

**Agenda For The Meeting of Otago Fish & Game Council
On Thursday 28th November 2019
At Cromwell Presbyterian Church
10 Elspeth Street, CROMWELL**

Starting 11.45am with a light lunch

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1.0 2019 AGM Agenda

Otago Fish & Game Council Annual General Meeting

Thursday 29th November 2018, 3pm

**To be held at Cromwell Presbyterian Church
10 Elspeth Street,
CROMWELL**

Agenda

- 1. Present**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Presentation of Annual Report**
- 4. Questions from the floor**

2.0 Present, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

3.0 Matters to be raised not on the agenda

4.0 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

**Minutes of the Otago Fish and Game Council Meeting,
Otago F&G, Dunedin Office, Cnr Hanover & Harrow Streets,
Thursday 26 September 2019, commencing at 12.00 pm.**

1.0 Present:

Monty Wright (Chair), John Barlow, Rick Boyd, Vicki Whyte, Colin Weatherall, Murray Neilson, Mike Barker, Dan Rae, Ray Grubb, John Highton, Ian Cole

In attendance: Ian Hadland (CE), Richard Twining (Ngai Tahu), Nigel Pacey (OF&GC and minute secretary), Bruce Jefferies (Conservation Board)

Apologies were received from Adrian McIntyre
Resolved (Cole/Boyd)

2.0 Matters to be raised not on the Agenda.

Chairperson Wright suggested it would be great if a visit to the Oceana Gold Macraes Hatchery for councilors was organized. Proposed dates will be circulated for feedback.

CE tabled late correspondence from NZC regarding the selection of a licence provider – was agreed to move to public excluded session.

3.0 Declarations of Interest

Cr Neilson has applied for resource consent to replace his septic tank.

4.0 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Moved (Whyte/Rae)

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18 July 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record without any amendments.

Carried – Unanimously

5.0 Matters arising from Minutes

Nil

6.0 Health and Safety Report

CE introduced H&S policy and briefly outlined main points.

Cr Highton asked about the use of projectile proof vests for ranger protection against accidental discharges – CE responded that level of risk is low and not seen as necessary at this point.

Cr Grubb asked if the policy could be amended to include a report, as is currently done, from the CE to the council at every meeting. CE agreed to add this.

7.0 Items Requiring Decisions

7.1 Special Permit Request – Tenkara Fishing

Discussion by council regarding merits and possible drawbacks. A condition to be added that no commercialisation of the trial is allowed.

Was agreed to provide the applicant with a one season permit to trial “Tenkara Fishing” in the Otago Region only and provide a report back to the Council after the trial has concluded.

Moved (Rae/Cole)

That a special Licence issued under Section 4a of the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations be issued to Haward Halliday for a Tenkara fishing trial for the 2019/20 fishing season.

Carried

7.2 Friends of Bullock Creek – 12-month workplan at Hatchery Springs site

FOBC 12 month work plan was presented to council. CE spoke to plan and gave councillors a quick overview.

Cr Boyd expressed concern that the education platform doesn't have a handrail. Also the need for a pathway (boardwalk) that extended the path from the education platform forming a loop. General agreement with the pathway from councillors.

Cr Highton suggested planting could be improved to help the spawning of native and sports fish in Bullock Creek.

Cr Cole suggested that along with the approval letter that Roger Gardiner be especially thanked for his hard work and enthusiasm for the Bullock Creek site.

Moved (Boyd/Highton)

That the Bullock Creek 12 month workplan be accepted.

Carried – Unanimously

7.3 Back Country Fisheries Work Schedule and Funding

CE spoke to proposed Back Country Work Schedule and Funding.

The discussion centred around how a beat/booking system might work in the Nevis. The work programme highlights the need for further research and information gathering before any decisions are made about further controls.

CE reminded councillors of the established work plan and any addition to this work plan does put extra pressure on staff.

The budget of \$30 000 was agreed and the NZC is to be notified of the spend from the Non Resident Licence reserve held by the Council.

Moved (Grubb/Highton)

That the Back Country Fisheries Work Schedule be accepted with an amendment to the budget to \$30,000 which will be transferred from the Non Resident Licence Reserve to operating.

Carried – Unanimously

8.0 Public Excluded Items

Moved (Rae/Boyd) at 1:05 pm

That the meeting moves into the public excluded session.

Carried – Unanimously

8.1 Confirm previous public excluded minutes

Resolved (Whyte/Neilson)

That the public excluded minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18 July 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record without any amendments.

Carried – Unanimously

8.1.1 Matters Arising from public excluded minutes

Manuherekia Communications and Engagement Strategy has been amended and will be circulated to council members soon.

8.2 Otago Fish and Game Salary Bands

Report received

8.3 OF&GC Property update

8.3.1 Styx Wetland Purchase

8.3.2 Cromwell Office lease from CFT

8.3.3 Wanaka Hatchery Site

Reports received

Moved (Rae/Neilson) 1:50 pm

That the meeting moves out of the public excluded session.

Carried – Unanimously

A short break was held to welcome Contact Energy representatives Neil Gillispie and Mark Gillard.

Moved (Cole/Grubb) 2:00 pm

That the meeting returns to public excluded session.

Carried – Unanimously

8.4 Contact Energy Sports Fish Management Plan

Neil Gillespie and Mark Gillard addressed the meeting to provide an update of Contacts compliance with Consent conditions related to sportsfish mitigation.

Mr Gillespie and Mr Gillard left the meeting at 2:50

Discussion continued with 8.4 – Contact Energy Sports Fish Management Plan

Moved (Rae/Cole) 3:20 pm

That the meeting moves out of the public excluded session for a short break before ORC Chief Executive Sarah Gardiner arrives.

Carried – Unanimously.

ORC Chief Executive Sarah Gardiner made an address to the council to provide an update to the ORC's 4 priority areas.

- 1 Water: Regional Water Plan needs a full review including provisions related to water quality
Deemed Permits work will be challenging and they still awaiting Skelton report on capability to handle that workload.
Working through Central Govt new NPS-FM and NES
Assessing the economic impact of MfE proposals
- 2 Climate Change: Risk assessment and impact studies being carried out
- 3 Urban Development: New NES on high class soils
- 4 Biodiversity: pushing the ECO fund for applicants

Question and answer session followed where Mrs Gardiner provided additional information to Council.

The Chair wanted to record a note of thanks to Ms Gardner for her frank and open address and also congratulated her on being the first CEO of the ORC to attend one of the Councils meetings.

Moved (Barlow/Grubb) 4:40 pm

That the meeting moves back into public excluded session.

Carried – Unanimously

Discussion continued with 8.4 – Contact Energy Sports Fish Management Plan

8.3.4 Dunedin Office – Options outlined

8.5 F&G Council Guidance on Providing Written Approval for Surface Water Abstraction

The Council adopted the Guidance document as a draft subject to any additional comments from the ORC and agreed that the draft could be made public.

Moved (Rae/Cole) 5:10 pm

That the meeting moves out of the public excluded session

Carried – Unanimously.

9.0 Financial Report and Licence sales report

CE answered some questions regarding the report and noted a number of grants have been received recently.

\$14,057 Trust Power Energy for Angler access/boat ramp redevelopment at Mahinerangi

\$3 000 Otago Community trust for Take a kid fishing events

Moved (Grubb/Barlow)

That the Financial Report and Licence sales report be received

Carried – Unanimously

10.0 Chief Executives Report

CE spoke to the report contained in the agenda.

10.1 SPECIES: Cr Grubb asked about spawning survey results in the Manuherekia main stem. Suggested that the tributaries are more important for spawning. Minimum flows need to take into account keeping water in the tributaries throughout the year.

10.2 HABITAT:

Upcoming meeting with QLDC over Bullock Creek – request for attendance
 Question regarding drift diving on the Clutha. CE responded that water depth and the presence of Didymo made visibility difficult the results largely incomparable.

10.3 USER PARTICIPATION: No discussion**10.4 PUBLIC INTERFACE:**

Councillors expressed concern about NZC advocacy, particularly direct emails and media, and the negative impact to was having on the fish and game brand locally, especially with farmers.

Cr Grubb suggested the council engage a PR firm to positively promote Otago Fish and Game Council to the wider community. Discussion followed with a suggestion that feature articles or opinion pieces be placed in local newspapers. His motion to set aside funding for an agency failed for lack of a seconder.

10.5 COMPLIANCE:

The chair requested that staff circulate a current rangers list to all councillors and vice versa with all rangers getting a list of councillors.

10.6 LICENCING:

CE spoke to the late request from NZC regarding the selection of a licence system provider.

Broad discussion occurred regarding the different options.

Moved (Barlow/Neilson)

That Otago Fish & Game Council agrees that Eyede is the preferred software provider and that the business and support services component remain as part of the contract with Eyede.

Carried – Unanimously

10.7 COUNCIL: No discussion**10.8 PLANNING AND REPORTING:**

The CE reported that preparations are underway for the 2019/20 annual Report

Moved (Barlow/Neilson)

That the CE report be accepted

Carried – Unanimously

11.0 Committee & Delegate Reports

11.1 CFT:

Cr Cole presented his report.

- CFT Cromwell building lease already discussed.
- A framework for the upgrade of the CFT strategic plan was presented. Still a work in progress.
- A request for an access schedule to be completed. Aaron Horrell has been employed to complete this task.
- Report back from meeting with QLDC regarding access at Kane Road. An ongoing issue with alternatives to be presented soon.
- Next meeting 23rd October in Dunedin

11.2 NZC:

Cr Weatherall presented his report.

- Three subcommittees have been formed.
- Cr Grubb gave a short update from the National Strategic Finance subcommittee

11.3 National Sea Run Salmon Committee:

Cr Boyd presented his report.

- Work is going into the process of disposing excess salmon into rivers by commercial operators.
- The season bag limit is still a work in progress.
- Future directions of the committee were also discussed.

11.4 Ngai Tahu

Richard Twinning presented his report

- He mentioned the passing of Tahu Potoki. The Council expressed sympathy noting that it was huge loss for Ngai Tahu and that he was instrumental in progressing the MOU between Otago F&G and Aukaha.
- Mr Twinning expressed his thanks for the workshops that are held by F&G staff to educate councillors.
- Mr Twining also expressed Ngai Tahu's support for the rafting venture planned on the Maitai in certain sections

11.5 Conservation Board

Mr Roberts presented his report. He noted that a New chair of conservation board has been appointed. Sara Druce

12.0 Correspondence

Correspondence (circulated with agenda) was noted.

12.1 NZC to OF&GC

12.1.1 Nominations to NZC Sub-committees

12.1.2 Strategic Financial Review Committee NZC Progress

12.1.3 Consultation on 2020 NZC and Managers Meetings

12.2 OF&GC to NZC

Nil

12.3 General Correspondence In

12.3.1 Hon Eugenie Sage – licence fee setting

12.3.2 Hon David Parker – Costs of resource Management Processes

12.4 General Correspondence Out

12.4.1 Hon David Parker -Cost of Participation in Resource Management Processes

13.0 Items To Be Received Or Noted

13.1 1180 Management of Game Birds Causing Damage

13.2 1321 Hunter River Creel and Social Surveys 2016-2019

13.3 1112 Monitor Trout Spawning in the Cardrona River

13.4 1362 Summary of Fishing Competitions for the 2018/19 Season

13.5 1122 Monitor Roxburgh Dam Wall Salmon – Angler Effort and Catch

13.6 1113 The Upper Clutha River Fishery in 2019

13.7 1530 Compliance Summary Report

13.8 1221 Council Report on Consenting Workload

13.9 Repeat of 13.3

13.10 1122 Conduct Creel Surveys on Lake Wanaka

13.11 1112 Upper Clutha Catchment Land-Locked Salmon Spawning Surveys Interim Report

Moved (Rae/Wright)

That the items 13.1 – 13.11 be received/noted

Carried – Unanimously

14.0 General Business

Nil

The meeting was closed at 6 pm

5.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

6.0 Health and Safety Report

A review of the Staff Rules and Health and Safety Audit Schedule has begun. This will be discussed at the next staff meeting.

No incidents or accidents reported since the last Otago Fish & Game Council meeting.

7.0 Items Requiring Decisions

7.1 Reducing Licence Fee Increases

26th September 2019

To Regional Fish & Game Chairs.

Dear Monty

Reducing licence fee increases

At the Southland Council's last meeting we started the process of considering our region's Operational Work Plan for the 2020/2021 year. While this seems some way off, it gives our staff opportunity to develop project work that reflects our council's priorities.

During our discussion, the process of setting the licence fees came up and our council expressed concern that inevitably they are increased each year. This was clearly detailed in the NZ Council paper which showed the rate at which the increase in licence fees have out-stripped inflation.

As you may be aware, the Southland Council has generally opposed increases in the cost of both fish and game licenses. Our council is concerned that the level licence fees are now set at is certainly approaching, if not exceeding, something that represents reasonable value for an increasing proportion of our Southland licence-holders.

Our region has long held the view that opportunities for the development of additional alternate revenue should be explored and we are heartened to see the New Zealand Council finally addressing that. Hopefully, in combination with an increased focus on R3, the organisations' financial position will be improved in the future.

While it is not something our council discussed in detail, when you consider the relativity of budgets across the organisation, it is clear that there is increasing disparity between angler and hunter licence sales, the effort expended in different regions and regional budgets. For example, North Canterbury, Central South Island, Otago and Southland spend only half of the income they derive from licence sales. They are also four of the five regions that receive over 100,000 angler days, the other being Eastern. The rest have less than half of any of these regions, in terms of angler days.

Despite being arguably one of the more frugal regions, the Southland Council is proposing to reduce its budget by 1% for the 2020/2021 financial year. However, it was noted by council that if this ethos is not accepted by other regions, that rather than cause a reduction in the licence fee, we may simply make more money available in the contestable funding round. Therefore, I am writing to your region to strongly encourage you to consider finding a reduction of 1% in your next budget. If we do not collectively take this step and find these reductions ourselves, we leave ourselves open to having change forced upon us. I respectfully suggest you are better placed to determine how your budget can be reduced than any external party.

I look forward to receiving feedback following your next council meeting.

Yours sincerely



p.p. Graeme Watson

Chairman, Southland Fish & Game Council

Statutory managers of freshwater sports fish, game birds and their habitats

Southland Region

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7.2 Project 1171 - Preliminary 2020 Game Bird Season Regulations

Purpose

To recommend draft game gazette regulations to Council by November 2019.

1. 2019 Regulation Changes

For the 2019 hunting season dates were altered from the previous season to fall in line with the first Saturday in May opening and season closing dates. 2019 was the second year of the national four-year transition to phase out the use of lead shot in shotguns smaller than 12 gauges. A regulation change to the junior hunting day in March permitted an adult licence holder to hunt when accompanied by a junior licence holder.

Sub gauge shotgun nontoxic ammunition

In the 2020 season, a hunter hunting waterfowl (within 200m of open water) with anything other than a .410 on Department of Conservation or Fish & Game-controlled land must use non-toxic shot, nothing else.

From 2021, non-toxic shot will be required for waterfowl hunting over open water in all shotguns except the .410. This applies to all public (including DOC) and private lands.

An exemption will remain for the 410-gauge due to the unavailability of non-toxic shot for this firearm. The 410 gauge is frequently used by junior hunters and is often the introductory firearm for young hunters entering the sport.

2. Population Monitoring

Aerial counts of mallard/hybrids in the coastal and Lower Clutha areas have been undertaken since 2015. A staff summary report (Otago Region Mallard Monitoring Study 2019 - P van Klink) was presented in the May 2019 Council Agenda as item 13.2.

In this report P van Klink noted that the south Otago region was reasonably dry when the counts were completed and many of the ponds were dry or had very little water in them. However, the total count was about average over all years and up by 59% from 2018 which recorded a low count.

After five years of mallard monitoring there is quite a low variability in the mallard populations from year to year. The total numbers are surprisingly similar except for 2018.

MacKenzie (2018) states that it is difficult to determine how changes in number of mallards counted in each type of survey correspond to each other and has cautioned how they should be interpreted.

As previously reported, it may take several years of survey information to better understand population trends, distribution and environmental influences.

In the spring of 2019, some parts of the region especially the west experienced a dry September, but rain was more widespread through October which would have benefited broods. Central Otago ponds, dams and reservoirs remain high with good pasture growth. Coastal Otago remains lush and a good breeding season is anticipated. South Otago experienced very wet and cold conditions in October with very slow growth, but this has picked up in recent weeks.

Staff aren't recommending altering the mallard/hybrid daily bag limit from the 2019 season but would like this council to consider an alteration to the season length in line with Southland which is presented later in this report.

Last season's January aerial trend counts showed an increase in the Paradise shelduck population to 22786 from 19636 in 2018 and showing a gradual increase from 16997 in 2016 (Aerial Trend Counts 2019 – M Trotter, March 2019 Council Agenda Item 12.1).

In this report Trotter suggests that should the total count be above 22,000 in next January's count (2020) that an increase in the daily bag limit should be considered and/or the special junior paradise duck season which is currently limited to one day in March with a bag limit of five birds be extended to the first two weekends including weekdays in between.

Due to council's interest in fostering junior hunting, extending the junior hunting period in March is a positive step encouraging greater participation and assisting with the management of clustered bird numbers when they can become troublesome to farmers after the moult.

The aerial black swan count in January showed a decrease in approximately 1400 birds from 2018. Trotter noted that there was a significant decrease in the population on lake Waihola from 2800 the previous year to 760 in 2019.

Staff noted an algal bloom in the southern arm of Lake Waihola, and a lower number of swans than normal were seen in this area. Swans migrate along the east coast of the South Island in search of favourable feeding grounds and the bloom may have displaced birds.

Documented swan numbers vary seasonally and there is no early intention to consider bag limit adjustments for the 2020 season, subject to trend counts.

Pukeko and shoveler counts are undertaken annually to understand trends in the population and for setting game regulations.

(Otago Pukeko Monitoring Report 2019, Steve Dixon) identified there was no significant change overall on monitored sites therefore no change to the 2019 regulation of a "closed season" for Pukeko is required.

(Shoveler Trend Count Report 2019, Morgan Trotter) which is presented in this agenda.

Trotter summarises there is no apparent trend in the regional raw data over the last twenty years. Statistical analysis of nationwide results indicates the population is stable or possibly increasing slightly.

There is no recommendation for a regulation change from last season of 2 birds per day.

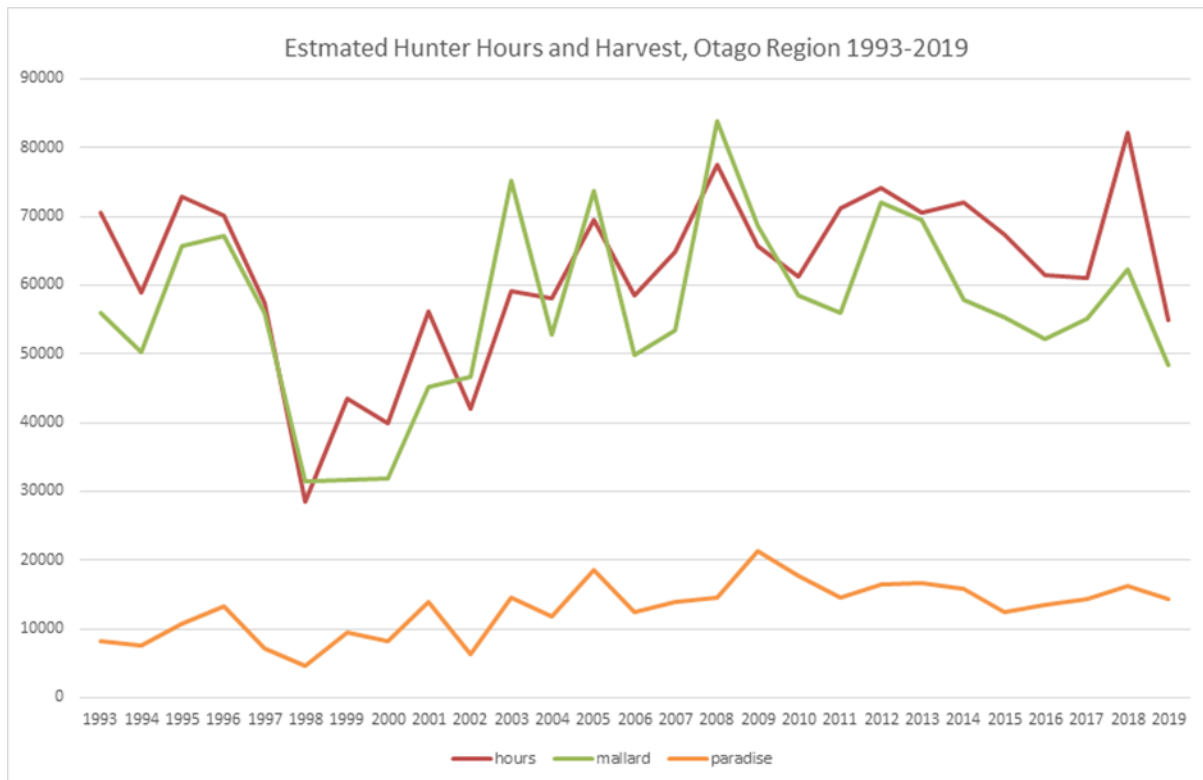


Figure1 provides estimated total gamebird harvest and hunter hours for the Otago region from 1993-2019

The total harvest estimate for paradise ducks have been stable in recent years (16 145 in 2018 and 14 320 in 2019). The total harvest estimate for mallards within Otago dropped from the previous season (62 341 in 2018 to 48 454 in 2019) but lies within the range of historic results.

Declines in harvest maybe related to reduced hunting effort. Total seasonal harvest largely hinges on the success of opening weekend hunters when a high proportion of the birds are taken. Weather conditions can play a major role in the success of individual hunters (and how long they stay out) and arguably has a bigger bearing on harvest than the abundance of birds. Note: The national harvest survey database has recently been adjusted to better reflect total hunter effort within each region, so the results presented here differ from previous reports.

3. Liaison with neighbouring Fish and Game Regions and Survey Results

I have communicated with both Central South Island and Southland staff over regulation changes for their respective regions. CSI could be considering an increase in the swan bag for part of the region, and depending on mallard brood counts and overall numbers, Southland may consider an increase in the opening weekend bag from last season and continuing with a lesser bag for the remainder of the season.

Aligning regulations and conditions with neighbouring Fish and Game Regions is desirable in the longer term but this would require acceptance from individual Council's and respectable communication with hunters. Regional variances will play a key role in this.

In November 2018 a Southland staff report (*Game Regulation Considerations for 2019, Erin Garrick*) was circulated to Otago Fish and Game councillors. Due to Southland experiencing one of its lowest ever Opening Weekend harvests of mallards in 2018 their staff received increased levels of concern expressed around aspects of their regulations, particularly with respect to season length.

3.1 Southland Mallard/hybrid Season length Survey

During the 2018 gamebird harvest survey, Southland staff questioned hunters on their season length preference. Of the 120 hunters surveyed, 14 (12%) of hunters favoured a six-week season, 51 (43%) favoured a two-month season, 11 (9%) favoured a two-and-a-half month season and 39 (33%) favoured a three month season. Five (4%) hunters gave some other answer or did not want to answer. Overall, 54% of hunters wanted a season duration of two months or less, with 42% indicating they would prefer a 2.5 or 3 month season.

Resulting from this, Southland reduced the grey mallard/hybrid to a 2.5 month season ending in mid-July 2019. A main factor of the decision was based on hunter feedback and hunting ethic about shooting hen birds later in the season that were carrying eggs.

3.2 Otago Mallard/hybrid Season Length Surveys

In 2019 Otago conducted two separate hunter surveys on season length. During the 2019 game harvest phone survey hunter were asked the following, *and noting we gave no reason for any change.*

Question: This year Fish and Game wants to get hunter's opinions on what they think is an appropriate mallard season length, do you favour;

1. A two-and-a-half month season (normal start date and finish mid-July) OR
2. A three-month season (current season length which finishes end of July)

Of the 120 randomly sampled hunters 47/120 or 39 % wanted the season shortened by two weeks. The rest wanted the season to stay the same.

On June 4, 2019 a poll was entered on our face book page as follows;

Southland Fish & Game shortened their current game bird season by two weeks (finishing on 14th July rather than 28th July as it is here in Otago) to better protect mallards getting ready for the breeding season.

Question: In future years, would you support reducing the season length in Otago by two weeks to finish in mid-July rather than the end of July to help mallard breeding.

Of the 912 votes 54% of respondents supported a mid-July finish and 46% supported the status quo finishing at the end of July.

While there is some variance in responses between polls there is clearly support for a shortened season length.

4. Staff Overview

Seasons are changing and with global warming ducks are possibly breeding earlier. There is some evidence to suggest that early pair bonding and nest initiation leads to bigger and stronger clutches. Increased disturbance during the crucial feeding period and early nesting stage may have a negative influence on body condition and subsequent survival and productivity, particularly for females.

Otago staff have also received feedback from hunters concerned about shooting hen mallard/hybrids later in the season with eggs, highlighting ethical concerns that shouldn't be overlooked.

Otago staff support the Southland decision to reduce the dabbling duck (grey, mallard, shoveler) hunting season length and suggest a shortened season to mid-July in Otago be considered by this council. Having consistent hunting regulations with a neighbouring F&G region sits with Policy 7.4.3 of Otago's Sports Fish and Game Management Plan.

7.4.3 Liaise with other regions over the annual review of angling and hunting conditions and to seek consistency between regions.

5. Junior summer paradise shelduck season

In 2019 a regulation was altered to allow an adult licence holder to hunt when accompanied by a junior licence holder with an individual daily bag limit of five birds.

The regulation currently reads:

The summer paradise duck season is open for one day on 7 March 2020. Junior game licence holders can hunt independently (or under supervision where required) but an adult game bird licence holder must be accompanied by a junior hunter, and hunting is restricted to locations 200 metres or more from open water.

Relaxing the regulation last season to include adults was a positive step to encourage participation but there is feeling that one day is insufficient and results in low involvement.

With the 2019 January trend counts indicating an increase in the population there is an opportunity to consider extending the summer season. Staff are suggesting two weekends in early March including weekdays between, subject to trend counts in January 2020.

This lengthened season will allow greater flexibility for hunters and hopefully entice participation. Some additional hunting could ease post moult issues when birds mob up and farmers experience crop damage.

The date for the 2020 season has been gazetted for one day on March 20, 2020 due to it falling inside the 2019 licensing period so any adjustments to the junior hunting season as part of this review will be set in regulation under the 2020 Game Gazette Notice for the 2021 season.

6. Recommendations for the 2020 game bird hunting season

6.1 This council considers a reduction in the hunting season of two weeks for dabbling ducks including grey, mallard/hybrid and shoveler with a season length to run from the first Saturday in May and ending on a Sunday in mid-July, or a more comprehensive survey of hunters is undertaken during the 2020 game season to better gauge hunters' opinions on a shortened dabbling duck season ending on a Sunday in mid-July.

6.2 This council considers extending the junior paradise duck season from one weekend day in March to a 9 day special season including two consecutive weekends starting on the first Saturday in March and ending on the second Sunday, inclusive of the weekdays between but subject to trend count results in January 2020.

There is a very tight deadline for confirmation of gamebird regulations to the NZC Office immediately after the January trend count in order to obtain Ministerial approval and get regulations printed in time for the season.

To avoid complications with seeking Council approval after the fact (the February Council meeting occurs after the Ministerial deadline). Staff seek a conditional approval of the regulations listed in Appendix 1 below subject to season duration date changes and any decisions relative to points 6.1 and 6.2 above.

There are no bag limit changes to last season's regulations proposed, provided Otago harvest and population trends remain consistent with historic trends. Should January Paradise shelduck or Black swan trend counts indicate a significant increase or decrease Council will be consulted immediately via email.

Last season's regulations have been attached as appendix 1.

Cliff Halford
Fish and Game Officer
November 2019

References

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Van Klink, P. 2019. Otago Region Mallard Monitoring Study, April 2019, Unpublished report. Otago Fish and Game Council May 2019.

Garrick, E. 2018. Game Regulation Considerations for 2019, Unpublished report, Southland Fish and Game Council, November 2018.

Trotter, M. 2019. Aerial Trend Counts, February 2019, Unpublished report. Otago Fish and Game Council February 2019.

Trotter, M. 2019. Shoveler Trend Count, November 2019, Unpublished report. Otago Fish and Game Council November 2019.

Dixon, S. 2019 Coastal Otago Pukeko Monitoring, September 2019, Unpublished report. Otago Fish and Game Council November 2019

Appendix 1

Table 1: Last Seasons (2019) Game Regulations

OTAGO FISH AND GAME REGION¹

1 Game That May be Hunted or Killed—Duration of 2019 - 20 Season

Species	Season Duration (dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit	Hunting Area
Grey/mallard duck and any hybrid of those species	4 May to 28 Jul 2019	25	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	4 May to 28 Jul 2019	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	4 May to 25 Aug 2019	12	All areas
	7 Mar 2020	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
	4 May to 25 Aug 2019	5	Area B
California quail	1 June to 25 Aug 2019	10	All areas
Chukar	1 June to 25 Aug 2019	2	All areas
Pheasant	1 June to 25 Aug 2019	5	All areas
Red-legged partridge	Closed Season	0	All areas

2 Definition of Areas

- 2.1 Area A: The Clutha River catchment upstream from the Clyde Dam.
- 2.2 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 Shooting Hours

- Area A: 7.00am to 6.45pm
Area B: 7.00am to 6.30pm

4 Decoy Limit

No limit.

5 Special Conditions

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 Shooting from a boat is prohibited on the Clutha River from 4 to 12 May 2019 (refer to first schedule regulation 7).
- 5.4 The summer Paradise duck season is open on 7 March 2020 for junior licence holders only and is restricted to locations 200 metres or more from open water.

6 Refuges and Closed Game Areas

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

Refuges

- 6.1 Lake Hayes Queenstown/Arrowtown Highway
- 6.2 Hawkesbury Lagoon Waikouaiti – East Otago
- 6.3 Finegand Balclutha

Closed Game Areas

- 6.4 Ashley Downs Near Clinton, South Otago
- 6.5 Tomahawk Lagoon Dunedin
- 6.6 Kawarau River outlet From Lake Wakatipu downstream to the Shotover River Confluence

7.3 Southland Letter on Aligning Mallard Bag Limit and Season Length

19 November 2019

The Chairman
Otago Fish & Game Council
247 Hanover Street,
Dunedin, 9016

Dear Monty

Aligning mallard bag limit and season length

At the Southland Council's last meeting they expressed a desire to have Southland's game bird regulations more closely aligned with those of Otago, particularly because we share a boundary. I'm sure your Council won't adopt the attitude of, 'yep that's fine, just change to match ours', and will consider the background Southland considered when determining our current mallard regulations.

As you are aware our Council adopted a 2 ½ month season for the previous hunting season. This decision was made primarily on sociological grounds, based on hunter perception that it is inappropriate to continue to hunt mallards once they have initiated breeding and nesting behaviour. The obvious changes in behaviour over the last month or so of the three month season, reduced wariness of mallards and the fact that a high proportion of females have reasonably developed eggs inside them, all contributes to a proportion of our hunters considering it unethical to continue to hunt the birds into their breeding season.

We have undertaken several telephone surveys over the last decade or so and while the proportion of hunters who want a shorter season or the status quo is often closely split, more recently a higher proportion of hunters have favoured a shorter season over those who wish the season to remain three months. In 2018 our survey results showing 12% favoured a 6-week season, 43% favoured 2 months, 9% favoured 2 ½ months and 33% favoured 3 months.

What we have found in our surveys is many ask 'what's the season length now', and then say, 'that's fine'. To allow for those that won't be influenced directly by a possible shortening of the season we analysed the results of hunters who hunt after Opening Weekend as we know a large proportion of our hunters only hunt Opening Weekend (43% in 2018). Of those hunters 12% favoured a 6-week season, 44% favoured 2 months, 15% favoured 2 ½ months and 30% favoured a 3-month season. Overall around 70% of active hunters wanted a season length less than three months.

In terms of setting bag limits levels for mallards, the Southland Council have reached the view that, except in circumstances such as in a series of extreme climatic years, the influence of bag limits on hunter harvest and then on the population is unlikely to be very significant, provided the bag limits are 'reasonable'. It could be argued that our Council have set relatively conservative bag limits for mallards. However, they have generally done so to maintain hunter perception of the value of mallards as gamebirds, i.e. not a pest, and also to influence hunter expectations of what represents success. Our Council have accepted the argument that if hunters harvest 8 birds and the limit is 15,

they are more likely to think 8 represents good success, than if the limit was set at a much higher level. To this end Council have requested your Council consider moving your bag limit toward ours, at 20 per day for OW?

In Southland, we have been conducting hunter satisfaction surveys and trying to determine the influence of bag limits. In the 2017 gamebird season, the bag limit was 20/day for OW and 10 thereafter for three months. In the 2019 gamebird season, the bag limit was 15/day for OW and 10 thereafter for 2 ½ months. The average OW bag limit for 2019 was 10.4 vs 13.4 for 2017. However, but more hunters reached their bag limit on Saturday (18.5% for 2019 vs 14% for 2017). Hunter satisfaction increased by 5% from 72% (2017) to 77% (2019). While we are aware this is within the margin of error, it does tell us that our reduced bag limit and season length did not negatively impact the opening weekend satisfaction of the average Southland hunter.

In 2019 we also asked our hunters on a scale of 1-5, with 1 being not at all and 5 being highly valued, how much do you value mallards as a gamebird? 71% of hunters highly valued mallards, with 14% rating them a 4 and another 14% a 3. In Southland, our hunters highly value mallards and consequently believe a shortened season is needed to both maintain the social license to hunt, but also to benefit the Southland mallard population. Additionally, from an ecology perspective results from our mallard telemetry study demonstrate that older, better conditioned hens who have greater productivity, initiate nests earlier than younger less fecund, less successful hens. This means that hunting into the breeding season may be disproportionately impacting our more successful hens.

I am aware that staff have only received positive feedback on the reduced season length (apart from one hunter, who opposed the change). When reaching the decision to approach your Council requesting consideration of alignment of season length and bag limits, some Councillors expressed the view that 90 or so percent of hunters that they spoke with were happy with the reduced season length.

While it may seem unjust asking for your Council to change both your mallard bag limit and season length while ours remains the same, the Southland Council did indicate that they were more amenable to adjusting our bag limit towards yours if you remain of the view that 25 is most appropriate for Otago. Good luck with your deliberations.

Yours sincerely



Graeme Watson
Chairman
Southland Fish & Game Council

7.4 2020 Otago Fish & Game Council Meeting Schedule

Below is the draft schedule of meetings including the rolling agenda items for consideration.

NZC meeting cycle

NZC have recently changed their schedule of meetings and I have checked these proposed dates, so they don't clash and so there is enough time for consultation on important matters such as the licence fee setting.

Potential Tapanui Meeting 26th March 2020

As suggested, I have requested a short field trip and discussion with the Pomahaka water care group ahead of our afternoon meeting. Hopefully this date can be confirmed by the time of our meeting.

Other potential field trips

There have been other suggestions for field trips including to Macraes Hatchery and to Takitakitoa wetland. Both have merit but may mean some councillors have to overnight somewhere as this could make for a very long day.

Policy updates

The rolling policy review is only a draft, so if you have suggestions for other policy - either for development or review, then let's discuss this at the meeting so it can be scheduled in.

Recommendation

That the 2020 meeting schedule be adopted

Ian Hadland
Chief Executive
20 November 2019

2020 Calendar of Meetings and Events

Date	8th & 9th February 2020	26th March 2020	28th May 2020	23th July 2020	24th September 2020	26th November (+AGM)	6th & 7th February 2021
Venue	Wanaka?	Tapanui	Dunedin	Roxburgh	Dunedin	Roxburgh	Dunedin
Planning, Licence fees and Budgets	Strategic Planning session including SF&GMP milestone review	Approve draft Operational Workplan and budget	Final Licence fee recommendation	Adopt final OWP and Budget	Approve draft set of accounts for audit	Adopt Annual Report	Strategic Planning session including SF&GMP milestone review
Governance	Consider Chair and NZC rep?	Executive meeting (CE review)	Exec meeting - Finalise CE review			Confirm meeting schedule for following year	
Regulations		Scoping report on Anglers Notice changes	Approve Anglers Notice			Approve Draft Game Gazette	
Health and safety	H&S self Audit report	Bi monthly report	Bi monthly report	Bi monthly report	Bi monthly report	Bi monthly report	H&S self Audit report
Policy Review and other	H&S Policy	Risk management	Sensitive Expenditure Policy	Schedule of legislative compliance	Compliance Guidelines		H&S Policy

8.0 Public Excluded Items

8.1 Habitat Enhancement Fund Application – Manuka Gorge

8.2 Habitat Enhancement Fund Application - Omakau

8.3 Property Update November 2019

8.4 Update on the Lindis Court Appeal

9.0 Finance and Licence Sales Report to 31st October 2019

9.1 Finance Reports

The finance report for the period from 1 September 2019 to 31st October 2019 is attached.

Expenditure to date is \$546,871 (including levies \$252,941, agent commission \$34,577 and depreciation \$5636) compared with the year to date budget of \$407108.

Total income to date is \$860,214 compared with the year to date budget of \$1,048,151
Budget and expenditure figures are exclusive of GST.

Funds Position at 31st October 2019

ANZ 00 account \$132,044.56

ANZ 70 account \$223,701.79

Term Investments as at 31st October 2019:

ASB 0079 \$348,846.14 @ 3.22% maturing January 2020

ANZ 1000 \$305,087.84 @ 2.80% maturing April2020

The sum of \$72,420.98 is held by Anderson Lloyd in trust for wetland management via DOC.

Otago Reserves 31st October 2019

Otago Reserves Movements	Balance August 2019	Income (To) Reserve	Note	Expense (From) Reserve	Balance August 2019
Back Country Non-resident Levy	\$202,032	\$10,036		\$242	\$211,825
Habitat Enhancement & Research	\$32,959	\$2,500	2	\$1691	\$33,768
Lindis Reserve	\$986	\$0.0	1	\$161	\$825
Mining Rights	\$55,908	0.0	3	\$8,084	\$47,823
Historical Reserves	\$179,968	0.0		0.0	\$179,968
Renovation Reserves	\$8,175	0.0		\$0.0	\$8,175

Note 1 \$180,000 (Lindis) approved Feb 19 by NZC from our reserves.
We have an Anderson Lloyd invoice \$14760.91 not included.

Note 2 Balance is \$33768, less committed but not yet paid out of \$31320 so a balance of \$2,448 is available for dispersal.

Note 3 \$150,000 (Mining) approved prior to 2018 by NZC from our reserves. Includes \$80,000 of Lindis expenses, agreed by council July 2019.

9.2 Capital Expenditure

Buildings

No Change

Vehicles and Equipment

No change

9.3 Licence Sales

Final Fish Licence Sales 2018/19 Season

See the table following for fish licence sales categories and numbers for Full Seasons 2017/18 and 2018/19

Fish Licence Sales 2019/20 to 12th November 2019

Fish licences sales revenue for the 2019/20 season recorded to 12th November 2019 total \$1,098,815 compared with \$1,079,183 for the same date for the 2018/19 Season. This includes commission.

The 2019/20 budget for fish licence sales is \$1,786,017 exclusive of GST.

In summary, fishing licence sales to 12th November in whole season licence equivalents (LEQs) 8,115.39 LEQs compared with 8132.91 for the same period last year.

9.4 Agents and Debts

No liabilities or potential liabilities at the present time.

Recommendations

That this report be received

Sharon Milne
Administration
20/11/19

Profit and Loss

Otago Fish and Game Council For the 2 months ended 31 October 2019

	SEP 2019	OCT 2019	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	VARIANCE	% OF YTD BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET
Income							
Licence Sales							
Fish Licence Sales	(347)	802,293	801,946	1,023,566	(221,620)	78%	1,786,017
Non-Resident Licence Revenue	-	13,364	13,364	13,332	32	100%	80,000
Game Licence Sales	-	-	-	-	-	-	333,332
Total Licence Sales	(347)	815,656	815,310	1,036,898	(221,588)	79%	2,199,349
Other Income							
Interest Income	7	5,097	5,104	4,133	971	123%	24,773
Fines - Fishing & Game Offences	180	247	427	250	177	171%	2,000
Rent Received	1,812	6,298	8,110	6,870	1,240	118%	41,220
Fishing Competitions	-	116	116	-	116	-	-
Donations & Grants	15,362	-	15,362	-	15,362	-	-
Merchandise Sales/Other	170	13	183	-	183	-	-
RMA Costs Reimbursed	-	12,836	12,836	-	12,836	-	-
Sundry Income	269	-	269	-	269	-	-
Diversion - Habitat Enhancement and Research Fund	1,500	1,000	2,500	-	2,500	-	-
Total Other Income	19,300	25,605	44,905	11,253	33,652	399%	67,993
Total Income	18,953	841,262	860,214	1,048,151	(187,937)	82%	2,267,342
Gross Profit	18,953	841,262	860,214	1,048,151	(187,937)	82%	2,267,342
Expenses							
Species Management							
Population Monitoring	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,000
Harvest Assessment	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,000
Hatchery Operations	1,041	-	1,041	2,200	(1,159)	47%	8,000
Releases	40	108	148	250	(102)	59%	1,500
Total Species Management	1,081	108	1,189	2,450	(1,261)	49%	23,500
Habitat Protection & Mngt							
Resource Mngt Act	4,026	16,894	20,920	20,332	588	103%	61,394

Profit and Loss

	SEP 2019	OCT 2019	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	VARIANCE	% OF YTD BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET
Works & Management	9,384	3,555	12,939	1,250	11,689	1,035%	7,500
Assisted Habitat	12	-	12	-	12	-	-
Total Habitat Protection & Mngt	13,421	20,449	33,871	21,582	12,289	157%	68,894
Participation							
Access	111	87	198	332	(134)	60%	2,000
Satisfaction Survey	-	242	242	-	242	-	-
Newsletters	-	39	39	500	(461)	8%	1,500
Other Publicatons	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000
Training	232	17	248	500	(252)	50%	6,000
Club Relations	440	276	715	500	215	143%	1,000
Total Participation	783	661	1,444	1,832	(388)	79%	11,500
PUBLIC INTERFACE							
Liaison	17	85	102	90	12	113%	500
Communication	350	-	350	170	180	206%	1,000
Media Releases	-	80	80	286	(206)	28%	1,000
Total PUBLIC INTERFACE	367	165	532	546	(14)	97%	2,500
COMPLIANCE							
Ranging	-	973	973	350	623	278%	2,500
Ranger Training	857	-	857	-	857	-	5,000
Compliance	-	-	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	10,000
Total COMPLIANCE	857	973	1,829	1,350	479	135%	17,500
LICENCING							
Agent Servicing	-	113	113	200	(87)	57%	750
Commission/Fees	-	34,577	34,577	19,074	15,503	181%	95,371
Total LICENCING	-	34,690	34,690	19,274	15,416	180%	96,121
COUNCIL							
Council Meetings	1,633	951	2,584	3,000	(416)	86%	17,000
Total COUNCIL	1,633	951	2,584	3,000	(416)	86%	17,000
PLANNING & REPORTING							
Reporting/Audit	-	5,100	5,100	-	5,100	-	14,000
National Liason	-	-	-	100	(100)	-	1,000
Total PLANNING & REPORTING	-	5,100	5,100	100	5,000	5,100%	15,000
ADMINISTRATION							
Salaries	49,909	101,404	151,313	126,217	25,096	120%	758,145
Staff Expenses	1,103	401	1,504	847	657	178%	16,000

Profit and Loss

	SEP 2019	OCT 2019	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	VARIANCE	% OF YTD BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET
Office Premises	15,462	10,426	25,888	26,814	(926)	97%	97,872
Office Equipment	254	378	632	416	216	152%	2,500
Communications	995	1,484	2,480	3,916	(1,436)	63%	23,500
General Exp (incl Insurance)	1,548	242	1,790	4,441	(2,651)	40%	5,441
General Field Equipment	143	35	177	417	(240)	43%	2,500
Vehicles	9,742	7,895	17,637	14,008	3,629	126%	51,500
Total ADMINISTRATI ON	79,155	122,265	201,420	177,076	24,344	114%	957,458
Depreciation	5,636	5,636	11,272	11,272	-	100%	67,632
NZ Fish & Game Levies	-	252,941	252,941	168,626	84,315	150%	1,011,763
Total Expenses	102,932	443,939	546,871	407,108	139,763	134%	2,288,868
Net Profit	(83,979)	397,323	313,344	641,043	(327,699)	49%	(21,526)

Balance Sheet

Otago Fish and Game Council As at 31 October 2019

	31 OCT 2019	31 AUG 2019
Assets		
Current Assets		
Bank	355,946	291,894
Receivables	826,836	151,216
Investments	653,934	648,846
Inventory	17,962	17,962
Funds Held in Trust	72,421	72,421
Accrued Interest	5,479	5,479
Total Current Assets	1,932,578	1,187,819
Fixed Assets		
Property Plant & Equipment	1,404,981	1,412,134
Total Fixed Assets	1,404,981	1,412,134
Total Assets	3,337,559	2,599,952
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Payables	647,388	273,782
Employee Entitlements	104,083	53,427
Rounding	-	-
Total Current Liabilities	751,471	327,208
Total Liabilities	751,471	327,208
Net Assets	2,586,088	2,272,744
Equity		
Accumulated Funds		
Accumulated Funds	1,679,195	2,017,323
Current Year Earnings	313,344	(338,128)
Transfer (To)/From Reserves	50,420	51,266
Total Accumulated Funds	2,042,959	1,730,461
Dedicated Reserves		
Back Country Fisheries Reserve	211,826	202,033
Habitat Enhancement & Research	33,209	32,959
Lindis Reserve	825	987
Mining Privileges Reserve	47,824	55,908
Historical Reserves	179,968	179,968
Asset Replacement Funding	(4,608)	(4,608)
Total Dedicated Reserves	469,044	467,246
Restricted Reserves		
Bullock Creek Reserve	1,664	2,616

Balance Sheet

	31 OCT 2019	31 AUG 2019
Wetland Development Trust - Anderson lloyd)	72,421	72,421
Total Restricted Reserves	74,085	75,037
Total Equity	2,586,088	2,272,744

Otago Fish Licence Sales Full Season 2017/18 and 2018/19

2018/19

Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWIA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total	Fish LEQ	Total Value
Agency	2,469	3,203	520	577	203	188	21	288	1,158	2,149	440	43	105	142	20	168	11,694		
Eyede	13	5	4	5	1	1	0	2	10	11	0	0	3	0	1	2	58		
Public	1,648	1,830	847	244	333	168	35	325	1,971	2,621	267	24	157	116	22	116	10,724		
Total	4,130	5,038	1,371	826	537	357	56	615	3,139	4,781	707	67	265	258	43	0	22,476	14,842.94	\$2,056,790.00

2017/18

Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWIA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total	Fish LEQ	Total Value
Agency	2,568	3,579	498	549	233	125	36	283	1,378	2,999	550	24	106	152	0	0	13,080		
Eyede	12	5	13	8	1	2	0	4	1	21	2	0	0	0	0	0	69		
Public	1,694	1,835	809	223	269	99	42	238	1,585	3,617	284	23	130	138	0	0	10,986		
Total	4,274	5,419	1,320	780	503	226	78	525	2,966	6,637	836	47	236	290	0	0	24,137	15,445.98	\$2,011,802.00

Otago Fish Licence Sales to 12th November for Seasons 2018/19 and 2019/20

2019 - 2020

Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total	Fish LEQ	Total Value
Agency	1,796	2,463	63	598	109	5	28	118	231	212	1	9	11	4	12	5,660		
Eyede	1	6	0	8	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	19		
Public	789	935	195	191	109	5	42	222	268	129	6	12	5	2	6	2,916		
Total	2,586	3,404	258	797	220	10	70	340	499	343	7	21	16	6	0	8,595	8,115.39	\$1,098,815.00

2018 - 2019

Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total	Fish LEQ	Total Value
Agency	1,731	2,216	102	506	99	1	34	165	279	190	9	19	11	2	13	5,377		
Eyede	6	1	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	14		
Public	950	1,054	243	209	99	1	38	233	297	108	6	18	10	0	8	3,274		
Total	2,687	3,271	346	720	198	2	72	398	576	298	15	38	21	2	21	8,665	8,132.91	\$1,079,183.00

FWF (Family), FWA (Adult), FWNA (Non Resident), FSLA (Senior Loyal), FLAA (Local Area),

FWJ (Junior), FWNJ (Junior non resident), FLBA (Long Break), FSBA (Short Break), FDA (Adult Day), FDJ (Junior Day)

FDNJ (non resident Junior), FWNC (non resident Child), FDNC (non Resident child day)

10.0 Chief Executives Report November 2019

10.1 SPECIES

Monitor Fisheries (1113)

Preparations have been made for fisheries monitoring of the Fraser River. Early indications are that it is not getting a lot of angler use.

Support for University projects (1115)

The report on angler displacement has now been completed for Otago and Southland. It has been circulated directly to Councillors. It may be possible to get one of the authors to present at the February Council meeting if desired.

Success & Satisfaction (1122)

Creel Surveys of Lake Wanaka anglers continue with some good early season catches recorded. They will continue to run for the season at a frequency of two weekdays and two weekend days per month.

Fish Salvage (1131)

Monitoring of Quartz creek is continuing but it appears that fuller spring flows have allowed for up and downstream migration of rainbow trout negating the need for salvage.

Hatchery Operations (1141)

The Macraes Hatchery continues to operate smoothly. Poor water quality jeopardised alevin development but enough stock was secured for the season ahead. Filtration or recirculation of water at this important phase is being considered.

Liberations (1161)

Liberations to designated waters is complete aside from a release of takeable sized rainbows to Southern Reservoir ahead of the kids fishing event in December.

Regulations (1171)

The Game Regulations report is covered by agenda item (7.2). Reference should also be made to the letter from Southland Fish & Game Council who are hoping for better alignment of regulations between our Regions. Item (7.3).

10.2 HABITAT

Consents (1212)

See separate report item (13.3)

Contact Energy Consents

The Roxburgh hatchery proposal is currently on hold while alternatives to Salmon enhancement in the lower Clutha are re explored. Contact Energy have been asked to report back in February/March next year.

Considerable work has been put into negotiating and planning a number of projects to be funded by Contact Energy under its sports fish management plan. The confirmed projects, which will be coordinated largely by F&G staff, should deliver benefits to anglers and hunters in the longer term.

This year's projects include:

- Salmon Creel survey - \$6,300
- Salmon eDNA equipment and trial - \$11,000 (Equipment and helicopter time)
- Manuka Island Enhancement - \$18,000 (Digger, plants and fencing)
- Landlocked salmon survey – \$10,000 (helicopter time for Upper Clutha Survey)
- Lower Clutha Brown Trout origin - \$15,000 for year 1 of a 4 year project (contracted Electric fishing)
- GIS (digital) mapping of spawning. - \$8,000 (contractor for data entry)

In addition to these, the annual gravel position (for spawning) and fencing of the Leithan stream will be undertaken by separate contractors and the enhancement of Pinders Pond fishing access near Roxburgh is being funded by Contact from another budget.

CE to Report

Minimum and Residual Flow Setting (1212)

Staff have been engaging in the Manuherekia processes through the technical advisory group (TAG) and the Manuherekia Reference Group (MRG). Discussion continues to be focused on appropriate hydrological models to represent the catchment. Fish and Game staff have been engaging with Aukaha and Department of Conservation staff to implement their respective MOU's with respect to the catchment. An invertebrate drift study has been agreed between Aukaha and Fish and Game staff and a proposal has been put to the ORC to partially fund it. At the MRG, staff are discussing the scope of the planning exercise for the catchment and how it fits with the plan review; however, this still remains unclear.

Plan Change 6AA

Staff prepared a neutral submission on this plan change, which seeks to extend the deadline for the discharge water quality standards. The submission pointed out critical issues with the plan change but took a neutral position as staff expect that the planning framework replacing 6AA will provide more protection for the environment. Staff remain frustrated that it took so many years for the ORC to recognise errors in Plan Change 6A and that ORC staff largely refused to engage with Fish and Game staff regarding implementation during this time.

Action for Healthy Waterways Package

Staff prepared a submission in support of the one prepared by New Zealand Fish and Game. Additional arguments relevant to the Otago region were put forward, including the importance of recognising introduced species; the need for additional guidance on water quantity; nuance in riparian grazing and wetland management; and the restoration of natural wetlands.

Lindis Minimum Flow Plan Change

The Environment Court decision was released in early October and the Council has lodged an Appeal to the High Court.

CE to update in Public Excluded**Skelton Review of ORC function**

A report has evidently been released to the ORC but is embargoed. Hopefully by the time of the meeting staff will be in a position to update Councillors.

CE to Update**Reserves Management (1221)**

A successful planting day was held with Naylor Love staff at Takitakitoa. Outward correspondence contains a letter of appreciation for their volunteer effort and donation of \$1500 towards plants.

1232 Habitat Enhancement Fund

Two applications are provided for Council consideration.

10.3 USER PARTICIPATION**Back Country Fisheries Management (1321)**

One of the outcomes from the joint meeting between Southland and Otago was to advance the management of pressure sensitive fisheries. A national staff workshop was held on the issue late last year and an agreement formed to fund and employ a contractor to generate a report on options for implementation. Staff at NZC office convinced the managers group that they could write the report but following a good start, the project has now languished.

For discussion

User training (1350)

A F&G event on the Manuherikia River to introduce anglers to the art of soft bait fishing should have been completed by the time of the meeting. Over 50 people have registered and it has been well supported by sponsors.

TAKF events (1352)

Unfortunately, our major take a kid fishing events at Southern Reservoir had to be postponed due to the low water levels. A scaled down event has been rescheduled for 14th December. Unfortunately, the event booked up very quickly leaving a few disappointed families. Staff are considering how to manage the overflow.

Recruitment, Retention and reactivation (R3)

The NZ Council R3 coordinator has recently visited Otago and assisting with a lapsed angler reactivation initiative. This email campaign is proposed to be implemented before years end.

10.4 PUBLIC INTERFACE**Media (1431)**

Social media updates have been more regular with a good range of content being generated or shared. The number of followers continues to grow and took a significant leap forward with smart posts and video content. There are now 1100 or more followers getting a regular feed of local material.

OIA requests

Two Official Information Act requests have been received and responded to. Both were from the Office of Hamish Walker MP. A further request from the same MP is currently on hold until a meeting is held with Mr Walker to help narrow down the focus of his enquiries.

10.5 COMPLIANCE**Ranging (1530)**

The three new volunteer rangers have made an immediate impression with a number of offenders being apprehended around the Queenstown area.

Ranger Training (1521)

Annual Ranger training is currently being finalised. The Lumsden based event to be held at the end of the month is a joint training weekend with Southland officers and includes coordinated live ranging on the return journey.

Prosecutions (1531)

13 offenders are currently under prosecution action, nearly all for unlicensed angling. A majority are expected to be resolved by way of diversion.

10.6 LICENCING

Agent servicing

Following a new seasons newsletter to all licence sellers, the administration officer has done a near complete circuit of the Otago agents delivering pamphlets, undertaking training and thanking them for their service that has been appreciated.

10.7 COUNCIL

Council (1720)

See separate report on property in the public excluded agenda.

10.8 PLANNING AND REPORTING

Annual planning (1820)

The February planning meeting is scheduled to take place in Wanaka on the 8th and 9th Feb 2020. It is now clear that a much more structured approach to this is required resulting in a narrower set of outcomes to be implemented (alongside the essential tasks) and then Audited at the end of the year. I'm now of the view that this should be externally facilitated so have made some initial enquiries as to possible options.

For discussion

Annual Reporting (1831)

Preparation of the annual report was completed and its late return from the auditors means that it will have to be circulated electronically, and later tabled at the meeting. While it's not ideal, it is an important task completed.

Ian Hadland
Chief Executive
19 November 2019

11.0 Committee & Delegate Reports

11.1 CFT

11.2 NZC

11.3 Salmon Committee

11.4 Ngai Tahu

11.5 Conservation Board

12.0 Correspondence

12.1 NZC to Otago

12.2 Otago to NZC

12.2.1 Otago Non Resident Licence Reserve to Operating

3 October 2019

Lindsay Lyons, Chairman
New Zealand Council
Fish and Game New Zealand
PO Box
WELLINGTON

Dear Lindsay,

Re: Notification of transfer from Otago's Non Resident Licence Reserve to operating - 2019/20 financial year

At the last meeting of the Otago Fish & Game Council staff recommended a number of projects be funded to the value of \$17,000 from the Non Resident Licence Levy Reserve. After a discussion it was found that several of those projects were underfunded by an estimated \$13,000 and it was later resolved to transfer up to \$30,000 to cover these essential projects.

In line with current policy, this is simply a courtesy notification to NZC that Otago Fish & Game Council intends to transfer those funds from its Non Resident Licence Levy Reserve into operating this financial year. This is to fund the external costs for 5 separate backcountry fishery projects:

- Dingle river social surveys
- Upper Fraser River fisheries assessment
- Greenstone river drift dives
- Upper Lochy River spawning and electric fishing survey
- Nevis River angler social survey

We will talk to Carmel directly about the most appropriate way to integrate that into our current budget for reporting purposes.

Thank you

Yours sincerely



Monty Wright
Chair

Statutory managers of freshwater sports fish, game birds and their habitats

Otago Fish and Game Council

Cnr Hanover & Harrow Sts, PO Box 76, Dunedin 9054, New Zealand. Telephone (03) 477 9076
www.fishandgame.org.nz

12.2.2 Licence Sale System Contract Renewal with Regional F&G Councils

27 September 2019

NEW ZEALAND

Mr Lindsay Lyons
New Zealand Council
Fish and Game New Zealand
PO Box
WELLINGTON

Dear Lindsay,

Licence Sales System Contract Renewal with Regional F&G Councils

Our Council considered the NZC endorsed Licence subcommittee paper on the renewal of the licence sales system contract. Unfortunately, the scoring table (which was rather pivotal in the assessment on non-cost related features such as capability and future capacity) was delivered too late to be included in the Councils assessment.

The following points were made and/or discussed;

- That the paper had a heavy focus on cost savings and a poor explanation on the differences and changes in the service required of the incumbent in the past and what is expected over the next 5 years.
- It was felt that Eyede had provided a stable platform over the years and met its KPI's so Council would need a very compelling reason to move away from that provider.
- The risk of going with a brand new provider can't be overstated. Even a minor disruption to the service would easily consume any potential saving noted in the paper.
- That the option of bringing sales support function in house to NZC (Option2) has not been sufficiently explained or priced for our Council to make a meaningful assessment of the value.
- The Council also agreed that having an entire contract with Eyede was a more efficient way to manage a contracted service and also allows for better performance monitoring and KPI auditing. Council acknowledged Eyede's past good performance in this area. They did not consider that a licence sales support function was core business for NZC.

It was eventually resolved;

That Otago Fish & Game Council agrees that Eyede is the preferred software provider and that the business and support services component remain as part of the contract with Eyede.

The Council was anxious to remind the NZC that the contract is one between individual regional Councils and the service provider and as such it should be only regional chairs (rather than NZC) voting on any final outcome at the Governors meeting, if that is required.

Yours sincerely



Monty Wright, Chair
[CC: Regional Chairs]

Statutory managers of freshwater sports fish, game birds and their habitats

Otago Fish and Game Council

12.2.3 Adrian McIntyre's nomination to Game Bird Trust Board (Previously Sent)

12.2.4 Outcome of extra ordinary meeting of Otago Fish & Game Council on Lindis River (Confidential previously circulated)

12.3 General Correspondence In

12.3.1 Halberg Foundation Support Letter

Halberg Foundation

P O Box 11-487, Ellerslie
Auckland 1542
New Zealand
P; 09 579 9931
E: office@halberg.co.nz
W: www.halberg.co.nz

1 October 2019

To whom it may concern,

The Halberg Foundation aims to enhance the lives of physically disabled New Zealanders by enabling them to participate in sport and recreational opportunities.

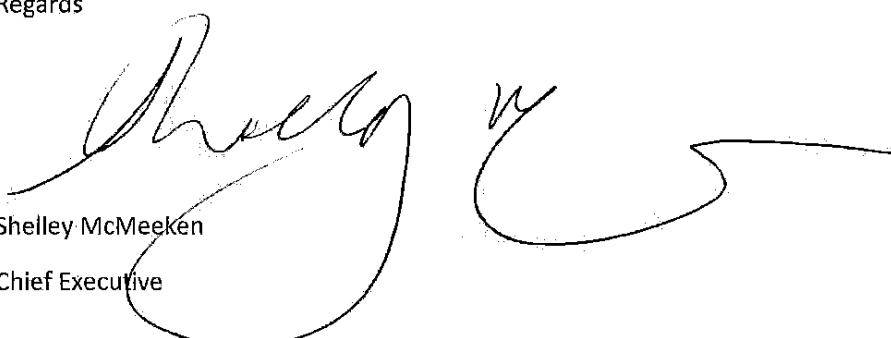
On behalf of Halberg I would like to endorse the work of Fish and Game Otago in their vision to create an accessible walking track and jetty that will be embraced by all members of the community regardless of ability.

For anglers who have mobility challenges, to be able to access Pinders Pond by fishing from the jetty or through the walkway access will not only enhance their individual lives, but also the lives of their family and friends as this will open up the opportunity to engage in being active together. Your vision with this project aligns with the Foundation's as we work towards 'an inclusive New Zealand'.

To develop a site such as this is future focused and will stand the region in good stead for many years to come with its universal design towards inclusion. To enable people of all levels of ability to participate in accessible recreational opportunities reflects Halberg's vision of inclusivity.

The Foundation commends the work of Fish and Game Otago. We wish you well in your endeavours to raise the funds and support required to create what we believe will be a well-utilised environment that will encourage and cater for all members of this very active region to participate in.

Regards



Shelley McMeeken

Chief Executive

12.3.2 Wanaka Gun Club Thanks

WANAKA GUN CLUB
Albert Town/Hawea highway

23.09.2019

TO THE CEO, STAFF 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 sincere thanks for your sponsorship of our secondary school students inter-collegiate clay target competition which was held on Saturday August 31st. We gave out 8 trophies and 31 medals to the winners and gridders in each of four events, for Seniors and Juniors. The trophies and medals are engraved in the first instance acknowledging "Otago Fish and Game".

This event is very popular among the lower South Island schools. This year 70 students from 12 schools as far north as Timaru, and south to Invercargill and Te Anau attended. The level of competition is of a very high standard.

I would also especially like to thank Cliff for coming along and being involved in the presentation of the trophies and medals. I know he is always very impressed with the standard of the competition and the way the students presented themselves.

Our Facebook page titled "Wanaka Clay Target Club" has a full report of the event and supporting photo's.

Thank you, Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,
Fraser McGarvie
Immediate Past President
992 Aubrey Road, Wanaka. Phone 034432408 Cell 0274 531 474

12.3.2 Permission to Relocate Rainbow Trout in the White Burn



16 October 2019

Otago Fish & Game Council
P.O. Box 76
DUNEDIN

Attention: Ian Hadland

Permission to relocate rainbow trout in the White Burn.

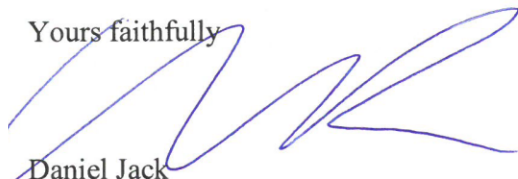
The Department of Conservation has collected survey data from 2005 – 2019 which strongly suggests the southern flathead galaxias, *Galaxias* “southern”, previously common the White Burn, has undergone decline. The primary pressure within this catchment for galaxias species is the presence of rainbow trout. Rainbow trout are widespread and abundant throughout the main stem of Von River. Based on survey data, there is a low density of rainbow trout in the White Burn suggesting they are only making a minor contribution to the Von population.

The conservation status of the southern flathead galaxias is classified as ‘*Nationally Vulnerable*’ due to ongoing and predicted decline of the total population. The population within the White Burn is of high biogeographical significance. Therefore, the Department of Conservation intends to capture using electric-fishing methods any rainbow trout encountered and manually carry them downstream of a perched culvert at the Von Road which appears to be acting as a fish passage barrier and release them.

Regulation 62 (clause 2) of the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 requires prior written consent from the Otago Fish and Game Council before the capture and relocation of sports fish. I hope that you support this proposal to secure southern flathead galaxias. Can you please arrange for the necessary approval to be obtained?

If you require further information please contact either Daniel Jack at the Coastal Otago Area Office, phone 0274083327, or by email djack@doc.govt.nz.

Yours faithfully



Daniel Jack
Coastal Otago Area Office
Dunedin

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai
Coastal Otago Office
P O Box 5244, Moray Place,
Dunedin 9054

12.3.3 J Hinkley on the Shag River name



J.C.Hinkley
22 Stronsa Street
Palmerston

29 OCT 2019

Otago Fish and Game
Attn. Ian Hadland
247 Hanover St Dunedin

The river, now named the Shag River, was initially given its name by Maori. Meaning "disappearing river", the name Waihemo became the name of the district that we now live in, but some time in the 1800s the river became the Shag River. This would have been prompted by the large number of cormorants that nested in the upper reaches of the river, feeding on native trout and small eels.

Today the name "Shag" for a river certainly lacks any sympathy with its surrounding countryside, and there is some arrogance in the changing of the Maori name to an unpleasant English word.

I suggest that it is time to restore the name Waihemo to the river. This can be achieved by local consultation and presenting the case to the New Zealand Geographic Board. This board meets three times a year and the support of your group will help the consultancy process and the final application to the board. To date I can find no costs in this total process.

The following are some of the reasons for change.

1. The small tourist trade we have here regularly comment on the unpleasant name of the river.
2. With the possibility of Geo Park involvement in the future, the name Waihemo would be more acceptable than the name Shag.
3. The river is named after a bird that Fish and Game NZ once described as the most unpleasant, smelliest and dirtiest bird in New Zealand.

I look forward to your response and any suggestions you may have.

Jim Hinkley

jimhinkley6@gmail.com

12.4 General Correspondence Out

12.4.1 Naylor Love sponsor wetland shrubs and planning labour

24 October 2019

Jade Reynolds
C/- Naylor Love
Dunedin

Dear Jade (and Beccy)

Re Takitakitoa Wetland Planting Day

Just a quick note to say a massive thankyou to Naylor Love for its donation towards the native trees and staff time to help us get them in the ground at Takitakitoa Wetland yesterday.

It was a very enjoyable afternoon full of good banter and a bit of learning about our respective organisations. Its fair to say that the Naylor's team get the gold star for effort in terms of planters we have had at the site as they got through considerably more than expected!

We would be very pleased to see this become an annual event. I'm certain at least some of your staff would be thinking similarly.

I know Sharon has some photos for you and I'm sure we will be posting some of these to our own Facebook page. Please feel free to share and promote the images around the rest of your crew.

Thanks again from the team here at Fish & Game Otago. It was most appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Ian Hadland
Chief Executive
Otago Fish & Game Council

12.4.1 Response to Department of Conservation Letter

25th October 2019

NEW ZEALAND

Mr Daniel Jack
Coastal Otago Area Office
Department of Conservation
PO BOX 5244, Moray Place
DUNEDIN 9054

Dear Daniel,

Re: Permission to relocate Rainbow Trout downstream in the White Burn

Thank you for emailing your proposal for trout removal from the upper reaches of a tributary of the Von River.

We have now assessed the application and agree;

- That the upper White Burn makes a minimal contribution towards the general trout population
- That the indigenous species to be protected is significant in terms of its threat status
- That the chance for re-infestation of sports fish is minimal given the culvert setup.
- This is consistent with the MOU between the parties
- It meets objective 5.3.7 of Otago Fish & Game Councils Sportsfish Management Plan

As such, Otago Fish & Game Council gives its approval under section 59 of the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983.

We wish you well with the project.

Yours sincerely



Ian Hadland
Chief Executive
Otago Fish & Game Council

Statutory managers of freshwater sports fish, game birds and their habitats

Otago Fish and Game Council

Cnr Hanover & Harrow Sts, PO Box 76, Dunedin 9054, New Zealand. Telephone (03) 477 9076

13.0 Items to be Received or Noted

13.1 Project 1110 Population Monitoring Shoveler Trend Count

Summary

Shoveler congregate every August on open wetlands and form pairs before they seek secluded areas to breed (Caithness 1982, Holden 1990, Williams 1981). This provides an opportunity to monitor a selection of staging grounds. This year's regional count was similar to records and up slightly on last season's count. Statistical analysis of the National population indicates that the population is stable or possibly increasing slightly (McDougal M, 2019). There is no recommendation for any bag adjustments (the daily bag is presently two).

Methods

On 6 August 2019, Fish and Game staff and volunteers throughout New Zealand visited shoveler congregation sites. Otago Fish and Game staff were assisted by ranger Trevor Beck and counted 35 sites. Statistical analysis for nation-wide results is conducted by Matthew McDougall from Eastern Region.

It is important to keep in mind that these counts are not an attempted census. The annual monitoring of a selection of sites allows us to infer changes in the larger population over time.

Otago Region Results

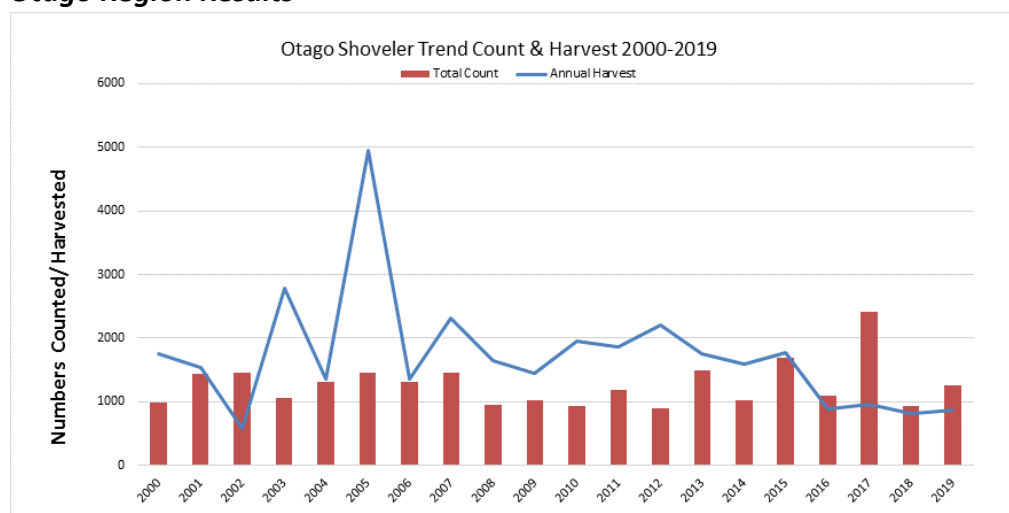


Figure 1: Total shoveler counts and estimated hunter harvest for Otago 2000-2019

The 2019 total was 1261 and it was 935 in 2018. Over the last eighteen years the total number of shoveler counted has varied between approximately 900 and 2400 birds.

Hunter harvest estimates (from telephone surveys) have been similar in recent years. The 2019 hunter harvest estimate was 880 birds (95 % Confidence Interval 528 – 1466) and in

2018 it was 820 birds (95% CI 508-1325). The number of hunters interviewed during game harvest surveys who report shoveler is relatively low resulting in wide confidence intervals.

National Population Analysis (by Mathew McDougal)

A total of 13,617 were counted at 255 sites. Over the 20 years the population at these sites appears to be stable, (percentage change = -1.4; 95% Credible Interval -2.7 – -0.0009; $n=252^2$). Short term (2018-2019) there was no detectable change as the Bayesian credible interval (BCI) estimate spans zero (mean = -15.7%; -21 – 3.4, 95% BCI; $n=246$). The 2019 total count for sites that have been counted every year ($n=85$) however, was 15% above the average for the period 2000 – 2018 and was up 41% on last year's count. The long-term trend at these 85 sites indicate a small linear increase over the last 20 years ($\beta_{yr}=124.5$, $t=2.406$, $P=0.027$).

Discussion

The 2019 regional count total was likely to have been affected by strong winds and it is probable more birds were present at the count sites but seeking shelter in heavy cover and were not visible. Weather often affects bird behaviour and is one reason why it is advisable to observe a continuous trend over several years before considering regulation changes.

There is no apparent trend in the regional raw data over the last twenty years. Statistical analysis of nationwide results indicates the population is stable or possibly increasing slightly.

There is no recommendation for any regulation adjustment.

Recommendation

That this report be received.

Morgan Trotter
Fish & Game Officer
November 2019

² With the 95% credible interval there is a 95% chance that the true estimate lies within the interval, whereas 95% confidence limit is a random variable (LINK, W. A. & BARKER, R. J. 2010. *Bayesian Inference with ecological applications*, London, Elsevier. whereby if the sampling were repeated numerous times 95% of these confidence intervals would encompass the true mean (MCCARTHY, M. A. 2007. *Bayesian Methods for Ecology*, New York, Cambridge University Press.).

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Holden P, 1990, Wild Game, Hunting Gamebirds, Small and Feral Game in New Zealand, Hodder & Stoughton.

McCarty, M. A. 2007. Bayesian Methods for Ecology, New York, Cambridge University Press.

McDougal M, 2019. A Trend Count of New Zealand Shoveler Duck, Fish & Game NZ, Eastern Region Report, Rotorua, NZ.

Williams M, 1981, The Duck Shooters Bag, An Understanding of New Zealand's Wetland Gamebirds. The Wetland Press.

13.2 2019 Otago Pukeko Monitoring

Introduction

The purpose of monitoring Pukeko is to enable an annual estimate of population change within a geographic region.

Method

The most practical monitoring technique for Pukeko is a roadside survey. Randomly selected transects (roadways) of 8-30kms are driven at slow speed and the number of Pukeko clearly identified with the naked eye from each side of the vehicle are recorded by two observers.

Results

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Flood free	18	49	24	110	105	133	158	98	33
Puerua	13	5	0	0	12	89	6	5	34
Berwick	74	81	27	143	112	84	105	2	131
Inch Clutha	15	6	1	35	1	26	27	20	7

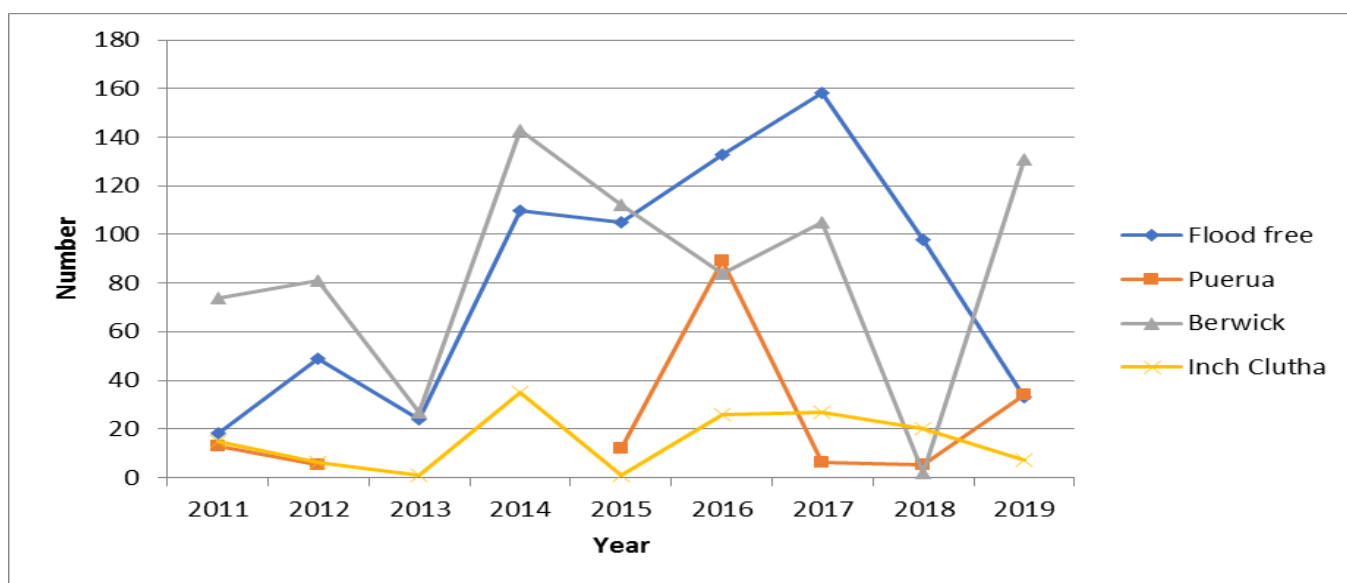


Figure 1: Pukekos counted since 2011

Conclusions

The results have shown again this year that Pukeko numbers in the selected transects are not consistent, up in some locations and down in others. Birds moving to other locations outside the monitored areas must be taken into consideration.

Recommendations

That this report be received.

Steven Dixon

Fish & Game Officer

September 2019

13.3 Consenting Workload 19 November

Further Update Of Select Consents

Kye Burn Deemed Permits: agreement was reached at mediation and a consent order has now been issued. As part of the agreement, a residual flow of 200l/s in the lower Kye Burn will be maintained after a 5 year lead in time. The parties have also agreed to an MOU which will seek that they work together to provide a healthy river ecosystem which supports productive fish populations and enhances threatened native freshwater fish populations.

Lake Onslow: there have been no updates of significance since this was last reported.

Long Gully: there have been no updates of significance since this was last reported.

Luggate Catchment Deemed Permits: during this period, staff appeared at the hearing for this application to provide additional information on the submission. A decision is expected in the near future.

Queenstown Lakes District Council Wastewater Network consent: staff attended a hearing for this application to provide additional information on the submission. In planning evidence, the applicant introduced some sparing limits on the discharge activity. These were adapted through the hearing as submitters provided critique. The Commissioners have issued a minute asking for additional feedback on the final iteration of these key consent conditions. This is due by the 22nd of November 2019.

Subdivision on the Luggate-Cromwell Highway: there have been no updates of significance since this was last reported.

Written Approval Provided During the Period

Consents submitted to the ORC

Applicant	Activity	Outcome
Luxmore Dairies	Construct a wetland in an unnamed tributary of the Waipahi River	No changes were requested of the application, written approval was provided.
Queenstown Lakes District Council	To work in the dry section of the Shotover River	No changes were requested of the application, written approval was provided.
Central Otago District Council	Retrospective consent for historic seepage of wastewater to land from Omakau waste water treatment plant	No changes were requested of the application, written approval was provided.

Taieri Excavation and Drainage	To extract gravel from the Silver Stream	No changes were requested of the application, written approval was provided.
Mt Burke Station	To place a water intake structure, disturb the bed, discharge sediment and abstract water within Lake Wanaka	Written approval was provided. Staff were unable to secure an agreement with the applicant regarding the ongoing provision of fish passage past the intake structure in Quartz creek, which will be abandoned once the new intake is in use. Staff will work with the ORC within the bounds of the Regional Plan: Water to maintain fish passage in future years.
Aukaha	To construct a carpark opposite Otakou Marae	Staff provided initial feedback on the proposal regarding setbacks from the adjacent creek. This was adapted into the proposal and written approval was provided.
Dunedin City Council	To work in Silver Stream to construct bank and bed protection	Conditions were negotiated regarding planting and the rehabilitation of in-stream habitat after the work is completed. Written approval was provided on this basis.
Millbrook Country Club Ltd.	Works in Mill Creek, including the removal of, rock armouring and replacement of a weir	Conditions were negotiated regarding retaining the character of the stream and fish passage. Written approval was provided on this basis.

Consents submitted to the Queenstown Lakes District Council

Applicant	Activity	Outcome
Alpine Fishing Guides	Variation to consent to increase number of occupants in rafting trips downstream of Albert Town	Staff confirmed that no additional rafts would be used. Written approval was provided.

No written approvals were provided during the period for consents from the following bodies:

- Central Otago District Council
- Dunedin City Council
- Clutha District Council

Waitaki District Council

Staff were consulted on a proposal to submit an application for a road stopping in a forestry block near Palmerston. Staff advised that road stoppings which will limit current or future public access to the Pleasant River would not be supported and made preparations to find a negotiated solution with the applicant. Staff have recently been advised that the application will be progressed.

Recommendation: that this report be received.

Nigel Paragreen

Environmental Officer 20 November 2019

14.0 General Business