

Agenda Item 10:

Operational Report – for the period ended November 2019

Prepared by: Dean Kelly – Manager

Introduction

The Council's adopted governance policies require the manager to provide an Operational Report, specific proposals for capital expenditure and acquisitions as well as major issues and opportunities for the Council. There are further requirements for the Manager to provide assurance that the Management Limitations are being observed. The format of this report is therefore to certify compliance with Governance Policies, Management Limitations and provide other material, responses or assurance that Council objectives, strategies, plans, performance, risks, operation, resources and structure are being met.

Notifications of intention to purchase unbudgeted capital items in excess of \$10,000

Nothing to report.

Matters for the information of council

Staff:

Staff holiday entitlements: Manager, 53 hours
 Hokitika Officer, 45 hours
 Northern Officer, 90 hours

Vehicles:

Managers Vehicle: (start) 58,052km, 63,985 (fin) 63,985. Total private for period: 1,880km
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle: 145,140km (start) 145,140km (fin.) Total private for period: 2,358km
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle: (start) 26,790 km (fin.) 34,254 km Total private for period: 1,730 km

Bi-monthly report on outputs

1111 Drift Diving

Sportsfish dive surveys are underway, local volunteers are being utilised. The Mawherait, and some dives around Reefton have been completed.

1112 Lake Netting

Lakes Poerua and Brunner fish surveys completed.

1115 Sportsfishery Research

A sonde was installed into the lower New River approximately a month and a half ago. First month of data has been received from West Coast Regional Council. Discussions with West Coast Regional Council about likely installing two more Sondes, one in the upper New River for a control site and one on the Waimea Creek, Awatuna, as it also believed to be under alluvial gold mining pressure. Temperature logger's installation and electric fishing will commence in coming weeks if weather allows.

1116 Backcountry Fisheries Management

Cameras set to be installed to monitor angler activity during the week before the season starts. A meeting was held in Nelson with fishing guides and helicharter operators to discuss issues and create contacts. This is a very valuable exercise and compliance visits may be required this coming season in the Karamea and Mokihinui.

1161 Fisheries Enhancement

Staff have reviewed and updated the sports fishery enhancement matrix.

1171 Regulations/Gazette Notices

Prepared a list of proposed gamebird regulation changes for review by council before distributing to licence holders for consultation.

1211 RMA Plans/Policy/Consents

Fish and Game are still 'interested parties' in the Regional Policy Statement appeals. Mediation was successful with all parties reaching consensus on the appeals. It is now up to the Environment Court to accept the changes decided on through the mediation process.

| Applicant | Area | Type | Nature of work | Comments |
|-----------|------|------|----------------|----------|
|-----------|------|------|----------------|----------|

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|-----------------|------------------------------------|------------------|---|--|
| Garry Cooper | Duffers creek, Stafor Loop Road | Land use consent | Alluvial Gold Mining | No fishery but juveniles present |
| Trustpower Ltd | Arahura, Wainihinihi Creek | Land use consent | River protection works for infrastructure | Consulted and all maintenance work to be outside spawning |
| Oceana Gold Ltd | Globe Mine, Reefton | Discharge permit | Construction of spillway and discharge of water from pit lake | Site visit undertaken and consultation with Jonny Horrox |
| GDC and DoC | Croesus Rd, Blackball | Land use consent | Amendment to Croesus Rd consent | No discharges associated with cleanfill site change. |
| Aureon Ltd | Goldsborough | Land use consent | Alluvial gold mining | amendment to existing consent to incorporate new area. |

1212 Dairy Industry/Farmer Advocacy

General liaison with landowners regarding Access and Resource Consenting.

1213 DoC

Liaison regarding access and use and helicopter transport in Kahurangi National Park.

1311 Access

New angler access site on the lower Inangahua River.

1312 Assisted Hunting

Discussions around next years events and upping our game to provide variety to encourage more hunting.

1331 Website/Ezines/Social Media

Regular Facebook engagements have been posted. Submitted West Coast Reel life.

1331 Website/Ezines/Social Media

Baylee completed website training, updated the website and now will be able to keep it up to date with relevant material. Regular Facebook engagements have been done, focusing on lake fishing recently as rivers in flood. Submitted West Coast Reel life for October and November.

1332 Fish & Game Magazine

Preparations for the Gamebird supplement are underway.

1361 Clubs, Outdoor Recreation Groups

Communication with Lake Brunner Fishing competition ensuring it's a family orientated event, with minimal impact on the fishery. Will be aiding with weigh ins and potentially doing a junior skills session at competition. Glen or I will very likely attend Reefton Tusk, Tine & Trout competition to talking to anglers and hunters, with hope of promoting gamebird hunting. Both events are Westland Anniversary Weekend.

1371 Okuru Hut

The hut was well used by honorary rangers over the whitebait season with maintenance and compliance carried out by users.

1421 Media/Communication

Communication with anglers looking for specific information on the West Coast Area. Articles provided to papers regarding fishing season updates.

1511 Compliance

Compliance around river mouths, currently doing a trip to Karamea on fortnightly basis. There is the occasional angler, but presence has been felt with reports of white baiters releasing trout caught in nets in fear of being caught by Fish & Game.

1521 Ranger Training

Regular contact with rangers post opening of the sportfish season.

1531 Prosecutions

One warning issued and insistence on appropriate licence purchase. Angler did not meet the public interest test for a prosecution. One offence for fishing with no licence and giving false information is proceeding to court. One offender fishing with no licence met the criteria for diversion and this will be offered through the courts.

1621 Agent Liaison

All agents visited and checked to ensure they have received copies of new regulation guides and licence info. Packs.

1831 Annual Report

The Annual Report has been compiled and audited.

1841 National Liaison

Liaison was required for; Regulation guide simplification and standardisation, Salmon management, Research and financial performance.

1910 Staff Salaries & Payroll

Staff performance reviews were completed

1980 Equipment

Stocktake and assessment of field equipment completed. Vehicles serviced and gear maintained.

Staff Recommendation:

That this report be received.