

Agenda Item 10

Operational Report – for the period ended May 2021

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, 9 days
 Hokitika Officer, 0 days
 Northern Officer, 15 days

Vehicles:

Managers Vehicle: (start) 110,803km (fin) 117,953km. Total private for period: 1,425km
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle: (start) 50,597 km (fin.) 51,629. Total private for period: 1,222km
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle: (start) 83,342 km (fin.) 91,000 km. Total private for period: 2,074 km

Bi-monthly report on outputs

1113 Spawning Surveys

Salmon Spawning Surveys undertaken in South Westland and the Taramakau and Hokitika River tributaries.

1114 Trend Counts

Pukeko and Greyland trend counts completed. Reports completed.

1115 Sportsfishery Research

Electric fishing carried out on three sites that are Mawheraiti River tributaries as well as on the New River and two of its tributaries.

1116 Backcountry Fisheries Management

Four trail cameras capturing data in the Reefton area requiring fortnightly maintenance. Cameras now removed and last of the data is be reviewed. Backcountry Survey completed.

SI Regions partook in a forum to ascertain future regulation needs and highlight issues for pressure sensitive fisheries.

1121 National Hunter Survey

Surveys underway, as well as data collected during the first survey of summer season hunting activity.

1161 Fisheries Enhancement

1,000 salmon released into Lake Ianthe. Arrangements being made to source wild salmon for future releases.

1181 Game Bird Control

Hunters directed to properties where complaints regularly received.

1211 RMA Plans/Policy/Consents

Work continues on implementation and farm plan module for the NES for freshwater.

Applicant	Area	Type	Nature of work	Comments
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MacKinlay Farms Ltd	Kokatahi	Discharge Permit	Dairy Discharge reconstenting	Two pond and drain with land irrigation as well. 2x feed pads
Grey District Council	Moonlight River	Land use consent	Replace Bridge	Condition regarding fish passage and migration
Grey District Council	Rough River	Land use consent	Replace Bridge	Condition regarding fish passage and migration
Birchfield Minerals Ltd	Donnellys, Ross.	Land use consent	Alluvial Gold Mining	
Rob Little	Tributary of Grey	Land use consent	Divert tributary to fence stream	Outside spawning and migration period.
Selwyn Earthworks JV Ltd	Humphreys Gully, Arahura	Land use consent	Alluvial Gold Mining	

1212 Dairy Industry/Farmer Advocacy

Continued liaison with landowners regarding new freshwater standards and regulations.

1213 DOC

Discussed issues around Bach owner access at Okarito.

1311 Access

Aided with access for game bird hunters and have requested a legal opinion from Dean VanMierlo regarding WDC rating of Baches at Okarito. Replaced damaged lake sign at Lake Poerua.

1312 Assisted Hunting

Organised events planned and email sent out to West Coast licence holders. Opening weekend appears that harvest was down slightly on last year but hunters who done their scouting appear to have done well.

1331 Website/Ezines/Social Media

Relevant material has been posted on website. Regular Facebook engagements have been done, focusing on promoting 2021 gamebird season.

1332 Fish & Game Magazine

2021 Gamebird edition complete.

1341 Sportsfisheries Guides

Restocked agent supplies of sport fisheries guides.

1361 Clubs, Outdoor Recreation Groups

Attended the Ahaura Hunting and Fishing competition and the preseason clay target shoot at the Grey Gun Club.

1411 Cons.Bds. Iwi, Allied Groups

Pukeko harvested by young hunters club feathers were plucked and couriered to iwi in Rotorua to be incorporated into the weaving of a korowai. Liaised with local Runanga Chairs regarding the Ministerial Review.

1421 Media/Communication

Article releases regarding game bird hunting. Responded to queries regarding the Ministers review and Resource Consenting.

1511 Compliance

Compliance undertaken over opening weekend, checking 22 licences. Two juniors found to be hunting without a valid licence were made to purchase whole season licences and given a warning. Otherwise, compliance was good, with all hunters checked please to see rangers out.

Visiting anglers are still frequenting the South Westland lakes while on tour.

1621 Agent Liaison

Liaison continues regarding the upcoming gamebird season, ammunition supplies and firearms licencing.

1821 Plans Budgets

A draft workplan and budget has been produced. With staff reorganisation it is possible to work within the existing cost-saving budget of 2019 -5%. A copy has been provided for council approval. The revised 10 year plan has been put on hold considering the Ministerial Review implications.

1841 National Liaison

Managers are meeting more frequently to consider the implications of the Ministerial Review and coordinate operational functions.

1927 Occupational Safety and Health

Completed staff H&S meetings and have revised the workplan with a focus on the safety of operations.

1980 Offices

General maintenance including weed spraying, mowing and cleaning. The Lease for the Lake Kaniere Angling Club Bach has been sent to the lawyers for updating and to ensure it is to be used consistent with the purpose of the reserve.

1980 Equipment

The boat was damaged in a near miss incident. This has been repaired and tested as per Surveyors instructions.

Staffing

Considering the uncertainty around the future structure of Fish and Game with findings of the Ministerial Review it is not proposed to replace the full Fish and Game Officer role in the coming months. It is the winter period where staff have historically taken leave so there should not be an issue with workload. There is, however, an issue with continuation of business regarding Administration and options are being discussed with the Nelson region.

Staff Recommendation:

That this report be received.