

One hundred and fifty ninth meeting to be held via Zoom 23 & 25 August 2022

<i>Item</i>		<i>Pages</i>
1	Welcome and Chairperson's Introduction	3
2	Apologies	3
3	Conflicts of Interest for the Meeting	4
4	Approve minutes for meeting 158	6
5	Review Action List	11
6	Health and Safety	13
	<i>Decision Required</i>	
7	NZC Subcommittee Updates	14
8	Approval of Financial Budget 2022/23	19
9	Meeting Timetable	25
10	Pressure Sensitive Fisheries Management	30
11	Use of Reserves notification – Nelson Marlborough and Southland	58
12	Legal/RMA Applications	64
13	Research Applications	82
14	2022 Financial Report Process and Sign Off	97
15	Exclusion of the Public: Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987	100
	<i>Public Excluded Agenda Items Decisions Required</i>	
16	Confirm Public Excluded Minutes for Meeting 158	101
17	Freshwater Litigation	104
18	Rem Committee Update (oral)	
	<i>Reports to note</i>	
19	Advocacy Update	114
20	CE Report	120
21	NZC Finance Report	142

22 National Finance Report
Meeting close

163

2 Apologies

The Chairperson invites notice from members of:

1. Leave of absence for future meetings of the NZ Council; or
2. Apologies, including apologies for lateness and early departure from the meeting, where leave of absence has not previously been granted.

3 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

4 Items not on the Agenda

The Chairperson will give notice of items not on the agenda as follows:

Matters Requiring Urgent Attention as Determined by Resolution of Council

The Chairperson shall state to the meeting.

1. The reason why the item is not on the agenda; and
2. The reason why discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

The item may be allowed onto the agenda by resolution of the Council.

Minor Matters relating to the General Business of the Council

The Chairperson shall state to the meeting that the item will be discussed, but no resolution, decision, or recommendation may be made in respect of the item except to refer it to a subsequent meeting of the Council for further discussion.

REGISTER OF COUNCILLORS INTEREST FOR FISH & GAME NEW ZEALAND

Interests that should be declared in order for potential conflicts to be considered are:

- Directorships, including non-executive directorships held in companies or organisations.
- Ownership or part-ownership of private companies, businesses or consultancies likely or possibly seeking to do business with the Fish & Game NZ.
- Any interest in any company/organisation that provides or may provide services or support to Fish & Game NZ.
- Any interest where a contract in which he/she or any person connected with him/her has any pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, the Board member shall declare his/her interest by giving notice in writing of such fact to the Trust as soon as practicable.

NAME	POSITION	DETAILS OF INTEREST AND NATURE OF BUSINESS	DATE DECLARED
Rainsford J Grubb	Chair	F&G NZ Ministerial Review Implementation Committee	4/12/21
Rainsford J Grubb		Haunt Digital, Software Developers	4/12/21
Rainsford J Grubb	Chief Ombudsman	Personal friendship	4/12/21
Rainsford J Grubb	Consultant	Ngāi Tahu	4/12/21
Rainsford J Grubb	FIG Member	Freshwater Implementation Group Advisory	4/12/21
Rainsford J Grubb	Chair	F&G NZ Council	4/12/21
Rainsford J Grubb		previous membership with Kiwi Anglers	25/3/2022
Darryl Reardon	F&G NZ Council Member	Nothing to Declare	10/12/21
Dave Harris	F&G NZ Council Member	Nothing to declare	4/12/21
Gerard Karalus	Member	Tongariro & Lake Taupo Anglers Club	4/12/21
Gerard Karalus	Owner/occupier	Misty Creek Trust (small beef farmer)	4/12/21
Gerard Karalus	Independent Contractor	Dairy Trust Taranaki	4/12/21
Gerard Karalus	Independent Contractor	Land base training ltd	4/12/21

NAME	POSITION	DETAILS OF INTEREST AND NATURE OF BUSINESS	DATE DECLARED
Dave Coll	F&G NZ Council Member	Nothing to declare	4/12/21
Debbie Oakley	Director/shareholder	Several horticultural companies/entities (Kiwifruit growers)	4/12/21
Debbie Oakley	Chair	Seeka Growers Ltd (Kiwifruit)	4/12/21
Richard McIntyre	Dairy Chair	Federated Farmers	13/07/22
Richard McIntyre	Trustee	NZ Dairy Industry awards	4/12/21
Richard McIntyre	Owner/occupier	McIntyre Dairy Ltd (dairy & dry stock farming)	4/12/21
Dean Phibbs	General Manager Finance	Buller Holdings Ltd	7/12/21
Dean Phibbs	Trustee	Buller Electric Power Trust	7/12/21
Dean Phibbs	Member	NZ Whitebait Stakeholder Governance Group	7/12/21
Grey Duley	NZ Hunter	Magazine and TV Show	4/12/21
Linn Koevoet	Committee Member	Lower Waitaki River Management Society	4/12/21
Linn Koevoet	Administration and committee member	Waitaki River Volunteer Salmon Hatchery	4/12/21
Linn Koevoet	Section Co Ordination	civil defence	4/12/21

Approve Minutes for meeting 158

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting 159 August 2022

One hundred and fifty eighth meeting of the
New Zealand Fish and Game Council
16 June 2022
via Zoom

PRESENT

NZ Councillors:

Ray Grubb (Chair), Debbie Oakley, Dave Harris, Richard McIntyre, Dave Coll, Gerard Karalus, Greg Duley, Barrie Barnes, Dean Phibbs, Darryl Reardon.

NZC Staff:

Brian Anderton, Acting Chief Executive, Carmel Veitch CFO, Jack Kós Senior Policy Advisor

Guests:

-

1. Welcome and CE's Introduction

- Meeting started 7:02pm

2. Apologies

- Apology received from Crs. Koevoet & Kroos.

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. *Agree that apologies from Crs. Koevoet & Kroos be received.*

Moved: Crs. Oakley/Duley

Carried unanimous

3. Declaration of Interest & Oath of Office

- No new declarations of interest or in relation to specific items of business.

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. *Note any conflicts*

Moved: Crs.

Carried

4. Approve Minutes for Meeting 157

- Bottom p2 number 5 – agree to approve in principle the CF application to continue with the CURRENT field officer.
- Continuation of agenda item 11 – Annual fee for whole season licence fee recommended for CONSULTATION. Same on p 3 recommendation 3.
- P.5 point 2 Note that working party report received on non-resident angler options.

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. **Approve** minutes for meeting 157 subject to the above amendments.

Moved: Crs. Phibbs/Barnes

Carried unanimous

- Matters arising from the minutes:
 - Query around whether CFO had visited Northland but confirmed that the timeframe for this is ahead of next FY budget rounds so will be done next year.
 - Query around the policy justification for the recommendations of NZC and confirmed this along with working party report was communicated to regional Fish and Game Councils.
 - Action points from Chair:
 - Writing to MOC about devising formula for licence fee increases
 - Reviewing individual licence categories
 - Asking regions to review PSF
 - Planning and risk process
 - Angus proposal
 - Cawthron Board
 - National Policy Subcommittee
 - Fish Passage
 - MOU with DOC
 - Environment Aotearoa Trust
 - Cawthron risk analysis
 - RMA group training.
 - Request for report on above for August and CE confirmed this will occur.

5. Licence Fee Recommendation

- Staff spoke to paper on this and outlined that there is a majority of support from Councils for CPI adjustment - \$145 and \$107. Noted strong consensus for regions to go for recommendations as consulted on.
- Crs comments that there were a variety of views expressed within their Councils in reaching their feedback.

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. **Receive** the information.

AND

2. **Agree** to recommend a resident sports fishing whole season licence fee of \$145 and an adult whole season game licence fee of \$107 (inclusive of \$5 GBHT stamp) to the Minister, with all corresponding categories priced on existing ratios.

Moved: Crs. Oakley/Coll

Carried unanimous

- Substantial debate around non-resident day licence fees, particularly for large lake fisheries such as Rotorua and Wakatipu.
- Crs. clarified that the fees were not a mechanism to reduce pressure but intended to achieve parity with comparable fisheries internationally and to offset resident fee in future years.
- CE spoke to the day licence pricing and noted the conversations had with the regions most impacted. Believe that at this stage there is not room for the non-resident day

licence to be increased at all. Noted past changes to ratios and the impacts on licence sales. Staff view, supported by managers, is that we are at price sensitivity for the day licence. Outlined risk of sale of more day licences in lieu of a whole season licence. Noted this has no budgetary implications.

- CFO confirmed no budgetary implications – regardless of what price we set it at the amount going into our base funds remains the same because of the non-resident levy system.
3. *Agree to recommend an adult whole season non-resident sports fishing licence fee of \$250 to the Minister.*
Moved: Crs. Grubb/Phibbs
Carried
4. *That all NR day licence categories are held at the 2021/22 levels.*
Moved: Crs. Phibbs/Harris
Carried (Cr. McIntyre against)
- Brief discussion on reducing the fee for NR child day licences, but agreed this will be considered for next year.

AND

5. *Agree to recommend a fee of \$5 for sea run salmon licence endorsements.*
Moved: Crs. Karalus/Reardon
Carried unanimous
- Substantial discussion amongst Crs. on the status of NR reserves currently, and the way that NR licence income is currently treated.
 - Chair noted there is \$1.1m accrued in NR reserves.
 - Staff clarified that this reserve can be used for any fisheries purpose.
 - Broad discussion had by Crs. on the process for consulting on the approach to non-resident licence income and agreed to consult with regions on how these funds are treated ahead of the 2023/24 seasons.
6. *Agree to consult with regions on bringing the non-resident levy amount into general licence income.*
Moved: Crs. Phibbs/Coll
Carried (Cr. Reardon against)
7. *Agree to defer designated waters licence and consider it in conjunction with the pressure sensitive fisheries paper in readiness for the 2023/24 season.*
Moved: Crs. Harris/Grubb
Carried unanimous

6. Approval of NZC Budget 2022/23

- Chair queried whether there was any impact on budget based on licence fee recommendations.
- CFO clarified there was not.
- CE noted this was just codifying decisions made in April.

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. *Receive this report*

2. *Approve the Budget of \$3,247,365 be approved as per Table 3. With the breakdown of \$1,158,765 NZC Budget and \$2,088,600 National budget.*

Moved: Crs. Oakley/Karalus

Carried unanimous

7. Public Excluded Motion

Recommendation:

1. *That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:*

(a) pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 exclude the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED	REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER	GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION
Confirm Public Excluded minutes for meeting 157	As per PE motion in Public Minutes 157	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
Rem Committee Update (oral)	S9(2)(i) OIA Exclusion of the public is necessary to enable the organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities; or	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
ESL Update (oral)	S9(2)(i) OIA Exclusion of the public is necessary to enable the organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities; or	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.

(b) And that staff remain to provide advice to the Council on all items

Moved: Crs. Harris/Coll

Carried unanimous

Resolutions brought out of public excluded:

1. *That the report is received and that a further report is prepared for the August meeting.*
2. *That the Remuneration committee prepare a circular to be sent to staff.*
3. *To approve strategic pay to continue their work.*

Moved: Crs. Oakley/Harris

Carried unanimous

8. CE Report

- CE provided update and noted making progress on comms and branding working group.
- Group is g=close to having the comms strategy ready to be signed off for consultation by NZC. Little more thought required on brand strategy.

9. NZC Finance Report

- CFO noted that perceived surplus is based on underspent RMA fund and these funds will come through eventually. Overall year end position against budget is expected to be favourable.
- Chair: Outlined request from CSI Chair for governance support.

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. *Receive the NZC Finance report for the 9 months ended 31 May 2022 with a surplus of \$670,009.*
2. *Reallocate \$10,000 from Regional Audit (Governance) to CSI Support and Governance Training.*

Moved: Crs. McIntyre/Reardon

Carried unanimously

- August meeting
 - **Next meeting dates: August as scheduled and 16/17 September strategic planning workshop (Cr. Karalus an apology)**

Meeting concluded 9:15pm

Minutes submitted by:

Brian Anderton

Date:

Minutes approved by:

Ray Grubb

Date:

Review Action List

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2022

1. *Note the action list.*

June 2022

	<u>Action</u>	<u>Person Responsible</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
1	Reviewing individual licence categories	JK/LWP	April 2023	On track
2	Asking regions to review Pressure Sensitive Fisheries	JK	Post pressure sensitive fisheries finalisation	Underway
3	Planning and risk process	CJ/RG	TBD	Process commences at September workshop
4	National Policy Subcommittee	CJ/RG	TBD	Process commences post-September workshop
5	Angus & Associates research proposal	Research Strategy Subcommittee	November 2022	TBD
6	Cawthron Board	Research Strategy Subcommittee	July 2022	Done
7	RMA group training	RR	ASAP	Underway – currently identifying training options
8	Environment Aotearoa Trust	BA/RR		Deferred, Trust unlikely to be incorporated.
9	Cawthron risk analysis	NZC exec	ASAP	To be undertaken once action 13 is complete.
12	Licence Fee Consultation	CV/JK/BA	June 2022	Done
13	CE to meet w/ Robin Holmes	CJ	ASAP	Not yet complete
14	Promotion of what we do with licence income, inc. GBHT stamp	Comms		Underway, further work once comms

				strategy is in place.
15	Communications Strategy	Richard McIntyre	November	With regional councils for consultation, due back to NZC November.

Health and Safety Report

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2022

As part of its commitment to Health and Safety and providing a safe workplace, the New Zealand Fish and Game Council requires a report at each meeting.

1.	Implementation and adherence to the Health & Safety policy/manual
	Yes.
2.	Risk Management (identification and treatment)
	Continued protocols in place for covid-19 track and trace. Updated for Orange traffic flight
3.	Training and awareness raising
	Fire Drill in Office on 21 st February and on the 28 th March.
4.	H&S incidents
	None to report
5.	Near misses and/or injuries
	No injuries reported.

NZC Subcommittee Updates

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting 159 August 2022

Prepared by: Brian Anderton, Deputy Chief Executive, NZ Fish and Game Council

Kōrero taunaki - Summary of considerations

Purpose

This report to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council notes:

1. Cr Richard McIntyre has resigned from the Executive Committee of the New Zealand Council.
2. The update from the Research Strategy Sub-committee.

Financial considerations

Nil Budgetary provision / Unbudgeted

Risk

Low Medium High Extreme

Ngā taunaki - Staff Recommendations

NZC Staff recommend the following motion:

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. Receive the information.
2. Agree appoint XXX to the Exec Committee

NZC Executive

Whakarāpopoto - Executive Summary

- 1 In December 2021, Cr Richard McIntyre was appointed to the Executive Committee of the New Zealand Council. He has now resigned from the Committee so a vacancy exists, should the New Zealand Council wish to fill.

Kōrerorero - Discussion

- 2 The Governance Policies sets the functions of the Executive Committee as follows:

An Executive Committee, consisting of not less than three members shall be charged with the following:

- *To carry out the functions of a Committee of the New Zealand Council in a manner consistent with the Council's Governance Policies and Standing Orders.*
 - *To assist and advise the Chief Executive in the consideration and action of matters of urgency, confidentiality and sensitivity and inform the New Zealand Council in a manner deemed appropriate whilst ensuring adherence to the Council's high standards of ethics, corporate behaviour and transparency.*
 - *To provide advice, guidance and support to the Chief Executive on an as requested basis but without impinging on the Chief Executive's delegated powers.*
 - *At the Chairperson's discretion, the Executive Committee may collectively assume the Chairperson's representation and communication role outside of New Zealand Council meetings as prescribed in Governance Policy 1.5 The Role of the Chairperson and specifically as regards policies 1.5, a. a.3 and 1.5, a. a.4.*
 - *To temporarily act in the place of the Chairperson in the event of the Chairperson's unavoidable or unexpected absence or unavailability in any period prior to the next New Zealand Council meeting.*
 - *To replace the Audit and Risk Committee and the Remuneration Committee and complete all functions previously delegated to those committees.*
 - *Attend to the preparation and completion of the Chief Executive's annual performance appraisal.*
 - *Report to New Zealand Council on its activities.*
 - *To assume such other responsibilities as New Zealand Council deems appropriate.*
- 3 Policies also require that the following in terms of risk management:

The Council is ultimately accountable for risk management of its affairs and will therefore require, review and approve through the Executive Committee an annual risk management plan presented and prepared by the Chief Executive. It can request that the plan be redone or otherwise improved if it is not satisfied that it sufficiently addresses all issues. The plan shall include, but not be limited to:

- *Identification of risks (including business, financial, compliance, operational and staff succession);*
- *Prioritisation of risks;*
- *A risk management plan (including accountabilities, the control strategy, residual risks and warning mechanisms); and*
- *Implementation and monitoring*

Ngā kōwhiringa - Options

- 4 The Council may
 - a. Agree to appoint XXX
 - b. Agree to leave the vacancy
 - c. Agree to delay any appointment to the next meeting of Council.

Executive Committee Meetings

- 5 At the April NZ Council meeting, the NZC Exec was delegated by NZC to finalise decisions on the North Canterbury RM/Legal Fund application. The attached letter outlines the decision made.

Research Strategy Sub-Committee

- 6 The Research Strategy Sub-Committee met on Tuesday 26th July to consider the Fish & Game appointments to the Weatherhead Scholarship Board. The committee resolved to appoint Dr. Adam Daniels of Auckland/Waikato and Dr. Jack Kós of NZC.
- 7 There is one vacancy remaining on the Research Strategy Sub-committee for a regional representative and we would encourage you to consider potential applicants to contact NZC staff.

Remuneration Committee

- 8 This will be updated by an oral item in the public excluded aspect of the Council meeting.

Policy modernisation

- 9 This committee has not yet met.

Whai whakaaro ki ngā whakataunga - Considerations for decision-making

Financial Implications

10 There are no financial implications

Legislative Implications

11 Nil

Section 4 Treaty Responsibilities

12 Nil

Policy Implications

13 Nil

Risks and mitigations

14 Nil

Consultation

15 Not required as it is a decision for NZ Council



6 July 2022

Rasmus Gabrielsson
North Canterbury Fish and Game Council
595 Johns Road
Christchurch 8051

Tēnā koe Rasmus,

Re: RMA/Legal Fund Application

I am pleased to inform you that at its meeting on 5 July, the NZ Council Executive acting under delegation of NZ Council approved \$100,000 towards the North Canterbury Fish and Game Council's application to the RMA/Legal fund for the Rakaia WCO Funding Application. This is inclusive of the \$30,000 already approved.

The NZC Executive did, however, have two requests of your Council in granting this application:

1. That you continue to liaise with the Environmental Defence Society to maximise the national impact of this hearing and to minimise legal costs.
2. That NZC is kept informed of progress in this case. There is a specific national interest in WCO matters and we note the National Executive of Acclimatisation Societies was an original applicant for the WCO (the same role NZC fills now).

The usual process for funding is for your council to pay the invoice in the first instance and send an invoice to NZC (via Carmel Veitch), along with any back up documentation, and Carmel will action a reimbursement from the RMA/Legal fund.

As usual, the NZC expect projects such as this are run to budget. If you anticipate that the budget may be exceeded we request that an application for supplementary funding is submitted to NZC prior to any further commitments.

I wish to thank you for all your help and advice and further information provided to help reach this decision.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'B Anderton'.

Brian Anderton
Acting Chief Executive
New Zealand Fish and Game Council

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

New Zealand Council

Level 2, The Dominion Building, 78 Victoria Street, Wellington 6011. P.O. Box 25-055, Wellington 6146, New Zealand.
Telephone (04) 499 4767 Email nzcouncil@fishandgame.org.nz www.fishandgame.org.nz

Approval of the NZC/National 2022/23 Financial Budget

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting 159 23rd and 25th August 2022

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Kōrero taunaki - Summary of considerations

Purpose

To approve the New Zealand Fish and Game Council Financial Budget for the year ended 31 August 2023

Financial considerations

Nil Budgetary provision / Unbudgeted

Risk

Low Medium High Extreme

Ngā taunaki - Staff Recommendations

NZC Staff recommend the following motion:

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. Approve the 2022/23 Budget Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 August 2023 with a Deficit of \$120,474.
2. Approve Capital Expenditure for the year of \$2,600.

Whakarāpopoto - Executive Summary

- 1 Approval of the Financial Budget for New Zealand for the year end 31 August 2023 with a Deficit of \$120,474.

Takenga mai - Background

- 2 In the 157th meeting the NZC Approved the NZC/ National Base Funding of \$2,169,057 (\$1,130,607 for NZC and \$1,038,450 for National) for the year end 31 August 2023.
- 3 Contestable Funding applications for NZC were approved for NZC totalling \$28,158, and for the National Budget of \$ 1,050,150 for the National Budget.

Summary of NZC/ National Contestable Fund Approvals					
#		Project	Amount	Licence Fee of reserves	Base or One off
NZC 01	NZC	Planning /Reporting - Public records Disposal	12,000	Licence Fee	One Off
NZC Int	NZC	Loss of Interest reinstatement	16,158	Licence Fee	Base Funds
TOTAL NZC			28,158		
NAT 02	National	Magazine Costs - new contract	98,000	Licence Fee	Base Funds
NAT 04	National	Licence Production & Contract	50,000	Licence Fee	Base Funds
NAT 05	National	EAP - National Support	5,000	Licence Fee	Base Funds
NAT 06	National	National Staff Conference	30,000	Licence Fee	Base Funds
NAT 07	National	Maritime Compliance	5,000	Licence Fee	One off
NAT 08	National	RMA	350,000	Licence Fee	One Off
	National	Review Costs	500,000	Licence Fee	One Off
NAT 09	National	Cyber Insurance - placeholder \$ not yet confirmed	4,770	Licence Fee	Base Funds
NAT 10	National	Office 365 Back up	7,380	Licence Fee	Base Funds
TOTAL National			1,050,150		
TOTAL APPROVED			1,078,308		

4

- 5 At the 158th meeting in July 2022 the NZC approved the NZC/Base Funds/OWP of \$3,247,365 (NZC \$1,158,765 and National \$2,088,600). Which is the Base funds approved (\$2,169,057) plus contestable funding Approvals (\$1,078,308)
- 6 The Public Finance Act 1989 requires that Council approve the Budget Statement of Financial Performance. While this does not change any aspect of the OWP or the way in which we operate, it is necessary to complete this process.
- 7 Proposed budget figures for the Budget Statement of Financial Performance are directly obtained from the expenditure budget approved by Council in June 2022. (With 2 changes as per recommended in the discussion below)
- 8 The Budget Statement of Financial Performance is prepared in accordance to Tier 2 Public Benefit International Public Sector Accounting Standards – RDR (reduced disclosure).
- 9 There are a number of financial adjustments necessary to transition from the OWP to the Financial Statements Budget. These adjustments include levies, interest income, grants, asset replacement reserves/depreciation, any spending from dedicated reserves, and budgeted Capital purchases

for the year. These items are not included in the Fish and Game budget (OWP), which is used to calculate licence fees

Kōrerorero - Discussion

- 10 Since presenting the OWP to the NZC at the April meeting, a thorough analysis of the accounts have been made and discussions with Staff as to workflows.
- 11 The Budget for Website and Social Media no longer requires the \$86k budget as at present the CRM part of the website development is not taking place.
- 12 Budgets that were reduced from last year were Marketing and Advocacy – hence we have reallocated 10k each to these projects from the Website and social media Budget.
- 13 The impact of this is the Website and Social media budget is reduced to 66,450, and the Marketing returns to 60,000 and the Advocacy budget to 60,400.
- 14 The website development budget – was \$200k in the 2021 year. \$80k of this was carried over to the 2022 year. This \$80k will need to be transferred to the 2022/23 year. This is due to timing with the website project covered in the CEO's report.

Whai whakaaro ki ngā whakataunga - Considerations for decision-making

Financial Implications

- 15 The Budget Deficit for the year ended 31 August 20223 is forecast to be is \$120,474 (refer Table 1)

Budget Reconciliation	
OWP to Financial Budget	
For the year ended 31 August 2023	
Approved NZC - OWP	(1,158,765)
Approved National - OWP	(2,088,600)
TOTAL OWP Budget	(3,247,365)
Plus Levies	3,782,761
Plus Interest	16,158
Less Grants	(585,070)
Plus ARF per OWP	2,662
Less Depreciation	(9,620)
Less Website Development C/f	(80,000)
Deficit for the Year	(120,474)

- 15.1 Capital purchases for the year 2022/23 are budgeted to be \$2,600. (via the Asset replacement fund) The only purchase budgeted at present is the replacement of a Computer,

Legislative Implications

16 n/a

Section 4 Treaty Responsibilities

17 n/a.

Policy Implications

18 National Finance/Budget Policy.

Risks and mitigations

19 n/a

Consultation

20 Budget Consultation have been undertaken. The Minister approved the licence fee on 27th June 2022.

Table 1: BUDGET Statement of Financial Performance

New Zealand Fish and Game Council For the year ended 31 August 2023

	2023 NZC BUDGET	2023 NATIONAL BUDGET	2023 OVERALL BUDGET	CHECK
INCOME				
Levies	3,782,761	-	3,782,761	-
Interest Income	16,158	-	16,158	-
Other income				
Advertising & Merchandise	-	30,000	30,000	-
Sundry Income	12,000	-	12,000	-
Magazine Contributions	-	110,000	110,000	-
Total Other income	12,000	140,000	152,000	-
Total INCOME	3,810,919	140,000	3,950,919	-
GRANTS TO REGIONS				
Grants to Regions	585,070	-	585,070	-
Total GRANTS TO REGIONS	585,070	-	585,070	-
OUTPUTS				
ADVOCACY				
Advocacy - Legal & Specialist Advice	50,400	10,000	60,400	-
National Public Awareness	7,500	30,500	38,000	-
National Magazine	-	298,000	298,000	-
RMA/Legal	-	350,000	350,000	-
Total ADVOCACY	57,900	688,500	746,400	-
RESEARCH				
Research Programme	-	75,000	75,000	-
Research - Phd Programme	-	25,000	25,000	-
Research - National Anglers Survey	-	30,000	30,000	-
Total RESEARCH	-	130,000	130,000	-
CO-ORDINATION				
Business Development & R3	-	12,000	12,000	-
Marketing	-	60,000	60,000	-
Business & Financial Support	4,000	-	4,000	-
Co-ordination National - CEO Travel	6,000	-	6,000	-
Co-ordination - Administration	-	5,000	5,000	-
Elections	-	45,000	45,000	-
Regulations	-	72,000	72,000	-
Information Technology- National	12,000	52,150	64,150	-
Maritime NZ Compliance	-	8,000	8,000	-
Manager Meetings	-	12,000	12,000	-
Staff Conference	-	30,000	30,000	-
Staff Development Grant	-	10,000	10,000	-

Table 1: BUDGET Statement of Financial Performance

	2023 NZC BUDGET	2023 NATIONAL BUDGET	2023 OVERALL BUDGET	CHECK
Youth Education Programme	-	7,000	7,000	-
Website and Social Media	-	66,450	66,450	-
Website Development	-	80,000	80,000	-
Ranger Co-ordination	-	27,500	27,500	-
Licencing	-	503,000	503,000	-
Total CO-ORDINATION	22,000	990,100	1,012,100	-
Total OUTPUTS	79,900	1,808,600	1,888,500	-
GOVERNANCE				
New Zealand Council	45,000	-	45,000	-
Governance Advice & Performance	20,000	-	20,000	-
Governors Forum	12,000	-	12,000	-
Regional Audit	10,000	-	10,000	-
Ministerial Review & Implementation	-	500,000	500,000	-
Total GOVERNANCE	87,000	500,000	587,000	-
OVERHEADS				
Salaries & Contractors	874,403	-	874,403	-
Staff Expenses	17,100	-	17,100	-
Office Premises	60,900	-	60,900	-
Office Equipment	2,000	-	2,000	-
Communications/Consumables	24,200	-	24,200	-
General (inc Insurance)	8,600	-	8,600	-
Financial Audit Fee	14,000	-	14,000	-
Depreciation	9,620	-	9,620	-
Total OVERHEADS	1,010,823	-	1,010,823	-
Total Expenses	1,762,793	2,308,600	4,071,393	-
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	2,048,126	(2,168,600)	(120,474)	-

Meeting and Budget Timetable for 2022/23

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting 159 August 2022

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Kōrero taunaki - Summary of considerations

Purpose

To propose to the New Zealand Council the dates for meetings for the 2022/23 year, in order to meet budget and submissions required.

Financial considerations

Nil Budgetary provision Unbudgeted

Risk

Low Medium High Extreme

Ngā taunaki - Staff Recommendations

NZC Staff recommend the following motion:

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. Agree to the proposed meetings for the New Zealand Council in 2022/23:
 - i. 25th & 26th November 2022 in Wellington
 - ii. 10th to 12th February 2023 in Wellington
 - iii. 21st & 22nd April 2023 in Wellington
 - iv. 15th June 2023 by Zoom 7pm to 9pm
 - v. 15th and 17th August 2023 by Zoom 7pm to 9pm
 - vi. 24th and 25th November 2023 in Wellington
2. Agree to a Governors Forum be held in Wellington on 11th February 2023.
3. Agree that a Strategic workshop for the New Zealand Council be held 16th and 17th September 2022 in Wellington.
4. Agree that proposed face to face meeting of the Managers take place in Wellington on 20th April with a Joint meeting on the 21st April 2023.
5. Agree to consult with Regions on the proposed dates for the NZC, Governors and Managers meetings.
6. Note that these dates may be subject to change and/or additional meetings/workshops may be required due to the implementation of the Review.

Takenga mai - Background

- 1 The Fish and Game budgeting cycle is connected to the dates required to submit the licence fee submission to the Minister of Conservation.
- 2 Within the process NZC must consult with regions on the licence fee, budgets and levies.
- 3 The meeting timetable must take into consideration the time needed to consult with Regions.
- 4 The budget allows for three face to face meetings (one being a joint meeting with the managers) and 2 zoom meetings to complete the fee recommendation process.
- 5 The budget also allows for a Governors meeting – where the Chairs of each Regional council meet with the NZC.

Kōrerorero - Discussion

- 1 Refer to the table attached to this paper for the proposed meeting timetable.
- 2 The 15th of June NZC licence fee meeting requires regional Fish and Game Council June meeting dates to fall prior to 12th June to feed into the submission of the recommendation to the Minister by 19th June.
- 3 Additional meetings may be required due to the Review – these dates are not yet finalised.

Whai whakaaro ki ngā whakataunga - Considerations for decision-making

Financial Implications

- 4 \$45,000 is allocated to 3 face to face meetings for the New Zealand Council in any Financial year (Nov 22, Feb 23 and April 23). Zoom meetings are held in June and August 2023.
- 5 \$12,000 is allocated for the Governors forum proposed for 11th February 2023.
- 6 \$12,000 is allocated to the Managers meeting held in April 2023. Zoom meetings have been proposed 3 weeks before each NZC meeting for recommendations from managers to feed into the NZC Agenda.
- 7 There are additional funds available within the review budget for any meetings/hui/forums required for implementation of the Review.

Legislative Implications

- 8 Meetings have been proposed in order to have timely submissions for Licence fees and regulations.

Section 4 Treaty Responsibilities

9 None.

Policy Implications

10 None.

Risks and mitigations

11 None.

Consultation

12 Regions will be consulted on these proposed dates and asked to provide feedback by 1 November 2022.

Ngā mahinga e whai ake nei - Next actions

13 If agreed, these dates will be consulted on with Regions and a final decision on meeting dates will be made at the November 2022 NZC meeting.

2022-23 Annual Budget & Meeting Timetable DRAFT For NZC meeting August 2022

Colour Key:

	Public Holidays
	NZ Council Meetings
	Meetings of Managers
	NZGBHT Board
	Governors Meetings

Month	Date & Day	Subject
September 2022	1st Thursday	New Financial Year for Fish & Game
	8th Thursday	Managers meeting 10-12.30pm by ZOOM
	16th Friday & 17th Saturday	NZC Strategic Planning workshop
	23rd Friday & 24th Saturday	GBHT Board Meeting in Christchurch – including field trip on Friday
October 2022	1st Saturday	Sport Fishing Opening
	21st Friday	Applications Close for Staff Development Grant
	24th Monday	Labour Day
November 2022	1st Monday	High country sports fishing opening (Otago)
	2nd Tuesday	Licence Working Party to meet re 2023/24 Forecasts
	4th Thursday	Managers meeting by zoom to feed into the NZC meeting 25 th
	5th Saturday	High country sports fishing opening (North Canterbury and CSI)
	25th & 26th Friday - Saturday	NZ Council Meeting – Wellington
December 2022	17th Thursday	Managers meeting 10-12.30 by Zoom
	25th Sunday	Christmas Day
	26th Monday	Boxing Day
	27th Tuesday	Christmas Day observed
	30th Friday	All Annual meetings must be completed
	30th Friday	All Variance report and Reserves Schedules to CV - Finance
January 2023	1st Sunday	New Year's Day
	2nd Monday	New Year's Day observed
	3rd Tuesday	Day after New Year's Day
	20 th Friday	CV to return summary of Variance Reports to Managers with queries
	19 th Thursday	Managers Meeting -zoom to feed into NZC 10 th Feb meeting
	27 th Friday	Final Day for regulation details from Fish & Game Councils for Game Notice
	February 2023	
	2 nd Thursday	World Wetland Day, release of 2023 Habitat Stamp
	3 rd Friday	Final circulation of Variance Reports to Managers
	6th Monday	Waitangi Day – observed
	10 th Friday	Final day for game regulation guide content to be sent to NZC
	10th to 12th Friday to Sunday	NZ Council meeting in Wellington
	11th Saturday	Governors – NZC and Chairs. Planning and Governance
	24 th Friday OR following week	Publish Game Notice in NZ Gazette
March 2023	9 th Thursday	Game Bird hunting licences go on sale
	13 th Monday	Magazine Out (Game)
	22 nd Wednesday	Final date for receipt of draft budgets and contestable fund applications

Month	Date & Day	Subject
	31 st Friday	Applications Close for Staff Development Grant
April 2023	2 nd Sunday	Mark-up or Pegging Day
	6 th Thursday	Circulation of budgets, contestable funding applications and budget summaries
	7 th Friday	Good Friday
	8 th Sunday	Easter Day
	9 th Monday	Easter Monday
	20 th Thursday	Meeting of Managers in Wellington
	21 st Friday	Joint NZ Council & Managers Meeting in Wellington in am
	22 nd Saturday	NZ Council Meeting in Wellington
May 2023	6 th Saturday	Game Bird Season Opening
	25 th Thursday	Managers meeting zoom to feed into NZC June 15 th meeting
June 2023	5 th Monday	Queen's Birthday
	12 th Wednesday	Final date for receipt of Fish & Game regional responses to licence fee proposals
	15 th Thursday	NZ Council Meeting – ZOOM 7pm to 9pm
	19 th Monday	Licence fee submission to MOC
	23 rd Friday	Final Day for Anglers Notice & SFLFFN backcountry/sea run salmon content to be sent to NZC
	30 th Friday	Final day for sports fishing regulation guide content to be sent to NZC
	30 th Friday	Final Day for submissions for NZGBHT Grant applications
	7 th Thursday	Managers meeting 10-12.30pm by ZOOM
	11 th Tuesday	Send out grant submissions to GBHT Board members
	14 th Friday	Matariki
	19 th Wednesday	GBHT Board Zoom 11am
	25 th Tuesday	Publish Anglers Notice in NZ Gazette
	27 th Thursday	Managers meeting 10-12.30pm ZOOM – to feed into NZC 15 th August
	August 2023	17 th Thursday
28 th Monday		Magazine out (Fish)
15 th & 17 th Tuesday & Thursday		NZ Council Meeting by Zoom 7pm to 9pm
25 rd & 26 th Friday & Saturday		GBHT Board Meeting in ?? First meeting of new Trustees
31 st Thursday		End of Financial Year Fish & Game
September 2023		
October 2023	1 st Sunday	Sport Fishing Opening (Eastern Lakes 7 th)
	23 rd Monday	Labour Day
November 2023	1 st Wednesday	Back country sports fishing opening (Otago)
	2 nd Thursday	Managers meeting by zoom -10-12.30 to feed into the NZC meeting 24 th
	4 th Saturday	Back country sports fishing opening (North Canterbury and CSI)
	24 th & 25 th Friday - Saturday	NZ Council Meeting – Wellington

Pressure Sensitive Fisheries Options Paper

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting 159 August 2022

Prepared by: Jack Kós, Senior Policy & Legal Advisor, NZ Fish and Game Council

Kōrero taunaki - Summary of considerations

Purpose

This report to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council seeks final approval for the pressure sensitive fisheries management options paper.

Financial considerations

Nil Budgetary provision / Unbudgeted

Risk

Low Medium High Extreme

Ngā taunaki - Staff Recommendations

NZC Staff recommend the following motion:

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. Approve the attached paper as national policy.
2. Note the next steps of:
 1. Briefing the Minister of Conservation.
 2. Working with regional Fish and Game councils ahead of Anglers Notice process.
 3. Work with Department & PCO on drafting Anglers & Sports Fish Licences Fees and Forms Notices.

Whakarāpopoto - Executive Summary

- 1 Regional consultation has demonstrated unanimous support for the proposal as drafted.
- 2 Minor amendments have been made to the paper following regional feedback.

Takenga mai - Background

- 3 Following substantial engagement with affected regions over a period of two years, and building on prior work undertaken, a pressure sensitive fisheries options paper was prepared, which proposed management options to address unsustainable angling pressure in sensitive fisheries.
- 4 In February 2022 NZC approved this draft Pressure Sensitive Fisheries options paper for consultation with regional Fish and Game councils.
- 5 Consultation has been undertaken across the past six months.

Kōrerorero - Discussion

- 6 As set out below, regional feedback was in support of the paper and, as a result of high pre-engagement with regions, there were relatively few amendments proposed.
- 7 Amendments to the paper approved in February are as follows:
 - 7.1 Throughout – minor grammar and wording changes.
 - 7.2 P.6 – Updates based on changes in NR licence fees.
 - 7.3 P.7 –
 - 7.3.1 Addition of survey data setting out non-resident angling behaviour.
 - 7.3.2 Removal of conflicting citation.
 - 7.4 P.9 – Additional of survey data to Covid-19 section.
 - 7.5 Pp.15-16 – Updates based on changes in NR licence fees.
 - 7.6 P.18 & 20 – Shifted discussion on consecutive day limit to p.20.
 - 7.7 P.20 – Data basis for four designated waters licence limit for non-resident anglers.

Ngā kōwhiringa - Options

- 8 The Council may:
 - a. Agree to approve the attached paper; or
 - b. Agree to not approve the attached paper; or

c. Agree to amend the attached paper (noting that any material changes would necessitate further consultation).

Whai whakaaro ki ngā whakataunga - Considerations for decision-making

Financial Implications

- 9 The primary financial implication in implementing this proposal is updating our licence sales system to enable:
 - 9.1 Per diem licences to be sold to non-resident licences; and
 - 9.2 A limit on the number of per diem licences an individual non-resident angler can purchase per region.
- 10 Based on preliminary indications from ESL it is anticipated this will cost approximately \$50-60,000.
- 11 However, as designated waters per diem licences will have a fee attached to them this cost will be recovered fairly quickly, and the proposal should have positive financial implications in the future.
- 12 There are a number of avenues for this funding to come from, including the regional non-resident reserves. Once the Minister is briefed a more comprehensive funding proposal will be brought to NZC.

Legislative Implications

- 13 Nothing contained in the proposal requires the amendment of regulations or a standalone approval from the Minister (separate from the Anglers Notice and Sports Fish Licences, Fees and Forms Notice). However, given that this represents a conceptual shift in the way that Fish & Game manage pressure sensitive fisheries it is proposed that the Minister is briefed.

Section 4 Treaty Responsibilities

- 14 No s4 responsibilities identified.

Policy Implications

- 15 The attached paper will, if approved, set national policy and direction for pressure sensitive fisheries management.

Risks and mitigations

- 16 There are two primary risks associated with this proposal:
 - 16.1 There is a risk that the Minister will not approve the Anglers Notice or Sports Fish Licences Fees and Forms Notice. However, this can be mitigated by adequately briefing the Minister and Department of Conservation in advance of the Notices' submission in 2023.
 - 16.2 There is a risk of negative reaction from licence holders, particularly non-resident licence holders who will be affected to a greater extent

than resident licence holders. Again, this can be mitigated through adequate communication with affected licence holders both at a national level on the concepts we are seeking to introduce and at a regional level on the specific conditions recommended in the Anglers Notice.

Consultation

- 17 Regional Fish and Game Councils have been formally consulted on the draft paper, approved by NZC in February. There was unanimous support amongst affected Councils for the proposal, along with some feedback for minor amendments.
- 18 The only substantive amendment recommended was from Nelson/Marlborough Fish and Game Council, who advocated for an annual designated waters licence for non-resident anglers. However, all other regions supported daily licences for designated waters and so this has been retained in the final proposal.
- 19 Regional Fish and Game Councils will need to undertake consultation with licence holders during the Anglers Notice process next year on the specific changes they are proposing to their angling conditions.

Ngā mahinga e whai ake nei - Next actions

20 If agreed, NZC staff will:

- 20.1 prepare a briefing paper for the Minister of Conservation setting out the proposed changes;
- 20.2 work with regional Fish and Game councils ahead of the 2023 Anglers Notice process;
- 20.3 work with the Department of Conservation and Parliamentary Counsel Office on drafting necessary amendments to the Anglers Notice and Sports Fish Licences Fees and Forms Notice.

Fish & Game Proposal for Pressure Sensitive Fisheries Management Regime

Summary

New Zealand's freshwater sports fishery is world renowned as a premier trout fishery and is highly valued by both local and visiting anglers. It provides substantial economic benefits through the commercial guiding industry, the associated retail industry and both domestic and international tourism. The fishery is managed by Fish and Game Councils and the Department of Conservation (solely in the Taupō region), with management supported entirely through sports fishing licence fees and volunteer effort.

New Zealand offers an internationally unique sports fishing experience through the ability to fish for very large trout in clear water amongst astonishing and often remote settings. The nature of the fishing is also uncommon in other parts of the world in that these fish can be first sighted in the water, and then fished for, which is seen by anglers as very desirable. The result is a world-class and unique fishery that is increasingly sought after by both local and visiting anglers.

Two problems have arisen regarding these highly sought-after parts of the New Zealand sports fishery:

- First, angling pressure in select parts of the fishery is exceeding the social and fishability capacity. These fisheries have been labelled by Fish & Game as pressure sensitive fisheries.
- Second, angling pressure in these pressure sensitive fisheries comes disproportionately from non-resident anglers and as a result of this resident anglers have been displaced from the resource.

This analysis finds that the first problem can be addressed by the expansion and adaptation of the current mechanisms that Fish & Game have to manage pressure, but that the second problem requires additional targeted mechanisms to provide for an equitable division of angling pressure between resident and non-resident anglers and to mitigate the displacement of resident anglers.

August 2022

Background

Freshwater sports fishery

New Zealand is one of the world's great trout fishing destinations. The modern success and popularity of the trout fishery is in part founded upon the ability to sight fish to large individual trout in clear water, often amidst beautiful scenery. To this extent it is unique on a world scale.

Trout fishing has been a popular leisure activity in New Zealand ever since the Otago Acclimatisation Society instituted the first trout fishing season in 1875, just eight years after brown trout were first introduced to this country. Before long the novelty of such an exotic fishing destination, combined with the size of the trout, meant that anglers were travelling internationally to fish for trout in New Zealand. The visit from American author Zane Grey in the 1920s, and his declaration of New Zealand as an 'anglers el dorado', continued to build our reputation as a destination fishery.

Throughout the latter half of the 20th century a strong industry of professional trout fishing guides arose, primarily catering to international angling tourists. The guiding industry was centred on higher density rivers akin to the Buller, Mataura and Tongariro with occasional forays into more remote destinations. As the use of helicopters as a means of access grew in popularity, more remote rivers began to be fished regularly. These rivers, deep in Kahurangi or the Ruahine Ranges, were advertised by guides to clients as pristine wilderness rivers that saw almost no angling pressure. These wilderness trips, however, did not constitute the basis of a guiding operation but were more typically the exception – the cherry on top of a week's guided fishing. The unguided usership of these rivers, from both domestic and non-resident anglers, is hard to calculate across this period but was substantially lower than current levels.

Across the past thirty years this has changed on a fundamental level. As the value of these fisheries, both from an angling and experiential perspective, became realised by New Zealanders and international anglers alike their angling effort began to increase. The increasing use of helicopters as a form of access in the late 1970s was the catalyst for significant numbers of anglers to suddenly be able to access these remote areas and word quickly spread. Most significant amongst this increase was unguided non-resident anglers. Ascribing any absolute reasons to this increase is difficult, but specific rivers increasingly began to develop a reputation through word of mouth, publication in angling guidebooks and more recently on the internet and in social media. More generally the rise in popularity of headwater fisheries is also linked to the decline in lowland fisheries as a result of environmental degradation. Rivers such as the Ōreti, Greenstone and Rangitikei became world famous destination fisheries in their own right. Resultantly they became subject to increasing levels of angler use, with very high proportions of non-resident usage. Over time the increasing usage of these rivers began to impact on both trout behaviour as well as the overall angling experience. The impacts, and need for regulatory change, were noted as early as 1994 and have been a recurrent theme in New Zealand fisheries management ever since.

Today Fish and Game face a situation where a small percentage of fragile fisheries are receiving an unsustainable amount of pressure that detrimentally impacts upon both angling experience and trout behaviour. These fisheries have been termed 'pressure sensitive fisheries'.

August 2022

Pressure Sensitive Fisheries

Pressure sensitive fisheries are defined as fisheries where angling pressure is adversely affecting the angling experience. Impacts on the angling experience are twofold:

- Adverse effects on the fishery itself, such as the catchability, visibility and population dynamics of the fish.
- Adverse effects on the angler's experience independent of the fishing, such as a sense of wilderness and solitude.

The defining feature of these fisheries is that the angling experience they offer is impacted by the angling pressure they receive. There are, however, some characteristics that are common across many (although not all) pressure sensitive fisheries:

- Almost exclusively rivers.
- Clear water.
- Excellent sight fishing.
- High average size of fish.
- High scenic value.
- Often in a wilderness or backcountry setting.

Some of these fisheries are in remote areas with very limited access, whereas others have substantial road access across their length. Angler numbers are typically higher in fisheries with good road access, but the expectation of solitude and wilderness is lower. Conversely, where access is limited to walking or flying, angler numbers are often lower but the impact on the angling experience of each encounter is higher (depending on the perspective of the angler). While pressure sensitive fisheries exist in both islands, the South Island has a high proportion of New Zealand's total pressure sensitive fisheries.

These most-desirable trout fisheries are limited in number and provide a limited number of prime angling spots as the fish will often not reset from being disturbed by a preceding angler for several hours or even a day. To many anglers these are the most desirable trout fishing locations and are therefore sensitive to the amount of angling pressure they can sustain. New Zealand anglers, visitors from overseas, commercial fishing guides, and Fish and Game Councils are all very concerned about the ongoing sustainability of these "pressure-sensitive" trout fisheries. Many of these fisheries are now close to or at a tipping point. The increasing number of anglers and increasing fishing effort on a finite number of fish in a finite number of locations is threatening to destroy the fishing resource and experience.

A reality that also needs to be acknowledged is that there are waterways that provide an equal angling experience to pressure sensitive fisheries, but for some reason do not have the same reputation and accordingly do not receive the same pressure. In other words, the New Zealand angling resource as a whole can accommodate the angling pressure it receives provided that select concentrations of angling effort are redistributed.

August 2022

Problem definitions

Fish & Game faces two interlinked problems surrounding the management of pressure sensitive fisheries. Because these problems require individual, but co-ordinated, solutions they are addressed separately.

The keystone issue is that a relatively small number of fisheries, which because of their innate characteristics are sensitive to pressure, are receiving an unsustainable amount of angling pressure (**Problem A**). This results in a potential risk to both the resource as well as Fish & Game licence holders' angling experience as rivers begin to exceed their fishability and social carrying capacity.

An associated issue is that a disproportionate amount of the angling pressure in these fisheries comes from non-resident anglers (**Problem B**). As outlined above, New Zealand's trout fishery is world-renowned and is a source of significant angling tourism. The average non-resident angler exhibits different behaviour patterns to the average domestic angler, showing a strong preference for fishing rivers and a very high rate of backcountry river usership. These patterns, in conjunction with the reputation of certain fisheries, has meant that non-resident angling effort can constitute as much as 79% of total angling effort during peak summer months.¹ As a result of this level of angling pressure New Zealand resident anglers are being displaced from these fisheries, either temporally (i.e. fishing the location at different times of the year), spatially (i.e. fishing different locations) or totally (i.e. not fishing).²

Problem A: Select fisheries are subject to an unsustainable amount of angling pressure.

New Zealand's headwater trout fisheries, as a result of the lower numbers of trout, the clear water and the response of the trout to disturbance, can only accommodate a relatively low number of anglers each day whilst maintaining high angling quality. The exact numbers are dependent upon the specific fishery (length, access opportunities and fishing characteristics), but overall the social carrying capacity of these waterways is relatively low. Angling success is only one component to the angling experience that is impacted by pressure and in fact often ranks below solitude, scenic and wilderness factors in many anglers' values. This view is echoed in a 1994 NIWA report 'Headwater Trout Fisheries in New Zealand', which suggested the '...possible need to restrict the numbers of anglers able to fish in some areas in order to maintain quality of fishing [in terms of both catch rates and the aesthetic features of peace and solitude].'³ Accordingly, both the fish and the experiential aspects are vulnerable to pressure.

There are then two distinct threads to Problem A: the impact of angling pressure on the physical resource and angling success and the impact of angling pressure on the angling experience.

Problem A1: The impact of angling pressure on the physical resource and angling success

New Zealand's backcountry fisheries typically feature relatively low numbers (<20 fish per/km) of large (>50cm) trout. Accordingly, the resource is far more susceptible to pressure

¹ Cohen Stewart, *Angler use of the upper Ōreti trout fishery during the 2018/19 and 2020/21 fishing season*, Southland Fish and Game Council, 2021.

² Hayes & Lovelock, *Analysis of the recreational freshwater angling behaviours of overseas visitors to New Zealand*, Dunedin, New Zealand. Department of Tourism, University of Otago (2016).

³ Jellyman, D. J. & Graynoth, E., 'Headwater trout fisheries in New Zealand', New Zealand Freshwater Research Report No. 12, NIWA, Christchurch, 1994

August 2022

than many of its international equivalents because of the low numbers of fish and the ability to fish to (and thus disturb) individual fish. Research has demonstrated a clear correlation between fishing pressure and probability of angling success in remote backcountry rivers, as naïve trout were the least likely to cease feeding and hide in reaction to angling attempts and were the most likely to take a fly.⁴ It has also been observed that trout caught and released in a remote river were rarely observed out feeding the following day. Given the relatively low numbers of fish, and the tendency of caught (or even displaced) fish to not be available to subsequent anglers for a period, angling pressure in New Zealand can, therefore, substantially alter fish behaviour in both a relatively short time and with relatively little angling effort.

Research does, however, conclude that a balance can be reached in fisheries subjected to sustained pressure where the impacts of pressure stabilise over time.⁵ On more heavily fished rivers fewer fish proportionate to the population of the river will be seen and caught than in a remote and unpressured fishery, but overall quality angling can still be experienced. There is, therefore, a balance that needs to be met by New Zealand's sports fisheries managers where angling pressure is kept to sustainable levels that ensures appropriate levels of angling success can be attained.

Problem A2: The impact of angling pressure on the angling experience

As noted above, the angling experience encompasses a number of themes beyond simply angling success. One of the key components of the angling experience for those anglers fishing backcountry fisheries is solitude, with the result that angling encounters (actual or otherwise – i.e. seeing boot prints) can be detrimental to the angling experience. In many international destinations angling encounters are expected, and the collegiality of the encounter can add to the angling experience. There are areas and fisheries in New Zealand where this is the case, however research demonstrates that with regard to pressure sensitive fisheries angling encounters are typically viewed negatively. In a 2002 Cawthron 'Backcountry River Fisheries' report it was determined that 36% of angler encounters were always considered to be negative, with just 12% always positive (49% thought it could be either).⁶ Non-residents, who comprise a significant proportion of backcountry anglers, showed the most negative opinions of angler encounters. The same study also demonstrated that as difficulty of access increases tolerance of encounters decrease. Given many pressure sensitive fisheries are remote and have difficult access it is a safe assumption that encounters on these waterways will be perceived more negatively than the average encounter in a more accessible locality. The survey results also demonstrated that angler encounter rates were, in 2002, within the tolerable limits but that they already exceeded the preferable encounter rate. Subsequent increases in non-resident licence sales

⁴ Roger Young & John Hayes, 'Angling Pressure and Trout Catchability: Behavioural Observations of Brown Trout in Two New Zealand Backcountry Rivers', *North American Journal of Fisheries Management*, 24:4, 1203-1213

⁵ John Hayes, 'Backcountry River Fisheries Seminar: Proceedings & Update of Research', Cawthron Report No. 727, Cawthron Institute, Nelson, 2002; It should be noted that this was 17 years ago, and that these statistics may well be very different today, particularly for New Zealand resident anglers that feel displaced from certain rivers.

⁶ John Hayes, 'Backcountry River Fisheries Seminar: Proceedings & Update of Research', Cawthron Report No. 727, Cawthron Institute, Nelson, 2002; It should be noted that this was 17 years ago, and that these statistics may well be very different today, particularly for New Zealand resident anglers that feel displaced from certain rivers.

August 2022

combined with habitat loss in lowland fisheries have led to a further increase in backcountry angling and encounter rates in sensitive fisheries.⁷

Sports fisheries managers are, therefore, required to manage angling pressure in order to ensure that the high-quality angling experience that pressure sensitive fisheries are renowned for is retained going forwards, and require the mechanisms to address potential increases in angling pressure moving forwards.

Problem B: Angling pressure in pressure sensitive fisheries comes disproportionately from non-resident anglers, resulting in the displacement of resident anglers from the resource.

Non-resident anglers currently contribute a disproportionate percentage of total angling effort in pressure sensitive fisheries. In total, they comprised approximately 15% of total licence holders in the 2019/20 season (the last season unaffected by Covid, and thus the best basis for comparison). However, in peak summer periods on pressure sensitive fisheries, surveys undertaken by Fish & Game have shown non-resident usage percentages as high as 79%, and typically well in excess of 60%.⁸ We know from this then that there is a high focus on pressure sensitive fisheries amongst non-resident anglers. A likely reason for this is that certain rivers have an international reputation because they embody the aspects of New Zealand's trout fishery that are internationally unique, and these attract a disproportionate amount of the total non-resident angling effort as compared to resident angling effort. Currently the only management distinction made between resident and non-resident licence holders is in licence fee. Previously non-resident licence holders have paid a licence fee of 1.35x the resident licence fee, however for the 2022/23 season this will be increased to 1.72x. For the 2020/21 angling season the resident fee was \$133, meaning the non-resident fee was \$180. For the 2022/23 season the resident fee is \$145, and the non-resident fee is \$250.

The issue of an unsustainable level of non-resident pressure on prized resources is not limited to sports fishing and is common to the wider tourism industry. A prime example of this is the Department of Conservation's trial of differential pricing for the premier Great Walk huts.⁹ This trial is motivated by similar considerations to those impacting on pressure sensitive fisheries, namely a disproportionate concentration of international attention in highly localised areas and a corresponding displacement of resident trampers. Whilst Great Walk hut nights in peak periods are a finite resource (i.e. they are a bookable resource with a maximum number of possible bookings), as compared with pressure sensitive fisheries as a theoretically infinite resource, the implications on the angling experience from excessive usage means that there is a finite amount of high quality angling experiences that a pressure sensitive fishery can offer.

It is very important to note that there are a number of distinct categories of non-resident anglers, many of whom do not contribute to the pressure in sensitive fisheries through

⁷ Jellyman, D. J., Unwin, M. J. and James, G. D., (2003). Anglers' perceptions of the status of New Zealand lowland rivers and their trout fisheries. NIWA Technical Report 122 ISSN 1174-2631 prepared for Fish & Game New Zealand.

⁸ Cohen Stewart, *Angler use of the upper Ōreti trout fishery during the 2018/19 and 2020/21 fishing season*, Southland Fish and Game Council, 2021.

⁹ Department of Conservation, *Great Walks Differential Pricing Trial 2018/19 Evaluation*, New Zealand.

August 2022

significant angling effort.¹⁰ Non-resident day licence holders are the least likely to fish backcountry waters (only 20% of their effort is in backcountry waters) and show a much stronger preference for lakes than other categories. Accordingly, their impact on pressure sensitive fisheries is small. Of non-resident whole season licence holders the vast majority are fly anglers, and their angling effort is concentrated in the South Island (40.1% fish Nelson Marlborough, 40.4% West Coast, 29.4% North Canterbury, 47.5% Central South Island, 53% Otago and 44.4% Southland). There is also a clear preference for river fishing, rather than lake fishing, with 80.8% of total non-resident angling effort taking place on rivers. Most anglers spent between one and two weeks fishing in New Zealand, although 7.8% fished for more than 30 days. There is also a very high rate of return non-resident anglers, with 50% of those surveyed visiting annually and 20% visiting more than once a year. Accordingly, there is a substantial amount of 'local knowledge' held by non-resident anglers, and this knowledge is often shared within international communities of anglers. The frequency at which a non-resident angler returns to New Zealand influences the number of days they fish per season, with high frequency visitors fishing an average of 14.8 days per season against a mean of 10.9 days.¹¹

Whilst overall lowland rivers were the most fished, there was still a very high backcountry river usership rate amongst non-residents (32% of total Australian angling effort, 50% of UK effort and 52% of USA effort). Over the total non-resident whole season licence holders the backcountry angling use rate is approximately 34%.¹² 52% of non-resident anglers surveyed didn't fish a designated backcountry fishery and 15% didn't know or couldn't recall.¹³ In total, 20% of non-resident anglers fished designated backcountry fisheries for four or fewer days, 9% for five to ten days and 3% for more than ten days. Similarly, 80% of non-resident anglers spent a maximum number of three or fewer nights spent on an individual fishery, whereas 3% of anglers reported staying for more than 10 nights on one fishery. This data suggests that many non-resident anglers do not contribute to pressure in sensitive fisheries, but a small number have a very significant impact.

Fish & Game endeavours to include angling etiquette information in its regulation booklets and online. Concepts, such as not fishing the same pressure sensitive fishery on multiple consecutive days or allowing adequate amounts of water for other anglers, are well understood by resident anglers, but are less commonly understood by non-resident anglers (although return and regular visitors are aware of this etiquette). Currently, fisheries managers do not possess a mechanism to enforce etiquette such as this.

While non-resident anglers typically demonstrate some of the highest satisfaction ratings, there is also mounting concern amongst this group regarding the increasing pressure on New Zealand's waters (particularly in the backcountry) and that this is degrading from the unique and wild nature of the fishery. A frequently noted reason for choosing New Zealand over other angling destinations was that it was not crowded (60% of non-resident whole season licence holders whose primary motivation for the trip is angling noted this). However,

¹⁰ Hayes & Lovelock, *Analysis of the recreational freshwater angling behaviours of overseas visitors to New Zealand*, Dunedin, New Zealand. Department of Tourism, University of Otago (2016).; The research distinguishes between those non-residents living outside of New Zealand and those providing New Zealand addresses. The statistics on whole season licence holders used here are for those non-residents living outside of New Zealand.

¹¹ Helen Trotter, *Non-resident Anglers' Survey 2022*, Otago Fish and Game Council, 2022.

¹² Hayes & Lovelock, *Analysis of the recreational freshwater angling behaviours of overseas visitors to New Zealand*, Dunedin, New Zealand. Department of Tourism, University of Otago (2016).;

¹³ Helen Trotter, *Non-resident Anglers' Survey 2022*, Otago Fish and Game Council, 2022.

August 2022

non-residents, as well as residents, have changed their angling patterns based on increasing encounter rates and those that currently visit are broadly tolerant of the current usage levels.

As a result of the increased angling pressure and, perhaps more pertinently, as a result of the perception of increased angling pressure on pressure sensitive fisheries, New Zealand anglers are being displaced from these fisheries.¹⁴ Displacement can take multiple forms; temporal displacement is when an angler changes the time of the year that they fish, spatial displacement is when an angler chooses to fish a different river, and total displacement is where an angler chooses to cease fishing entirely. All three forms of displacement occur on New Zealand's pressure sensitive fisheries.

In 2002 15% of anglers surveyed for the Cawthron Backcountry Fisheries report stated that they avoided backcountry rivers because of perceived crowding. More recent analysis in 2019 by the University of Otago's Tourism Department has demonstrated that crowding continues to result in substantial levels of displacement.¹⁵ For all 8 of the studied rivers, resident anglers have changed their fishing behaviour in response to crowding. In 6 of the 8 surveyed rivers, more than 25% of anglers now fish less often than they have previously because of crowding and for half of the rivers more than 20% of anglers that had historically fished them had stopped fishing them entirely because of crowding. Particularly significant are the statistics for the upper Ōreti River, which registered 79% non-resident usage in peak periods, where 45% of anglers fish it less often because of the crowding and 32% have ceased fishing it completely. This research demonstrates both the displacement of resident anglers and the correlation between the displacement of resident anglers and high levels of non-resident usage.

Displacement occurs, in this instance, because the angling experience (encompassing both angling success as well as less tangible qualities) is diminished as a result of angling pressure. Because resident anglers demonstrate a lower degree of encounter tolerance than non-resident anglers, as pressure sensitive fisheries become oversubscribed the first group to cease fishing them is typically resident anglers. This reduction in resident angling effort in pressure sensitive fisheries in turn feeds back into the disproportionate non-resident angling effort.

Displacement further occurs where there is a belief, even if not borne out by actual use rates, that the angling experience would be diminished by the perceived angling pressure. This has been labelled perception-displacement. As anglers are displaced through actual crowding this experience is communicated to other anglers, who are then displaced because of the reputation of crowding. Often this perception-displacement is of a more general nature than anglers not fishing specific rivers because they have experienced actual crowding and may prove an impediment to newer anglers experiencing aspects of the New Zealand freshwater angling resource.

It is worth noting that internationally the displacement of resident anglers from highly sought-after fisheries is not uncommon, and the same phenomenon also features frequently in the non-angling tourism sphere (including, as noted above, with DOC Great Walk huts). In British Columbia it motivated a management regime dubbed 'Quality Waters', which began in 1990 and has been through several iterations and fine-tuned at each step. The

¹⁴ Hayes & Lovelock, *Analysis of the recreational freshwater angling behaviours of overseas visitors to New Zealand*, Dunedin, New Zealand. Department of Tourism, University of Otago (2016).

¹⁵ Stuart Hayes & Brent Lovelock, *Angler Displacement on and from pressure-sensitive rivers in Otago and Southland*, University of Otago, 2019

August 2022

management steps undertaken there have resulted in increased resident satisfaction, whilst still providing excellent angling opportunities for non-resident anglers.

Current management mechanisms are unable to achieve parity between resident and non-resident anglers, nor mitigate displacement, and particularly perception-displacement, by providing specific opportunity for resident anglers.

Lessons from COVID-19

The recent border closures as a result of COVID-19 provide an interesting opportunity to consider the angling behaviour of resident anglers in the absence of non-resident anglers. For the 2020/21 sports fishing season and continuing into the 2021/22 season New Zealand's borders have been closed (with the brief exception of the trans-Tasman bubble that fell largely outside of the main sports fishing season), meaning that non-resident angling has been negligible in this period.

On a broad scale, resident licence sales for the 2020/21 season increased by 9% as compared with the season prior however this is believed to be more influenced by the increase in domestic tourism stemming from the inability to travel internationally than from the availability of pressure sensitive fisheries. Anecdotal evidence nationally has, however, suggested that in the absence of non-resident anglers there has been a major upswing in the number of resident anglers fishing pressure sensitive fisheries. This is supported by the substantial increase in resident Backcountry licence endorsements, with 3,506 issued for the 2020/21 season (where there were no non-resident anglers) compared with 2,163 endorsements for the 2019/20 season (where there were resident anglers). Although Backcountry licences cannot be directly equated to use of designated backcountry fisheries, they are strongly indicative as they are a prerequisite for use.

Substantial surveying of resident anglers has been undertaken by Fish & Game through this period to understand the impact the absence of non-resident anglers has had. Annual surveys on the Ōreti River in the Southland region, which has a well utilised beat system comprising 11 total beats, run on the same methodology in the 2018/19 and 2020/21 seasons demonstrated a 450% increase in resident anglers in the 2020/21 season in the absence of non-resident anglers.¹⁶ This can likely be attributed to two primary reasons; an increase in actual opportunity resulting from lower overall beat occupancy and an increase in perceived opportunity resulting from the knowledge that there will be no non-resident anglers.

A survey undertaken on Otago backcountry licence endorsement holders from the 2020/21 season also demonstrates that resident angling behaviour changed because of the absence of non-resident anglers from New Zealand fisheries.¹⁷ The survey found the following:

- 52 % of anglers felt the absence of tourist anglers due to COVID-19 related border closures influenced how they chose to fish during the season.
- Of these anglers:
 - 47 % fished more frequently than they would have otherwise
 - 21 % fished at different times of day than they would have otherwise
 - 25 % fished at different times of the season than they would have otherwise
 - 48 % fished different beats/reaches on some rivers than they would have otherwise
 - 50 % fished a backcountry river(s) that they would not have otherwise

¹⁶ Cohen Stewart, *Angler Use of the Upper Ōreti Trout Fishery During the 2018/19 and 2020/21 Fishing Season*, Southland Fish and Game Council, 2021

¹⁷ Helen Trotter, *2020-21 Season Backcountry Anglers' Survey*, Otago Fish and Game Council, 2022.

August 2022

- 31 % fished a greater number of different backcountry fisheries than I would have otherwise

These factors cannot be exclusively attributed to the absence of non-resident anglers, as the inability for resident anglers to travel internationally will also have changed behaviours. However, supporting comments throughout the survey suggest that for many resident anglers the absence of non-resident anglers was the key influence.

Overall, this evidence strongly suggests that where there is either increased opportunity for resident anglers, or the perception of increased opportunity, in an area which is typically subject to high non-resident angler use, there will be a corresponding increase in resident angler use.

DRAFT

August 2022

Objectives and criteria for solutions

Objectives

- A. To spatially redistribute angling pressure from fisheries subject to unsustainable angling pressure towards fisheries that can sustain increased angling pressure.
- B. To temporally redistribute angling pressure from fisheries subject to periods of peak unsustainable angling pressure towards periods where angling pressure is lower.

Criteria for solutions

Any solution intended to meet **Objectives A & B** needs to meet the following criteria:

1. Ensure that restrictions do not have a detrimental impact on anglers not fishing pressure sensitive fisheries.
2. Management costs for pressure sensitive fisheries are met, where possible, by the users of these fisheries.
3. Be efficient and minimise the cost of enforcement.
4. Be flexible to reflect changing usage statistics.
5. Efficiently and reliably provide data on the physical use of pressure-sensitive trout fisheries by anglers.
6. Provide data on social pressures affecting pressure-sensitive trout fisheries.
7. Provide data on fishery impacts of resident versus non-resident anglers.
8. Be part of a nationally consistent framework, whilst allowing for specific regional characteristics.
9. Minimise restrictions on non-resident anglers not fishing pressure sensitive fisheries.
10. Seek spatial and temporal redistribution of non-resident angling effort.
11. Address the perception of crowding, as well as actual crowding.
12. Ensure that management mechanisms do not further deter resident anglers.

August 2022

Options analysis

This section considers options for addressing each of the problems described above.

Options for Problem A: Select fisheries are subject to an unsustainable amount of angling pressure.

Reducing total angling pressure on pressure sensitive fisheries could be achieved by expanding Fish & Game's current pressure management mechanisms.

Expand current pressure management systems

Fish and Game currently have three primary mechanisms to manage pressure in pressure sensitive fisheries, which could be expanded to cover a wider range of waters.

Backcountry licences

The backcountry licence, although coming into fruition subsequent to both the beat system and controlled fisheries, has become the most widespread tool. Currently seven Fish and Game regions – Wellington, Nelson/Marlborough, West Coast, North Canterbury, Central South Island, Otago and Southland - have designated backcountry fisheries, which require an angler to hold a backcountry licence endorsement in order to fish them. 26 rivers are currently covered by this system. All beat system and controlled fisheries also require a backcountry licence. The backcountry licence is available as a free endorsement for all whole season (resident and non-resident) licences (previously the Rangitikei backcountry fishery had a fee to cover insurance, but is currently free). It can either be selected at the point of purchase, or at a later date. Endorsements apply on a per region basis, and an angler intending to fish backcountry fisheries on both the West Coast and in Otago for example, would need to apply for each of these endorsements.

The primary purpose of the backcountry licence is to allow Fish and Game to survey users of these fisheries and generate information on encounter rates, success and overall experience. In that way it is a valuable tool to inform management strategies for pressure sensitive fisheries, although it does not itself manage pressure. The only limitation it imposes is the requirement to have a full season licence, which likely means a small number of anglers that only hold short-term licences either choose not to fish a backcountry water or fish it without the licence endorsement.

The backcountry licence allows Fish and Game to gather data on backcountry fisheries through surveys conducted on backcountry licence holders. However, it does not actually manage pressure or restrict/control access in any sense. There is further a degree of misalignment between the name of the licence 'Backcountry Licence' and pressure sensitive fisheries, in that not all pressure sensitive fisheries are backcountry fisheries (such as the upper Mataura River). Accordingly, while a backcountry licence equivalent will comprise a part of a pressure sensitive management scheme it does not singularly provide a solution to Problem A, nor Problem B.

Beat Systems

Official beat systems are currently in place on three fisheries: the Ōreti River in Southland, the Wairau River in Nelson/Marlborough and the Nevis River in Otago. These function on a first come first served basis, where an angler parks their vehicle in a specified position marked by signage to demonstrate their intention to fish the beat. Beats are established lengths of river, again marked by signage. Anglers fishing a beat have confidence that they will not encounter another angler ahead of them on their beat, which allows them to pace

August 2022

their angling at their discretion. Anglers arriving to find a beat occupied are welcome to fish in behind the first party but with the understanding that they should not overtake the first party. In general, the beat system, particularly the more established system on the Ōreti, appear to be well-regarded by anglers and have improved angling opportunities. Likely the greatest benefit is that other anglers that arrive subsequently have clear information about where angling effort is located, and these anglers then can choose whether to fish in behind the other party or fish another location. The result is that this mitigates actual angler encounter rates by providing anglers the ability to avoid a probable encounter if they desire.

Beat systems, however, have limitations. Foremost is that it is a voluntary system that relies on the co-operation and understanding of anglers and cannot ultimately be enforced. Beat systems are also able to be subverted by parties leaving vehicles at the specified beat parking spot overnight, allowing them to arrive the following day at their leisure. Their application is also largely limited to areas with good road access, and as a result they can only be applied to certain pressure sensitive fisheries.

Whilst beat systems do provide a partial solution to Problem A, and it is recommended that they are expanded to a wider range of fisheries, they do not solve or assist with Problem B.

Controlled Fisheries

Controlled fisheries represent the most regulatory and restrictive approach Fish and Game has attempted to manage pressure in sensitive fisheries in that they actively limit the number of anglers that can fish a river in a set period. There are currently five controlled fisheries in operation: the Greenstone River in Otago and the Ettrick Burn in Southland which operate on a booking system, and the Clinton and Worsley Rivers in Southland and the Ōhau River in Central South Island that operate on a ballot system. For booked controlled fisheries a beat must be booked online, and the booking can be made up to five days in advance of the fishing date. Only one party may book a beat per day, although that party can comprise multiple anglers (two in the Greenstone, and up to four in the Ettrick Burn – all of whom must have a backcountry licence). For balloted controlled fisheries the angler applies to the Southland or Central South Island Fish and Game Council to be put into a ballot, with one party selected to fish each beat per allocation (typically a two- or three-day period).

For the Greenstone River the controlled period applies during the peak months of February and March and comprises three individually bookable beats. The Ōhau River controlled period applies from the 1st Saturday in September to the 1st Saturday in November. In contrast, the Ettrick burn controlled fishery applies across the course of the season as its primary function is to limit angling traffic to minimise disturbance to the population of Takahē in the valley. It comprises one beat and only two angling parties are permitted into the valley each week: one on Wednesday and the other on Saturday.

Controlled fisheries are an extremely effective tool for controlling angling pressure and mitigating encounter rates. They ensure anglers have unimpeded fishing for the day by allocating specific sections of a river to each party. They are also enforceable, unlike beat systems, and failure to comply with these restrictions can lead to prosecution. It also provides comprehensive and accurate data of angling effort throughout the controlled period. Controlled fisheries, therefore, represent an excellent solution to Problem A in that they are able to limit the total amount of angling effort.

They do not, however, offer a solution to Problem B in their current format because they cannot distinguish between resident and non-resident anglers. It is also probable that there would be a negative reaction from resident anglers if too many waterways were placed within such a heavily regulated system. This view is supported by research that

August 2022

demonstrates New Zealand anglers are more opposed to regulations than non-resident anglers, meaning a wide roll out of controlled fisheries may in fact be counter-productive to addressing displacement of resident anglers.

Expansion and steps moving forward

There is scope to expand aspects of Fish & Game's current pressure sensitive management system as a solution to addressing Problem A on a national basis, rather than simply in isolated areas.

It is appropriate for there to be an overarching licencing mechanism, as the backcountry licence currently operates. However, it is suggested that the name be changed to better reflect the range of waters this licence is intended to apply to. It is recommended that the terminology of this toolkit transitions away from managing 'backcountry' fisheries towards a more generic term to better reflect the diversity of waters subject to problematic angling pressure. This would mean that waters such as the upper Mataura River, which do not fit into the definition of a backcountry fishery but that receive heavy angling pressure and require special management attention, are covered. Discussions amongst Fish & Game staff at a 2021 pressure sensitive fisheries workshop demonstrated broad support from a transition away from 'backcountry' but identified several potential issues with terms such as 'pressure sensitive fisheries' or 'classified waters'. In particular, there was concern that publicly identifying rivers as pressure sensitive may result in a self-perpetuating narrative around the levels of pressure on these waterways and similarly that ascribing a title that suggested these rivers have an elevated status could counter-productively increase pressure. Ultimately staff preference was for a generic term such as 'Designated Waters'.

For the purpose of this paper where the specific licencing mechanism is being referred to, the term Designated Waters will be used. Where the general pressure sensitivity of a river is being referred to, the term pressure sensitive fisheries will be used.

As the concept of a Designated Waters licence becomes familiar to anglers across the country there is also scope to significantly expand the waters covered by this licencing regime to encompass all pressure sensitive waters in the country. Currently there is no cost associated with the backcountry licence, and the appropriateness of this will need to be considered moving forward in light of the infrastructure costs of a pressure sensitive management system and the cost of enforcement. Internationally the concept of a 'stamp' applied to the licence when fishing either an area that has a higher management cost, or when targeting a species that has a higher management cost, is well accepted. It is recommended that Fish & Game consider placing a fee on Designated Waters licences when they are introduced. This would be consistent with the outlined criteria, as only those anglers using these fisheries would be required to purchase the licence meaning that the management cost was more closely met by the user base.

Beat systems have proven to be one of the most effective and least intrusive mechanisms to address angling pressure. They do not necessarily reduce total angling effort, but they do reduce some of the negative impacts of high angling effort by lowering encounter rates and accordingly improve the angler experience. This paper recommends the expansion of voluntary beat systems to all appropriate pressure sensitive waters with road access along their length, or pressure sensitive waters subject to day trip use where access is from a common and established point.

Finally, the expansion of controlled fisheries should be considered as an intensive step for rivers subject to the highest level of angling pressure and where the angling experience is being severely impacted as a result. However, it is recommended that caution is exercised in

August 2022

expanding controlled fisheries too widely given the potential for resident anglers to find restrictions less palatable than non-residents.

Problem B: Angling pressure in pressure sensitive fisheries comes disproportionately from non-resident anglers, resulting in the displacement of resident anglers from the resource.

Reducing the proportion of non-resident angling pressure in pressure sensitive fisheries, and addressing the displacement of resident anglers, could be achieved through five options:

1. Non-resident licence fee increase
2. Fees for Designated Waters
3. Limiting number of Designated Waters days per month/season
4. Controlled fisheries with set residency quota
5. Resident only periods

1. Non-resident licence fee increase

One of the most commonly advocated for mechanisms to control the disproportionate non-resident usage of pressure sensitive fisheries amongst resident anglers is to increase the resident licence fee. Currently non-resident licence fees are set at 1.35x the resident licence fee rate for adult licences, and at varying rates for junior and child licences:

Licence Type	Resident	Non-resident
Wholeseason Adult	\$145	\$1250
Day Adult	\$23	\$35
Wholeseason Junior	\$29	\$47
Day Junior	\$5	\$21
Wholeseason Child	Free	\$47
Day Child	Free	\$21

Certain licence categories are also only available to resident anglers, such as the Local Area, Loyal Senior, Family, Short Break, Long Break and Winter licences.

As a proportion of resident licence fees, New Zealand's non-resident licence fees remain quite inexpensive by international standards for fisheries of that quality as the following table demonstrates:

Country/State	Resident	Non-Resident	Non-resident Proportion
New Zealand (excl. Taupō)	\$145	\$250	1.72x resident
Taupō, New Zealand	\$99	\$129	1.3x resident
British Columbia, Canada (steelhead)	\$36 licence, \$25 steelhead stamp, \$15 classified waters licence = CA\$76 (NZ\$86)	\$80 licence, \$60 steelhead stamp, \$40/day Class 2 classified waters ticket or \$20/day Class 2 classified water ticket = CA\$140 (NZ\$157+per diem fee)	2.3x resident + per diem fee

August 2022

Washington, USA (salmon/steelhead)	\$36 licence, \$8.75 Columbia Basin endorsement = US\$44.75 (NZ\$68)	\$84.5 licence, \$8.75 Columbia Basin endorsement = US\$93.25 (NZ\$141.5)	2.1x resident
Oregon, USA (salmon/steelhead)	\$41 licence, \$40.5 salmon/steelhead tag, \$9.75 Columbia Basin endorsement = US\$91.25 (NZ\$138.5)	\$103.5 licence, \$60.5 salmon/steelhead tag, \$9.75 Columbia Basin endorsement = US\$173.75 (NZ\$264)	1.9x resident
Alaska, USA (salmon/steelhead)	\$29 licence, \$10 salmon stamp = US\$39 (NZ\$59)	\$145 licence, \$100 salmon stamp = US\$245 (NZ\$372)	6.3x resident
Nova Scotia, Canada	CA\$42 (NZ\$47)	CA\$157.4 (NZ\$166)	3.7x resident
Quebec, Canada (salmon)	\$22.79 licence, \$50.99 salmon tag = CA\$73.79 (NZ\$83)	\$81.54 licence, \$163.30 salmon tag = CA\$244.93 (NZ\$276)	3.3x resident

Based upon this analysis, the recent fee increase for the 2022/23 season has brought New Zealand non-resident licence fees much closer to international standards. However, one of the key criteria for Objective B is that impacts on non-resident anglers not fishing pressure sensitive waters are minimised. In total only 34% of non-resident angling is undertaken on backcountry waters (which is indicative of time spent in waterways likely to be considered pressure sensitive). The majority of non-resident angling effort, especially amongst day licence holders, is in waters that are not likely to be pressure sensitive. At a certain point increasing fees will inevitably result in declining participation from non-resident anglers, including a decline in non-resident use of pressure sensitive fisheries, however it is probable that this user group, being typically the most passionate and committed category of visiting anglers will be the least price sensitive. As a result, the impact would be likely first felt amongst non-resident anglers that do not contribute to the pressure on pressure sensitive fisheries.

Further blanket non-resident licence fee increases are not recommended as part of a pressure sensitive fisheries management system because it is inconsistent with the criteria of minimising the impact on anglers not fishing pressure sensitive fisheries.

2. Per-diem fees for non-resident anglers

Instituting a per diem fee for non-resident anglers fishing Designated Waters in peak periods would ensure that licence price increases exclusively impact those anglers that are contributing to the pressure on pressure sensitive fisheries. A Designated Waters licence would be supplemental to the standard Fish & Game licence, rather than instead of and would only be available for purchase by those anglers that can acquire a current backcountry licence i.e. wholeseason licence holders. A per diem licence fee for select fisheries follows the same principle as the above section on general non-resident licence price increase but localises the impact to the users of pressure sensitive resources rather than the broader user group of non-residents.

August 2022

Whilst there is no domestic precedent for a per diem licence fee specific to certain rivers, internationally a similar system has been in force in British Columbia since 1990. The institution of the system was motivated by recurrent complaints that ‘some waters in the Skeena River system have persistent steelhead angler-use issues – crowding, disproportionate numbers of non-resident anglers or guided anglers, lack of opportunities for resident anglers, illegal guiding, poor angler etiquette – all contributing to a degraded quality of angling experience.’¹⁸ This is effectively an identical issue pattern to what is confronting New Zealand’s pressure sensitive fisheries.

British Columbia’s ‘Classified Waters’ system today requires resident anglers to purchase an annual stamp at a cost of CA\$15, which allows them to fish the listed waters unrestricted throughout the season. In contrast, non-resident anglers are required to purchase a ticket for each day that they wish to spend on a classified water during the peak period (many waters remain unlisted and can be fished on a basic non-resident licence). These are priced at CA\$40/day for a Class I water and CA\$20/day for a Class II water. Tickets are purchased online via the general licence sales system and can be purchased on the day or in advance. Tickets do not grant an angler exclusive use of that section of water (as a controlled fishery booking would), but simply gives them the right to legally fish it.

Analogies can be drawn between this system and the Department of Conservation’s differential pricing trial for select Great Walk huts, which demonstrated that price was an effective mechanism to redistribute non-resident usership.¹⁹ Particularly pertinent to the current situation is that the proportion of New Zealand resident Great Walk bed nights increased from 40% in 2018 to 54% in 2020 amongst huts subject to the differential pricing, and the total number of New Zealand resident Great Walk bed nights increased by 18%. Across the four trial sites non-resident bed nights declined, but the non-resident contribution to the cost of managing these walks increased.

In New Zealand, given the fact that each specific water or section of water accommodates fewer backcountry trout anglers than the equivalent British Columbian steelhead river accommodates, the system would be required to provide flexibility in the event that another angler is already at the intended water. Accordingly, it is recommended that the per diem licence be applicable to either a catchment or Fish & Game region, rather than specific river or stretch of river as in British Columbia. For instance, an angler in New Zealand would purchase either a Karamea catchment or West Coast Fish and Game Designated Waters licence, rather than a Leslie River – a Karamea tributary –licence).

This system may not need to operate for the entire angling season, but exclusively the peak summer period of December – March because surveys undertaken by Fish and Game have demonstrated that non-resident angling is heavily concentrated in this period. Outside of this period an annual fee, set at a higher rate than for resident anglers, could apply. This would achieve the temporal redistribution of non-resident anglers. However, the length of Designated Waters periods will need to be considered by each Fish and Game region based on the specific characteristics of their fisheries.

The system would operate on the following basis:

¹⁸ Dolan, A, ‘Recommendations of the Working Groups, Skeena Quality Waters Strategy Angling Management Plans’, Alan Dolan and Associates, 2009, [Accessed online: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/skeena/qws/docs/WGRRecommendations.pdf>]

¹⁹ Department of Conservation, *Great Walks Differential Pricing Trial 2018/19 Evaluation*, New Zealand.

August 2022

- Non-resident anglers are required to purchase a per diem licence when fishing Designated Waters in the peak angling period of December-March.
 - Outside of this period they would purchase an annual Designated Waters licence.
 - Per diem Designated Water licences are issued per catchment or per Fish and Game region.
 - There is a limit on the number of consecutive licences that can be purchased per catchment.
- Or
- There is a limit on the number of Designated Waters licences a non-resident angler can purchase in a season per Fish & Game region (as set out in the subsequent section).

This system would have an additional benefit of providing accurate and detailed data on non-resident angling effort in pressure sensitive fisheries down to catchment level per day across the peak angling periods. This would allow high quality analysis to be undertaken relatively automatically each year, which would then be fed into refinements of the system.

Instituting such a system would seek to use price as a mechanism during peak season to distribute non-resident angling effort to other fisheries less subject to pressure sensitivity (spatial distribution) and to other periods of the year (temporal distribution). The following effects, consistent with the criteria for Objectives A and B, would result from instituting a per diem licence fee for non-resident anglers:

- Only non-resident anglers seeking to fish pressure sensitive waters would be impacted.
- Per diem Designated Waters fees would result in users of pressure sensitive fisheries more directly contributing to the cost of their management.
- By using a per diem system extremely accurate and detailed data on angling frequency and effort would be generated, facilitating informed future management decisions.
- Non-resident anglers would be temporally and spatially redistributed by the additional fees required to fish pressure sensitive fisheries.
- As a result of the redistribution of non-resident angling pressure, resident displacement would be mitigated.

Currently there are two primary impediments to the establishment of this system. Firstly, it would be necessary to obtain approval from the Minister of Conservation in the form of the Sports Fish Licences, Fees and Forms Notice, which is the secondary legislation that would contain the per diem licencing regime. Secondly, there would need to be infrastructure upgrades made to Fish and Game's licence sales system to allow for the sale of per diem licences as well as the collection of the data from these sales. Neither of these should be seen as impossible hurdles and if this proposal progresses both of these will be addressed as a part of the project.

Overall, it is recommended that this option be advanced as part of a solution to Problem B, with the specifics around pricing and operations to be determined as this proposal progresses.

3. Annual Designated Waters fees for resident anglers

Fish & Game's current backcountry licence scheme operates on a zero-fee licence by endorsement system for non-resident and resident anglers alike. It is proposed that, along

August 2022

with per-diem licence fees for non-residents fishing Designated Waters, resident anglers should pay a nominal annual fee to fish Designated Waters.

This serves two primary purposes; it provides a contribution to management costs by the users of the resource and it will increase survey data accuracy. The reason for the increased accuracy in survey data is that if there is a fee (even a minimal fee) anglers will be more likely to endorse their licence only if and when they are actually going to fish a pressure sensitive fishery as opposed to selecting all backcountry regions at the start of the season on the potential that they might fish them. Accordingly, Fish & Game would have a more accurate estimate of the number of resident anglers using these fisheries.

In general, pressure sensitive fisheries are remote fisheries not located near population centres. As a result, there is significant cost and effort required to access them (as well as to manage them), meaning that the imposition of a small annual fee is unlikely to be a barrier to resident participation. However, there are exceptions to this and to mitigate any barriers to anglers being able to enjoy their home waters it is proposed that there is no fee for a Designated Waters licence for the region in which you purchase your licence. For instance, an angler that purchased their wholeseason adult licence in North Canterbury could apply for a North Canterbury Designated Waters licence at no fee, but if they wanted to purchase a West Coast Designated Waters licence this would be available for a fee.

Preliminary internal discussions suggested that an annual fee of \$5-10 per region would be appropriate for resident anglers.

4. Limits on Designated Waters licences

Currently no mechanism exists to regulate the number of days that non-resident anglers can spend on pressure sensitive waters in a set period during the peak summer period. Although not applicable to all non-resident anglers, there is a tendency amongst certain demographics of non-resident anglers to effectively cherry-pick the best of the best during a visit to New Zealand and spend the majority of a trip on pressure sensitive fisheries.

It is clear that to achieve the objectives some limit on the number of Designated Waters licences needs to be instituted, as price is not an absolute barrier. The British Columbia Classified Waters systems limits the number of consecutive days that a non-resident angler can fish the same section of water to eight (there is no limit for resident anglers). However, there are some resource differences between New Zealand and British Columbia that mean this would not be appropriate for New Zealand. The majority of British Columbia's Classified Waters pertain to anadromous fisheries, where the fish are running up a river to spawn and accordingly fishing the same stretch for a sustained period does not necessarily pressure the same fish as they are moving upstream. In contrast, the majority of New Zealand's pressure sensitive fisheries are based upon resident fisheries where the fish are static and where it is not considered appropriate for an angler to fish the same stretch of water for even two consecutive days. A more appropriate mechanism for New Zealand is to limit the number of Designated Waters licences a non-resident angler can purchase in a season and within a Fish & Game region as (set out in the subsequent section) and to not set a consecutive day limit.

If the above per diem licence fee mechanism is instituted for peak periods, it is recommended that there is an additional restriction on the number of Designated Waters licences that a non-resident angler can purchase in peak periods per Fish & Game region per season. Whilst the per diem licence fee will redistribute some non-resident angling effort from pressure sensitive fisheries, price is not an absolute barrier to participation and a select group of anglers will be willing to pay increased daily fees (even substantially increased) for

August 2022

a sustained period. Accordingly, to ensure the equitable redistribution of non-resident anglers, to achieve parity between resident and non-resident anglers use of these fisheries and to increase the opportunities available to resident anglers to offset the displacement currently occurring, it is necessary to put in place some absolute limitations on access.

Based on survey data of non-resident angler use of pressure sensitive fisheries it is recommended that four designated waters licences per non-resident angler per Fish and Game region per season is adopted as a starting point.²⁰ However, this number can be reviewed at the completion of the first operational season and the impacts analysed, at which point the number can be refined.

Permitting the purchase of four Designated Waters licences per region provides balance in that it offers ample opportunity for non-resident anglers to experience some of the premier fisheries that New Zealand has to offer, whilst precluding them from exclusively concentrating their angling effort on these fisheries in an unsustainable fashion that displaces resident anglers. Pressure sensitive fisheries comprise a relatively small part of the overall resource, and there would still be exceptional angling opportunities available to non-resident anglers that would not be subject to any additional regulations. As such, when a non-resident angler reaches their limit of Designated Waters licences they would not have to stop fishing entirely in that region but simply fish areas that are not deemed pressure sensitive and are not subject to the additional regulations. It also encourages anglers to visit multiple Fish and Game regions, rather than concentrating angling effort in just one locality.

It further has the benefit of not negatively impacting the majority of non-resident anglers, or even the majority of non-resident anglers that fish pressure sensitive fisheries, as the average non-resident angler stays in New Zealand for between one and two weeks and will not fish more than four days in pressure sensitive fisheries. Similarly, because survey data demonstrates that there is a disproportionate concentration of non-resident angling between December and March (the peak period), it is not recommended that limits would need to apply during off-peak periods as currently there is not an issue with pressure in these periods (and that this could be covered by an annual 'off-season' licence. However, if a region wished to extend the period during which limits on per diem licences applied because of specific angling pressure outside of the peak period this could be accommodated within the system.

Its restrictions are, therefore, almost exclusively targeted to non-resident anglers that are unsustainably focusing on pressure sensitive fisheries in peak periods. Resultantly it's consistent with the criteria set out for Objectives A and B.

Limiting the total number of days that each non-resident angler can fish pressure sensitive fisheries in peak periods will materially reduce the proportion of non-resident angler usage of these fisheries and will assist in mitigating the displacement of resident anglers. As such it provides a partial solution to Problem B.

5. Resident only periods

The last remaining option to directly address the displacement of resident anglers is to allocate certain periods (days/weekends) on pressure sensitive fisheries for the exclusive use of resident anglers. This provides a defined opportunity for resident anglers thus addressing absolute displacement, but perhaps more importantly it will address perception-displacement. Where an exclusive opportunity for resident anglers exists that is not available

²⁰ Helen Trotter, *Non-resident Anglers' Survey 2022*, Otago Fish and Game Council, 2022.

August 2022

to non-resident anglers it offsets the ability for resident anglers to believe they are displaced from the resource. Accordingly, this option would provide a solution to Problem B.

This option does, however, pose a risk of concentrating non-resident angling on pressure sensitive fisheries into the remaining days available to them. For example, if weekends are set aside for resident anglers only, the same total non-resident angling effort could be concentrated into 5 days within a week, as opposed to 7, potentially subjecting the fishery to a greater intensity of pressure. Given the sensitivity of the fisheries themselves (independent of the angling experience) to angling pressure this may result in a poorer angling experience for resident anglers during the resident only periods. This pattern of higher concentrations during weekdays has been shown to be the case in British Columbia, although as a result of resource differences the impact that this has on resident anglers in British Columbia is much less severe.

The feasibility of this option is also, to a certain extent, dependent on the implementation of the per diem licencing scheme for pressure sensitive fisheries. This system would provide the mechanism to restrict non-resident angling effort on weekends, by simply not issuing Designated Waters licences on Saturday and Sunday. Accordingly, this option would not require any further infrastructure development. It would, as with several of the options contained in this section, require policy approval from the Minister of Conservation as its regulatory foundation would be the Sports Fish Licences, Fees and Forms Notice. As restrictions are increased (i.e., total preclusion of a category of anglers for set periods), the policy approval may be progressively more difficult to obtain and a stronger case with data to substantiate will be necessary. There is also further work to undertake on the legal grounds for precluding non-resident access to a public resource as this may be viewed as unjustifiably discriminatory if not supported with strong data.

One non-regulatory option that could be done currently would be for Fish & Game to advocate that non-residents voluntarily choose to avoid pressure sensitive fisheries on weekends. Many non-resident anglers already do so out of respect for resident anglers, and there is scope for Fish & Game to communicate more directly with non-resident anglers on etiquette questions such as this.

Overall, it is recommended that this option is not implemented as part of the first phase, and that the success of the alternative solutions to Problem B proposed in this paper are assessed. Across this period more accurate data on pressure sensitive fisheries use will be collected and, if it is shown that the additional measures are not sufficient to address resident displacement or that perception-displacement remains a substantial factor, a data-based case for resident only weekends can be made.

August 2022

Conclusion

New Zealand's pressure sensitive fisheries are at a social and fishability tipping point, and action is required to ensure that the quality angling experience that is cherished by resident and non-resident anglers alike remains into the future.

This analysis finds that Fish & Game's current mechanisms in an expanded form are sufficient to address the total angling pressure that pressure sensitive fisheries are subject to (Problem A), but that they are not sufficient to achieve usage parity between non-resident and resident anglers on pressure sensitive fisheries or to address the displacement of New Zealand anglers from the resource (Problem B). Accordingly, it is recommended that Fish & Game takes two distinct steps in response to the issues currently facing pressure sensitive fisheries.

1. Expand the use of the current toolkit

The current management mechanisms (backcountry licence, ballot systems and controlled fisheries) should be expanded to cover a significantly greater number of fisheries subject to intensive angling pressure.

It is recommended that the terminology of this toolkit transitions away from managing 'backcountry' fisheries towards a more generic term such as 'Designated Waters' to better reflect the diversity of waters subject to problematic angling pressure. It is also suggested that a small annual fee is charged for the resident Designated Waters licence endorsements so that management costs are met as closely as possible by the users of these fisheries.

It is recommended that the beat system is expanded to a wider range of waters. In instances where there is road access along a length of the river, or where there is a single point of access from which multiple sections of a river can be accessed in a day, beat systems provide clarity and certainty to anglers and offset the likelihood of encounters. Whilst not enforceable, an extremely high voluntary compliance rate can be expected as it is typically in all parties' (those already at the river and those arriving to find a beat occupied) interest to not cohabit a beat.

Finally, controlled fisheries represent the most intensive and regulated option for managing fisheries subject to the highest level of angling pressure or where the impact of encountering an angler is greatest (perhaps because of the effort expended to reach the area). In these situations, they are a very successful and valuable tool to control pressure. It is, however, suggested that caution be exercised in rolling these out too widely given the potential for strong regulations to disproportionately disincentivise resident anglers from fishing these locations. However, in a limited number of localities, where alternative mechanisms are not proving successful in redistributing angling pressure, controlled fisheries should be used.

The above steps will result in a system that more accurately reflects the resource that is being managed, which more closely aligns management costs with use, and which has the potential to manage both total pressure and angling encounters. However, it will not significantly adjust the balance between resident and non-resident angling pressure, nor will it mitigate the displacement of resident anglers.

2. Achieving parity and addressing displacement

In order to achieve parity between resident and non-resident angler effort on pressure sensitive fisheries and to mitigate the displacement of resident anglers it is necessary to implement a new set of targeted management mechanisms that directly address this problem.

August 2022

Because only a relatively small proportion of the total non-resident angling effort is on pressure sensitive fisheries it is not recommended that there be any further increase to the overall non-resident licence price. However, it is recommended that a per diem Designated Waters licence fee is required for non-resident anglers wanting to fish pressure sensitive fisheries in peak angling periods to redistribute non-resident angling effort spatially and temporally. Based on Department of Conservation trials price has been an effective tool to increase opportunity for residents and achieve usage parity. This further ensures that only those non-resident anglers fishing pressure sensitive fisheries are impacted.

In conjunction with this it is recommended that there be a limit of four pressure sensitive per diem licences that non-resident anglers can purchase per Fish & Game region.²¹ Price is not an absolute barrier to participation and providing an absolute limit to the number of days that can be spent on pressure sensitive fisheries will mandate the redistribution of non-resident angling effort. This ensures that all non-resident anglers can experience some of the premier fisheries in New Zealand while precluding exclusive or unsustainable focus on such fisheries. Because of the average length of stay of non-resident anglers this will not impact the majority of non-residents, but only those that are substantially contributing to the pressure in these fisheries.

It is not recommended that resident only periods are instituted at this stage, however it is proposed that angling data be collected and the success of the recommended mechanisms assessed. If resident only periods prove necessary it will be substantially easier to build a case in favour of them if we have strong and accurate data to support it.

Recommendations:

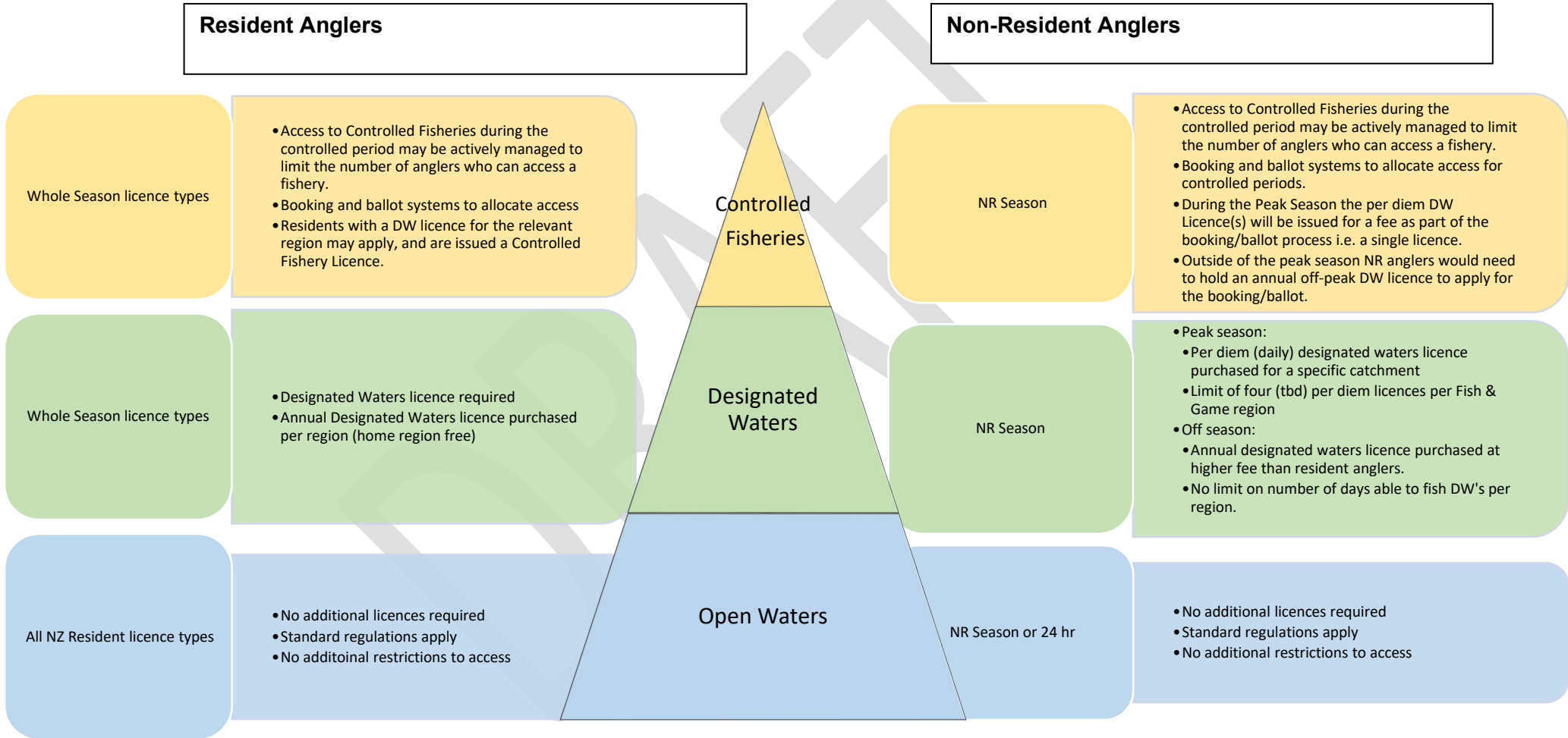
- Expand current pressure management mechanisms to a wider range of waters as appropriate.
- Charge for a Designated Waters licence; residents at a small annual fee, non-residents on a per diem basis.
- Put in place a limit of four Designated Waters per diem licences per Fish & Game region per season for non-resident licence holders.

Identified Knowledge Gaps:

- Internal work will need to be undertaken on the pricing schemes for resident and non-resident anglers alike to determine the appropriate fees for Designated Waters licences.

²¹ This figure will need to be revised if regional amalgamations occur.

Overview of recommended pressure sensitive fishery system



The above table sets out the recommended restrictions for different categories of water and different licence types.

Use of Reserve Notifications

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting 159 August 2022

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Kōrero taunaki - Summary of considerations

Purpose

This report to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council seeks approval for Nelson Marlborough and Southland to use their non-resident reserve.

Financial considerations

Nil Budgetary provision Unbudgeted

Risk

Low Medium High Extreme

Ngā taunaki - Staff Recommendations

NZC Staff recommend the following motion:

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. Note Nelson Marlborough wishes to use \$7,826 from Non-resident Reserve for the one-off purchase of a fish tanker.
2. Note Southland wishes to use \$102,000 in the 2023 and \$52,000 for 2024 and 2025 financial year from the Non-resident Levy for a fixed term contract for staff resource in Te Anau.

Whakarāpopoto - Executive Summary

- 1 Nelson/Marlborough and Southland are notifying the NZC of their intention to use the non-resident Levy.
- 2 In both instances Reserves levels are maintained over 20%.

Takenga mai - Background

- 3 The Non-resident levy was established in the 2014/15 year and is comprised of the difference between the resident and non-resident licence fees.
- 4 The levy is held in Reserve at each Region to be used for fisheries related projects.
- 5 As at 31 August 2021 the levy across all regions was \$1.1m
- 6 Regions need to notify NZC for use of Reserves. This is to ensure that using Reserves does not put a Region into financial difficulty.

Kōrerorero - Discussion

- 7 Nelson Marlborough have notified that they wish to use \$7,826 from the Non-resident Levy for the purchase of a 4WD fish tanker to streamline fish releases. This is a one-off expense.
- 8 Southland are notifying the use of \$102k for the 2023 year and \$52k for the 2024 and 2025 years for a fixed term contract (3yrs) based in Te Anau undertaking pressure sensitive work.

Whai whakaaro ki ngā whakataunga - Considerations for decision-making

Financial Implications

- 9 The impact of this on reserves are as follows:
 - 9.1 Nelson Marlborough:
 - 9.1.1 In June 2022 NZC approved a Budget of \$522,548 this approval takes the budget for 2022/23 to \$530,374.
 - 9.1.2 Forecast deficit for Nelson Marlborough will now be \$14,209
 - 9.1.3 Nelson Marlborough reserves fall from 38% to 37% of Base funds
 - 9.2 Southland:
 - 9.2.1 Southlands approved budget for 2022/23 was \$700,801 – this approval takes it to \$802,801.
 - 9.2.2 Southlands forecast deficit will now be \$109,233.
 - 9.2.3 Southland reserves fall from 120% to 106%.

9.3 Both regions reserves remain above the 20% level.

Legislative Implications

10N/a.

Section 4 Treaty Responsibilities

11 None.

Policy Implications

12 Both regions are following the use of Reserves policy by notify the use of Reserves.

Risks and mitigations

13 None

Consultation

14 Not required.

Ngā mahinga e whai ake nei - Next actions

15 If agreed:

- 15.1 Nelson Marlborough budget for the 2022/23 will have an increase of \$7,826 for one year to \$530,374.
- 15.2 Southland Budget will increase by \$102k in 2023 to \$802,801, and by \$52K in 2024 and 2025 (\$752,801).

EXCEPTIONAL CONTESTABLE FUND NOTIFICATION - FROM RESERVES	
For Budget year 2022 2023	
Nelson Marlborough	<i>App No.</i>
Code:	
Reserve: Dedicated Non Resident Levy	<i>Non Resident Levy</i>
Is this a New Project?	Existing Project
Purchase of a 4WD towable fish tanker to streamline Branch/Leatham back country heli-releases of trout. This fishery is popular with both residents and non-residents. A second tanker will allow all heli-releases to be done within the same time frame and improve operational efficiencies	\$ 7,826
	\$ 7,826
Projected Balance of Reserve 31/8/22	
Value of Reserve as at 31/8/21 (that Funding coming from)	\$ 86,796
Likely income budget in year 2021 2022 (+)	\$ 1,552
Likely income budget in year 2022 2023 (+) - Based on 50% of Pre covid	\$ 34,880
Budget Spending Approved in 2021 2022 year(-) (enter as a negative)	\$ -
Total Funding to be Approved 2022 2023 year (-)(enter as a negative)	-\$ 7,826
Projected Balance of Reserve 31/8/23	\$ 115,402
Reserves Information	
Total Reserves over 30%	\$ 74,107
Total Reserves over 50%	\$ -
SUMMARY	
Contestable Funding Application \$ - Direct Cost	\$ 7,826
(Less) Anticipated Income	\$ -
Net Funding Applying for	\$ 7,826
Funding sought for 2022 2023 (One Off)	\$ -
Funding sought from Reserve (One Off)	\$ 7,826
Funding from Reserves	Reserves
FUNDING RECOMMENDATION TO NZC (4 Essential for Whole organisation or one off from Council Reserves, 3 Essential to Council, 2 recommended but not essential, 1 Good to do but not essential)	

EXCEPTIONAL CONTESTABLE FUND NOTIFICATION - FROM RESERVES	
For Budget year 2022 2023	
Southland	App No.
Code:	
Reserve:	Non Resident Levy
Is this a New Project?	New Project
Salary	45000
Truck	45000
Running costs	7000
Phone, Computer, Incidentals	5000
	\$ 102,000
Projected Balance of Reserve 31/8/22	
Value of Reserve as at 31/8/21 (that Funding coming from)	\$ 154,987
Likely income budget in year 2021 2022 (+)	\$ 4,649
Likely income budget in year 2022 2023 (+)	\$ 24,300
Budget Spending Approved in 2021 2022 year(-) (enter as a negative)	\$ -
Total Funding to be Approved 2022 2023 year (-)(enter as a negative)	-\$ 102,000
Projected Balance of Reserve 31/8/23	\$ 81,936
Reserves Information (on 2021 EOY)	
Total Decicated Reserves over 30%	\$ 438,147
Total Dedicated Reserves over 50%	\$ 326,976
SUMMARY	
Contestable Funding Application \$ - Direct Cost	
(Less) Anticipated Income	
Net Funding Applying for	
Funding sought for 2022 2023 (One Off from reserves)	
Funding sought ongoing from Reserve	\$ 52,000
Funding from Reserves	\$ 102,000
FUNDING RECOMMENDATION TO NZC (4 Essential for Whole organisation or one off from Council Reserves, 3 Essential to Council, 2 recommended but not essential, 1 Good to do but not essential)	

RESERVES FUNDING APPLICATION - Additional Information	
For Budget year 2022 2023	
Southland	<i>App No.</i>
Code:	0
Additional Information Re Te Anau FGO	
<p>Southland has a long history of doing contract work that aligns with our statutory functions. One such body of work is the MPI CCD 'Didymo' position, which we have normally filled with a contractor (although last season we completed the work using in-house staff). However, the contractor we have used in recent years is once again unavailable for this coming season.</p> <p>The role is a specialist one, requiring boating experience and qualifications for our MOSS system, a Warrant as well as local knowledge of Fiordland Lakes and Southland generally. Consequently, we will not be able to fill the role this coming summer and will once again have to use our existing Te Anau-based officer.</p> <p>While this work has benefited our financial position (\$82,000 in external contract work in this financial year), there has been a partial loss of direct delivery in some aspects of Southland Fish & Game's core work, although this is hard to quantify. What it has highlighted is the need to effectively 'replace' the Fish & Game staff time 'lost' to contract work.</p> <p>Southland intends to advertise for a second Fish & Game Officer, who will be based in Te Anau. Much of the workload for this position will be based around our Pressure-Sensitive Fisheries, including research, compliance and education.</p> <p>The position will be for a three-year fixed term, at the end of which Southland will be able to reassess our operation, particularly after the review has been implemented and the implications of the resource allocation work realised.</p> <p>Because the work will primarily be based around the demands of Non-Resident Angling pressure, 75% of the costs will come from Southlands NRA levy reserve, with the remaining 25% direct from MPI, which is already approved in the current budget.</p>	

RMA Legal Fund Update and Applications

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting 159 August 2022

Prepared by: Rebecca Reed, Senior Environmental Advisor, NZ Fish and Game Council

Kōrero taunaki - Summary of considerations

Purpose

This report to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council on the current status of the RMA Legal fund and overview of current applications for consideration.

Financial considerations

Budgetary provision

Risk

Low **Medium** High Extreme

Ngā taunaki - Staff Recommendations

NZC Staff recommend the following motion:

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

- 1. Receives the information;*

And / or

- 2. Approve the funding application for \$20,000 from Southland Fish and Game Council.*

Whakarāpopoto - Executive Summary

- 1 The purpose of this paper is to provide an RMA/Legal application from Southland and advise NZC of the status of the RMA/Legal fund.

Takenga mai - Background

- 2 The RMA/Legal fund's uncommitted funds as at 30 June 2022 includes \$145,640 from this financial year from the 21/22 budget of \$500,000 and the National Budget for 2022-23 allocation of \$350,000 to RMA/Legal.
- 3 Total uncommitted funds from the RMA Legal Fund inclusive of 21/22 and 22/23 budget is \$495,640.

Kōrerorero - Discussion

Waituna Lagoon application

- 4 Southland Fish & Game ('Fish & Game') is seeking \$20,000 + GST from the Legal / RMA fund to pursue a judicial review application in the High Court. This includes the following costs:
 - i. Legal representation by Sally Gepp, Barrister – \$10,000 + GST (estimate excludes disbursements); and
 - ii. Expert opinion / evidence by Philippe Gerbeaux with respect to:
 - a. Classification of Waituna Lagoon as a natural wetland as defined in the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater;
 - b. Assessment as to whether proposed activities are within a natural wetland and will partially drain a natural wetland; and
 - c. Assessment of the potential effects of proposed activities on the environment of the activities. \$5,000 + GST (estimate excludes disbursements (if any)).
 - iii. \$5,000 (25%) contingency. Contingency is sought on the basis that costs escalate during the process.
- 5 See attached application for further information.
- 6 NZC staff have commissioned an independent legal review of this application in line with NZC policy and will provide this to NZC prior to the meeting.

Ngā kōwhiringa - Options

- 7 The Council may

- a. Agree to funding decisions for the current application;
- b. Agree to amend applications prior to decision on funding application;
- c. Agree to not fund the application.

Whai whakaaro ki ngā whakataunga - Considerations for decision-making

Financial Implications

- 8 Southland FG application: If approved, \$20,000 + GST will be deducted from the Legal/RMA fund total uncommitted funds.
- 9 If approved, the fund will be at \$125,640 for the 21/22 year.

Legislative Implications

- 10 Nil.

Section 4 Treaty Responsibilities

- 11 No section 4 of the Conservation Act responsibilities identified.

Policy Implications

- 12 Nil.

Risks and mitigations

- 13 There is a risk that legal proceedings will not be successful resulting in a poor investment of funding, however this risk is outweighed by the need to defend the licence holder and the capacity to undertake hunting activities utilising maimai's.
- 14 This risk is further mitigated by undertaking the independent legal review as set out above.

Consultation

- 15 Consultation with all regions will be undertaken through Managers and provided to NZC prior to the meeting.

Ngā mahinga e whai ake nei - Next actions

- 16 If agreed, New Zealand Council will advise Southland of the outcome of the funding application decision.

Fish and Game Application Form for Legal/RMA Funding

Application From	Southland Fish & Game
Date	August 2022
Application Name	Waituna Lagoon
Total Amount	\$20,000 + GST
Owner	Zane Moss

Southland Fish & Game ('Fish & Game') is seeking \$20,000 + GST from the Legal / RMA fund to pursue a judicial review application in the High Court. This includes the following costs:

1. Legal representation by Sally Gepp, Barrister – \$10,000 + GST (estimate excludes disbursements); and
2. Expert opinion / evidence by Philippe Gerbeaux with respect to:
 - a. Classification of Waituna Lagoon as a natural wetland as defined in the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater;
 - b. Assessment as to whether proposed activities are within a natural wetland and will partially drain a natural wetland; and
 - c. Assessment of the potential effects of proposed activities on the environment of the activities.

\$5,000 + GST (estimate excludes disbursements (if any)).
3. \$5,000 (25%) contingency.

Contingency is sought on the basis that costs escalate during the process.

The above costs are based on Fish & Game covering the cost of the judicial review application in its entirety in a 50/50 cost sharing agreement with Forest & Bird, i.e., they represent Fish & Game's contribution.

Background

The Lake Waituna Control Association (LWCA) has applied to Environment Southland for a suite of resource consents of 20 years duration to periodically excavate an open a channel in the seaward bank of Waituna Lagoon at four locations to divert and discharge its waters into Toetoes Bay, primarily to facilitate drainage of farmland within the lower Waituna catchment.

Fish & Game values

Waituna Lagoon is brackish coastal lagoon, although it is predominantly a freshwater environment. The lake area is about 1350 hectares. The Waituna catchment has significant fish and game values:

1. It is a sensitive catchment draining into the Waituna wetland, which includes Waituna Lagoon.
2. Waituna wetland, including Waituna Lagoon, supports a significant population of native and introduced waterfowl, including game species that have been hunted since the late 19th century during the annual game bird hunting season.
3. Waituna Lagoon and its tributaries support a regionally significant brown trout fishery which offers coastal lagoon angling opportunities, especially when river systems in the Southland region are in flood.

The National Angling Survey, which is conducted every seven years, provides that:

- a. 2,200 ± 590 angler days were spent fishing Waituna Lagoon during the 2014 / 2015 angling season;
- b. Angling usage of Waituna Lagoon is increasing over time: 2,200 ± 590 angler days – 2014 / 2015, 1,840 ± 410 angler days – 2007 / 2008, 1,220 ± 550 angler days – 2001 / 2002, and 1,120 ± 320 angler days – 1994 / 1995; and
- c. Waituna Lagoon is the fifth most heavily fish lake fishery in Southland behind Lakes Te Anau (15,400 ± 1,770 angler-days), Manapouri (4,410 ± 770 angler-days) North and South Mavora (3,380 ± 1,300 and 1,410 ± 560 angler-days, respectively) and Lake Monowai (2,510 ± 660 angler-days).

Tributaries of Waituna Lagoon (Waituna, Moffat and Carrans Creeks and their tributaries) provide critical spawning habitat for the brown trout fishery.

Despite the fish and game values associated with Waituna Lagoon, LWCA has not consulted with Fish & Game in relation to its application.

4. Great diversity of wildlife is associated with Waituna wetland and the Lagoon, including Northern Hemisphere migrant species and other bird species such as paradise shelduck, New Zealand shoveler, pukeko, white heron, gulls, spoonbill, kotuku, oystercatcher, dotterels, terns, marsh crakes, bitterns, and fernbirds. Some of these indigenous bird species are recognised as:
 - a. Having nationally critical and at risk (declining) conservation status under the New Zealand Threat Classification System; and
 - b. Taonga species in Appendix M of the proposed Southland Water and Land Plan (pSWLP).
5. Waituna wetland, including Waituna Lagoon and its tributaries, provide important spawning grounds and habitat for indigenous fish species, including giant and banded kōkopu, varieties of flat fish, eels, lamprey, whitebait, freshwater mussel, and koura. Many of these indigenous freshwater fish species are recognised as:

- a. Having threatened (at risk) and threatened conservation status under the New Zealand Threat Classification System; and
- b. Taonga species in Appendix M of the pSWLP.

In addition, Waituna Lagoon is popular for other recreational pursuits such as walking, boating, kayaking and scientific appeal / scope for scientific research.

Recognition of Waituna Lagoon

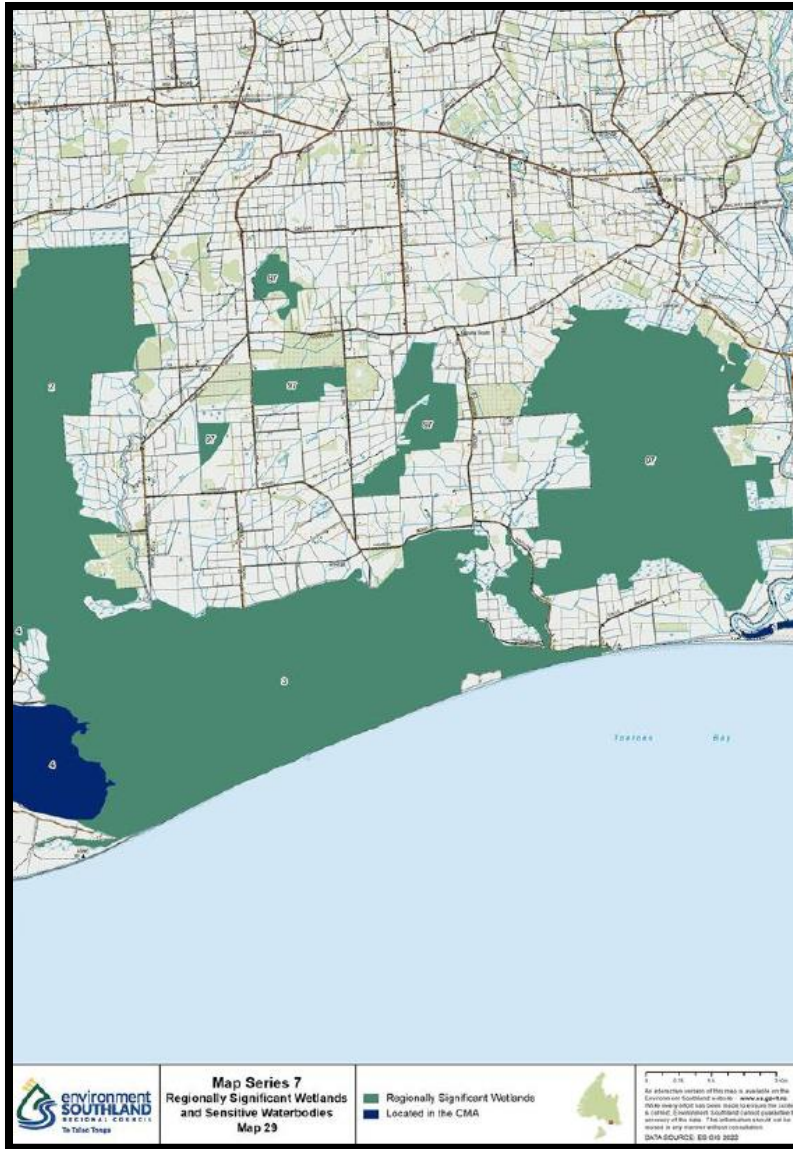
The significance of the Waituna catchment is recognised as far as:

1. The Waituna Wetland was designated in 1976 as a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance with respect to its waterfowl and wading bird habitat. The wider wetland complex was subsequently included in 2008. Great diversity of wildlife is associated with the Waituna wetland complex.
2. In 1983 Waituna Lagoon and the immediately surrounding wetland (an area of 3,500ha) was designated as the Waituna Wetland Scientific Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977 and is administered on behalf of the Crown by the Department of Conservation.
3. Waituna Wetland has a statutory acknowledgement under the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 which recognises Ngāi Tahu's cultural, spiritual, historic, and traditional association to Waituna.¹

LWCA has not sought a cultural impact assessment nor undertaken cultural consultation in relation to the application.

4. Waituna Scientific Reserve is identified as a regionally significant wetland Appendix A of the pSWLP and Appendix B of the Regional Water Plan for Southland 2010 (the RWP);

¹ Refer to sections 205 and 206 of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998.



- Coastal lagoons are identified as a rare wetland habitat type in Appendix 2: Schedule of Threatened, At Risk and Rare Habitat Types of the Southland Regional Policy Statement (2017). Appendix 2 expressly identifies Waituna Lagoon as an example of a Coastal Lagoon (a rare wetland habitat type).

The issue(s)

Application for resource consent

The Lake Waituna Control Association have applied for resource consents to periodically open a channel in the bank of Lake Waituna at four sites to divert and discharge the waters of the lake into Toetoes Bay, Foveaux Strait. The application identifies the purpose of the opening is primarily to reduce lake levels to facilitate drainage outfall on farmland within the Waituna catchment. The application also identifies protecting the health of the lagoon as another purpose of the activity.



Lake Waituna Control Association (“LWCA”) held a resource consent authorising periodic opening of Waituna Lagoon to the sea. That consent was granted in 2017 and expired in February 2022. LWCA lodged a new application in 2021 (less than 6 months but more than 3 months prior to the expiry of the 2017 consent). Southland Regional Council accepted the application (which was subsequently notified) and exercised its discretion to authorise LWCA to operate under its expired consent under s 124 of the RMA.

The opening locations in the expired 2017 consents, and the two additional proposed opening locations in the 2022 application are within the Waituna Wetlands Scientific Reserve, and the activity involves the partial drainage of the Waituna Lagoon (also part of the Scientific Reserve). As such, the activity requires authorisation by way of concession under the Conservation Act 1987 (“CA”).

The purpose of the opening is primarily to reduce lake levels to facilitate drainage outfall on farmland within the Waituna catchment, and secondly to protect the health of the lagoon. Openings for land drainage purposes occur at lower levels (currently 2 – 2.2m depending on seasonality) and more frequently than would occur compared to the background of a ‘natural’ opening regime.

The current short-term consent held by LWCA was an interim measure agreed to by parties, including Fish & Game, to resolve the conflict between farming operations and need to improve the long-term management of the lagoon opening by adopting higher trigger levels for land drainage. Specifically:

1. It was established in 2017 that a higher water level of 2.5m would be beneficial to ecology of Waituna Lagoon.²
2. Most of the land area experiencing drainage effects is currently owned by the Department of Conservation, Te Wai Parera Trust, or Environment Southland. None of these parties are part of the LWCA nor a party to the application. Significantly:

² Shallenberg, M., and Robertson, H. (September 2017). *Maximum Lagoon Trigger Level – Report for the Waituna Science Advisory Group.*

- a. Parties, including Fish & Game, recognised when agreeing to a short-term consent in 2017 that it was an interim measure to facilitate land acquisition, i.e., a means to an end; and
 - b. In 2019 / 20 the Te Wai Parera Trust (with freshwater remediation funding from Central Government and funding from Ngāi Tahu, and Environment Southland) purchased most farmland affected by inundation at a lagoon water level of 2.5m with a view to enabling an increase in the maximum water level in the lagoon. These purchases were highly strategic and recognized as being regionally and nationally significant.
3. The necessity for lagoon opening to facilitate land drainage at levels below 2.5m is unclear. Technical advice provides that:
- a. Any residual effects on land drainage for low-lying properties not purchased by the Te Wai Paerera Trust are minor in both extent and frequency;³ and
 - b. The duration of any inundation on road infrastructure is short-lived and principally limited to Department of Conservation owned land or land acquired by the Te Wai Paerera Trust. Alternative access exists for limited areas of private land with any impeded access.⁴

Environmental issues

Openings for land drainage purposes occur at lower levels and more frequently than would occur compared to the background of a 'natural' opening regime – there has been no natural breaches of the lagoon barrier since 1972.⁵ Commentary on lagoon hydrology suggest the natural opening regime would have involved the lagoon rising as much as 4m above sea level before overtopping and breaching the gravel barrier to the sea.⁶

Because artificial openings by LWCA are left to close naturally, Waituna Lagoon can remain open for anywhere between several weeks to over a year. For example, in December 1997 the lagoon was artificially opened to the sea and remained open for the longest time on record, closing in May 2000.⁷ LWCA cannot control closure of the lagoon once it is artificially opened.

Against this background, it is well recognised that ill-timed and prolonged openings of the lagoon to the sea, particularly during the spring and summer period, is having a significant adverse impact on the ecological functioning of the lagoon. Monitoring of Waituna Lagoon over the last 15+ years has shown a rapid decline in lagoon condition to the point that it has deteriorated to a degraded condition. The two main risks to the ecological health of the lagoon are:

³ Robertson, H., Ryder, G., Atkinson, N., Ward, N., Jenkins, C., de Winton, M., Schallenberg, M., Holmes, R., Kitson, J., Whaanga, D., Blair, S., and Murray, D. (July 2021), *Review of conditions for opening Waituna Lagoon Supporting Information*, Prepared for The Whakamana Te Waituna Trust.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Thompson, R. and Ryder, G. (January 2003). *Waituna Lagoon: summary of existing knowledge and identification of knowledge gaps*. Department of Conservation – Science for Conservation 215.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

1. Poor water quality due to high nutrient and sediment inputs from its catchment; and
2. A hydrological regime that has been altered due to a history of opening the lagoon primarily for land drainage.

The adverse ecological effects associated with opening the lagoon are significant, particularly depending upon seasonal timing. If the lagoon is opened in spring (a time when it is unlikely to close again before summer), there is a major risk of adverse effects, or even complete loss, of *Ruppia* communities. *Ruppia* is a key macrophyte that grows on the bed of the lagoon, which is considered an indicator of its ecological health.

A range of recommendations were made to Environment Southland in 2013 by the Lagoon Technical Group to guide management of the Waituna Lagoon, including that:

1. An ecological health objective should be set for the lagoon based on a stable and self-sustaining native macrophyte (aquatic plant) population.

A minimum target cover of >30-60% cover of *Ruppia* and other native macrophytes (based on average annual % cover at permanently wetted sites in March / April) was recommended as an indicator target that represents an ecological condition of 'moderate'.⁸ To achieve this objective, it has been recommended that:

- a. Specific nitrogen and phosphorus loading rates to the lagoon be set; and
 - b. A lagoon opening regime consistent with the objective be established.
2. Waituna Lagoon is in an unstable ecological state and requires active management to improve its condition and reduce the risk of further degradation.
 3. Recommended catchment nutrient loading to achieve the proposed macrophyte targets by approximately 50% of the current estimated nitrogen and phosphorus inputs to the lagoon.⁹
 4. A change in the management of the lagoon opening regime is required to protect lagoon ecology. Specifically:
 - a. Periodic openings to flush out accumulated sediment and nutrients was recommended, but extended openings during summer that threaten the viability of keystone aquatic vegetation community (i.e., *Ruppia*) should be avoided.
 - b. Opening management should aim for regular winter openings (May – July) because they have a high chance of closing before summer and should be associated with the most efficient flushing effect.

⁸ Ibid, p. 14.

⁹ Ibid, pp. 16 – 17.

- c. By comparison, spring openings have a high likelihood of staying open through the summer period, with consequently large disturbance to the aquatic vegetation cover.¹⁰

Prospective judicial review application

The LWCA and Southland Regional Council assert that the activity is non-complying under Regulation 52(1) of the NES-FW, which applies to earthworks and drainage activities outside a 100m setback from a natural wetland that result in its partial drainage. This can only be the case if the activities are in fact occurring outside, but within a setback of, a natural wetland.

The basis on which the LWCA and Southland Regional Council maintain the activity is outside a natural wetland are unclear. The application by LWCA states that *“while Waituna Lagoon is in the Waituna Wetland Scientific Reserve, it is not part of the wetland or a wetland itself”* and *“the wetlands are most of the land that surrounds the lagoon on which there is vegetation that is typical of a wetland environment”*.

The basis on which the LWCA and Southland Regional Council maintain that the proposed activity is outside a natural wetland is unclear when:

- 1. The activity is expressly to open Waituna Lagoon to the sea (including earthworks and diversion of water). Previous openings involve a channel being excavated by 1 – 2 diggers into the wetland – see below.



- 2. Assertions that the activity will occur 100m away from the wetland is inconsistent with the description of the opening methodology, which the application describes at page 5 as follows:

“The openings are created using excavators ...

When sea conditions are suitable, the lagoon barrier is breached using excavators to start the outward flow to the sea. Once the outward flow starts, the opening is enlarged by that flow, transporting material from the barrier back to the sea...”

Fish & Game asserts that there is no doubt that Waituna Lagoon is part of a wetland complex and is a “natural wetland” as defined in the NES-FW for the following reasons:

¹⁰ Ibid, pp. 18 – 19.

1. Section 2 of the RMA defines ‘wetland’ as:

“... permanently or intermittently wet areas, shallow water, and land water margins that support a natural ecosystem of plants and animals that are adapted to wet conditions.”

‘Natural wetland’ in the NES-FW is defined by reference to Clause 3.21 of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater (2020) (the NPSFM) as:

*“**natural wetland** means a wetland (as defined in the Act) that is not:*

(a) a wetland constructed by artificial means (unless it was constructed to offset impacts on, or restore, an existing or former natural wetland); or

(b) a geothermal wetland; or

(c) any area of improved pasture that, at the commencement date, is dominated by (that is more than 50% of) exotic pasture species and is subject to temporary rain derived water pooling.”

None of the exclusions in (a) – (c) are relevant.

2. Planning documents (previously referred to in this application) and ecological evidence demonstrates that Waituna Lagoon is part of a wetland complex and is a “natural wetland” (as defined in the NES-FW) because:

- a. Waituna Lagoon contains wetland vegetation and fauna.

- b. The Southland conservancy chapter of ‘*A Directory of Wetlands in New Zealand*’ identifies site 72(d) - ‘Seaward Moss-Waituna-Toetoes’ spatially as:

“... part of the Awarua Plains Wetland Complex. It comprises Waituna Lagoon and numerous small ponds within an extensive area of peat wetlands ...”

- c. Evidence produced by Council from Dr Kelvin Lloyd for the proposed Southland Water and Land Plan refers to “the c.18,900 hectare Awarua-Waituna wetland complex” as “one of the largest wetlands in New Zealand” and “a wetland of international importance that contains numerous Threatened, At Risk, and locally uncommon plants, birds, and fish”.¹¹

- d. A recent scientific article¹² describes coastal lagoons as a type of natural wetland, and specifically refers to Waituna lagoon:

*“There are also coastal hydrosystems that are non-tidal but have an intermittent connection with the sea **such as the Waituna-type lagoon**, Hapua-type lagoon and Beach stream (Geomorphic Classes 2, 3 and 4 respectively in Hume et al.*

¹¹ <https://www.es.govt.nz/repository/libraries/id:26gi9ayo517q9stt81sd/hierarchy/about-us/plans-and-strategies/regional-plans/proposed-southland-water-and-land-plan/documents/background-documents/evidence/Southland%20Regional%20Council%20-%20Evidence%20in%20chief%20-%20Kelvin%20Lloyd> at 58.

¹² Philippe Gerbeaux & Terry M. Hume (2022): *What constitutes a wetland in the New Zealand Coastal Marine Area? – a scientific perspective*, New Zealand Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research, DOI: 10.1080/00288330.2022.2085309 at 5.

2016, pp. 13–16) of which the whole system, or parts of, are also referred to as coastal natural wetlands; but they lie outside the CMA. **All those examples would therefore be considered as ‘inland wetlands’ under the policy framework (NES-F).”**

3. The purpose of the opening is primarily to reduce lake levels to facilitate drainage outfall on farmland within the Waituna catchment, and secondly to protect the health of the lagoon. Openings for land drainage purposes occur at lower levels (currently 2 – 2.2m depending on seasonality) and more frequently than would occur compared to the background of a ‘natural’ opening regime. The opening is not for a purpose that would have a status under Regulations 38 to 51 of the NES-FW.
4. The application would only be non-complying under Regulation 52(1) of the NES-F if the activities are occurring outside, but within a setback of, a natural wetland. The locations of the earthworks and diversion activities for all four proposed openings are within a natural wetland.
5. The activity is prohibited under Reg 52(1) of the NES-FW.
6. As a prohibited activity, no consent can be applied for. This means the LWCA cannot rely on s 124 of the RMA to continue operating under the expired 2017 consent. Southland Regional Council’s decision to accept the 2021 application and its subsequent decision to allow LWCA to continue to operate under s 124 of the RMA are both invalid.

Primary Criteria			
	Question	Weighting	Supporting Material
1	Is there national precedent value in the proposed legal action?	1 none, 2 low, 3 possibly, 4 probably, 5 yes	5. - Yes. This is the first time the High Court is considering whether a coastal lagoon is a natural wetland for the purposes of the NES-FW. The Court will be required to rule on the issue.
2	Is there regional significance in the issue for which legal action is being contemplated?	1 none, 2 low, 3 possibly, 4 probably, 5 yes	5. – Yes. Please see accompanying description.
3	What would be the consequences of doing nothing?	1 none, 2 low, 3 moderate, 4 high, 5 very high.	5. – Very high Continued significant deterioration of Waituna Lagoon, including it shifting to a eutrophic state because of poor environmental management.

4	What are the prospects of a negotiated settlement?	<p>1 none, 2 low, 3 possibly, 4 probably, 5 yes.</p>	<p>2. – Low.</p> <p>Fish & Game has written to Southland Regional Council, LWCA and DOC.</p> <p>Southland Regional Council has declined to confirm that the land drainage opening activity is prohibited under Reg 53 of the NES-FW and is progressing the consent application on the basis that the activity status will be determined when the application is heard by commissioners (sometime later this year). LWCA has declined to withdraw its consent application. This means that there is a genuine threat that Waituna Lagoon could be opened by LWCA over the spring period, which has been recognized as ecologically ill advised.</p> <p>DOC has lodged a submission in opposition to the consent application but is unclear whether it is opposed to granting LWCA a concession to undertake activity.</p>
5	What are the prospects of an appeal to a higher court?	<p>1 none, 2 low, 3 possibly, 4 probably, 5 yes.</p>	<p>3. – Possible.</p> <p>Possible, but if so, it will likely be for issues that are of national significance (involving points of law).</p>

Comments

Secondary Criteria		
	Question	Answer
1	<p>What is the significance to Fish & Game of the resource under challenge, including its current benefits and potential use and value? For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. How many angler/hunter days does the resource support? b. Is it an important recruitment habitat? c. What benefit could it have in the future? 	<p>Please refer to accompanying explanation regarding the sports fish and game values associated with Waituna Lagoon and regional, national, and international recognition of its ecological values.</p>

2	<p>What is the risk to that resource of the proposed action being taken without Fish & Game contesting/supporting the proposed action? For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. What will be lost in terms of the resource? b. Would it affect license sales? c. Who uses the resource? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a.) Southland still has reasonable fishing opportunities in its lakes and lowland and tributary streams and reasonable recruitment to its headwater fisheries. However, further deterioration through contaminant inputs will degrade these fisheries to such an extent that these lowland fisheries will continue to decline, and recruitment to our headwater fisheries will also be compromised. b.) Yes – there is a long history of game bird hunting and freshwater angling associated with Waituna Lagoon, which is the only significant lake fishery opportunity in Southland outside the Waiau catchment. c.) Primarily resident anglers and game bird hunters (both from the Southland region and elsewhere in New Zealand), however, previously non-resident anglers too.
3	<p>What is the likelihood of Fish & Game succeeding in contesting/supporting the proposed action?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To answer this question supporting advice needs to be supplied from legal and or RMAS planning sources. 	<p>Although difficult to predict, legal advice is that Fish & Game has a good chance of success - both on legal points and evidential matters (if the legal representative and witness are adequately resourced to support Fish & Game's case).</p> <p>A range of legal options have been considered, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Apply to the Environment Court for a declaration that the activities are prohibited and that the proposed earthworks and diversion/drainage are contrary to a NES (under s 310(c) and (d) RMA); b) Apply to the Environment Court enforcement orders preventing reliance on the expired consent on the basis the activity is prohibited; c) Apply to the High Court for judicial review of Council's s 88 and s 124 decisions; and d) Rely on the resource consent decision (by Commissioners appointed by Southland Regional Council) to determine the issue. <p>Fish & Game is not confident that the right decision will be made at Commissioner level. In addition, this option</p>

		<p>allows the LWCA to continue to exercise an ability to open Waituna Lagoon through extension of its 2017 consent under s 124 of the RMA.</p> <p>Judicial review is the only option that can overturn a Council decision. A declaration or enforcement order can be sufficient to stop LWCA being able to open the lagoon, but will not directly challenge Council’s decision in the same way. Judicial review has the benefit that it can be largely determined “on the papers”, i.e., without a lengthy hearing (this is beneficial for minimising external costs), and a decision is likely to be released by the High Court reasonably promptly.</p>
4	<p>What are the other alliances could be considered in contesting/supporting the proposed action?</p> <p>a. To answer this question supply any approaches that have been made to other entities.</p>	<p>Fish & Game has reached agreement with Forest & Bird to 50/50 share:</p> <p>a.) The cost of legal representation – Sally Gepp; and</p> <p>b.) The cost of an expert wetland ecology witness - Phillipe Gerbeaux.</p> <p>It is unclear whether other parties (DOC and Iwi) would either look to join the proceedings and / or contribute to legal costs.</p>
5	<p>What is the likely dollar cost of any action by Fish & Game to first hearing/court level with a breakdown of costs for lawyers, expert witnesses and scientific support? Indicate the timeframe over which the costs will span.</p> <p>a. To answer this question supporting advice needs to be supplied from legal and or RMA planning sources.</p>	<p>Please refer to the accompanying explanation.</p>
6	<p>What is the likelihood of it being resolved at a particular level e.g. Council hearing, Environment Court, High Court, Appeal Court, i.e. the risk of it going to subsequent higher courts and the likely subsequent costs involved?</p> <p>a. To answer this question supporting advice needs to be</p>	<p>The necessity for opening of Waituna Lagoon to the sea for land drainage purposes is very contentious, with vested interests involved. Significant money has been spent on land acquisition to avoid the need to do so and in doing so, to improve the ecological health of Waituna Lagoon.</p> <p>It is conceivable that the LWCA may look to appeal a High Court decision that is contrary to its interests.</p>

	supplied from legal and or RMA planning sources.	
7	Are there any alternative options (to court proceedings) to achieve the same outcome? a. To answer this question supporting advice could be supplied from legal and or RMA planning sources.	Legal advice is that Fish & Game's 'grievances' are more appropriately pursued through judicial review proceedings. .
8	Are there any alternative funding opportunities including shared costs?	Fish & Game's approach is to minimise external cost (where possible) through sharing legal representation and some witness costs with Forest & Bird.
9	What is the region's ability to generate external funding to help cover financial costs?	Minimal realistic opportunities.

NZC		
	Question	Answer
1	Which Regions have not supported the application and why?	To be confirmed.
2	Has advice been sought by the NZC Office, and if so from whom, and what was that advice?	Advice has not yet been sought from the NZC Office. The application has, however, been discussed with the NZC Chair, Ray Grubb.

NZC Decision

Approved/Declined

Reasons:

Research Fund Applications

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting 159 August 2022

Prepared by: Rebecca Reed, Senior Environmental Advisor, NZ Fish and Game Council

Kōrero taunaki - Summary of considerations

Purpose

This report to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council seeks approval for applications to the Research fund.

Financial considerations

X Budgetary provision

Risk

Low **Medium** High Extreme

Ngā taunaki - Staff Recommendations

NZC Staff recommend the following motion:

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. *Agree to fund the Fishing for Mental Health project at a cost of \$32,648+GST;*
and/or
2. *Agree to fund the Sustainable Food Harvest proposal at a cost of \$12,000+GST,*

Or
3. *Agree to fund both projects*

Whakarāpopoto - Executive Summary

- 1 There are currently two research project applications submitted with a total combined cost of \$44,648 (\$32,648 + \$12,000).

Takenga mai - Background

- 2 There is currently \$38,146 unallocated from the 2021-22 research fund including the Mallard Research allocation. In addition to this there is also the 2022-23 Research Fund allocation of \$100,000. The total available Research funds are \$138,146.
- 3 Within the December 2021 New Zealand Council meeting a review was completed on existing research projects status. Managers recommended withdrawals required from the active projects list. These updates have been conducted successfully to-date.
- 4 The current Research Reserve allocation is \$133,025. This represents the commitment to funded Research, comprising of 9 separate projects.
- 5 The National Anglers survey is the largest research undertaken by Fish and Game. In 2021 it was decided to split this funding from Research. \$30,000 is allocated each year towards this research. The Study is undertaken by NIWA.

Kōrerorero - Discussion

Current Applications:

- 6 There are currently two applications to the research fund:

Fishing for Mental Health

Key questions to be addressed:

- 7 To what extent does a fishing or mahinga kai gathering trip affect the cortisol level, blood pressure, and heart rate of participants relative to baseline measures?
- 8 Using established mood and esteem measurement scales, determine the extent to which a fishing or mahinga kai gathering trip improves mood, esteem, and wellbeing among participants.
- 9 The attached proposal sets out the project methodology and costs to complete this study. The cost of this proposal is \$32,648 +GST.
- 10 NZC staff's view is that this represents an excellent social science focussed project that will both fill knowledge gaps within the organisation regarding the perceived values of fishing by license holders, while also contributing to evidence to support the organisations ongoing social license and perception by the public.

Sustainable Food Harvest – school curriculum / outreach

- 11 Hawkes Bay Fish and Game Council have submitted a project proposal for the development of a high school curriculum for Years 6 to 10 based on traditional methods of sustainable harvest from freshwater ecosystems.
- 12 The goal of the programme is to develop future anglers through capturing their interest in harvesting from freshwater systems and understanding the food that can be sourced and produced in fresh water.
- 13 The cost of the proposal is \$12,000 (+GST).
- 14 Key points for students to experience via the programme:
 - The experience of participation; The emotional and physical benefits; Connections with other people; Harvest of wild food; Active conservation; Adventure and discovery; Kiwi traditions.
- 15 NZC staff's view is that, while this project does not strictly meet the requirements for a research focussed project, it is research outreach, and has the potential to develop some valuable data through discussions / interviews with students. This is an age group not often canvassed for opinions and perspectives on key areas of interest for Fish and Game, and therefore will create a valuable insight into pathways for extending the R3 programme. This project is supported by NZC as good value for money investment in the social science and R3 research / outreach space.

Ngā kōwhiringa - Options

- 16 The Council may
 - a. Agree to fund one, both, or neither research project applications.

Whai whakaaro ki ngā whakataunga - Considerations for decision-making

Financial Implications

- 17 If both projects are approved a total of \$44,648 will be deducted from the national research budget for 2022-23 and from the unallocated \$138,146.

Legislative Implications

- 18 Nil.

Section 4 Treaty Responsibilities

- 19 No Section 4 of the Conservation Act responsibilities identified.

Policy Implications

- 20 Nil.

Risks and mitigations

- 21 There is a minor risk that funded research projects may not achieve stated goals and therefore constitute a poor investment of funds. However, there are processes in place within each project to mitigate these risks.

Consultation

- 22 Both research project proposals have been provided to Managers for review prior to, and discussion during the recent Managers Meeting. An oral update of their views will be provided to the NZC.

Ngā mahinga e whai ake nei - Next actions

- 23 If funded, NZC staff will engage with research leaders to commission the research.



RESEARCH PROJECT PROPOSAL – NZC Research Fund

Project title	Fishing for mental health: can trout fishing and the gathering of mahinga kai reduce stress and improve mood among participants?
Start and finish date	November 2022 – December 2023
Contact person (telephone and email)	Cohen Stewart (Southland) 021 223 8074 cohen.stewart@southlandfishgame.co.nz
Funding requested	\$32,648

Project Summary

In collaboration with University of Otago staff from the Division of Health Sciences, as well as members of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, this study will assess the potential for trout fishing and the gathering of mahinga kai (natural food resource) to reduce stress (cortisol levels) and improve mood and esteem among participants. The findings may be used to (1) promote trout fishing as a recreational activity that can improve the mental health of participants and (2) show how the process of gathering food from nature can improve mental health.

Aims/Objectives

This study will quantify the extent to which participation in trout fishing and gathering of mahinga kai can reduce stress (cortisol levels) and improve mood and esteem among participants.

Key questions to be addressed:

- To what extent does a fishing or mahinga kai gathering trip affect the cortisol level, blood pressure, and heart rate of participants relative to baseline measures?
- Using established mood and esteem measurement scales, determine the extent to which a fishing or mahinga kai gathering trip improves mood, esteem, and wellbeing among participants.

Endorsements

This proposal is endorsed by the Southland Fish & Game Council who have identified the potential for Fish & Game to (1) positively contribute to mental health research, (2) promote trout fishing as a healthy activity and (3) collaborate with iwi on human health research which will benefit both parties.

Dr Shyamala Nada-Raja of the University of Otago Va’a o Tautai - Centre for Pacific Health has agreed to collaborate on this project. Her background is in cognitive and experimental psychology and public mental health, including designing and evaluating relevant interventions.

Dr Shyamala Nada-Raja



<https://www.otago.ac.nz/dsm-psm/people/academic-search/profile/index.html?id=648>

Background

Globally, mental health conditions including stress, anxiety and depression are significant health issues (Thoits 2010; Kessler et al. 2015) and have only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic (Tsamakis et al. 2021). It has been estimated that at least 50% of people will have a mental health condition at some point during their lives (Kessler et al. 2017). It is therefore likely that most people will be affected by a mental health condition themselves or will have friends or family members who are affected.

There are numerous negative outcomes associated with poor mental health and these include: inability to work, family conflict, poor social relations, social isolation, substance abuse, dangerous/reckless behaviours, and self-harm (Cacioppo et al. 2006; McDonald et al. 2014; Frاسquilho et al. 2016; Prang et al. 2016). Furthermore, poor mental health can also be associated with poor physical health (Newcomer and Hennekens 2007; Robinson et al. 2018) and the adverse outcomes associated with mental health disorders result in significant financial costs for healthcare systems globally (Trautmann et al. 2016; McDaid et al. 2019). Given the negative health and economic outcomes associated with poor mental health, research on activities that can help improve mental health is critical.

Internationally, research has shown that access to nature (wilderness/forest) and green spaces (parks) can greatly enhance mental wellbeing by improving mood, esteem, and stress levels (Van den Berg et al. 2010; Nutsford et al. 2013; Van den Berg et al. 2016; Barton and Rogerson 2018). Furthermore, 'blue spaces' (areas with water) have been shown to have positive effects on mental health and wellbeing and can further enhance the effect of green space (Barton and Pretty 2010; Britton et al. 2020). Mental health improvement after exposure to nature may be related to stress reduction via reduced stress hormones (e.g., adrenaline and cortisol) (Park et al. 2007; Li et al. 2008). Other research has suggested that nature-based recreation also has a positive effect on mental health including improvements in affect, cognition, restoration, and well-being, and reduction in anxiety and depression symptoms (Lackey et al. 2021). To date, no research has been conducted to quantify how participation in trout fishing and mahinga kai gathering (and the corresponding exposure to nature) can improve mental health.

Given the current government and public focus on mental health in Aotearoa New Zealand (Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission, 2021), that trout fishing is a widely available outdoor activity and the gathering of mahinga kai is an important cultural activity that exposes participants to nature, understanding how these activities could contribute to improvements in mental health would be of interest nationally and internationally. It would be highly valuable for Fish & Game to be able to quantify the mental health benefits of trout fishing from a corporate social responsibility aspect and an advocacy aspect. For iwi, being able to quantify the mental health benefits they obtain from gathering mahinga kai could assist them in their advocacy of mahinga kai species and may help them with establishing iwi developed initiatives to improve the mental health of their people.

Study Area(s)

The location of the study site has not been determined and will depend on the location of study participants. The ideal study site for trout anglers would be one that exposes them to a quality angling experience in an unmodified setting. The ideal site for participants who will be collecting mahinga kai will be sites in which the participants have a strong connection to, for example, their awa (river).

Methods

In short, the approach would utilise standard and well established methods to measure baseline saliva cortisol (Inder et al. 2012), blood pressure, heart rate, mood (Profile of Mood States) (McNair et al. 1971), esteem (Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale) (Rosenberg 1979) and wellbeing (Bech 2004) before and



after exposure to angling/mahinga kai gathering. Before and after comparisons would be made to validate the effect of angling/mahinga kai gathering on these variables.

The study by Ochiai et al. (2015) could guide the experimental design. Ochiai et al. (2015) documented the cortisol, heart rate, blood pressure and mood response of seventeen people before and after a four hour session of shinrin-yoku (forest bathing). Forest bathing involves individuals visiting a forest and walking around and relaxing under forest canopy. This study demonstrated that forest bathing resulted in a significant decrease in heart rate, salivary cortisol levels and negative feelings, and a significant increase in positive feelings. We would hypothesise a similar result would be obtained by those who participate in trout fishing or mahinga kai gathering given that these activities also expose participants to time in nature.

For this study, we would seek to recruit 20 trout anglers and 20 mahinga kai gatherers.

Fish and Game input

Southland Fish & Game staff will assist in the planning, logistics, and design of the study with support from University of Otago academic staff in the Division of Health Sciences.

Southland Fish & Game will assist in recruiting participants for the study and coordinating testing, fishing and with guidance from iwi, mahinga kai gathering.

Reporting Milestones

The reporting milestones will vary depending on whether a summer student or master's student is recruited to undertake this project.

Confirmation of student/s	by October 2022
Study design and literature review completed	November-December 2022
Data collection completed	Mid-January 2023
Dissemination of results	Late February 2023
Final report	Late February 2023
Manuscript completed	December 2023

If a master's student is involved in the study, then the completion of the thesis would be expected by December 2023 (in addition to a manuscript).

Budget

Item	Number	Cost per unit (inc GST)	Total expense
Summer student ^a	1	\$5,500	\$5,500
Master's student ^a	1	\$15,000	\$15,000
Cortisol saliva test	160	\$35.30	\$5,648
Koha for participants	40	\$100	\$4000



Overnight accommodation in Invercargill for student	6	\$150	\$900
Vehicle fuel for student to travel from Dunedin to Invercargill and back	3	\$200	\$600
Disseminating results to participants, interested anglers and iwi. ^b	1	\$1000	\$1000
Total			\$32,648

^a At this stage we are unsure whether we will be using a summer student, master's student or both to undertake the research.

^bVenue hire, catering, etc.



References

- Barton, J., & Rogerson M. (2017). The importance of greenspace for mental health. *British Journal of Psychology International*, 14(4): 79-81.
- Bech P. (2004). Measuring the dimensions of psychological general well-being by the WHO-5. *QoL Newsletter*, 32: 15-16.
- Britton, E., Kindermann, G., Domegan, C., & Carlin, C. (2020). Blue care: a systematic review of blue space interventions for health and wellbeing. *Health Promotion International*, 35(1): 50-69.
- Cacioppo, J. T., Hughes, M. E., Waite, L. J., Hawkley, L. C., & Thisted, R. A. (2006). Loneliness as a specific risk factor for depressive symptoms: cross-sectional and longitudinal analyses. *Psychology and Aging*, 21(1): 140-151.
- Frasquilho, D., Matos, M. G., Salonna, F., Guerreiro, D., Storti, C. C., Gaspar, T., & Caldas-de-Almeida, J. M. (2015). Mental health outcomes in times of economic recession: a systematic literature review. *BMC Public Health*, 16(1): 115.
- Inder, W. J., Dimeski, G., & Russell, A. (2012). Measurement of salivary cortisol in 2012—laboratory techniques and clinical indications. *Clinical endocrinology*, 77(5): 645-651.
- Kessler RC, Angermeyer M, Anthony JC, *et al.* (2007) Lifetime prevalence and age-of-onset distributions of mental disorders in the World Health Organization’s World Mental Health Survey Initiative. *World Psychiatry*. 6(3): 168-176.
- Kessler, R. C., Sampson, N. A., Berglund, *et al.* (2015). Anxious and non-anxious major depressive disorder in the World Health Organization World Mental Health Surveys. *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences*, 24(3): 210-226.
- Lackey, N. Q., Tysor, D. A., McNay, G. D., Joyner, L., Baker, K. H., & Hodge, C. (2021). Mental health benefits of nature-based recreation: a systematic review. *Annals of Leisure Research*, 24(3): 379-393.
- Li, Q., Morimoto, K., Kobayashi, M., *et al.* (2008). Visiting a forest, but not a city, increases human natural killer activity and expression of anti-cancer proteins. *International Journal of Immunopathology and Pharmacology*, 21(1): 117-127.
- McDaid, D., Park, A. L., & Wahlbeck, K. (2019). The economic case for the prevention of mental illness. *Annual Review of Public Health*, 40: 373-389.
- McDonald, C. C., Sommers, M. S., & Fargo, J. D. (2014). Risky driving, mental health, and health-compromising behaviours: risk clustering in late adolescents and adults. *Injury Prevention*, 20(6): 365-372.
- McNair, D.; Lorr, M.; Dopleman, L. (1971). *POMS Manual for the Profile of Mood States*. San Diego, CA: Educational and Industrial Testing Service.
- Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission (2021). Retrieved from: <https://www.mhwc.govt.nz/>. Accessed 6/5/2022.
- Newcomer, J. W., & Hennekens, C. H. (2007). Severe mental illness and risk of cardiovascular disease. *JAMA*, 298(15), 1794-1796.
- Nutsford, D., A. L. Pearson, & Kingham, S. (2013). An ecological study investigating the association between access to urban green space and mental health. *Public Health* 127(11): 1005-1011.



- Ochiai, H., Ikei, H., Song, C., Kobayashi, M., Miura, T., Kagawa, T., ... & Miyazaki, Y. (2015). Physiological and psychological effects of a forest therapy program on middle-aged females. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 12(12), 15222-15232.
- Park, B.J, Tsunetsugu Y, Kasetani T, *et al.* (2007). Physiological effects of Shinrin-yoku (taking in the atmosphere of the forest)—using salivary cortisol and cerebral activity as indicators. *Journal of Physiological Anthropology* 26: 123–8
- Prang, K. H., Bohensky, M., Smith, P., & Collie, A. (2016). Return to work outcomes for workers with mental health conditions: A retrospective cohort study. *Injury*, 47(1), 257-265.
- Robinson, D. J., Coons, M., Haensel, H., Vallis, M., & Yale, J. F. (2018). Diabetes and mental health. *Canadian Journal of Diabetes*, 42: S130-S141.
- Rosenberg, M. (1979). *Conceiving the Self*. New York: Basic Books.
- Thoits, P. A. (2010). Stress and health: Major findings and policy implications. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 51(1): S41-S53.
- Trautmann, S., Rehm, J., & Wittchen, H. U. (2016). The economic costs of mental disorders: Do our societies react appropriately to the burden of mental disorders?. *EMBO Reports*, 17(9): 1245-1249.
- Tsamakis, K., Tsiptsios, D., Ouranidis, A., *et al.* (2021). COVID-19 and its consequences on mental health. *Experimental and Therapeutic Medicine*, 21(3): 1-7.
- Van den Berg, A.E., Jolanda M., Verheij R.A., & Groenewegen P.P. Green space as a buffer between stressful life events and health. *Social Science & Medicine* 70(8): 1203-1210.
- Van den Berg, M., van Poppel, M., van Kamp, I. *et al.* (2016). Visiting green space is associated with mental health and vitality: A cross-sectional study in four European cities. *Health & Place*, 38: 8-15.



Title – Development of a High School Curriculum for Years 6 to 10 and Years 10 to 12 Based on Traditional Methods of a “Sustainable Food Harvest” from Fresh Water.

Start Date – 01 September 2022.

Finish Date – 31 October 2022.

Funding Required - \$12,000.

(This includes the cost of preparing the curriculum plus printing and distribution).

Contact Person – Chris Newton at Hawkes Bay Fish and Game.

Email – cnewton@fishandgame.org.nz

Mobile – 021 274 6119

Objective Summary

The primary objective is to capture the interests of young people in harvesting food from Fresh Water and understanding how food can be produced in Fresh Water.

We wish to “*create and communicate interest with future potential Anglers*”.

We believe that this will in time lead to increased Licence sales as the students grow older and will also assist with greater public awareness/understanding of Fish & Game (F&G) activities. We would expect that members of the public, (parents/family/teachers), would be interacting with students during their studies.

Given that Hawkes Bay Fish and Game (HBF&G) still have a usable and functioning trout hatchery on site there is the possibility of using this to show students how trout are bred and reared and we can also run experiments in this facility relating to water quality.

The programme will also include tuition on NZ’s native trees particularly their protection and regeneration.

We want the students to experience the following Key Points which are taken from the R3 programme.

- ***The Experience of Participation.***
- ***The Emotional and Physical Benefits.***
- ***Connection With Other People.***
- ***Harvest of Wild Food.***
- ***Active Conservation.***
- ***Adventure and Discovery.***
- ***Kiwi Traditions.***

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

Below is an email from Tamatea High School outlining the scope of the proposal.

Ka pai Chris.

I reckon if you got funding, we could write the curriculum for you and it could be used (sold) around the country. I think two teachers working with an Iwi and FnG advisor could get it done for \$10K plus GST:

Teacher 2 @ \$100/hr x 40hrs

Iwi advisor 1 @ \$125/hr x 10hrs

Admin/Resources \$750

This would be a yr 6-10 programme and a Level 1/2 programme (Yr 10-12).

Thoughts?

Background

Hawkes Bay Fish and Game Council (HBF&G) have become increasingly concerned about two key trends.

- The national decline in fishing licence sales.
- The apparent aging of the current people who purchase fishing licence's.

It was decided to put an emphasis on capturing the interests of young students into catching their own food by linking with and developing programmes for schools to utilise the facility. We also saw this as a way of improved education of the wider public into F&G activities.

Because of this HBF&G commenced discussions with an Iwi representative, Mr Tipene Cottrell and the Principal of Tamatea High School, Mr Robin Fabish.

The objective of these discussions was to investigate whether we could encourage local schools to utilise the Game Farm facility, owned by HBF&G, which has ponds stocked with trout and eels, to learn about the principles of catching/harvesting sustainable food.

We are also collaborating with DOC to explore the possibility of one of our ponds being stocked with koura.

The outcome was to start to develop a curriculum suitable for Years 6 through to 12 where as well as learning, the students studies could qualify them for NCEA credits.

The funding being applied for by HBF&G, would enable this programme to get started here in the Hawkes Bay region however then it could be rolled out nationwide if other F&G regions and/or HBF&G could host schools from other regions.

The programme would also cover aspects of ecology, native tree identification and plant propagation.

In addition to the partnership with Tamatea High School, visits have been made to the Primary, Intermediate and High Schools in the immediate area regarding the possibility of using the Game Farm facility.

Following is the feedback we have received from Taradale Intermediate School.

Kia ora Chirs,

My name is Viv LeComte and I co-ordinate our EOTC and teach at Taradale Intermediate. I have spoken with a very excited Rex after his visit with you on Monday. He has asked me to look further into the possibilities of class/group visits to the Fish & Game centre in Burness Road.

The is email is purely to introduce myself and let you know that I would love to come and have a look around next term with the possibility of bringing my class down for a day at some stage. plus looking at how we might use the facility in the future. I will make contact with you next term.

I look forward to meeting you at some stage!

Ngā mihi
Viv LeComte
Rm 22 Kaiako
Kaweka Team Leader
Taradale Intermediate School

All the visits to local schools have received incredibly positive feedback and we are very optimistic that several schools will utilise the facility.

Curriculum Overview proposed by Robin Fabish- Tamatea High School

Aim: For ākonga to have opportunities to learn about and appreciate freshwater ecosystems in Aotearoa.

New Zealand Curriculum Level: 3 to 5 (Year 4 to Year 10 – 8–14-Year-olds)

Level 3

The Nature of Science

Investigating in Science

- Ask questions, find evidence, explore simple models, and carry out appropriate investigations to develop simple explanations.

The Living World

- Ecology – explain how living things are suited to their particular habitat and how they respond to environmental changes, both natural and human induced.

Suggested study: The impact of introduced species on native species in our waterways.

Level 4

The Nature of Science

Participating and Contributing

- Explore various aspects of an issue and make decisions about possible actions

The Living World

- Life Processes – recognise that there are life processes common to all living things and that these occur in different ways.

Suggested study: Comparing the life cycle of Trout, Tuna, Native Frogs and pūkeko.

Level 5

The Nature of Science

Investigating in Science

- Develop and carry out more complex investigations, including using models.

The Living World

- Ecology – Investigate the interdependence of living things (including humans) in an ecosystem.

Suggested study: The impact of trout hatcheries on the river stocks.

Cross Curriculum Links:

Mathematics:

- Statistical Investigation – Using the statistical inquiry cycle.

Aotearoa NZ's Histories

- Tūrangawaewae me te kaitiakitanga (Place and Environment) – The relationships of individuals, groups, and communities with the land, water, and resources and on the history over their control, use, and protection.

Digital Technology

- Computational Thinking – Identify the steps needed to solve a problem and use technical skills with a computer to work on the problem.

HBF&G Objectives

1. To have a curriculum covering the harvest of food from a fresh water source developed by two High School Teachers and overseen by a High School Principal, plus utilising the services of our current Iwi Advisor and HBF&G staff.
2. To have this accepted by the Ministry of Education and enabling students to qualify for NCEA credits.
3. As an addition to this, and alongside it, HBF&G would work with the local Intermediate and Primary schools to develop an Environmental Education Resource that would be based here at the Game Farm facility. (Whilst this does sit alongside Nos. 1 and 2 it is not part of the formal funding proposal). This would utilise the Educational Material previously developed by F&G.

HBF&G Milestones

Quite simple milestones really, have the preparation of the curriculum commencing 01 September 2022 and completed by 31 October 2022 with the pilot classes held during November and early December.

This would have both parties time to amend the curriculum from our findings and commence in the first term of 2023.

2021/22 Financial Report Process and Sign off

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting 159 August 2022

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Kōrero taunaki - Summary of considerations

Purpose

For NZC to give approval for the NZC Chair to sign the 2021/22 NZC Performance report on behalf of the Council.

Financial considerations

Nil Budgetary provision / Unbudgeted

Risk

Low Medium High Extreme

Ngā taunaki - Staff Recommendations

NZC Staff recommend the following motion:

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. That, subject to the draft Performance Report being circulated to the Council members for approval and any queries satisfactorily explained, the Chairperson be authorised to sign the 2021/22 Performance Report on behalf of the Council.

Whakarāpopoto - Executive Summary

- 1 The New Zealand Council does not meet to consider the draft Performance Report for the year ended 31 August 2022, which therefore requires the Chairman to sign the Performance Report on behalf of the New Zealand Council.

Takenga mai - Background

- 2 31st August 2022 is the end of the financial year for the New Zealand Fish and Game Council.
- 3 The next meeting for the New Zealand Fish and Game Council is 25th and 26th of November 2022.
- 4 At this meeting the New Zealand Fish and Game Council will be presented with the Audited 2021/22 Performance Report.

Kōrerorero - Discussion

- 5 A draft Performance Report will be sent to the Council around mid-October 2022 for discussion and comment
- 6 The Auditors will be working in the NZC audit from late October to early November.
- 7 Once the Auditors give clearance for the report, I will send an updated report to all of the NZ Councillors for approval. This will outline any changes made to the original draft.
- 8 Upon receipt of approval from the Councillors, the Chair will sign the report on behalf of the New Zealand Council.

Whai whakaaro ki ngā whakataunga - Considerations for decision-making

Financial Implications

- 9 N/a

Legislative Implications

- 10 New Zealand Fish and Game Council is a Public Entity under the Public Finance Act 1989 (Schedule 4).
- 11 Financial Statements must be prepared in accordance with Section 153-6 of the Crown Entities Act 2004.

Section 4 Treaty Responsibilities

- 12 N/a

Policy Implications

- 13 N/a

Risks and mitigations

14 N/a

Consultation

15 N/a

Ngā mahinga e whai ake nei - Next actions

16 If agreed, the Chair will sign the Performance Report on behalf of the New Zealand Council.

Motion to exclude the public

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2022

Recommendation:

1. *That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:*

(a) pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 exclude the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED	REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER	GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION
Confirm Public Excluded minutes for meeting 158	As per PE motion in Public Minutes 158	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
Freshwater Litigation	S9(2)(h) OIA Exclusion of the public is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege.	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
Rem Committee Update (oral)	S9(2)(i) OIA Exclusion of the public is necessary to enable the organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities; or	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.

(b) And that staff remain to provide advice to the Council on all items

Advocacy Update

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting 159 August 2022

Prepared by: Rebecca Reed, Senior Environmental Advisor, NZ Fish and Game Council

Kōrero taunaki - Summary of considerations

Purpose

This report to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council seeks to update Council on advocacy matters.

Financial considerations

Nil Budgetary provision / Unbudgeted

Risk

Low Medium High Extreme

Ngā taunaki - Staff Recommendations

NZC Staff recommend the following motion:

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

- 1. Receive** the information as an update on the discussions and advocacy activities recently undertaken.

Whakarāpopoto - Executive Summary

- 1 This paper provides a summary of the advocacy activities undertaken this year to-date. Advocacy activities are separated into Representation (meetings, forums, webinars etc.) and Submissions.

Takenga mai - Background

2. NZC has the responsibility under the Conservation Act to advocate generally the interests of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council. Traditionally advocacy has been the responsibility of the NZC Chief Executive. However, considering prior Acting Chief Executives have been part-time and the current recruitment for a permanent full-time Chief Executive, Cr Ray Grubb has undertaken advocacy on behalf of NZC, with staff support. This report updates on advocacy activities since the last NZC meeting and offers an overview of submissions coordinated by NZC since the last NZC meeting.

Kōrerorero - Discussion

Representation

Wildlife Act Working Group

2. NZC staff have worked with regional Fish & Game staff, and the Wildlife Act working group of the NZC, have made a submission to the Department of Conservation team leading the Wildlife Act review setting out preliminary Fish & Game positions.
3. NZC staff have met with the DOC team leading the review and expanded on the perspectives conveyed in the submission.
4. Cr. Greg Duley has been appointed to the Wildlife Act Working Group.

ENGO Network

5. Regular meetings have taken place with the environmental NGO network and with the Conservation and Environment Ministers, Director-General of DOC, and Secretary for the Environment from MfE.

NZ Fish Passage Advisory Group (NZFPAG)

6. This DOC lead group brings together ecologists, engineers and environmental advisors. They support and develop resources for fish passage, and advocates for improved fish passage management.
7. Ongoing involvement with the Guidance sub-group of the NZFPAG is undertaken through participation in meetings with other members

organisations The NZFPAG guidance group have been developing a resource for demonstrating fish passage technologies, methodologies and examples of best practice and lessons learnt. The Fish Passage Guidelines report published in 2018 is currently being reviewed and updated by the group.

8. NZFPAG has put together this factsheet on Spoiler Baffles to provide an overview of what, when, where and how to use spoiler baffles to improve fish passage by reducing water velocity, providing resting areas and/or increasing water depth. This is one of the remediation techniques recommended in the national fish passage guidelines. This can be accessed [here](#).
9. Participation in this group supports a positive connection between Fish and Game and members working to improve fish passage performance within NZ as cognisance of key issues and / or developments in this targeted field of applied science and technology. The website for the group provides a platform for communication, information and resource sharing.
<https://www.doc.govt.nz/nature/habitats/freshwater/fish-passage-management/advisory-group/>

MfE Freshwater Farm Plan working groups

Session 2 of the Farmer Support and Guidance working group was hosted by MfE as a Teams and Miro board work through the existing guidance architecture – assessing and determining how the guidance material would be structured based on the feedback previously received from consultation process. A highly interactive conversation, utilizing the diverse skills and industry representation within the working group attendees. This process of refining the guidance material will be finalised within the next session, with interactions of drafting content to follow.

Additional working groups with the foci are being held in coming weeks, including a similar process for developing guidance materials aimed to support Farm Plan certifiers and auditors.

eNGO met with MPI CE

Cr Ray Grubb met eNGO network representatives and MPI CE Ray Smith, regarding exotic forestry. Planting of exotic trees as a component of the ETS was a key topic discussed and the impacts this will have on freshwater quality and agriculture productivity. MPI have \$140M government funding to accelerate native planting activities throughout NZ, with a plan for this planting rollout currently under development.

Dairy NZ Farmer Forum event

Cr Grubb spoke at this forum comprising the Dairy NZ Environment Leaders group regarding the inclusion of wetland development into their environmental practices. This presentation was a direct follow-up to Andy Garrick's work on introducing wetlands to Dairy NZ farmers as a mechanism to achieve environmental

performance criteria through controlling nutrient and sediment discharges, while aiding wetland habitat restoration. Additional element added to the discussion was the potential for access to the developed wetlands on dairy properties for duck hunters.

Forest & Bird- advocacy event

Cr Grubb attended the farewell for Forest & Bird CE Kevin Hague. This event offered a relationship development opportunity with introduction to Hon Poto Williams.

High Country Advisory Group meeting -zoom

Cr Grubb attended a meeting scheduled in order to review and discuss the new regulations regarding Crown Pastoral Land regulations. The meeting was relatively unproductive with papers not prepared previously and discussion re-focussed to provide an overview of the anticipated activities the HCAG plans to take over the next twelve months.

eNGO meeting regarding NZ Battery project update

Cr Grubb attended with eNGO's for an update on latest activities in relation to the Lake Onslow Battery project. Primary outcome of the discussion was acknowledgement that there was a requirement for further detail on the potential environmental impacts of the project. NZC have a monitoring role in their participation in these meetings. There was an additional suggestion from Cr Grubb that if the hydro-power project does go ahead, that there should be no further approvals for hydro-power projects within NZ for the duration of the Onslow facility (30 years).

Ngai Tahu meeting

Cr Grubb attended a meeting with Ngai Tahu focussed on develop in an approach to Fish and Game working together with them on development of all 16 upcoming Land and Water Plans. Both parties agreed interest in creating joint submissions on shared interest areas going forward and a specific plan to develop this relationship is being considered by NZC staff currently.

Quarterly Meeting with DOC Advocacy team

Cr Grubb attended a meeting with representatives of DOC's Advocacy team: Natasha Ryburn, Bruce Parkes and Kayla Kingdon-Bebb. Developing an approach to collaboration between DOC and Fish & Game as statutory bodies to partner on 16 Land and Water plans with common objectives established between both RMA teams. There is an aim to develop precedence from cases taken both both organisations and pool resources for establishing standards. Cr Grubb to speak to this during meeting for further elaboration and discussion.

Submissions

A summary of the recent submissions by Fish and Game is provided below. Full copies of these submissions can be provided on request.

NPSIB Exposure draft – 21 July

The Ministry for Environment (MfE) requested submissions on the exposure draft of the National Policy Statement of Indigenous Biodiversity (NPSIB), whose focus is on conserving indigenous biodiversity and reducing further decline within New Zealand. Our submission focussed on key areas of relevance to Fish & Game including indigenous species we manage and the desire for the inclusion of Valued Introduced Species into the NPSIB.

NPSFM and NESF Exposure draft – 10 July

MfE sought feedback on specific questions and components relating to the exposure draft for the National Policy Standards for Freshwater Management and the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater. The exposure drafts presented new definitions, technical statements and overall 'workability' of these two documents.

CMAP Bill – 30 June

The Conservation Management and Processes Bill (CMAP) seeks to reform targeted areas of conservation legislation. The proposals aim to make the legislation more workable, helping the concessions management systems to keep pace with societal and technological changes, and improving the often slow and painful process of reviewing out-of-date conservation management planning documents.

Input was sought on three specific areas, with proposals for:

- Conservation management planning
- Permissions system
- Miscellaneous – remove or clarify minor and technical miscellaneous legislative anomalies.

Whai whakaaro ki ngā whakataunga - Considerations for decision-making

Financial Implications

10. None

Legislative Implications

11. None

Section 4 Treaty Responsibilities

12. None.

Policy Implications

13. NZC has the responsibility under the Conservation Act to advocate generally the interests of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council.

Risks and mitigations

14. None

Consultation

15. Consultation with all and relevant regions was undertaken when preparing submissions and representing the interest of Fish and Game within external discussion opportunities.

Chief Executive Report

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2022

Kōrero taunaki

Summary of considerations

Purpose

1. This report to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council provides an update on the operations of Council.

Financial considerations

Nil Budgetary provision / Unbudgeted

Risk

Low Medium High Extreme

Taunakitanga

Staff Recommendations

NZC Staff recommend the following motion:

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. *Receive the information.*

Kōrerorero

Discussion

NZC Staffing Update

1. Brian Anderton was acting Chief Executive until 1 August 2022 when Corina Jordan started. Brian has now reverted to his substantive role however the Executive Committee approved a job title change to Deputy Chief Executive.
2. Steve finished his contract with the New Zealand Fish and Game Council at the end of July.

Fishing Licence Sales Update

Attached

ESL (Eyede Solutions Ltd) licence system upgrade update

3. The then Acting Chief Executive, in conjunction with the Regional Managers, gave approval on behalf of Fish & Game to begin the change over to the new Fish & Game Licence System on Tuesday the 26th of July.
4. The new system has gone relatively smoothly, noting there have been a few minor bugs, but this is as expected in any new system.
5. Brian Anderton is working with ESL and Fish & Game regions to identify any further bugs and work on fixes.
6. Next month, Brian Anderton will begin the process with ESL to progress on further improvements from the minimum viable product, to align functionality with the original contract where possible.
7. As per the July 2022 NZC motion, NZC staff will report back on this in the November meeting.

Fish & Game website update

8. Phase 1 of the website redevelopment has now been completed. This included retaining current design and introducing an easier structure through improved navigation and content on a new Silverstripe platform to improve the user experience. This has been achieved through site analytics and extensive user surveys.
9. Phase 2 (the actual build) will commence once phase 1 is completed and will take 3-5 months. During that stage, curation of content will take place concurrently, with changes required to improve the user journey, and which meet the identified needs of site visitors.

10. Environment and advocacy content has been identified as a key area that needs more attention including content. The feedback from analytics and surveys did not identify user information sufficiently to inform redesign work. As such it is intended that the branding and communications strategy work, currently being undertaken, will provide further insights and impact decisions on the advocacy content of the new website. Phase 2 of the project will be the responsibility of the new Communications Manager.
11. I have attached to this report a report that covers the project, the improved user experience, the timeline, and the people involved in the project

Fish & Game cookbook update

12. Sales of the cookbook have been a major success. Of the 1,000 copies Fish & Game Fish & Game purchased, we have sold 724. This is an excellent result given what has been done at this point is aimed only at game bird hunters. With a second promotion around Father's Day this year and pre-season sales to anglers, sale projections are positive.

Statutory Processes

13. The Minister approved the NZ Council licence fee submission for the 2022/2023 year.
14. The Anglers Notice for Fish and Game Regions 2022 was published in the Gazette on 20 July 2022. Regulation guides are on track to reach agents and regions well ahead of the go-live date of 18 August.
15. The Sports Fish Licences, Fees and Forms Notice is on track to be published with the signature copy having been completed by Parliamentary Counsel Office for submission to the Minister.

Regional Support

16. NZC staff assisted Wellington Fish and Game Council in coordinating legal advice and in preparing a submission on the Te Rohe o Rongokako Joint Redress Bill. NZC staff and Wellington Fish and Game staff appeared in front of the Māori Affairs Committee, which went well.
17. Carmel has spent many hours supporting Hawke's Bay with Christine Tuck being on extended sick leave. This support has continued with Chris Newton the new Acting CEO – providing advice on Budgets and the OWP process.

Licence Price Optimisation Research

18. The Licence Working Party is currently providing feedback on the first draft of the scoping study funded by NZC in April.

19. In order to meet the April 2023 deadline for draft licence fees and categories, it is proposed that the research provider and budget for the substantive piece of work is agreed by NZC by email at approximately the end of September.

Elections Review

20. The review of Fish & Game elections and electoral regulations was due to be completed for the August NZC meeting, however to align this with the Ministerial Review, this discussion document has been deferred to November.

Weatherhead Scholarship Board

21. Two Fish & Game appointees to the Weatherhead Scholarship board have been made: Dr Adam Daniels of Auckland/Waikato and Dr Jack Kós of NZC.

22. The Weatherhead Scholarship board, which comprises two Fish & Game appointees and three Cawthron appointees has met and identified the following research areas to be included in the scholarship advert (research proposals outside of these areas will still be considered):

- The effects of climate change on New Zealand salmonid fisheries and potential mitigation or adaption options for management.
- Effects of invasive species on trout fisheries and aquatic ecology.
- River and riparian management methods that promote trout fishery values and ecosystem health (e.g., alternative flood protection and drainage practices).
- The social and / or economic value of salmonid fisheries.
- Development of citizen science methods for monitoring trout fisheries.

2 In the April 2022 NZC Meeting, the MOU was approved and delegated to the Acting CE to sign. This has now been signed and is attached.

Guides Licence

23. NZC staff have met with the NZPFGA and discussed prospective amendments to the Guide's Licence proposal as currently drafted. These will be incorporated into the proposal and sent back to the NZPFGA and DOC for review.

Consultation and Correspondence Register

24. Please find these attached.

Fish & Game Website
Area 2: Build and deploy

Project purpose:

Encourage more people to fish and hunt by making the website easier to use.

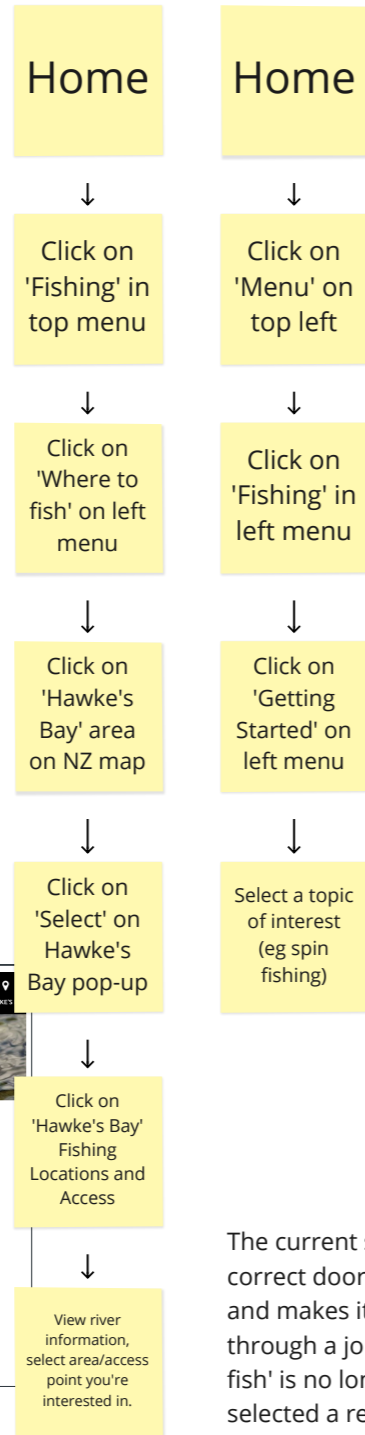
Improving the content and how it's organised is the best way to improve user experience and increase engagement.

More people engaged with Fish & Game will lead to more licence purchases and better organisational outcomes.

The new website will also be more secure and easier to maintain.

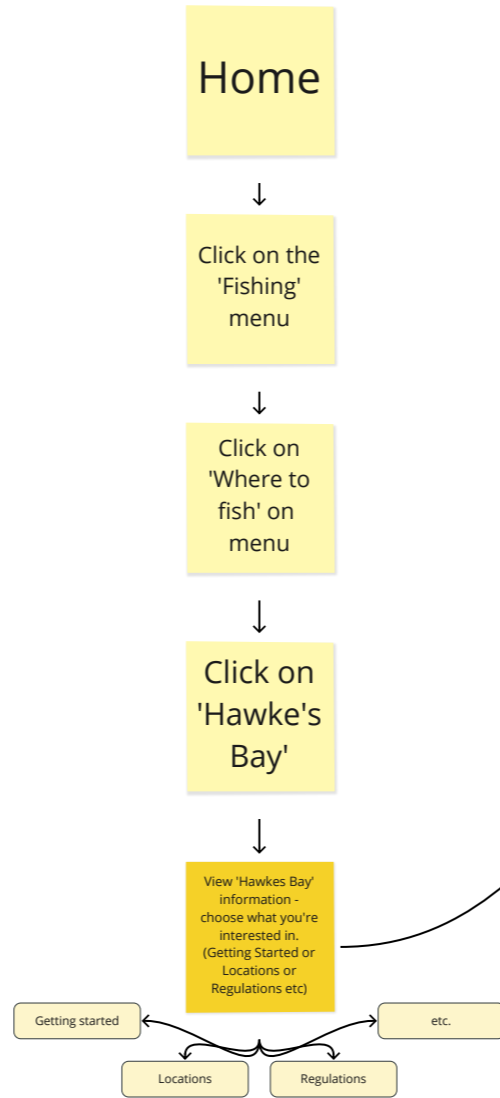
**Current site user journey:
I live in Hawkes Bay and want to start fishing.**

Siloed and duplicate information makes it hard for the user to know what path to take. Multiple menu options and some pathways not available on mobile.



**Future site user journey:
I live in Hawkes Bay and want to start fishing.**

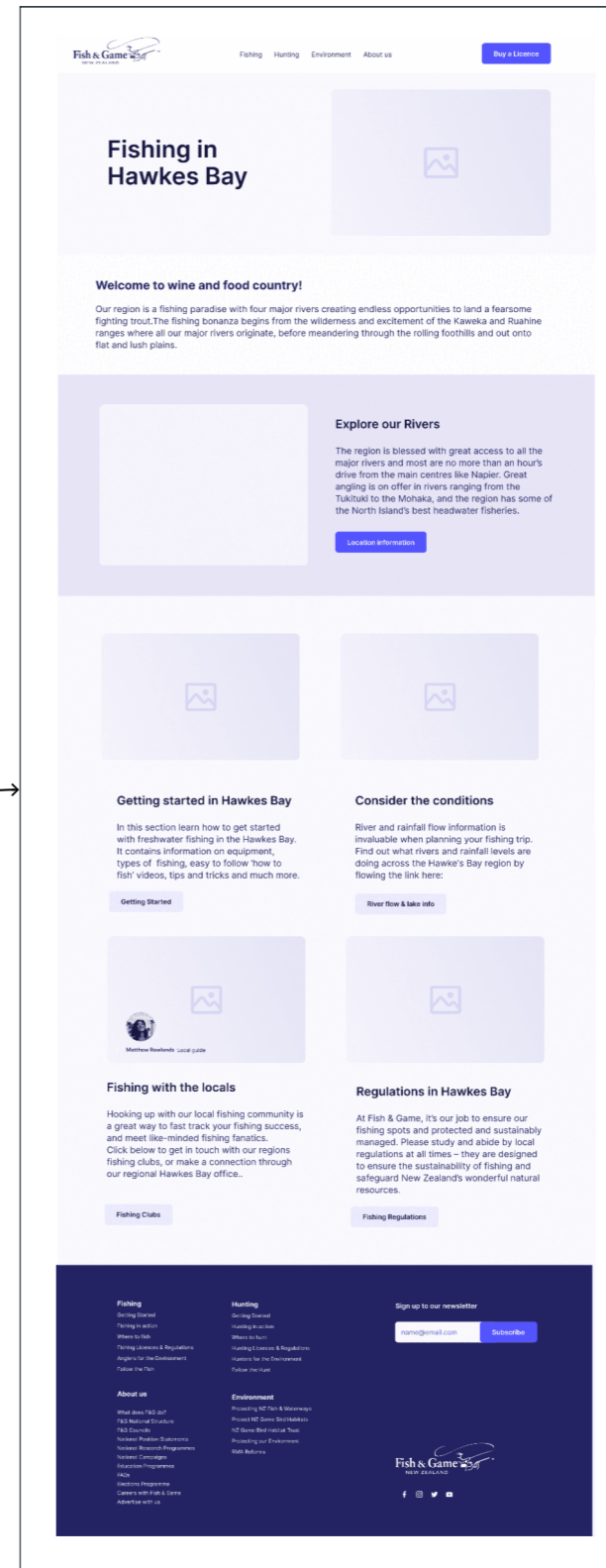
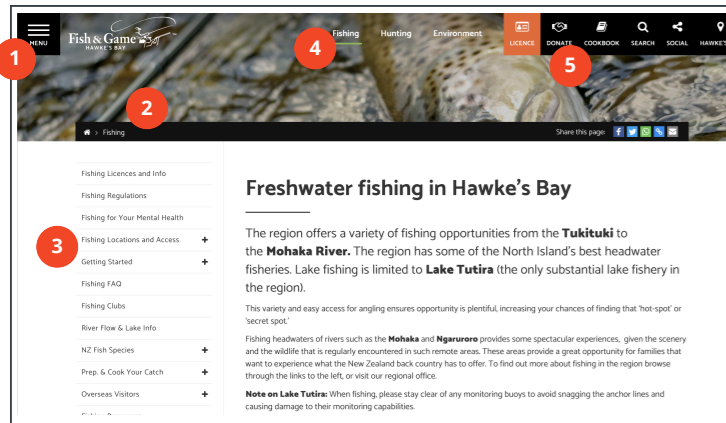
Information brought together into useful customer-centric pages. Duplicate pages removed, simple menus and consistent experience on mobile and desktop.



The current site requires you to choose the correct door at the start of your journey, and makes it hard to change paths halfway through a journey (for example, 'Where to fish' is no longer in the menu if you have selected a regional 'home').

The new site will make it easier for people to find what they are looking for by reducing siloed pathways.

The current site has five different 'menus' for navigation.

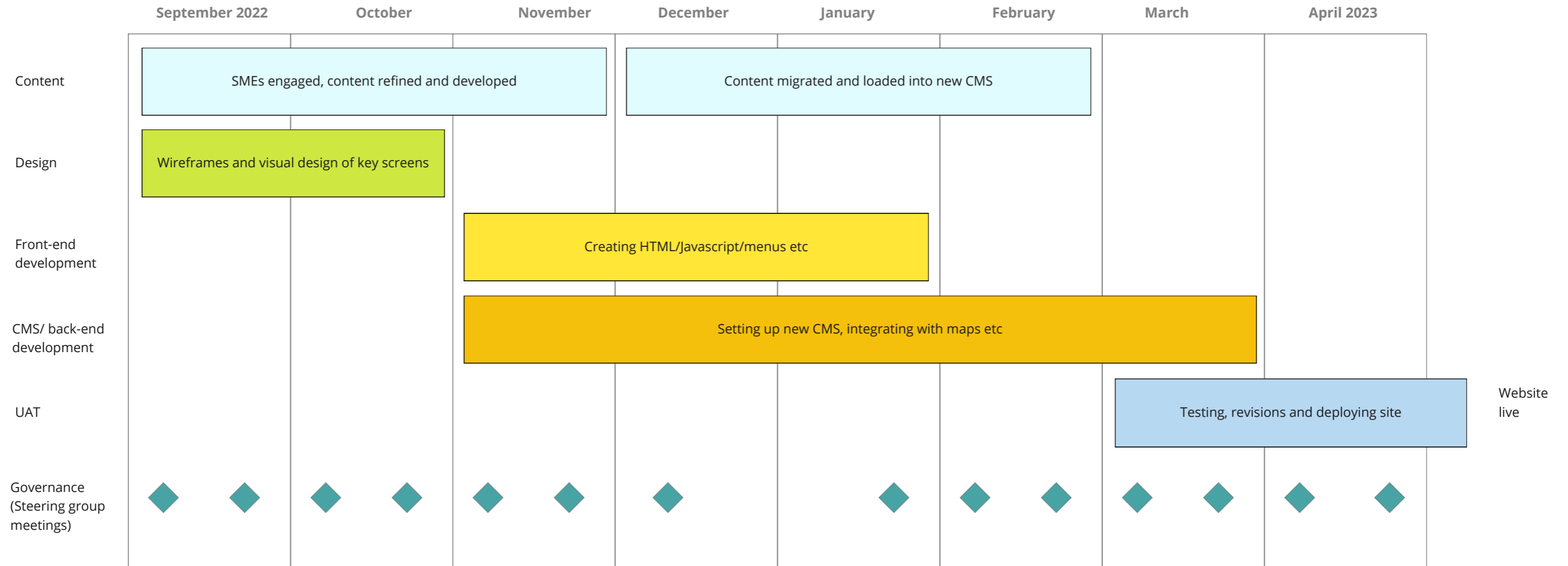


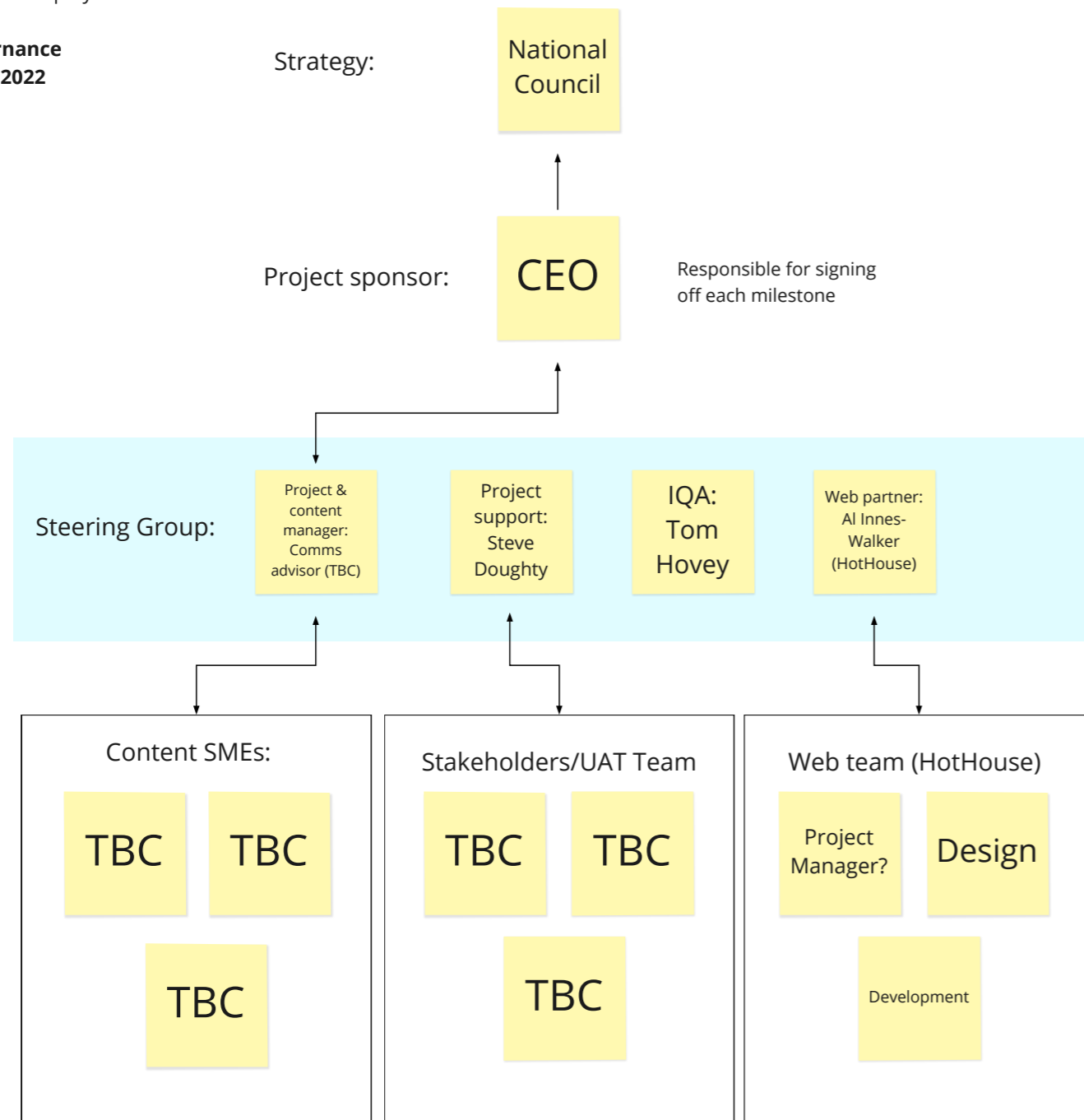
The new site will have one simple menu that guides people to relevant content.

The user can follow a single path to land on a Fishing/HawkesBay page where they can get started, find a location, find someone to go fishing with, get the regulations etc.

Note: this is just an indicative 'wireframe' to show how a key page in the new site might work.

Project Milestones
Draft: 26 July 2022





Meets fortnightly to keep project on track. Status reports are compiled by the PM and delivered to the CEO.

Teams of expertise and resourcing will feed into the Steering Group updates.

Roles

Project & content manager: responsible for keeping the project on track and managing risks, budget and resourcing accordingly. Provides fortnightly status updates to the CEO.

At the project is heavily dependent on content, this person is also responsible for ensuring the required content is developed and provided on time; supports the project manager and product owner to engage with and communicate the project internally.

Project support: responsible for ensuring the website delivers value to F&G and customers, including knowing who to involve in key business decisions and UAT testing.

Independent Quality Assurance (IQA): provides best-practice advice, supports steering group to identify risks and find solutions.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made on the 11th day of July 2022

BETWEEN: The Cawthron Foundation (CF)

AND: New Zealand Fish and Game Council (**NZFGC**)

("Parties")

Background:

1. Cawthron
 - a. The Cawthron Institute Trust Board's charitable kaupapa is the advancement of science to benefit Te Tau Ihu and New Zealand, with a focus on natural resources. Its annual philanthropic programme includes community initiatives to connect scientists with the community, as well as specific educational activities.
 - b. The Cawthron Foundation (CF) is a registered charity established to support world-class, independent research by The Cawthron Institute Trust (CITB). Donations and gifts to CF help CITB to deliver research into areas important to New Zealanders, and to support talented New Zealand scientists.
2. New Zealand Fish and Game Council
 - a. The NZFGC is the national council of Fish & Game New Zealand. Collectively Fish & Game New Zealand are the statutory managers of sports fish and game birds established under the Conservation Act 1987. The organisation comprises 13 councils – one national council and 12 regional councils – who together represent roughly 140,000 anglers and hunters.
 - b. Along with Fish & Game New Zealand's broad statutory functions relating to the management and protection of sports fish and game birds and their respective habitats, the NZFGC further has the function of developing and overseeing Fish and Game's research programme along with interested parties.
3. Weatherhead Salmonid Ecology Scholarship
 - a. Brian Weatherhead left a bequest (the Weatherhead Bequest) to CF in 2020. The 'Purpose' of the bequest is to enable research into the ecology and conservation of trout in New Zealand and the Will stated that priority should be given to funding postgraduate student studies.
 - b. CF and the NZFGC will jointly fund a scholarship that is offered to support research into the ecology, conservation and management of trout and trout fisheries in New Zealand. The scholarship will be known as the *Weatherhead Salmonid Ecology Scholarship*.
 - c. This scholarship provides funding for a PhD student to undertake research and build their research capability and experience.
 - d. CF and the NZFGC shall work in partnership to meet the following objectives:
 - Offer a high-quality research experience for an outstanding PhD student through the *Weatherhead Salmonid Ecology Scholarship*;
 - Provide appropriate supervision, access to research facilities and professional mentoring as well as opportunities to enhance the research elements;
 - Ensure the *Weatherhead Salmonid Ecology Scholarship* is advertised to eligible students.

Interpretation

4. In this Memorandum of Understanding, unless the context requires otherwise:

- a. References to the singular include the plural and vice versa.
- b. References to a party include that party's successors, executors, administrators and permitted assignees (as the case may be).
- c. Except as otherwise expressly stated, monetary references refer to New Zealand currency.

Purpose:

- 5. Both CF and NZFGC agree that the purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to:
 - a. Formally record the relationship.
 - b. Formalise the roles and responsibilities.
 - c. Deliver the *Weatherhead Salmonid Ecology Scholarship*.
 - d. Work together to support and enhance New Zealand salmonid research scholarship, and to build capacity, capability and outcomes in relation to such research.

The Parties agree that:

- 6. Term:
 - a. This MOU agreement will commence on 1 July 2022 and expires on 30 June 2025 unless terminated earlier, or extended/ renewed, by the mutual written agreement of the parties.
- 7. CF Obligations:
 - a. Input into scholarship projects via three staff members from CITB.
 - b. Input into scholar selection via three staff members from CITB.
 - c. Suitable supervision, academic support, office and laboratory workspace and practical inductions/training.
 - d. Active collaboration and collegial supervision (via CITB) alongside a New Zealand tertiary organisation. It is most likely that University would provide the main supervisor and CITB the associate supervisor.
 - e. Administration of advertising, applications, selection and scholarship offer/contract.
 - f. An annual stipend of \$40,000 to the mutually agreed student for the three years of the PhD scholarship over the term of this MOU. It is at the student's discretion how this money is used.
 - g. Acknowledgement of NZFGC as partner in provision of this scholarship - links and information on Fish & Game New Zealand on website, pamphlet and advertising of scholarship.
 - h. Six-monthly progress updates to NZFGC throughout the scholarship process. In addition there will be annual collection of feedback from the scholar, supervisors and progress.
 - i. Active input into publications that arise from the research.

NZFGC Obligations

- 8. NZFGC will provide:
 - a. Input into scholarship projects via two staff members
 - b. Input into scholar selection via two staff members
 - c. Scholarship advertising support including information and links to Cawthron Institute on website.
 - d. Connection and support for the scholars with New Zealand Fish & Game staff and projects and resources.
 - e. Further advice and support for the student as could be reasonably required to complete their PhD to a satisfactory standard.

- f. Active input into publications that arise from the research.
- 9. Schedule 1 to this MOU contains the proposed advertisement and potential research projects for the *Weatherhead Salmonid Ecology Scholarship*.

Decision Making

- 10. Decisions on priority scholarship projects and scholar selection will be made by a board comprising three members appointed by CF and two members appointed by NZFGC. The two primary decisions that must be made by this board are 1) the suggested research priorities and 2) the ultimate selection of successful recipients upon review of applications. The board will undertake all best endeavours to reach consensus on these decisions.
- 11. It is agreed that the board will attempt to reach a unanimous consensus decision in respect of both above decisions, however in the event this is not possible each board member will hold one vote each of equal weight, acknowledging that CF will hold the majority vote.

Payment:

- 12. NZFGC will pay to CF \$20,000 per year by way of a charitable donation for each year 2023-2025 inclusive in January of each year with such charitable donation to be tagged to be used solely for the purposes set out in this MOU and to fund the Scholarship.

Contacts:

- 13. It is agreed that:
 - a. The contact person for CF for matters associated with this MOU shall be Elizabeth Bean, Manager CITB.
 - b. The contact person for NZFGC in respect to all matters concerning this Memorandum of Understanding shall be Jack Kós (jkos@fishandgame.org.nz , New Zealand Fish and Game Council).
 - c. The contact person for research and operational matters relating to the scholarship shall be Robin Holmes (Team Leader – River and Lake Ecology, Cawthron Institute)

Communications:

- 14. The Parties agree that any communication to the media/press of information will follow a 'no surprises' principle, whereby primary contacts of each of the Parties will share any communications associated with the scholarship before public release.
- 15. The use of CF, CITB or NZFGC names and/or logo in relation to published, broadcast, distributed or copied materials is subject to such use being acceptable to both Parties.

Memorandum will not prevent cooperation with other parties:

- 16. The Parties agree that this MOU will not prevent either party from undertaking any activities or cooperating with third parties or acting independently of the other.

Dispute resolution:

- 17. It is agreed that all disputes and differences between the Parties in relation to the interpretation or performance of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled in the first instance by those named as the contact persons, and in the second instance by a forum mutually agreed to between the Parties.
- 18. If the dispute or differences cannot be settled by a forum mutually agreed to between the Parties, the services of an independent facilitator will be employed. All Parties shall be equally responsible for the costs of the independent facilitator.

Review of Memorandum of Understanding:

- 19. The Parties' representatives will meet no later than two months before the expected completion of the PhD to review the MOU, including a possible extension of the term. Then as, and if required, to amend this Memorandum of Understanding. Any subsequent amendments may be made in writing.

Intellectual Property

20. The Parties agree that any and all intellectual property arising out of research undertaken pursuant of the Weatherhead Salmonid Ecology Scholarship and including all reports, theses and other material, shall be jointly owned by CF and NZFGC and may be utilised by either.

Variation:

21. Except as stated elsewhere in this document this Memorandum of Understanding can only be modified by a written agreement duly signed by the persons authorised to sign agreements on behalf of the Parties.

Signatures:

Signed on 11th July 2022 on behalf of:

John Palmer *John Palmer*
.....
The Cawthron Foundation (Name and signature)

Brian Anderson *BcAnderson*
.....
New Zealand Fish and Game Council (Name and signature)

Schedule 1:

Weatherhead Salmonid Ecology Scholarship

A PhD scholarship is available to support and enable research into the ecology, conservation and management of trout and trout fisheries in New Zealand. The funding comes from income that is generated by the Weatherhead Bequest Fund, as well as partnership funding from Fish & Game New Zealand and the Cawthron Institute.

The successful applicant will be supplied a tax-free stipend of NZ\$40,000, for each of the three years of the scholarship.

We are looking for a motivated student with a desire to work in applied science. Any field work for the project will be based in New Zealand. There will be scope for the student to develop their own research interests provided they align with the overall aims of the Scholarship.

The project will be supervised jointly by Dr Robin Holmes (Cawthron Institute), and a suitably qualified academic from a New Zealand tertiary institution. The student will join a postgraduate research group within a Department at their chosen tertiary institution and will also have access to the resources and salmonid expertise available at the Cawthron Institute in Nelson. Between these two organisations the applicant will be provided with access to excellent supervision, laboratory facilities, field equipment and vehicles.

Eligibility:

- New Zealand citizen or resident (considered a domestic student if a citizen of New Zealand or Australia, or a Permanent Resident of Australia or New Zealand).
- Masters or BSc Honours student who will have completed their degree at the time of application for the scholarship.
- Intend to, or are already, enrolled in full-time study for a PhD.

Selection Criteria:

- Selection is based on academic merit and the applicant's potential for research.
- Relevance of the proposed study to the ecology, conservation and management of trout and trout fisheries in New Zealand.
- Capability of the candidate to deliver by successfully completing the project within the allocated timetable.

Research Projects:

- Applicants that show interest in researching the following areas this will be viewed favourably:
TBC

Details:

- The student will be engaged in a research project that supports their field of study.
- Cawthron Institute and the NZ tertiary institution will provide the applicant with excellent supervision, and access to laboratory facilities, field equipment and vehicles.
- Depending on the project, some student costs may be able to be absorbed by Cawthron as part of funded research work (e.g. desk, travel, field work, laboratory costs). As part of their PhD studies the student may be eligible for a grant to go to one overseas conference and may be able to access university funds to assist with this and other research costs. Details will need to be confirmed at time of appointment.
- The student will be treated within Cawthron in the same way as other guest workers/ interns/ research assistants.
- Any intellectual property that arises from the research jointly belongs to Cawthron and Fish & Game and this should be reflected in the student contract.
- The student may hold other scholarships and/or paid work for the duration of their PhD studies.

- Questions relating to the details of the research project and academic supervision can be directed to Robin Holmes (robin.holmes@cawthron.org.nz).

All applications must include:

1. Cover letter.
2. Curriculum Vitae.
3. Letter of support/reference from University lecturer/possible supervisor.
4. Academic transcript (with GPA).
5. A one page statement / outline of research interests in relation to the aims of the proposed project.

Applications should be sent via e-mail to Robin Holmes (robin.holmes@cawthron.org.nz)

Timeframe:

Applications Open:	15 July 2022
Applications close:	16 September 2022
Decision:	31 October 2022

Date	In or Out	Summary	Reference
18/05/2022	In	I14	Extensions to terms of Sports Fish and Game Management Plans
6/07/2022	Out	O26	Letter to Minister welcome to the conservation portfolio
6/07/2022	Out	O27	Letter to Minister, Te Rohe o Rongokako Joint Redress Bill
6/07/2022	Out	O28	Letter regarding Amalgamation
6/07/2022	Out	O29	Letter regarding Potential Merging
13/07/2022	Out	O30	Letter MOC re TFAC
26/07/2022	IN	I14	Letter Biodegradable Shotgun Wads for Waterfowl Hunting

Communication to NZC re the use of lead in fishing tackle

To Whom it may concern

I've sent two similar letters to the Taupo Advisory Fishery Committee via the TALTAC club over the last few years but never had a reply and recently I saw some newsletters from it that followed my sending of the letter and it was not even mentioned in the correspondence so I thought perhaps it was time to send such an important issue further up the chain so to speak !

And really the issue applies to all freshwater fisheries in NZ -not just Taupo.

It beggars belief that in these environmentally aware days of recycling)and banned lead shot for those hunting waterbirds in New Zealand) that we are still happily allowing the pumping of lead shot (and wire and lines) into our waterways via our fishing methods .

Lead split shot was not allowed in the Lake Taupo fishery prior to 2004 . Just as other overseas authorities were banning lead in freshwater the Lake Taupo Fishery expanded it !!!... and well that was a BIG mistake but past is past and its time to correct that mistake .

Lead accumulates in waterways and then concentrates in greater quantities as it files its way up the food chain to its apex which is humans of course .Along the way birds and mammals are also affected (ref3)

“Lead is a metal with no known biological benefit to humans. Too much lead can damage various systems of the body including the nervous and reproductive systems and the kidneys, and it can cause high blood pressure and anemia. Lead is especially harmful to the developing brains of fetuses and young children and to pregnant women. Lead interferes with the metabolism of calcium and Vitamin D. High blood lead levels in children can cause consequences which may be irreversible including learning disabilities, behavioral problems, and mental retardation. At very high levels, lead can cause convulsions, coma and death.”(ref 1.)

Lead slowly dissolves at about 1% per annum (ref 2.) and accumulates in waterways and then concentrates in greater quantities as it files its way up the food chain in increasing concentrations to its apex predator-which is humans of course.

There is no benefit to the body of lead **and no minimum known safe level** .

That **no minimum known safe level** is worth repeating as its at the heart of why this is so important.

A review of the effects of lead toxicity and the reasons for its continual increase in the environment can be found in the “Journal of Interdisciplinary Toxicology” 2015 Jun; 8(2): 55–64

Its all downside and more health issues relating to humans ingesting lead and other heavy metals are emerging all the time i.e heavy metals such as lead are being recognized as one of the causes of brain deterioration that leads to Alzheimers (ref 4.)

If nothing is done at the very least it is certain that at some point consumption of taupo water and fishery trout will be unsafe and that will do wonders for both local and overseas tourism as the “clean ,green image” of the fishery goes west forever .Yes that will take a long time to develop because of the size of Lake Taupo and the slow rate of lead dissolution but once lead is in that system you can't get it out .Remember there is no known safe environmental level .Any is bad ,more is worse.

The reason for popular use of lead in fly fishing flies ,terminal tackle, lures and lines is that it is cheap and very dense so it helps fishing hooks ,lures and flies sink to the level the fish are at so we can catch them .However now plenty of alternatives for lead shot,wire and lines now exist .Yes they are a little more expensive but so are recyclable plastic bags and that doesn't mean we shouldn't use non toxic alternatives Think of what our descendents and accompanying birds (ref3) and wildlife in the catchment are facing if we do nothing .

Lead shot is now banned for gamebird shooting in NZ so why is Lead split shot still allowed????

I'm a mad keen fly fisherman ,haven't used the stuff for many years and have represented the NZ fly fishing team over the years so there definitely are alternatives on the fishing side .Tungsten and non toxic lead wire or other weights are good alternatives in the fly fishing sphere .

In lake trolling down riggers can replace lead lines. If lead balls are still needed for the downriggers they should have to be coated with rubber so if lost they are at least not dissolving into the environment..Alternatively concrete weights or mixes can be used . For other fishing application weight in the form of tin ,copper or bismuth (around 80-90% of the density of lead) mixes and other materials are widely sold overseas as non toxic lead .
Links to lead free tackle are best found on the internet such as :

<https://www.northland.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Non-lead-tackle-suppliers.pdf>

and so lead free alternatives for all modes of fishing are available .

All it needs is the will to do the right thing....

In Summary

Lead is toxic to birds mammals and Humans.

There is no known safe level.

There are alternatives to its use in freshwater fishing.

It now banned for gamebird use NZ wide ,so why is are fisheries still advocating it use?? .

We have a responsibility to our descendents to stop its use NOW.

Refs

1. World Health organization newsroom /factsheet "Lead poisoning and Health"
2. Boreal Environment Research 2001 "Lead Emissions from lost sinkers" Jacks, Westholm and Bystrom
3. State of Washington publication Dec 2006 "Fish and Wildlife Issues related to the use of lead fishing gear"
4. "Journal Of Alzheimers 22 December 2019
5. Ecotoxicology "The ecotoxicology of lead shot and lead fishing weights "October 1996 Scheuhammer and Norris

Dr Mark Clasper BVSC .

National Fish Licence Sales YTD to 31 July 2022

	Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWIA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWC	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Fish LEQ	Fish Var	Fish \$	Inc/Dec
Northland	Agency Online	16	60	3	5	1	10	0	4	31	3	8	1	3	0	14	0	0	159				
	Public Online	31	73	5	2	2	20	1	17	64	8	13	0	6	0	40	0	0	282				
	Eyede Call Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
	Total	47	133	8	7	3	30	1	21	95	11	21	1	9	0	54	0	0	441	259		\$29,898	
	2020-2021	Agency Online	9	36	0	4	3	11	1	4	9	2	5	0	2	0	11	2	0	99			
	Public Online	26	65	6	4	8	17	0	11	67	4	6	0	18	0	16	0	0	248				
	Eyede Call Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
2021-2022	Total	35	101	6	8	11	28	1	15	76	6	11	0	20	0	27	2	0	347	207	-19.9%	\$24,674	-\$5,224
Auckland	Agency Online	249	686	28	107	36	70	7	93	246	8	85	0	25	0	118	0	0	1,758				
	Public Online	482	1,192	56	146	99	165	11	207	946	52	157	3	98	0	467	8	0	4,089				
	Eyede Call Centre	9	4	0	4	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	24				
	Total	740	1882	84	257	136	236	18	300	1193	60	242	3	123	0	589	8	0	5,871	3,772		\$436,242	
	2020-2021	Agency Online	157	457	6	91	22	74	5	55	143	2	62	1	7	0	78	1	0	1,161			
	Public Online	435	1,121	40	156	99	173	5	137	811	74	167	5	96	1	418	2	1	3,741				
	Eyede Call Centre	3	4	1	5	2	4	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	24					
2021-2022	Total	595	1582	47	252	123	251	10	194	956	76	229	6	103	1	497	3	1	4,926	3,158	-16.3%	\$376,189	-\$60,054
Eastern	Agency Online	1,220	1,053	24	273	983	236	24	414	1,438	20	218	2	145	3	98	0	0	6,151				
	Public Online	1,410	1,230	38	233	676	316	33	828	2,611	128	227	2	251	5	649	0	3	8,640				
	Eyede Call Centre	13	9	0	17	6	5	2	6	7	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	67				
	Total	2643	2292	62	523	1665	557	59	1248	4056	148	445	4	397	8	748	0	3	14,858	9,162		\$1,059,584	
	2020-2021	Agency Online	1,111	979	15	269	894	180	12	277	1,069	32	190	0	115	2	93	0	0	5,238			
	Public Online	1,421	1,154	38	260	621	307	23	715	2,540	125	234	5	218	8	612	2	4	8,287				
	Eyede Call Centre	12	10	0	7	5	6	1	4	18	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	0	68				
2021-2022	Total	2544	2143	53	536	1520	493	36	996	3627	157	424	5	336	10	707	2	4	13,593	8,559	-6.6%	\$1,019,591	-\$39,992
Hawke's Bay	Agency Online	213	653	17	153	121	74	4	57	226	10	123	1	55	0	12	1	0	1,720				
	Public Online	226	581	18	74	107	77	6	134	458	35	104	3	71	0	176	1	0	2,071				
	Eyede Call Centre	4	2	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	16				
	Total	443	1236	35	233	229	151	10	191	684	45	228	4	126	0	190	2	0	3,807	2,562		\$296,323	
	2020-2021	Agency Online	204	551	9	157	122	69	1	42	177	9	99	2	60	0	13	0	0	1,515			
	Public Online	216	603	21	90	105	72	8	132	422	19	134	3	65	1	202	0	0	2,093				
	Eyede Call Centre	4	2	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11				
2021-2022	Total	424	1156	30	252	227	141	9	174	599	28	233	5	125	1	215	0	0	3,619	2,438	-4.8%	\$290,471	-\$5,852
Taranaki	Agency Online	60	252	4	45	19	16	1	25	39	1	50	0	9	0	41	0	0	562				
	Public Online	89	243	7	26	28	20	1	29	113	3	36	1	19	0	119	0	0	734				
	Eyede Call Centre	5	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11				
	Total	154	499	11	72	47	36	2	54	153	4	86	1	28	0	160	0	0	1,307	895		\$103,530	
	2020-2021	Agency Online	49	248	2	51	12	12	0	17	25	3	45	0	11	0	28	0	0	503			
	Public Online	85	234	5	28	27	18	2	35	110	9	41	1	30	0	109	0	0	734				
	Eyede Call Centre	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2				
2021-2022	Total	135	482	7	79	39	30	2	52	136	12	86	1	41	0	137	0	0	1,239	843	-5.8%	\$100,443	-\$3,087
Wellington	Agency Online	192	856	7	134	128	62	3	39	129	3	119	0	54	0	162	1	0	1,889				
	Public Online	295	982	23	122	143	88	5	53	413	9	159	2	62	0	459	1	0	2,816				
	Eyede Call Centre	5	13	0	8	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	33				
	Total	492	1851	30	264	271	150	8	95	543	12	279	2	116	0	623	2	0	4,738	3,241		\$374,824	
	2020-2021	Agency Online	197	883	2	139	112	54	6	23	128	1	139	0	57	0	155	2	0	1,898			
	Public Online	304	983	18	144	128	67	1	58	348	12	136	0	40	0	487	1	0	2,727				
	Eyede Call Centre	1	3	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	9				
2021-2022	Total	502	1869	20	284	240	122	7	81	478	13	276	0	97	0	642	3	0	4,634	3,218	-0.7%	\$383,420	\$8,596
Nelson/Marl	Agency Online	489	1,071	25	209	85	85	10	83	273	6	134	0	43	0	264	0	0	2,777				
	Public Online	290	584	37	103	89	55	3	80	496	16	93	2	57	0	437	1	0	2,343				
	Eyede Call Centre	2	4	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	16				
	Total	781	1659	62	313	174	141	13	164	771	22	227	2	100	0	706	1	0	5,136	3,471		\$401,446	
	2020-2021	Agency Online	475	923	9	205	101	76	2	49	180	3	125	0	28	0	248	0	0	2,424			
	Public Online	331	663	25	116	100	75	5	78	514	18	125	4	86	3	507	0	0	2,650				
	Eyede Call Centre	0	2	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8				
2021-2022	Total	806	1588	34	323	203	153	7	127	694	21	250	4	114	3	755	0	0	5,082	3,417	-1.5%	\$407,116	\$5,670
North Canterbury	Agency Online	1,925	3,271	30	763	96	142	15	261	620	19	320	3	87	0	428	3	0	7,983				
	Public Online	1,239	2,041	47	302	126	125	13	251	1,424	83	296	4	170	0	1,458	4	0	7,583				
	Eyede Call Centre	7	14	0	4	2	1	0	2	7	0	7	0	1	0	8	0	0	53				
	Total	3171	5326	77	1069	224	268	28	514	2051	102	623	7	258	0	1894	7	0	15,619	11,460		\$1,325,381	
	2020-2021	Agency Online	1,767	3,040	12	790	58	133	14	253	412	17	302	2	36	3	451	2	1	7,293			
	Public Online	1,161	2,023	24	339	115	162	12	259	1,521	70	349	5	202	0	1,730	1	3	7,976				

National Non resident sales YTD to 31 July 2022

Totals	Channel	FWNA	FDNA	FWNJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Var	Fish LEQ	Var	To Bulk fund	To Non Res reserve	Total	Inc/Dec Bulk Fund	Inc/Dec Reserve	Net Inc/Dec
	Direct	464	765	26	17	19	14	1,305		602		69,618	27,495	97,113			
	AOL	204	183	8	9	5	4	413		239		27,649	10,302	37,951			
2020-2021	Total	668	948	34	26	24	18	1,718		841		97,267	37,797	135,064			
	Direct	393	764	46	28	20	22	1,273		534		63,843	25,552	89,396			
	AOL	88	207	8	12	7	15	337		125		14,987	6,419	21,406			
2021-2022	Total	481	971	54	40	27	37	1,610	-108	660	-181	78,830	31,971	110,802	-18,437	-5,826	-24,263

Northland	Channel	FWNA	FDNA	FWNJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Var	Fish LEQ	Var	To Bulk fund	To Non Res reserve	Total	Inc/Dec Bulk Fund	Inc/Dec Reserve	Net Inc/Dec
2020-2021	Total	8	11	1	-	-	-	20		10		1,170	437	1,607			
2021-2022	Total	6	6	-	-	2	-	14	-6	7	-3	847	362	1,209	-324	-75	-398
Auckland Waikato	Channel	FWNA	FDNA	FWNJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Var	Fish LEQ	Var	To Bulk fund	To Non Res reserve	Total	Inc/Dec Bulk Fund	Inc/Dec Reserve	Net Inc/Dec
2020-2021	Total	84	60	3	-	8	-	155		96		11,078	4,169	15,247			
2021-2022	Total	47	76	6	1	3	1	134	-21	61	-34	7,333	2,851	10,184	-3,745	-1,318	-5,063
Eastern	Channel	FWNA	FDNA	FWNJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Var	Fish LEQ	Var	To Bulk fund	To Non Res reserve	Total	Inc/Dec Bulk Fund	Inc/Dec Reserve	Net Inc/Dec
2020-2021	Total	62	148	4	8	-	3	225		88		10,200	4,189	14,390			
2021-2022	Total	53	157	5	10	2	4	231	6	81	-7	9,672	4,101	13,773	-528	-89	-617
Hawkes Bay	Channel	FWNA	FDNA	FWNJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Var	Fish LEQ	Var	To Bulk fund	To Non Res reserve	Total	Inc/Dec Bulk Fund	Inc/Dec Reserve	Net Inc/Dec
2020-2021	Total	35	45	4	-	2	-	86		44		5,055	1,931	6,986			
2021-2022	Total	30	28	5	1	-	-	64	-22	36	-8	4,304	1,544	5,849	-751	-387	-1,137
Taranaki	Channel	FWNA	FDNA	FWNJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Var	Fish LEQ	Var	To Bulk fund	To Non Res reserve	Total	Inc/Dec Bulk Fund	Inc/Dec Reserve	Net Inc/Dec
2020-2021	Total	11	4	1	-	-	-	16		12		1,391	478	1,870			
2021-2022	Total	7	12	1	-	-	-	20	4	9	-3	1,107	415	1,522	-285	-63	-348
Wellington	Channel	FWNA	FDNA	FWNJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Var	Fish LEQ	Var	To Bulk fund	To Non Res reserve	Total	Inc/Dec Bulk Fund	Inc/Dec Reserve	Net Inc/Dec
2020-2021	Total	30	12	2	-	2	-	46		33		3,800	1,368	5,169			
2021-2022	Total	20	13	-	-	3	-	36	-10	22	-10	2,680	1,025	3,704	-1,121	-344	-1,464
Nelson/Marl	Channel	FWNA	FDNA	FWNJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Var	Fish LEQ	Var	To Bulk fund	To Non Res reserve	Total	Inc/Dec Bulk Fund	Inc/Dec Reserve	Net Inc/Dec
2020-2021	Total	62	22	2	-	1	-	87		67		7,747	2,697	10,443			
2021-2022	Total	34	21	4	3	-	-	62	-25	39	-28	4,637	1,648	6,285	-3,110	-1,049	-4,158
North Canterbury	Channel	FWNA	FDNA	FWNJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Var	Fish LEQ	Var	To Bulk fund	To Non Res reserve	Total	Inc/Dec Bulk Fund	Inc/Dec Reserve	Net Inc/Dec
2020-2021	Total	77	102	7	-	7	-	193		96		11,138	4,344	15,482			
2021-2022	Total	36	87	7	3	3	4	140	-53	52	-44	6,254	2,617	8,871	-4,884	-1,727	-6,610
West Coast	Channel	FWNA	FDNA	FWNJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Var	Fish LEQ	Var	To Bulk fund	To Non Res reserve	Total	Inc/Dec Bulk Fund	Inc/Dec Reserve	Net Inc/Dec
2020-2021	Total	17	26	-	-	-	1	44		21		2,486	961	3,447			
2021-2022	Total	9	28	1	-	3	-	41	-3	14	-8	1,667	755	2,422	-819	-206	-1,025
Central South Is	Channel	FWNA	FDNA	FWNJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Var	Fish LEQ	Var	To Bulk fund	To Non Res reserve	Total	Inc/Dec Bulk Fund	Inc/Dec Reserve	Net Inc/Dec
2020-2021	Total	68	188	3	4	3	2	268		100		11,616	4,868	16,483			
2021-2022	Total	59	197	8	6	7	5	282	14	94	-7	11,243	4,901	16,144	-373	33	-339
Otago	Channel	FWNA	FDNA	FWNJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Var	Fish LEQ	Var	To Bulk fund	To Non Res reserve	Total	Inc/Dec Bulk Fund	Inc/Dec Reserve	Net Inc/Dec
2020-2021	Total	117	253	4	14	1	11	400		161		18,671	7,705	26,376			
2021-2022	Total	105	269	11	16	4	23	428	28	153	-8	18,356	7,891	26,247	-315	186	-129
Southland	Channel	FWNA	FDNA	FWNJ	FDNJ	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Var	Fish LEQ	Var	To Bulk fund	To Non Res reserve	Total	Inc/Dec Bulk Fund	Inc/Dec Reserve	Net Inc/Dec
2020-2021	Total	97	77	3	-	-	1	178		112		12,915	4,650	17,565			
2021-2022	Total	75	77	6	-	-	-	158	-20	90	-22	10,731	3,860	14,591	-2,184	-790	-2,974

National Game Licence Sales YTD to 31 July 2022											
North Is Regions	Channel	GWA	GWJ	GWC	GDA	GDJ	Total	Game LEQ	Game Var	Game \$	Inc/Dec
Northland	Agency Online	1,337	142	80	16	2	1,577				
	Public Online	251	17	10	32	2	312				
	Call Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0				
	Total	1,588	159	90	48	4	1,889	1,630		\$133,236	
2020-2021	Agency Online	1,303	127	55	8	0	1,493				
	Public Online	234	33	8	23	0	298				
	Call Centre	2	0	0	0	0	2				
	Total	1,539	160	63	31	0	1,793	1,577	-3.3%	\$131,629	-\$1,607
Auckland Waikato	Agency Online	4,952	394	201	48	1	5,596				
	Public Online	1,413	143	61	151	4	1,772				
	Call Centre	2	0	0	0	0	2				
	Total	6367	537	262	199	5	7,370	6,516		\$532,610	
2020-2021	Agency Online	4,826	401	164	49	0	5,440				
	Public Online	1,332	122	53	106	2	1,615				
	Call Centre	4	0	0	0	0	4				
	Total	6162	523	217	155	2	7,059	6,296	-3.4%	\$525,602	-\$7,009
2021-2022	Agency Online	2,481	229	107	67	1	2,885				
	Public Online	469	64	19	84	3	639				
	Call Centre	1	0	0	3	0	4				
	Total	2951	293	126	154	4	3,528	3,042		\$248,611	
2020-2021	Agency Online	2,480	243	111	34	2	2,870				
	Public Online	456	49	13	81	2	601				
	Call Centre	2	0	0	0	0	2				
	Total	2938	292	124	115	4	3,473	3,019	-0.7%	\$251,997	\$3,386
Eastern	Agency Online	1,381	119	44	20	1	1,565				
	Public Online	411	49	25	85	5	575				
	Call Centre	2	0	0	0	0	2				
	Total	1794	168	69	105	6	2,142	1,849		\$151,171	
2020-2021	Agency Online	1,404	125	40	13	1	1,583				
	Public Online	456	60	29	56	5	606				
	Call Centre	3	0	0	0	0	3				
	Total	1863	185	69	69	6	2,192	1,914	3.5%	\$159,737	\$8,566
2021-2022	Agency Online	888	73	27	26	1	1,015				
	Public Online	192	22	20	28	2	264				
	Call Centre	1	0	0	0	0	1				
	Total	1081	95	47	54	3	1,280	1,111		\$90,832	
2020-2021	Agency Online	899	64	30	7	0	1,000				
	Public Online	191	16	9	24	3	243				
	Call Centre	1	0	0	0	0	1				
	Total	1091	80	39	31	3	1,244	1,113	0.2%	\$92,919	\$2,087
Wellington	Agency Online	2,693	260	106	38	2	3,099				
	Public Online	621	59	32	94	3	809				
	Call Centre	1	0	0	0	0	1				
	Total	3315	319	138	132	5	3,909	3,406		\$278,434	
2020-2021	Agency Online	2,683	237	90	35	2	3,047				
	Public Online	640	77	45	69	1	832				
	Call Centre	2	1	0	0	0	3				
	Total	3325	315	135	104	3	3,882	3,408	0.0%	\$284,498	\$6,064
2021-2022	Agency Online	728	73	21	14	0	836				
	Public Online	170	16	7	18	1	212				
	Call Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0				
	Total	898	89	28	32	1	1,048	923		\$75,404	
2020-2021	Agency Online	729	53	18	9	0	809				
	Public Online	146	20	3	31	1	201				
	Call Centre	0	0	0	1	0	1				
	Total	875	73	21	41	1	1,011	898	-2.7%	\$74,930	-\$474
North Canterbury	Agency Online	2,057	150	87	23	2	2,319				
	Public Online	392	36	13	70	2	513				
	Call Centre	1	0	0	1	0	2				
	Total	2450	186	100	94	4	2,834	2,507		\$204,901	
2020-2021	Agency Online	1,986	148	61	23	0	2,218				
	Public Online	380	30	28	70	1	509				
	Call Centre	1	0	0	0	0	1				
	Total	2367	178	89	93	1	2,728	2,421	-3.4%	\$202,074	-\$2,827

Budget	1603	\$133,808
	98.4%	\$131,629
Var to budget		(\$2,179)
Budget	6256	\$522,228
	100.6%	\$525,602
Var to budget		\$3,374
Budget	2754	\$229,867
	109.6%	\$251,997
Var to budget		\$22,130
Budget	1640	\$136,900
	116.7%	\$159,737
Var to budget		\$22,837
Budget	994	\$82,958
	112.0%	\$92,919
Var to budget		\$9,961
Budget	3139	\$262,059
	108.6%	\$284,498
Var to budget		\$22,439
Budget	817	\$68,243
	109.9%	\$74,930
Var to budget		\$6,687
Budget	2313	\$193,083
	104.7%	\$202,074
Var to budget		\$8,991

National Game Licence Sales YTD to 31 July 2022											
North Is Regions	Channel	GWA	GWJ	GWC	GDA	GDJ	Total	Game LEQ	Game Var	Game \$	Inc/Dec
West Coast	Agency Online	181	18	2	9	0	210				
	Public Online	198	14	10	19	2	243				
	Call Centre	1	0	0	0	0	1				
2020-2021	Total	380	32	12	28	2	454	392		\$32,059	
	Agency Online	152	18	3	7	0	180				
	Public Online	205	15	15	20	0	255				
2021-2022	Call Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0				
	Total	357	33	18	27	0	435	369	-6.0%	\$30,793	-\$1,266
	Budget										
		380								\$31,718	
		97.1%								\$30,793	
		Var to budget								(\$925)	
Central South Is	Agency Online	1,688	130	40	15	1	1,874				
	Public Online	440	33	14	46	0	533				
	Call Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0				
2020-2021	Total	2128	163	54	61	1	2,407	2,173		\$177,645	
	Agency Online	1,770	129	61	9	0	1,969				
	Public Online	418	45	17	39	0	519				
2021-2022	Call Centre	0	1	0	0	0	1				
	Total	2188	175	78	48	0	2,489	2,232	2.7%	\$186,335	\$8,690
	Budget										
		2095								\$174,869	
		106.5%								\$186,335	
		Var to budget								\$11,466	
Otago	Agency Online	3,384	262	82	19	0	3,747				
	Public Online	709	87	35	42	2	875				
	Call Centre	3	1	0	0	0	4				
2020-2021	Total	4096	350	117	61	2	4,626	4,179		\$341,601	
	Agency Online	3,183	240	68	16	0	3,507				
	Public Online	815	82	25	34	1	957				
2021-2022	Call Centre	5	0	0	0	0	5				
	Total	4003	322	93	50	1	4,469	4,077	-2.5%	\$340,313	-\$1,288
	Budget										
		3874								\$323,364	
		105.2%								\$340,313	
		Var to budget								\$16,949	
Southland	Agency Online	4,091	377	141	6	0	4,615				
	Public Online	644	85	38	24	1	792				
	Call Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0				
2020-2021	Total	4735	462	179	30	1	5,407	4,834		\$395,167	
	Agency Online	3,840	372	137	14	0	4,363				
	Public Online	783	102	42	23	0	950				
2021-2022	Call Centre	1	0	0	0	0	1				
	Total	4624	474	179	37	0	5,314	4,725	-2.3%	\$394,446	-\$721
	Budget										
		4636								\$386,991	
		101.9%								\$394,446	
		Var to budget								\$7,455	
TOTAL	Direct	5,922	626	284	697	27	7,556	6,191		\$506,011	
	AOL	25,861	2,227	938	301	11	29,338	26,372		\$2,155,661	
2020-2021	Total	31,783	2,853	1,222	998	38	36,894	32,563		\$2,661,672	
	Direct	6,077	653	287	577	16	7,610	6,321		\$527,675	
	AOL	25,255	2,157	838	224	5	28,479	25,726		\$2,147,599	
2021-2022	Total	31,332	2,810	1,125	801	21	36,089	32,048		\$2,675,274	
	National Variance against 2021 YTD										
									-515	-1.6%	\$13,602
		Var to budget								\$129,187	

2021-22 Summary YTD Actual vs Total Budget

2021-22 Annual Budget	30,500	100.0%	\$2,546,087
2021-22 YTD Actual	32,048	105.1%	\$2,675,274
Remaining to meet budget	1,548	5.1%	\$129,187

NZC Finance Report – August 2022

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting 159 August 2022

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Kōrero taunaki - Summary of considerations

Purpose

This paper presents to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council the NZC Finance Report for the 10 months ended 30 June 2022

Financial considerations

Nil Budgetary provision / Unbudgeted

Risk

Low Medium High Extreme

Ngā taunaki - Staff Recommendations

NZC Staff recommend the following motion:

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. Receive the NZC Finance report for the 10 Months ended 30 June 2022 with a surplus of \$575,996

Whakarāpopoto - Executive Summary

- 1 The Finance report for the 10 Months ended 30 June 2022 presents a surplus of \$575,996 against a budget deficit of \$149,785

Takenga mai - Background

- 2 This Paper includes:
 - 2.1 Table 1: Statement of Financial Performance for the 10 months ended 30 June 2022
 - 2.2 Table 2: Statement of Financial Performance – NZC 30 June 2022
 - 2.3 Table 3: Statement of Financial Performance - National 30 June 2022
 - 2.4 Table 4: Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2022.
 - 2.5 Table 5: Aged Receivables Summary as at 30 June 2022.
 - 2.6 Table 6: Aged Payables Summary as at 30 June 2022
 - 2.7 Table 7: P & L of Cookbook YTD
 - 2.8 Table 8: National Anglers Survey Fund as at 30 June 2022.
 - 2.9 Table 9: Research Fund as at 30 June 2022.
 - 2.10 Table 10 : RMA Legal Fund as at 30 June 2022.
 - 2.11 Table 11: Commitments as at 30 June 2022
- 3 The Budget Deficit of \$149,785 was approved by the NZC at the 154th NZC meeting. This is made up from:
 - 3.1 \$63,785 – 2.37% use of reserves
 - 3.2 \$80,000 – for Website Development – carried over from the previous year
 - 3.3 \$6,000 use of reserves for the Salmon Card development in 2022.
- 4 In the 157th meeting the NZC agreed to transfer \$12,000 from the New Zealand Council meeting budget (due to the Feb meeting being on zoom) to Governance Advice and performance for the Strategic pay project.
- 5 In the 158th meeting the NZC agreed to transfer \$10,000 from the Regional Audit budget to Governance Advice & Performance for Governance training and support of CSI.

Kōrerorero - Discussion

- 6 Statement of Financial Performance (refer Table 1)
 - 6.1 **Income**
 - 6.1.1 Levies of \$2,618,844. The next Levy invoice is due for payment 20th August.
 - 6.1.2 Income from Advertising and Merchandise (currently \$24,759) will reach budget at year end.

- 6.1.3 Sundry income is \$37k over budget. This relates to the contracting of Brian to DOC. The additional income will be offset against the contractors' costs used for implementation of Review associated work.
- 6.1.4 Magazine Contribution will be under budget by \$60K.
- 6.1.5 Sale of the cookbook \$29,665. There will be an insert with the Fishing magazine to continue the promotion of this book.

6.2 Expenses - Grants to Regions

- 6.2.1 No changes from the last report YTD \$553,601– the last grant will be paid to Regions on 20th August.
- 6.2.2 Grant will be over budget by \$25,613, due to the grant to North Canterbury for assets transferred (refer to the Finance Report in April 2022 for further breakdown)

6.3 Expenses – Advocacy

- 6.3.1 Advocacy – Legal and Specialist Advice YTD \$30,534. This budget will be slightly over budget at year end – an invoice from EDS for \$25k is due on 20th August.
- 6.3.2 National Public Awareness – no change from last report YTD \$10,745 spent. This budget will not be fully spent at year end.
- 6.3.3 National Magazine – No change from the last report – Costs associated with the Fishing magazine are still to be invoiced. This budget will be over budget for the year due to the increased contract price for the magazine and postage costs.
- 6.3.4 RMA/Legal - \$21k spent YTD – 4% of the budget. Any unspent funds will be transferred to the RMA/Legal reserve which becomes a liability moving for the following years.

6.4 Expenses – Research

- 6.4.1 Research Programme – only \$3,670 spent YTD
- 6.4.2 Research National Anglers Survey – YTD \$35,299 spent – this relates to the surveying costs from the Sothern Institute of Technology. This project is over budget, however the reserve for the National Anglers Survey covers with overspend.

6.5 Expenses – Co-ordination – Only 69% of this total budget of \$960,036 has been spent with 83% of the year complete. There are some outliers that account for this.

- 6.5.1 Business Development & Marketing – underspent by \$49k YTD. There has been a \$20k commitment to support the

brand and marketing working group, this is likely to be spent at year end.

- 6.5.2 Fish and Game Cookbook have had direct expenses on \$33,260. Refer Table 7 for the P & L YTD for the cookbook. Loss YTD \$10,829 vs a budget loss of \$26,086.
- 6.5.3 Regulations will be fully spent by year end.
- 6.5.4 Maritime NZ Compliance will be fully spent by year end.
- 6.5.5 Staff Development Grant may not be spent in this financial year – will be added to reserve and carried over for future years.
- 6.5.6 Website and social media will be underspent by \$20k as the CDM part of the Website is no longer being implemented.
- 6.5.7 Website Development – will not be spent in this financial year and will be added to the budget for 2022/23.
- 6.5.8 Licencing – \$389,993 spent YTD - this will be fully spent at year end.

6.6 Expenses – Governance

- 6.6.1 At present the total Governance budget is underspent by \$30k, however there are 2 major projects that are yet to be completed but should fall in to the 2021/22-year end:
 - 6.6.1.1 REM project – almost completed and we are expecting a final invoice for the work undertaken.
 - 6.6.1.2 Governance support and training – CSI – this should take place in August.

6.7 Expenses – Overheads

- 6.7.1 All overhead costs are running below budget. The largest cost -being salaries and contractors is sitting at 75% of budget at 30 June 2022. This budget will be underspent by around \$65k at year end.
- 6.7.2 The communications budget YTD is under budget by \$8k this budget has been reduced for 22/23 as savings have been made with providers.
- 6.7.3 Vehicle expenses are down as is depreciation as the vehicle was sold to North Canterbury.

7 NZC and National Split of Budgets.

- 7.1 The Budgets are split between NZC and National Projects – Projects that NZC undertake on behalf of the Regions. Refer Table 2 and 3 for this breakdown.

June 2022 Split NZC and National Budgets		
	Actual YTD	Budget
Table 2 - NZC	1,233,927	1,428,751
Table 3 - National	(657,931)	(1,578,536)
7.2 TOTAL As per Table 1	575,996	(149,785)

- 7.3 Statement of Financial Position – refer Table 4.

7.4 Assets

- 7.4.1 Total Bank \$409,619 compared to 31 August 2021 \$973,580 at 31 August – this movement is reflective in the increase of Term Deposits.
- 7.4.2 Trade receivables \$73,912 – Refer Table 4 for a break down. Note Herenga-a-nuku (previously NZ Walking Access) have had a change in name and email – hence the invoice was lost in space. Manic Tackle is now paid.
- 7.4.3 Investments \$2.2 mill

7.5 Liabilities

- 7.5.1 Trade and other Payables \$51,395 – refer Table 5.
- 7.5.2 Employee Entitlements \$55,631 – this is the amount outstanding for staff Holiday Pay. Two staff have excess leave; however, a plan is in place to them to use this leave.

7.6 Equity

- 7.6.1 Reserves
- 7.6.1.1 National Anglers Survey Reserve refer Table 8 - \$168,923 in reserve
- 7.6.1.2 Research Fund - \$171,170 of Commitments – refer Table 9.
- 7.6.1.3 RMA/Legal reserve \$620,316 of Committed funds as at 30 June 2022.

Whai whakaaro ki ngā whakataunga - Considerations for decision-making

Financial Implications

- 8 This current surplus of \$575k is explained by the underspend within:
 - 8.1 National Magazine – \$108k – will be fully spent at year – end
 - 8.2 RMA/Legal - \$ 489k underspent – all of this will be a liability in following years
 - 8.3 Research - \$96k underspent – all of this be a liability in the following years.
 - 8.4 Marketing & Business Development underspent \$28K and \$20k.
 - 8.5 Regulations underspent \$46k – this will be fully spent by year end.
 - 8.6 Staff Development Grant – underspent \$10k – this will be a liability in the following year.
 - 8.7 Website Development – underspent \$80k – to be transferred to next financial year. - refer budget paper.
 - 8.8 Governance Advice underspent by \$29k - \$10k of this relates to the CSI governance training not yet undertaken, however, this has been planned to be undertaken before year end, also the REM cots are yet to be incurred.
 - 8.9 Underspent Salaries and Contractors - \$222k YTD – At year end this will be under budget by \$65k – this relates to the new comms position not yet filled and having an acting CEO for the past 3 months.
- 9 **Commitments** as at 30 June 2022. Refer Table 11.
- 10 **Year-end forecast surplus** is approximately \$500,000. Which is \$670k ahead of budget. There are 5 main drivers to this:
 - 10.1 Forecast Underspend in RMA Legal -\$390k
 - 10.2 Forecast underspend Research \$94k
 - 10.3 Forecast underspend Marketing and R3 \$39k
 - 10.4 Underspend Website Development \$80k
 - 10.5 Underspend Salaries \$66k
 - 10.6 Note 11.1, 11.2 and 11.4 will all be liabilities in the next financial year. (Total \$564k)

Legislative Implications

- 11 N/a.

Section 4 Treaty Responsibilities

- 12 N/a.

Policy Implications

- 13 N/a.

Risks and mitigations

14 N/a

Consultation

15 N/a

Ngā mahinga e whai ake nei - Next actions

Year end Accounts will be prepared as at 31 August 2022 and distributed to NZC for clearance before the Audit report is signed.

Table 1: Profit and Loss for NZC - Combined Budget

New Zealand Fish and Game Council For the 10 months ended 30 June 2022

	NOTES	YTD ACTUAL	2022 OVERALL BUDGET	REMAINING BUDGET	% OF BUDGET SPENT
INCOME					
Levies		2,618,844	3,335,342	716,498	79%
Interest Income		4,848	5,911	1,063	82%
Other Income					
Advertising & Merchandise		24,759	30,000	5,241	83%
Sundry Income		49,975	12,000	(37,975)	416%
Magazine Contributions		72,015	180,000	107,985	40%
Donations		25	-	(25)	-
Sale of Fish and Game Cookbook		29,665	-	(29,665)	-
Total Other Income		176,439	222,000	45,561	79%
Total INCOME		2,800,131	3,563,253	763,122	79%
EXPENSES					
GRANTS TO REGIONS					
Grants to Regions		553,601	703,984	150,383	79%
Total GRANTS TO REGIONS		553,601	703,984	150,383	79%
ADVOCACY					
Advocacy - Legal & Specialist Advice		30,534	58,000	27,466	53%
National Public Awareness		10,745	17,000	6,255	63%
National Magazine		91,891	200,000	108,109	46%
RMA/Legal		10,475	500,000	489,525	2%
Total ADVOCACY		143,645	775,000	631,355	19%
RESEARCH					
Research Programme		3,670	100,000	96,330	4%
Research - National Anglers Survey		35,160	30,000	(5,160)	117%
Total RESEARCH		38,830	130,000	91,170	30%
CO-ORDINATION					
Business Development & R3		1,172	22,000	20,828	5%
Marketing		31,375	60,000	28,625	52%
Business & Financial Support		2,751	4,000	1,249	69%
Co-ordination National - CEO Travel		1,801	6,000	4,199	30%
Elections		41,250	45,000	3,750	92%
Fish and Game Cookbook		33,260	26,086	(7,174)	128%
Regulations		25,239	72,000	46,762	35%
Information Technology- National		33,679	40,000	6,321	84%
Maritime NZ Compliance		190	3,000	2,810	6%
Manager Meetings		11,227	12,000	773	94%
Staff Development Grant		-	10,000	10,000	-

Table 1: Profit and Loss for NZC - Combined Budget



	NOTES	YTD ACTUAL	2022 OVERALL BUDGET	REMAINNG BUDGET	% OF BUDGET SPENT
Youth Education Programme		6,040	7,000	960	86%
Website and Social Media		37,314	86,450	49,136	43%
Website Development		-	80,000	80,000	-
Ranging Co-ordination		24,145	27,500	3,355	88%
Licencing		389,993	459,000	69,007	85%
Total CO-ORDINATION		639,434	960,036	320,602	67%
GOVERNANCE					
New Zealand Council		31,703	33,000	1,297	96%
Governance Advice & Performance		12,869	42,000	29,131	31%
Governors Forum		11,988	12,000	12	100%
Total GOVERNANCE		56,561	87,000	30,439	65%
OVERHEADS					
Salaries & Contractors		679,506	902,403	222,897	75%
Staff Expenses		10,341	14,100	3,759	73%
Office Premises		50,996	62,800	11,804	81%
Office Equipment		1,917	3,000	1,083	64%
Communications		17,074	26,000	8,926	66%
General (inc Insurance)		7,264	11,000	3,736	66%
Financial Audit Fee		11,660	14,000	2,340	83%
Vehicle Expenses		3,524	9,000	5,476	39%
Depreciation		9,784	14,715	4,931	66%
Total OVERHEADS		792,065	1,057,018	264,953	75%
Total EXPENSES		2,224,135	3,713,038	1,488,903	60%
Net Surplus/(Deficit)		575,996	(149,785)	(725,781)	-385%

Table 2: Statement of Financial Performance - NZC only

New Zealand Fish and Game Council For the 10 months ended 30 June 2022

Region is NZC.

	NOTES	YTD ACTUAL	2022 NZC BUDGET	REMAINING BUDGET	% OF BUDGET SPENT
INCOME					
Levies		2,618,844	3,335,342	716,498	79%
Interest Income		4,848	5,911	1,063	82%
Other Income					
Sundry Income		49,975	12,000	(37,975)	416%
Total Other Income		49,975	12,000	(37,975)	416%
Total INCOME		2,673,667	3,353,253	679,586	80%
EXPENSES					
GRANTS TO REGIONS					
Grants to Regions		553,601	703,984	150,383	79%
Total GRANTS TO REGIONS		553,601	703,984	150,383	79%
ADVOCACY					
Advocacy - Legal & Specialist Advice		30,534	58,000	27,466	53%
National Public Awareness		2,428	8,500	6,072	29%
Total ADVOCACY		32,962	66,500	33,538	50%
CO-ORDINATION					
Business & Financial Support		2,751	4,000	1,249	69%
Co-ordination National - CEO Travel		1,801	6,000	4,199	30%
Total CO-ORDINATION		4,552	10,000	5,448	46%
GOVERNANCE					
Governance Advice & Performance		12,869	42,000	29,131	31%
Governors Forum		11,988	12,000	12	100%
New Zealand Council		31,703	33,000	1,297	96%
Total GOVERNANCE		56,561	87,000	30,439	65%
OVERHEADS					
Salaries & Contractors		679,506	902,403	222,897	75%
Staff Expenses		10,341	14,100	3,759	73%
Office Premises		50,996	62,800	11,804	81%
Office Equipment		1,929	3,000	1,071	64%
Communications		17,074	26,000	8,926	66%
General (inc Insurance)		7,252	11,000	3,748	66%
Financial Audit Fee		11,660	14,000	2,340	83%
Vehicle Expenses		3,524	9,000	5,476	39%

Table 2: Statement of Financial Performance - NZC only



	NOTES	YTD ACTUAL	2022 NZC BUDGET	REMAINING BUDGET	% OF BUDGET SPENT
Depreciation		9,784	14,715	4,931	66%
Total OVERHEADS		792,065	1,057,018	264,953	75%
Total EXPENSES		1,439,740	1,924,502	484,762	75%
Net Surplus/(Deficit) NZC		1,233,927	1,428,751	194,824	86%

Table 3: Statement of Financial Performance - National Budget

New Zealand Fish and Game Council For the 10 months ended 30 June 2022

Region is National.

	NOTES	YTD ACTUAL	2022 NATIONAL BUDGET	REMAINING BUDGET	% OF BUDGET SPENT
INCOME					
Other Income					
Advertising & Merchandise		24,759	30,000	5,241	83%
Magazine Contributions		72,015	180,000	107,985	40%
Donations		25	-	(25)	-
Sale of Fish and Game Cookbook		29,665	-	(29,665)	-
Total Other Income		126,464	210,000	83,536	60%
Total INCOME		126,464	210,000	83,536	60%
EXPENSES					
ADVOCACY					
National Public Awareness		8,317	8,500	183	98%
National Magazine		91,891	200,000	108,109	46%
RMA/Legal		10,475	500,000	489,525	2%
Total ADVOCACY		110,683	708,500	597,817	16%
RESEARCH					
Research - National Anglers Survey		35,160	30,000	(5,160)	117%
Research Programme		3,670	100,000	96,330	4%
Total RESEARCH		38,830	130,000	91,170	30%
CO-ORDINATION					
Business Development & R3		1,172	22,000	20,828	5%
Marketing		31,375	60,000	28,625	52%
Elections		41,250	45,000	3,750	92%
Fish and Game Cookbook		33,260	26,086	(7,174)	128%
Regulations		25,239	72,000	46,762	35%
Information Technology- National		33,679	40,000	6,321	84%
Manager Meetings		11,227	12,000	773	94%
Staff Development Grant		-	10,000	10,000	-
Maritime NZ Compliance		190	3,000	2,810	6%
Youth Education Programme		6,040	7,000	960	86%
Website and Social Media		37,314	86,450	49,136	43%
Ranger Co-ordination		24,145	107,500	83,355	22%
Licencing		389,993	459,000	69,007	85%
Total CO-ORDINATION		634,883	950,036	315,153	67%
Total EXPENSES		784,396	1,788,536	1,004,140	44%

Table 3: Statement of Financial Performance - National Budget



	NOTES	YTD ACTUAL	2022 NATIONAL BUDGET	REMAINING BUDGET	% OF BUDGET SPENT
Net Surplus/(Deficit)		(657,931)	(1,578,536)	(920,605)	42%

Table 4: Statement of Financial Position

New Zealand Fish and Game Council As at 30 June 2022

	NOTES	30 JUN 2022	31 AUG 2021
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Bank			
Bank			
NZ Fish and Game Council		108,655	367,054
NZ Fish and Game Council - Sav		1,140	102,934
Serious Saver		305,330	503,918
Credit Cards		(5,506)	(325)
Total Bank		409,619	973,580
Total Cash and Bank		409,619	973,580
Trade and Other Receivables			
Trade receivables		73,912	264,802
Accounts Receivable - Other		1,076	11,946
Prepayments and Accrued Income		10,000	5,531
Interest Receivable		-	5,218
Total Trade and Other Receivables		84,988	287,497
Other Current Assets			
Investments (current)		2,203,835	1,445,252
Total Other Current Assets		2,203,835	1,445,252
Total Current Assets		2,698,442	2,706,330
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment		16,999	44,015
Total Non-Current Assets		16,999	44,015
Total Assets		2,715,440	2,750,344
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables		51,395	461,432
Accruals and Prepaid Licences		35,985	154,085
PAYE		18,055	-
GST Payable		78,572	21,282
Employee Entitlements		55,631	79,580
Other Current Liabilities		-	-
NZGBHT - Stamp Programme		9,972	144,132
Total Current Liabilities		249,610	860,510
Total Liabilities		249,610	860,510
Net Assets		2,465,830	1,889,834
Equity			

Table 4: Statement of Financial Position



	NOTES	30 JUN 2022	31 AUG 2021
Accumulated Funds			
Accumulated Funds		1,102,115	1,538,380
Transfer (To)/From Reserves		(218,272)	112,330
Current Year Earnings		575,996	(436,266)
Total Accumulated Funds		1,459,838	1,214,445
Reserves			
Asset Replacement Reserve		31,455	19,193
National Anglers Survey Reserve		168,923	176,000
Research Reserve		171,170	84,637
RMA/Legal Fund Reserve		620,316	391,432
Staff Development Grant Reserves		14,128	4,128
Total Reserves		1,005,992	675,389
Total Equity		2,465,830	1,889,834

Table 5: Aged Receivables Summary

New Zealand Fish and Game Council

As at 30 June 2022

Ageing by due date

CONTACT	CURRENT	< 1 MONTH	1 MONTH	2 MONTHS	OLDER	TOTAL
Eyede Solutions Limited	5	-	-	-	-	5
Gun City	-	635	-	-	-	635
Herengaanuku	-	-	949	-	-	949
Kilwell Sports Ltd	1,380	414	-	-	-	1,794
Manic Tackle Project	2,415	-	644	-	-	3,059
North Canterbury Fish and Game Council	67,469	-	-	-	-	67,469
Total	71,269	1,049	1,593	-	-	73,912
Percentage of total	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 6: Aged Payables Summary

New Zealand Fish and Game Council

As at 30 June 2022

Ageing by due date

CONTACT	CURRENT	< 1 MONTH	1 MONTH	2 MONTHS	OLDER	TOTAL
Aged Payables						
Opal Kiwi Packaging	1,287	-	-	-	-	1,287
Eyede Solutions Limited	1,442	-	-	-	-	1,442
Officemax New Zealand Limited	157	-	-	-	-	157
Fuji Xerox New Zealand Limited	20	-	-	-	-	20
Air New Zealand Travel Card	2,307	-	-	-	-	2,307
NZ Post Ltd	245	-	-	-	-	245
Instep	259	-	-	-	-	259
Redstripe Limited	2,939	-	-	-	-	2,939
Duncan Ballinger Barrister	3,105	-	-	-	-	3,105
Hothouse Communications Limited	3,437	-	-	-	-	3,437
Ferret Software Ltd	374	-	-	-	-	374
Research First Limited	4,025	-	-	-	-	4,025
PB Technologies Wgtn	436	-	-	-	-	436
Doughty Consulting Limited	4,416	-	-	-	-	4,416
Diagram Limited	460	-	-	-	-	460
Nelson Marlborough Fish & Game Council	460	-	-	-	-	460
Gemtech Solutions Limited	485	-	-	-	-	485
Windcave New Zealand Limited DD	50	-	-	-	-	50
Rieger's Print and Copy Limited	506	-	-	-	-	506
Vertia Procurement Limited	556	-	-	-	-	556
Eastern Fish and Game Council	6,391	-	-	-	-	6,391
Gibson Sheat	655	-	-	-	-	655
Computer & Telephone Services Ltd	66	-	-	-	-	66
North Canterbury Fish and Game Council	6,613	-	-	-	-	6,613
New Zealand Couriers- Wellington	77	-	-	-	-	77
Taxicharge New Zealand Limited	77	-	-	-	-	77
Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game Council	776	-	-	-	-	776
Southern Institute of Technology Limited	9,775	-	-	-	-	9,775
Total Aged Payables	51,395	-	-	-	-	51,395
Total	51,395	-	-	-	-	51,395
Percentage of total	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 7: Profit and Loss for Cookbook

New Zealand Fish and Game Council For the 10 months ended 30 June 2022

Project is Cookbook.

	NOTES	YTD	COOKBOOK BUDGET
Trading Income			
Sale of Fish and Game Cookbook		27,737	-
Total Trading Income		27,737	-
Gross Profit			
		27,737	-
Expenses			
Bank Charges		1,055	-
Fish and Game Cookbook		33,260	26,086
Marketing		4,251	-
Total Expenses		38,566	26,086
Net Profit (Loss) Before Taxation		(10,829)	(26,086)
Net Profit (Loss) for the Year		(10,829)	(26,086)

Table 8: National Anglers Survey Fund

New Zealand Fish and Game Council

As at 30 June 2022

Balance of Fund as at 31/8/21	176,000
Less Spending to 31/8/21	(1,917)
Plus Funding for the 21/22 year per Budget	30,000
Less Spent YTD	(35,160)
Balance of Fund	168,923

Table 9: Research Fund

New Zealand Fish and Game Council

As at 30 June 2022

Project Ref	Project Name	Coordinator	Council	Date Approved	Total Approved	Total Spent to Date	Withdrawn/ \$ not required	Commitment	Status/Comments
51	Grey Teal Monitoring	Phil Teal	Wellington	May-14	4,400	-	4,400	-	Withdrawn - at NZC meeting Feb 2022
56	Game Harvest Survey Analysis	Matthew Mc Dougall	Eastern	May-13	3,500	2,538	-	962	Ongoing \$500 budget every yr
59 & 66	Trophic interactions and potential use of food-web manipulation in the resotation of two eutropic Central Otago Lakes	Helen Trotter	Otago	May-15	10,000	10,000	-	-	All Payments made - HT submitted Reprt to Managers and NZC April 2022 meeting
61	Mallard Research -Duck Management Units	Matthew Mc Dougall	Eastern	Sep-15	3,000	655	-	2,345	
67	Mallard Research General			May-16	19,700	4,724	-	14,976	UNCOMMITTED
67.2	Mallard Research -Cat GPS pilot study	Zane Moss	Southland	May-16	9,300	7,617	-	1,683	
68	Environmental DNA to identify spawning & establish protocols	Phil Teal/Adam Canning	Wellington	May-17	50,000	41,290	-	8,710	Massey Sequenincing DNA, trial continues next spring spawning
70	Liminological variables on food web dynamics in Lake Tarawera	Matt Osborne	Eastern	May-17	15,000	6,065	-	8,936	Fieldwork progressing
72	Fighting for the public good (over 3 years 10k12k,12k)	Jack	NZC	May-17	34,000	28,603	5,397	-	Report received 21/9/21 - Funding not utilised withdrawn from fund.
75	Native Fish/Sports interactions	Phil/Adam Canning	Wellington	Apr-18	50,000	29,050	-	20,950	Fieldwork progressing - Amy finished thesis requiemnt - AC to assist with 2 papers.
76	Mallard Research - Brood Habitat selection and use	David Klee	Akld/Waik	Jul-18	21,000	17,391	-	3,609	Fieldwork progressing
76.1	Mallard Research -Uncommitted 18/19			Apr-18	13,000	-	-	13,000	UNCOMMITTED
77	Uncommitted Funds 21/22			Apr-21	10,170	-	-	10,170	UNCOMMITTED
77.1	Licence Scoping Study	Jack Koss	NZC	Apr-22	3,500	3,500	-	-	Project Complete - LWP discussing plan forward
77.2	Research into Womens Angling	Cohen & Otago	Otago	Apr-22	20,000	-	-	20,000	
77.3	Pressure Sensitive Fisheries - needs to be rescoped	?	NZC	Apr-22	65,830	-	-	65,830	With Research Committe to rescope will come back to Managers Meeting for approval
TOTALS								\$ 171,171	

Recommendation: Accept Research Fund of \$171,171 as at 30 June 2022

Summary of Uncommitted Funds

Total Mallard Research uncommmited Funds	27,976
Uncommitted funds for the 21/22 year	10,170
Total Uncommitted Funds	38,146
Net Committed Funds to Research	133,025

Table 11: Committed Funds as at 30 June 2022

New Zealand Fish and Game For the 10 months ended 30 June

	REMAINING BUDGET	Committed	Available /(overspent)	Comments
Grants to Regions	150,383	175,996	(25,613)	NC Additional Grant
Advocacy - Legal & Specialist Advice	27,466	25,000	2,466	Committed to EDS
National Public Awareness	6,255	2,000	4,255	
National Magazine	108,109	143,868	(35,759)	Postage and Real Creative Contract
RMA/Legal	489,525	620,316	(130,791)	Commitment per the RMA Fund
Research Programme	96,330	171,170	(74,840)	Commitment per the RMA Fund
Research - National Anglers Survey	(5,160)	132,663	(137,823)	Per NAS contract Dec 22 & Mar 23
Business Development & R3	20,828	0	20,828	
Marketing	28,625	20,000	8,625	Brand and Marketing working group
Business & Financial Support	1,249	1,000	249	
Co-ordination National - CEO Travel	4,199	2,000	2,199	
Elections	3,750	3,750	0	
Regulations	46,762	47,000	(239)	Fish Regulations
Information Technology- National	6,321	6,400	(79)	
Maritime NZ Compliance	2,810	2,810	(0)	
Staff Development Grant	10,000	10,000	0	For RMA Training 2022/23
Website and Social Media	49,136	20,000	29,136	
Website Development	80,000	80,000	0	Committed for 2023
Ranging Co-ordination	3,355	3,355	0	
Licensing	69,007	70,000	(993)	ESL Contract
Governance Advice & Performance	29,131	20,000	9,131	Strategic Pay and Governance
Salaries & Contractors	222,897	156,800	66,097	
Staff Expenses	3,759	2,500	1,259	
Office Premises	11,804	11,804	0	
Office Equipment	1,083	1,000	83	
Communications	8,926	3,500	5,426	
General (inc Insurance)	3,736	3,700	36	
Financial Audit Fee	2,340	4,000	(1,660)	
Vehicle Expenses	5,476	0	5,476	
TOTAL	1,488,104	1,740,632	(252,528)	

Note: These committed funds do not just cover 2022 - some contracts fall in next Financial Year

National Finance Report

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting 159 August 2022

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Kōrero taunaki - Summary of considerations

Purpose

To present to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council with the National Finance Report as at 31 June 2022.

Financial considerations

Nil Budgetary provision / Unbudgeted

Risk

Low Medium High Extreme

Ngā taunaki - Staff Recommendations

NZC Staff recommend the following motion:

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

1. *Note the Finance Report as at 30 June 2022*

Whakarāpopoto - Executive Summary

- 1 With 10 months of the year YTD expenditure is at 70% compared to 83% budget. All but One Council is operating within the Budget. There are no risks to report.

Takenga mai - Background

- 2 The New Zealand Council approved the 2021/22 Budgets/Levies and Grants on 18th April 2021. These Budgets also included each Council making a 2.37% loss for the year. Subsequently the NZC approved additional funding from reserves to North Canterbury, CSI and NZC relating to the Salmon Cards. Refer Table 1 for the Approved Budget for 2021 2022 \$10,787,938

Table 1: National Budget

	Original Base Line Budget 2021/21	Approved CF Licence Fee on going	Approved CF from 2021/22 Licence Fee - One OFF	Approved CF from 2021/22 Reserves	Approved Budget 2021/22 (Incl All C/F)	Post meeting Apprvls fro reserves	TOTAL BUDGET
Northland	508,200	4,848	-	37,867	550,915		550,915
Auckland/Waikato	775,379	7,641	-	27,220	810,240		810,240
Eastern	1,071,572	11,785	-	57,702	1,141,059		1,141,059
Hawkes Bay	368,127	-	-	8,081	376,208		376,208
Taranaki	357,970	3,494	15,000	-	376,464		376,464
Wellington	682,502	6,697	-	7,000	696,199		696,199
Nelson-Marlborough	444,491	12,782	5,500	4,045	466,818		466,818
North Canterbury	775,672	7,728	-	-	783,400	51,373	834,773
West Coast	346,448	-	-	-	346,448	-	346,448
Central South Island	673,164	27,286	-	28,580	729,030	6,000	735,030
Otago	961,612	25,871	-	51,959	1,039,442	-	1,039,442
Southland	643,699	10,253	-	59,247	713,199	-	713,199
NZC only	1,102,607	-	-	-	1,102,607	-	1,102,607
National inc Research	896,450	170,000	526,086	-	1,592,536	6,000	1,598,536
TOTAL	9,607,893	288,385	546,586	281,701	10,724,565	63,373	10,787,938

3

Kōrerorero - Discussion

- 4 Table 2 summarises the YTD expenditure to 30 June 2022. This represents 10 months of the year – or 83% of the Year.
- 5 All Councils are operating between 44% to 88% of their budget.
- 1 The National Budget is only at 44% of Budget – this variance has been explained in the NZC Finance Report – Major budgets (Research, RMA, Website not spent – but will be a liability going forward.)
- 2 There is no concern with regard overspending as at 30 June 2022.

Table 2: National Fish & Game Financial Report

As at **30 June 2022**
Year to Date Expenditure against Total Approved Budget

Council	Accounting Basis	Total Budget	Approved from Reserves	RMA/Legal Spend Approved from Reserves	Total Budget (inc from Reserves)	Net Expenditure	YTD %
Northland	Accrual - Xero	513,048	37,867	-	550,915	484,717	88%
Auckland/Waikato	Accrual - Xero	783,020	27,220	-	810,240	490,398	61%
Eastern	Accrual - Xero	1,083,357	57,702	-	1,141,059	911,203	80%
Hawkes' Bay	Accrual - Xero	368,127	8,081	-	376,208	242,261	64%
Taranaki	Accrual - Xero	376,464	-	-	376,464	299,542	80%
Wellington	Accrual - Xero	689,199	7,000	-	696,199	541,702	78%
Nelson/Marlborough	Accrual - Xero	462,773	4,045	-	466,818	367,292	79%
North Canterbury	Accrual - Xero	783,400	51,373	-	834,773	619,503	74%
West Coast	Accrual - Xero	346,448	-	-	346,448	259,298	75%
Central South Island	Accrual - Xero	700,450	34,580	-	735,030	599,257	82%
Otago	Accrual - Xero	987,483	51,959	-	1,039,442	806,643	78%
Southland	Accrual - Xero	653,952	59,247	-	713,199	465,004	65%
NZC	Accrual - Xero	1,202,607	6,000	-	1,208,607	843,579	70%
National inc RMA & Research	Accrual - Xero	1,492,536	-	-	1,492,536	657,931	44%
Total		10,442,864	345,074	-	10,787,938	7,588,328	70%
10 months of the year completed, which represents						83%	of the year

Whai whakaaro ki ngā whakataunga - Considerations for decision-making

Financial Implications

- All Councils working within the Budget. No Risks.

Table 10: RMA /Legal Fund Reserve

New Zealand Fish and Game Council									
As at 30 June 2022									
	Project Name	Date Approved	Total Approved	Source	Total Spent to Date	Withdrawn	Under/Over Spent to date	Committed Funds	Status Update
Auck/Wai	Healthy Rivers	22-Aug-20	\$110,000	NZC Fund	\$12,900	\$0	\$97,100	\$97,100	
Auck/Wai	Whangamarino Weir and Waikato Regional Council	11-Nov-17	\$50,000	NZC Fund	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000	
Nel Mar	MDP - NPS	7/6/2019, 22/11/2019,2016 /16 &	\$58,475	NZC Fund	400.00	\$0	\$58,075	\$58,075	Transferred \$ from the NPS FM - and 3 other NM funds.Waiting on MDC to set date for mediation- Mid 2022?
Nel Mar	MeP appeal mediation	1/5/22 meeting 157th	\$50,000	NZC Fund	3,200.00	\$0	\$46,800	\$46,800	
North Canterbury	Selwyn District Council District plan hearings meeting 153	Jun-20	\$8,000	NZC Fund	-	\$0	\$8,000	\$8,000	SDC fund have had delays because of Covid and expecting to progress next year.
North Canterbury	Rakaia WCO/Hydrology	Exec approved 16/5/22 \$30k 5/7/22 \$70k	\$100,000	NZC Fund	-	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000	
NZC	EDS/Berrysimons WCO for NC?	1/5/22 meeting 157th	\$10,000	NZC Fund	-	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	
NZC	NPS FM	Aug-20	\$150,000	NZC Fund	\$89,855	\$0	\$60,145	\$60,145	\$50k to Otago, \$40k NM TOTAL committed \$90K
NZC	Lindis River Appeal	22/11/2019 & August 2020 & August 2021	\$252,000	NZC Fund	\$251,920	\$80	-\$0	\$0	Appeal Decision given Given Dec 2021 - unsuccessful appeal - costs pd out of Otago reserves. One more piece of work being undertaken by M Baker to take out the wins from the case. Otago will report back on this.
Otago	Transitional Mining Consents-Exceptional	11-Nov-17	\$150,000	Otago Reserves	\$132,463	0	\$17,537	\$17,537	
Otago	Priority Consents		\$60,000	Otago Reserves	\$18,303	1	\$41,696	\$41,696	
Otago	RPS Land & Water - reserves	28-Aug-21	\$60,000	Otago Reserves	\$6,661		\$53,339	\$53,339	
Otago	RPS Land & Water	28-Aug-21	\$60,000	NZC Fund	-	0	\$60,000	\$60,000	
Otago	Priority Plan Change	16-Feb-20	\$120,000	Otago Reserves	\$87,558	0	\$32,442	\$32,442	
WGTV	Wairarapa Water Project	07-2016/17	\$20,000	NZC Fund	\$19,249	\$0	\$751	\$751	Will be withdrawn at next WFGC meeting
WGTV	GW Natural Resource Plan	24/11/2019	\$40,000	NZC Fund	\$19,616	\$0	\$20,384	\$20,384	Finishing up with follow up from mediation
WGTV	One Plan Change 2	23/11/2019	\$38,000	NZC Fund	\$3,300	\$0	\$34,700	\$34,700	Work in Progress
Southland	Southland Water & Land Plan appeal	23/Nov/18	84,000.00	Southland Reserves	\$168,929	\$0	-\$84,929	\$0	Need to Apply for use of reserves
Southland	Southland Water & Land Plan appeal - NZC meeting 147	21/Aug/20	55,000.00	NZC Fund	\$55,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	Transferred to SWALP

Table 10: RMA /Legal Fund Reserve

New Zealand Fish and Game Council									
As at 30 June 2022									
	Project Name	Date Approved	Total Approved	Source	Total Spent to Date	Withdrawn	Under/Over Spent to date	Committed Funds	Status Update
Southland	Southland Water & Land Plan appeal - NZC meeting 156	18/Feb/22	74,360.50	NZC Fund	\$0	\$0	\$74,361	\$74,361	

TOTAL ACROSS ORGANISATION									
			Live and Approved Applications		Spent to Date	Withdrawn	Under/Over Spent to date	Committed Funds	NZC Legal/RMA Fund 31/8/21
Totals								\$765,330	
Less RMA out of Regions Reserves								\$145,014	
Total Committed from National Budget								\$620,316	\$391,431

Movement in Reserves since 31/8/21 \$228,885

Recommendation: RMA/Legal report be accepted with committed funds of \$620,316 as at 30 June 2022

Huinga Kupu Mō Fish & Game

Vocabulary For Fish & Game

Fishing and Hunting

Hāmana – salmon
He kaihao ahau – I am an angler
He kaiwhakangau ahau – I am a hunter
Hī ika – to fish
Hōta – shot, as used in a shotgun shell
Kakānau – black swan
Kaihao - fisherperson
Kaiwhakangau – hunter
Kuruwhengi – shoveler duck
Mahi manu – to hunt for birds
Pā – fishing lure
Pārera – grey duck
Peihana - pheasant
Pū – firearm
Pupuhi – to fire a gun
Pūtakitaki – paradise duck
Rakiraki – duck, particularly mallard.
Raihana – licence
Wāna – swan
Taraute – trout
Tautara – fishing rod

Geographic/Environmental Descriptions

Awa – river
Kūkūwai - wetland
Maunga – mountain
Moana – Sea
Puke - hill

Roto - lake
Taiao – environment/natural world
Wai - water

Work Speak

Ae – Yes
He pātai tāku – I have a question
Hui - meeting
Kanohi ki te kanohi – face to face
Kāo/Kāore - No
Ka rawe - awesome
Kaupapa – topic/policy
Kōrero – talk, speak

Greetings

Ata mārie – good morning
Pōmārie - goodnight
Kei te pehea koe? – How's it going
Kei te pai au – I'm good
Kaore au i te pai – I'm not good
Kei te ngenge au – I'm tired
Mihi - Introduction
Ngā mihi – acknowledgements

Glossary of common acronyms found in Fish & Game papers

AOG	All of Government (largely applies to a discounted purchasing system but can refer to an AOG response i.e. Covid-19)
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CFA	Contestable Funding Application
CFO	Chief Financial Officer
COI	Conflict of Interest
CRM	Customer Relationship Management
DOC	Department of Conservation
DPMC	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
ECan	Environment Canterbury (Regional Council)
EDC	Environmental or Ecological district report
EDM	Electronic Direct Mail (system for sending direct to licence holders via email)
EDS	Environmental Defence Society (NGO)
EIANZ	The Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand
ENGO's	Environmental non-governmental organisation/s
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
ESL	formerly known as Eyede – the F&G Licencing system provider
FIG	Freshwater Implementation Group
GETS	Government Electronic Tender Service
H&S	Health & Safety
IP	All intellectual property rights and interests, including copyright, trademarks, designs, patents, and other proprietary rights, recognised, or protected by law.
IWP	Intensive Winter Grazing
LEQ	Licence Equivalent
LWP	Licence Working Party
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPI	Ministry for Primary Industries
MfE	Ministry For Environment
NAS	National Anglers Survey (undertaken approx. every seven years)
NES	National Environmental Statement
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation

NIWA	National Institute of Water & Atmospheric Research Limited
NPS	National Policy Statement
NPS-FM	National Policy Statement-Freshwater Management
NZFFA	NZ Federation of Freshwater Anglers
NZFSS	NZ Freshwater Sciences Society
NZPFGA	NZ Professional Fishing Guides Association
NZSAA	NZ Salmon Anglers Association
OIA	Official Information Act
OIO	Overseas Investment Office
ONL	Outstanding Natural landscape
ORC	On-road costs OR Otago Regional Council
PCBU's	Persons Conducting a Business or Undertaking
PCO	Parliamentary Council Office
PDU	Provincial Development Unit
PGF	Provincial Growth Fund
PSF	Pressure Sensitive Fisheries
R3	Recruit, Retain and Reactivate programme
R&D	Research and Development
RAP	Resource Allocation Project
RFQ	Request for Quote
RFP	Request for Proposal
SDC	Selwyn District Council
SFC	Standing Finance Committee
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
WCO	Water Conservation Order
WRG	Website Reference Group

<i>Item</i>	<i>Pages</i>
1 Welcome and Chairperson's Introduction	3
2 Apologies	3
3 Conflicts of Interest for the Meeting	4
4 Approve minutes for meeting 158	6
5 Review Action List	11
6 Health and Safety	13
<i>Decision Required</i>	
7 Executive Committee Membership	14
8 Approval of Financial Budget 2022/23	19
9 Meeting Timetable	25
10 Pressure Sensitive Fisheries Management	30
11 Use of Reserves notification – Nelson Marlborough and Southland	58
12 Legal/RMA Applications	64
13 Research Applications	82
14 2022 Financial Report Process and Sign Off	97
15 Exclusion of the Public: Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987	100
<i>Public Excluded Agenda Items Decisions Required</i>	
16 Confirm Public Excluded Minutes for Meeting 158	101
17 Freshwater Litigation	104
18 Rem Committee Update (oral)	
<i>Reports to note</i>	
19 Advocacy Update	114
20 CE Report	120
21 NZC Finance Report	142
22 National Finance Report	163
Meeting close	