data 2010-2015

	Area	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Shag Estuary	EC	nc		nc	nc	nc	nc
Two Johns Dam	M	0		0		0	0
Loganburn Dam	M	250	500	670	500	1063	530
Styx Basin	M	190	460	120	290	0	0
Linnburn Dam	M	0		0	0	0	0
Maniototo Basin/Taieri Lake	M	0	10	0	209	10	0
Rutherfords Dam	M	0		0	0	0	0
Blaiklies Dam	M	0		0	0	0	0
Lake Onslow	I	570	380	635	590	272	150
Gillespies Ida Ponds/Patersons	I	20	50	0		0	0
McSkimmings Dam	I			0		0	0
Falls Dam	I	95	350	275	120	296	150
Speargrass Dam	I	250	20	45	30	0	50
Upper Manorburn Dam	I	800	275	36	110	63	35
Poolburn Dam	I	260	150	210	80	356	175

Lake Waihola	EC	0		45	150	0	0
Hawkesbury Lagoon	EC	0	12	35	10	20	20
Dunvagan Dam	SO	0		0	20	10	35
Lower Clutha	SO	0	48	0	0	20	0
Lake Tuakitoto	SO	0	20	68	50	0	0
Dingle Lagoon	UC	26	50	80	30	52	15
Dingle Mouth	UC	58		52		78	0
Hunter Mouth	UC	400	62	74		538	130
Hunter Valley	UC	nc		nc	64	nc	0
Hawea Neck	UC	nc		0		nc	0
Makarora Mouth	UC	150	110	60	33	16	0
Wilken	UC	nc		nc		nc	nc
Paddock Bay Wanaka	UC	0			155	0	0
Matukituki Valley	UC	10		6	12	165	95
Big Boogey	UC	24		0	80	45	210
Mt Nicholas Lagoon	Q	74	78	80	130	140	200
Von Lake	Q	nc		nc		nc	nc
Pondburn	Q	nc		nc		0	3
Lower Dart	Q	nc		0		0	20
Route Burn Station	Q	nc		0		0	35
Lake Sylvan	Q	0	5	0		nc	0
Rockburn	Q	0		nc		nc	0
Upper Dart	Q	15		nc		nc	nc
Diamond Lake	Q	0		54		87	7
Reid Lake	Q	25		0		48	0
Lower Rees	Q	0		0		0	0
Glenorchy Swamp	Q	25		0		11	6
Lake Wakatipu (general)	Q	0	24	0		0	0
Wyuna Pond	Q	0		nc		nc	0
Caples	Q	nc		nc		nc	nc
<b>Total Region</b>		<b>3242</b>	<b>2604</b>	<b>2545</b>	<b>2663</b>	<b>3290</b>	<b>1866</b>
Total Queenstown Area	Q	139	107	134	130	286	271
Total Upper Clutha	UC	668	222	272	374	894	450
Total Maniototo	M	440	970	790	1589	1073	680
Total Ida & Manuherikia	I	1995	1225	1201	340	987	410
Total South & East Coast	C	0	80	148	230	50	55

## *Discussion & Conclusions*

### *Paradise duck*

The 2015 count was less than recent years but lies in the range of historic results. Staff encountered several days of difficult flying conditions (fog and wind) during the trend count week. Some sites that are normally counted from the air had to be counted from

the ground, and some difficult to access sites had to be omitted all together. The reduced count for 2015 maybe related to poor flying and counting conditions.

Staff plan to ensure improved coverage of moult sites next year, and this may involve a trial using a helicopter (as opposed to a light plane).

No adjustment for bag limits is recommended at this stage, however a bag limit reduction maybe be recommended next season if a downward trend develops.

The estimated total number of paradise ducks harvested in Otago remains fairly stable (refer to appendix).

#### *Canada Geese*

Geese numbers are recorded in order to maintain our database. Total numbers were higher than last year with the biggest concentration noted on the Upper Manorburn Dam.

#### *Cape Barren Geese*

These are not listed as a gamebird species and their observation has been noted for interest. Six of these birds were originally released at Hawea in 1914. A small population persisted until 1946. They have not been documented in the Southern Lakes in recent decades. It is not known if the birds observed recently are from Australia or released captive birds.

#### *Black swan*

The 2015 total was higher than recorded in the last two years but similar to historic trends.

#### ***Recommendation***

**That this report is received.**

Morgan Trotter  
Fish and Game Officer  
7/02/15

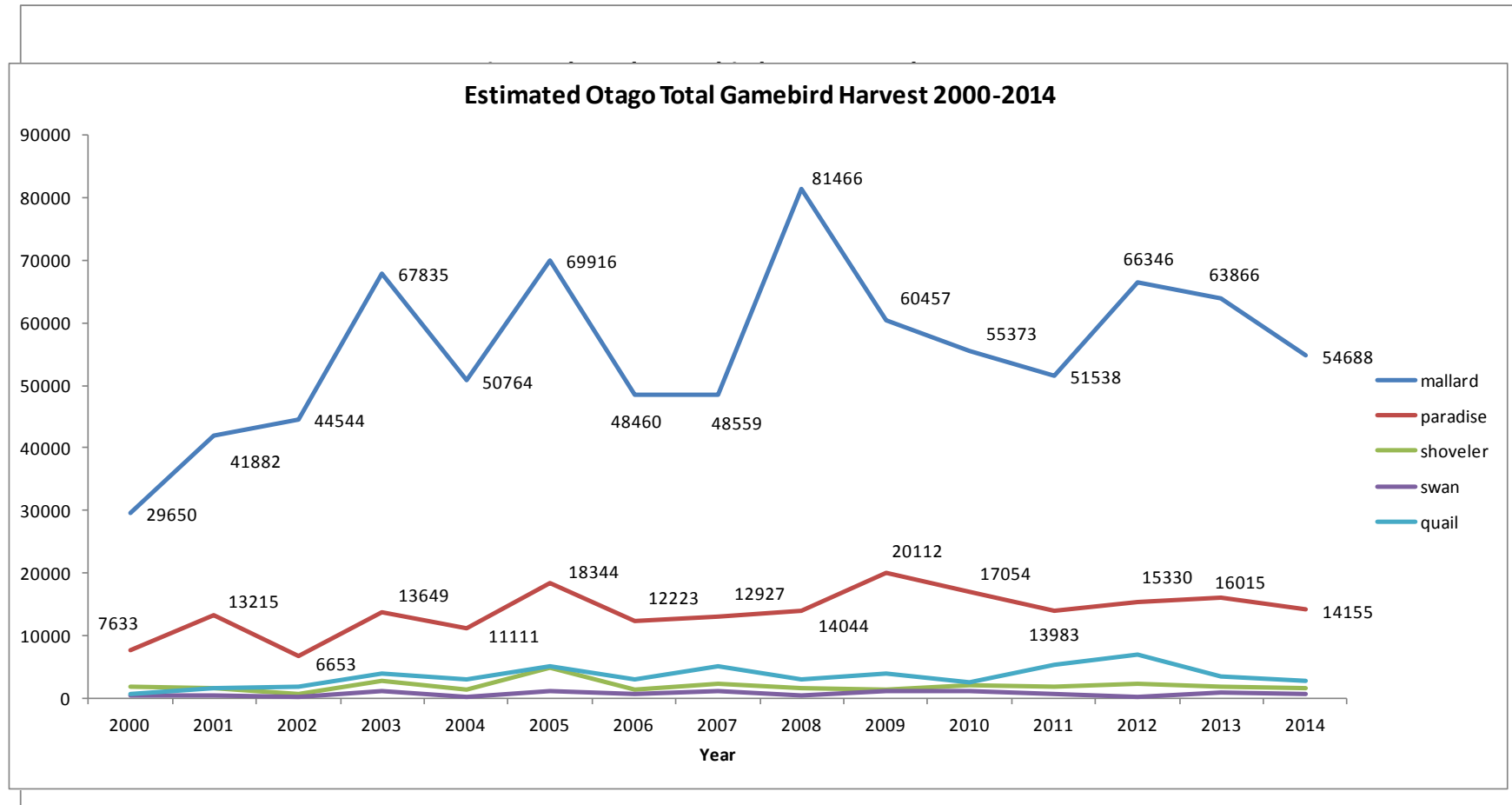
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*Appendix*



## 8.9 Manorburn Opening Day Angler Survey - C Halford

### COUNCIL REPORT FEBRUARY 2015

#### Project 1122 MANORBURN OPENING DAY ANGLER SURVEY

##### Introduction

This report summarises the results of the 2014 Manorburn Reservoir opening day and provides comparisons with previous opening day surveys undertaken since 2010.

##### Method

The lake creel survey methodology was used to interview all anglers by boat and from the shore and the standard reporting sheet was used to document angler and catch information with fish inspected weighed and measured. All survey information has been recorded on a data base.

##### Results

In 2014 59 anglers caught 63 fish for 223.5 hours angling, providing a catch rate of (0.28) which is less than previous seasons and the likely result of the windy cool conditions experienced on the day. On opening day 2014 we recorded the second highest interviews and angling hours for the least number of fish caught over the five year monitoring period.

Even though boating conditions were testing most anglers chose to fish the Upper Greenland Reservoir where the majority of angling has been undertaken since surveys began in 2010. Maneuvering alongside other vessels to interview anglers was challenging on occasions and it was appreciated that boat anglers moved to sheltered shoreline areas on our arrival allowing us to collect information in calmer conditions. It was estimated that approximately 70% of anglers were interviewed.

##### Catch Rate (fish per hour)

Season	Total Interviews	Total Angling Hours	Total Fish Caught	Released	Catch Rate
2014	59	223.5	63	23	0.28
2013	51	180.75	160	84	0.88
2012	40	157.75	172	109	1.09
2011	51	208.5	168	81	0.80
2010	70	284	109	33	0.38

### Harvest Rate (fish per hour)

Season	Total angling Hours	Total Fish Caught	Total fish Kept	Harvest Rate
2014	223.5	63	40	0.18
2013	180.75	160	76	0.42
2012	157.75	172	63	0.40
2011	208.5	168	87	0.41
2010	284	109	76	0.27

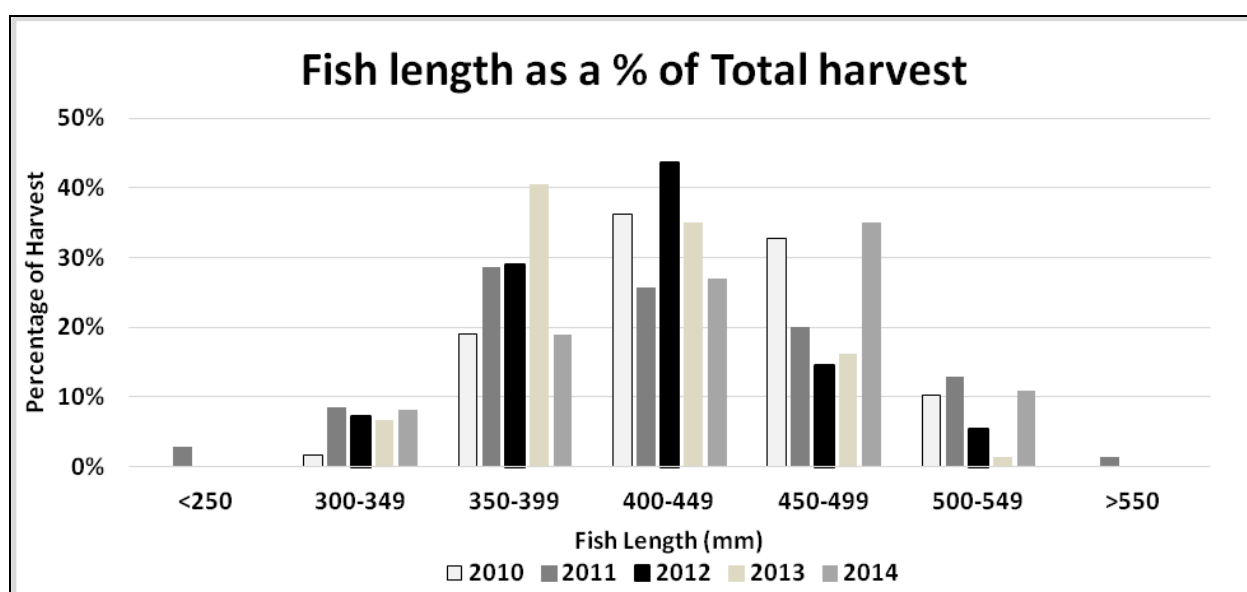


Figure 1. Size distribution of fish as a percentage of total harvest

### Average Lengths and Weights

Season	Total Fish Kept	Average Length mm	Average Weight kg
2014	40	419	0.858
2013	76	404	0.806
2012	63	403	0.945
2011	87	422	0.923
2010	76	436	0.960



In 2014 average lengths and weights were comparable with previous seasons and slightly better than 2013. As shown in *Figure 1*, 35% of the harvest in 2014 was adult fish in the 450-499 mm range.

### Angling Effort by Method

Season	Bait	Fly	Spin	Troll
2014	61%	0	0	39%
2013	48%	1%	10%	41%
2012	36%	5%	22%	37%
2011	16%	4%	0	80%
2010	37%	9%	3%	51%

In 2014 bait was the most utilised method then trolling but trolling had a better catch rate at 0.37 by comparison with bait at 0.22 as the table below shows. Windy conditions restricted trolling to calmer areas then boat anglers opted to bait fish during their lunch break and on return to huts. No fly or spin anglers were interviewed on the day.

### Catch Rate by Method (fish per hour)

Season	Bait	Fly	Spin	Troll
2014	0.22	0	0	0.37
2013	0.45	0.50	0.38	1.52
2012	0.87	1.05	0.85	1.42
2011	0.72	1.42	0	0.80
2010	0.32	0.24	0.94	0.43

Over the past 5 years trolling and bait have been the most popular methods but weather plays a key role influencing method use. With the series of huts scattered around the shoreline bait fishing is regularly undertaken for prolonged periods.

### Angler Origin and Licence Categories

In 2014, 59 anglers were interviewed with 58 licences purchased within Otago or online. The remaining licence was an adult 24 hour from Southland.

Of the Otago licence categories n=32 (55%) were **Family** which included a single junior angler, n=20 (35%) were **Adult Season** and n=6 (10%) were **Adult Day**.

### Conclusions

In 2014 the lower catch rate was probably due to weather conditions on the day and not harvest related. Juvenile fish have been abundant, and regularly caught and released by anglers in previous seasons which indicates the fishery is in good health.

The Manorburn Reservoir opening day continues to be popular with regional anglers and provides a very good opportunity to monitor the fishery. Opening weekend surveys will be continued as part of our lake fishery monitoring programme

**Recommendation**

That this report be received

Cliff Halford  
Fish and Game Officer  
February 2015

## 9 Correspondence

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### 9.1 Minister Of Conservation- Letter Acknowledging receipt of Otago Fish & Game annual report.



#### Office of Honourable Maggie Barry ONZM

MP for North Shore  
Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage  
Minister of Conservation  
Minister for Senior Citizens

15 December 2014

Monty Wright  
Chairman  
Otago Fish and Game Council  
PO Box 76  
Dunedin 9054

Dear Mr Wright

On behalf of Hon Maggie Barry ONZM, Minister for Conservation, I acknowledge and thank you for supplying copies of the Otago Fish and Game Council annual report for the year ended 31 August 2014.

I will place the report before the Minister for her information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tania Wrightson'.

Tania Wrightson  
**Private Secretary – Conservation**

## 9.2 Upper Clutha Angling Club – Letter of thanks for support for their Take A Kid Fishing event.

**Niall Watson**

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**From:** Rick Boyd [rboyd@ihug.co.nz]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 26 November 2014 7:47 p.m.  
**To:** Steve Dixon  
**Cc:** Niall Watson  
**Subject:** Thank you from the Upper Clutha Angling Club

Steve,

On behalf of the Upper Clutha Angling Club I would like to thank you for attending the Upper Clutha Angling Club's Take a Kid Fishing Day at The Neck on Sunday last with the TAKF trailer. The fishing game and the prizes gave the day an additional dimension and helped make it a complete success. Well done to you and Fish and Game Otago.

Sincerely,

Rick Boyd  
President  
Upper Clutha Angling Club

**9.3 Wanaka Gun Club – Letter of thanks for grant towards junior shooter competition.**

WANAKA GUN CLUB

19/11/14

C/O 155 HALL ROAD, R D 2.

CROMWELL, 9384.

21 NOV 2014

TO THE MANAGER AND COUNCILORS

FISH AND GAME OTAGO

P O BOX 76,

DUNDIN.

Dear Sirs

On behalf of all the members of the Wanaka Gun Club Inc, I would like to express our thanks for your sponsorship of \$390.00 for our secondary school pupils intercollegiate competition which is held in August each year. We give out medals to the place getters in each event, boys and girls, and next year the medals will be suitably engraved acknowledging your Fish and Game Otago sponsorship. We will contact field officer Cliff Halford to do the presentations if he is available and it would be great if he could run a Fish and Game promotion on the day.

This event is becoming more popular each year at Wanaka with a record attendance of 75 shooters from schools as far north as Timaru, to Invercargill attending our last shoot.

Personally as an Otago Game licence holder myself, I think it is great that you have seen fit to sponsor this event, as these young people are the game bird hunters of tomorrow and this is an excellent way to jointly encourage firearm safety and promote hunting together for the future, as Fish and Game rely on income from Game Bird licensing, and Gun Clubs rely on shooters wishing to improve their skills and being competitive.

**Thankyou, Your sponsorship is appreciated.**

Yours faithfully,

Aaron Radford.



Club Secretary.

## 9.4 ORC – Updated timetable for Lindis minimum flow.

Our ref.: A689473

3 - NOV 2014



30 October 2014

### Update to the Lindis Community – Lindis River Minimum Flow Setting

Over the past decade Otago Regional Council (ORC) has been in discussion with the Lindis community regarding the minimum flow for the Lindis River.

As a result of community discussion a series of values have been identified that include:

Value	Main outcomes
Natural character	Flow continuity at all times Increased flow in mid and lower reaches
Recreational	Better recreational opportunities in mid and lower reaches Good angling upstream from Ardgour Road monitoring site
Cultural	Mountains to sea; mahika kai and mauri improved
Ecosystems	Fish passage along entire river Protects trout spawning, rearing and juvenile recruitment Improved in-stream habitat in mid and lower reaches
Economic	Viable local economy

Based on these values and under the requirement of the Resource Management Act (RMA), ORC has assessed various options for the minimum flow which will satisfy the community values.

Additionally, Plan Change 1C requires ORC to consider the use of alternative sources of water. In recent years many property owners have taken advantage of new technologies and have sourced water either directly or via aquifers linked to the Clutha River/Mata-Au. As part of this consultation, ORC will indicate the proposed area where Lindis River water can be used.

ORC is also commissioning an economic consultancy company to undertake an economic analysis considering the effect of the minimum flow. The economic analysis will be undertaken for those properties in the proposed new Lindis allocation catchment.

Once this work has been undertaken, ORC will release another consultation draft of the proposed minimum flow and allocation regime for the Lindis, and seek community feedback prior to formally notifying the proposed plan change.

The indicative timetable for this work is as follows:

Consultation Draft released	21 January 2015
Public meeting	17 February 2015
Feedback closes	27 February 2015
ORC Council meeting to consider notification	25 March 2015
Public notification	28 March 2015

Mission Statement: "To promote the sustainable development and enhancement of Otago's resources"  
70 Stafford Street, Private Bag 1954, Dunedin 9054. Telephone (03) 474-0827. Facsimile (03) 479-0015



Closing date for submissions	1 May 2015
Public notice of decisions requested	16 May 2015
Closing date for further submissions	29 May 2015
Hearings	20-24 July 2015
Notification of decision	end of September 2015
Time for Appeal to Environment Court	mid November 2015

ORC believes it is time the community had certainty on this matter and that further scientific investigation would only add a limited amount to our and the community's understanding of the minimum flow options. We wish to ensure the greatest possible lead time for all affected landowners to prepare their resource consent applications before 2021, and have decided on the above course of action.

Yours faithfully



Stephen Woodhead  
Chairperson



Peter Bodeker  
Chief Executive

## **10 General Business**

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