



NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

BOARD PACK

for

**NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
MEETING**

Wednesday, 27 November 2024

3:30 pm (NZDT)

Held at:

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
595 JOHNS ROAD, HAREWOOD, CHRISTCHURCH

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AGENDA

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL MEETING



Name:	NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
Date:	Wednesday, 27 November 2024
Time:	3:30 pm to 5:30 pm (NZDT)
Location:	NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL, 595 JOHNS ROAD, HAREWOOD, CHRISTCHURCH
Board Members:	ALAN STRONG, ANDY TANNOCK, CHRIS BRANKIN, DAVE COLL, DAVE BARRON, NIC MOODY, PHILLIP MUSSON
Attendees:	DEBBIE AMBLER, RASMUS GABRIELSSON
Apologies:	NIALL COSTER
Guests/Notes:	Cr Coster via Zoom. M Garrick (staff)

1. Opening Meeting

1.1 Welcome by Chairman 3:30 pm (5 min)
ALAN STRONG

1.2 Karakia 3:35 pm (5 min)
CHRIS BRANKIN
Whakataka te hau ki te uru
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga
Kia mākinakina ki uta
Kia mātaratara ki tai
E hī ake ana te atakura
He tio, he huka, he hau hū
Thei mauri ora!

Translation:

*Cease the winds from the west
Cease the winds from the south
Let the breeze blow over the land
Let the breeze blow over the ocean
Let the red-tipped dawn come with a sharpened air.
A touch of frost, a promise of a glorious day.*

1.3 Apologies 3:40 pm (5 min)
ALAN STRONG

1.4 Interests Register 3:45 pm (5 min)
ALAN STRONG

Supporting Documents:

1.4.a	Interests Register	6
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2. FOR DECISION

2.1 2024 Statement Of Service Performance 3:50 pm (20 min)

ALAN STRONG, RASMUS GABRIELSSON

For Decision

Council to approve the proposed Operational Work Plan and Budget for the 2024-25 financial year.

Supporting Documents:

2.1.a	2024 STATEMENT OF SERVICE (Signed).pdf	7
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2.2 Confirm Minutes from Previous Meetings 4:10 pm (10 min)

ALAN STRONG

For Decision

Supporting Documents:

2.2.a	Minutes : NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL - 25 Sept 2024	49
2.2.b	Minutes : NEW COUNCIL INDUCTION MEETING - 13 Nov 2024	56

2.3 Regional Feedback on New Zealand Council Consultation Papers 4:20 pm (10 min)

RASMUS GABRIELSSON

For Decision

Supporting Documents:

2.3.a	FOR DECISION - FEEDBACK ON NZC CONSULTATION PAPERS.pdf	59
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2.4 Approval for a Fishing Competition 4:30 pm (5 min)

ALAN STRONG

For Decision

Supporting Documents:

2.4.a	FOR DECISION - NZSAA FISHING COMPETITION 2025.pdf	61
2.4.b	Application by NZSAA to hold a fishing competition on 29 March 2025.pdf	62

2.5 Council Update - Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N1 (HPAI) 4:35 pm (15 min)

RASMUS GABRIELSSON

For Decision

Matthew Garrick to provide an update on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N1 (HPAI), including risk assessments and workstreams for how it may potentially impact both game bird populations and public access to the public conservation estate.

Council decision(s) on regional action(s) and/or feedback to NZC.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

3.1 General Business

4:50 pm (10 min)

ALAN STRONG

General business from Council.

4. STANDARD REPORTS

4.1 Standard Reports

5:00 pm (10 min)

ALAN STRONG

1. Chairmans' Report (As per 2024 Statement of Service)
2. Operational Update
3. Finance Report
4. NZC Report
5. RMA Update
6. Compliance Report
7. Health and Safety Report
8. Updates from Sub-Committees of Council (verbal)

Supporting Documents:

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4.2 Action List

5:10 pm (10 min)

ALAN STRONG

Supporting Documents:

4.2.a	Action List	90
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5. PUBLIC SESSION

5.1 Public Session

5:20 pm (10 min)

ALAN STRONG

6. Close Meeting

6.1 Close the meeting

Next meeting: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 27 Nov 2024, 6:30 pm

Interests Register

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL



As of: 27 Nov 2024

Person	Organisation	Active Interests	Notice Date
ALAN STRONG	N/A	No Interest Recorded	13 Nov 2024
ANDY TANNOCK	Gamebird Habitat Trust	Chair	13 Nov 2024
CHRIS BRANKIN	Ministry for the Environment	Staff member and Interim Chair	13 Nov 2024
DAVE BARRON	Tallarook Dairies, Nectar Group	Director of Company which leases land for the purpose of dairy farming, Owner of Nectar Group. Not involved in Fish and Game service or support decisions. Nectar now offers it's services free of charge to Fish & Game for service.	9 Nov 2021
DAVE COLL	N/A	No interest recorded	13 Nov 2024
NIALL COSTER	N/A	No interest recorded	13 Nov 2024
NIC MOODY	N/A	No interest recorded	13 Nov 2024
PHILLIP MUSSON	Fonterra	Shareholder Fonterra and ECAN Selwyn River Liaison Committee	13 Nov 2024



PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2024**

Presented to the House of Representatives pursuant to Section 26I of the Conservation Act 1987.

18 November 2024

Hon Todd McClay
Minister for Hunting and Fishing
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

Dear Minister

I have the honour to submit, pursuant to Section 26X of the Conservation Act 1987 and Section 44 of the Public Finance Act 1989, the Performance Report of the North Canterbury Fish and Game Council for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Yours faithfully

Signed by:

4097BAB984D15318

Alan Strong
Chairman
North Canterbury Fish and Game Council

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

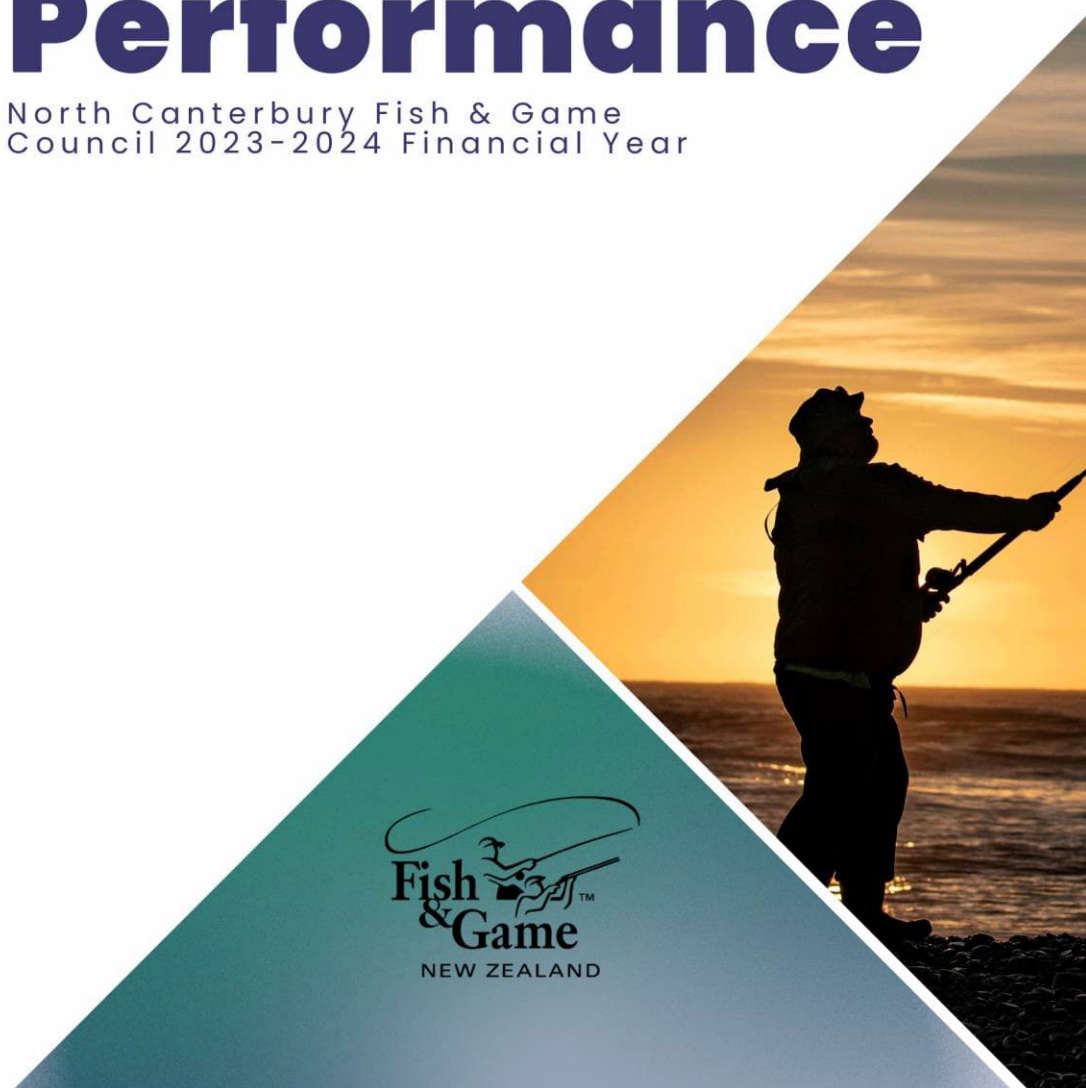
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Statement of Service Performance

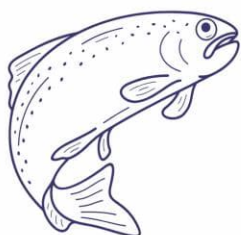
North Canterbury Fish & Game Council 2023-2024 Financial Year



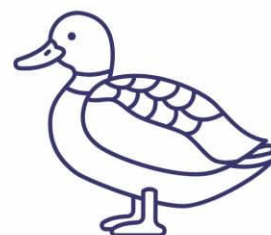
Strategic priorities of North Canterbury

The North Canterbury Fish & Game Council developed a set of strategic priorities at their February 2020 workshop to give direction to the preparation and implementation of operational work plans and other management frameworks.

This Statement was revised at the February 2023 Council planning meeting and an annual operations workplan for 2023/24 was generated to achieve or progress key outcomes.



~Purpose~
 The North Canterbury Fish and Game Council exists so that anglers and hunters have access to sustainable sports fish and game resources in the North Canterbury Region.



Compliance

High levels of compliance amongst licence holders. Regulatory bodies held to account in the implementation of policies and regulations that protect the habitats on which the species we manage depend.



Science Driven

Robust study design for data collection and analysis informs and improves species management and user satisfaction. Council has sufficient information for making decisions related to fisheries and game bird management.



Statutory Responsibilities

Species Management, Habitat Protection and Management, Licence Holder Communication.



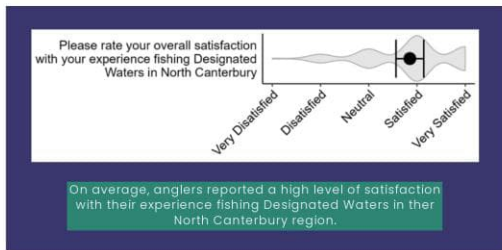


Species Management

Trout and Salmon

In 2023, the Designated Waters Licence replaced Backcountry Endorsements to help manage angling pressure and improve the wilderness fishing experience across the South Island.

Surveys of resident and non-resident Designated Waters licence holders in the North Canterbury region demonstrated satisfaction with the new system.

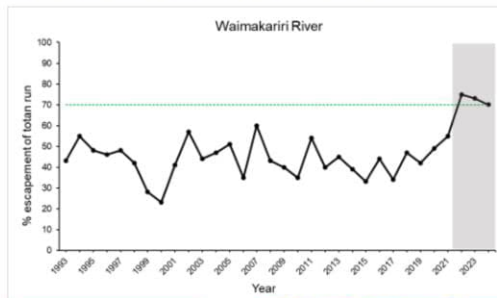


To address complaints about overcrowding and capture of trophy fisheries by guides and/or private access arrangements, the Council decided to trial a Controlled Fishery on the Upper Hurunui River in 2024, which has high "trophy trout fishery" values.

The Controlled Fishery booking system helps resolve conflicts between anglers in this remote fishery. A robust data collection and public consultation process will evaluate the trial booking system, how well it is achieving its objectives, and ways it may need to be adjusted. This trial contributes to creating a comprehensive Management Framework for the region's Trout Fisheries.

The adaptive sea-run salmon management framework and season bag limit have now successfully increased spawning escapement to 70% for three years in a row. Last year's salmon run was small, partly due to warm ocean conditions over the last few years, which have resulted in poor survival rates and smaller than normal adult salmon.

Salmon management is driven by harvest and spawning surveys on major salmon rivers. Harvest is estimated through voluntary returns and phone surveys, while escapement is determined through aerial spawning surveys. Spawning surveys across the three indicator rivers (Rakaia, Waimakariri and Rangitata) estimated escapement at 1,455 salmon and a total estimated harvest of 518 salmon.



To view detailed reports from the North Canterbury Fish & Game Staff

Click Here

To view a Stuff NZ video about 'Sea-Run Salmon'

Click Here



Species Management

Game Birds



Modern wildlife management is driven through adaptive strategies based on biological and sociological indicators. Frameworks have been developed for some species, with work ongoing to develop management strategies for other key species.



"MANAGEMENT TOOLS"	Closed Season	Restrictive Season	Moderate Season	Liberal Season
	Increase Population	Increase Population	Maintain Population	Reduce Population
Justification	Non-lethal tools primarily, however, unique situations may be addressed using kill permits. Egg harvest limited.	Non-lethal tools primarily, however, unique situations may be addressed using kill permits. Sustainable egg harvest is to be conducted at Ngāi Tahu's discretion.	Non-lethal tools primarily, however, chronic depredation issues may be addressed with kill permits. Population growth is to be limited through egg harvest conducted by Ngāi Tahu.	Chronic depredation issues may be addressed with kill permits. Population growth is to be limited through a combination of kill permits and egg harvest conducted by Ngāi Tahu.
Summer Population Index (2-year average)	<3000	3,000-4,500	4,500-7,500	7,500+
Bag Limit	—	1/day	2/day	2/day

Black swans are a minor yet valued game bird species across many Fish & Game regions. Within the North Canterbury region, there was a need for an adaptive strategy to direct swan harvest and depredation control. During the 2023/2024 Financial Year, population-level thresholds or frameworks were set to guide the swan harvest strategy, which includes managing depredation issues.



Science Driven



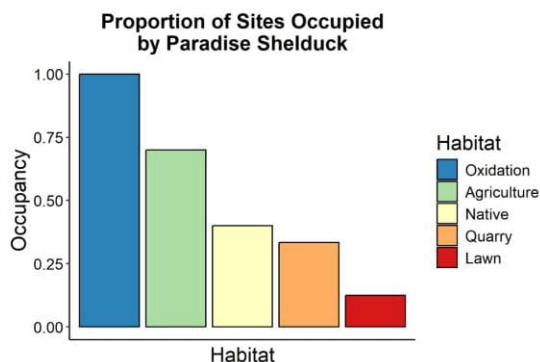
Opening weekend is a sacred and traditional period for many gamebird hunters as it is a great opportunity to catch up with friends and family to enjoy the harvest.

North Canterbury staff coordinated the first-ever national game bird hunter satisfaction survey over the Opening Weekend harvest survey period. A total of 991 surveys were collected across 11 regions. The survey design will allow investigation into how hunter harvest, harvest expectations, and number of ducks seen interplay with hunter satisfaction.



Staff completed a pilot paradise shelduck occupancy study as a first step toward redesigning the paradise shelduck monitoring programme. Further work will be required to model paradise shelduck habitat across the region. In total, 44 wetlands were successfully surveyed, with occupancy highest in oxidation ponds, followed by agricultural ponds.

Staff also took a deep dive into licence holder dynamics to better understand Recruitment, Retention, and Reactivation at both the regional and national levels. Numbers of fishing licence holders over time in North Canterbury have been declining since the 2015/2016 season.



We found the greatest decline in licence holders since the 2015/2016 season has come from working-age adults. This information and other insights from this work will help us to improve our R3 efforts.



Compliance

Fish & Game rangers conducted compliance operations throughout the region during the 2023/2024 Financial Year, with a total of 734 angler licence checks and 92 game bird licence checks.

There were a total of 16 fishing offences and 14 game bird offences detected. The fishing compliance rate was 97%, while game bird compliance rate was 85%.



During the 2023/2024 fishing season, our North Canterbury staff and honorary rangers achieved impressive coverage across the region, visiting >30 different lakes and rivers. Our checks were informed by angler usage data gathered from the national angler survey, ensuring we focused our efforts where they were needed most.

Offence Category	Number of Offences
Fishing without a licence	11
Fishing with illegal method	1
Fishing closed waters	3
Failing to carry licence (Salmon Licence)	1
Hunting without a licence	5
Possession of lead shot within 200m of open water	8
Hunt/kill protected species	1



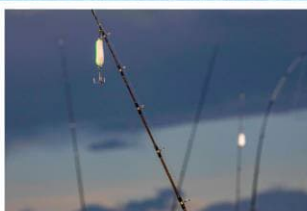


Events around the region



Trout Fishing Festival

The 3rd Bi-Annual Trout Festival at the Groynes attracted over 500 fishing enthusiasts. Attendees enjoyed a lively atmosphere with stalls showcasing the latest gear, expert tips from seasoned guides, and delicious food options. The Fish & Game tent offered valuable advice to all participants. The event is a result of a collaboration between Fish & Game and Canterbury Fly Fishing Club.



ReWild Launch in North Canterbury

The #ReWild campaign was launched at the Roto Kohatu Lakes. This national initiative has been a remarkable success for Fish & Game nationwide, specifically aligning with our R3 objectives. The launch drew attendees from various regions, including Fish & Game staff, anglers, clubs, and media representatives. The event marked a milestone for the organisation and highlighted North Canterbury's growing urban fishery.

Lake Coleridge Annual Competition

Kicking off the High-Country opening was the Annual Fishing Competition at Lake Coleridge and surrounding lakes. It was held on the first weekend of November. With generous prizes donated by local Hunting and Fishing stores. Anglers enjoyed connecting with the community while celebrating their shared passion for fishing.

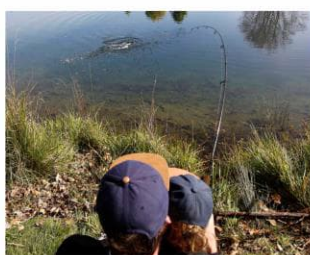


Preparations for Take a Kid Fishing 2024

The team has been working with the Take a Kid Fishing Trust to organise the return of Take a Kid Fishing event, which took place at the end of September 2024. Our team is committed to providing assistance and support to ensure this event is an annual success, fostering a love of fishing in the next generation. Preparations for the September 2025 event are already underway.

Salmon Fishing Competitions

In late summer, Salmon Fishing Competitions brought dedicated anglers to the Rakaia & Waimakariri rivers, all competing for the winning catch. Participants in these annual events enjoyed memorable times and engaged with organisers and Fish & Game staff about salmon management and restoration.





Habitat Protection

Environmental Advocacy & Habitat Protection

A major role of Fish & Game is to identify and protect the habitat of sports fish and game birds.

Advocating for habitat protection and public access improvements is fundamental for the sustainable management of fish and game bird populations and is extremely important to our licence holders.

Funds from prosecutions of illegal game bird hunting and fishing activities are allocated to be spent on habitat and/or access improvements via small grants.



In the 2023/2024 Financial Year, five habitat protection grants were given out, totalling \$27,950. Fish & Game grants were matched by landowner contributions, with a total impact of \$53,300 spent toward habitat protection and improving public access to benefit anglers and hunters.

Staff coordinated a variety of works at Te Waihora (Lake Ellesmere) to improve public access, remove hazards from the lake (burnt-out cars, derelict fences, maimai's, trash, etc.), and built new ballotable maimai. A total of \$130,500 was spent, with \$81,500 funding from the Fish & Game Maimai Fund and an additional \$49,000 secured via a grant from Environment Canterbury.

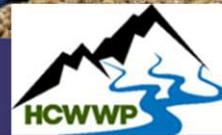


In addition, habitat protection and/or public access improvements were made in the upper Rakaia, upper Waimakariri, Wairewa (Lake Forsyth) and Muriwai (Coopers Lagoon).





Habitat Protection



Canterbury High Country Wetland & Waterway Protection Project

In 2021, North Canterbury Fish & Game secured funding from the government "Jobs For Nature / Freshwater Improvement Fund" to work with the use of a bequest left to Fish & Game by James McIntyre to protect and restore nursery habitats to enhance the salmon fishery in the Rakaia and Waimakariri rivers.

The over \$1,600,000 project was funded by the Ministry for the Environment and completed in collaboration with Environment Canterbury, Rakaia River Fishing Promotions and New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association. For the last three years, this funding grant has employed two staff members, Steve Terry and Belinda Bull.

The project aim was to secure, enhance or re-establish 60ha of streams and wetlands through a minimum of 10km of new fencing, thereby improving the nursery and rearing habitat for fish and waterfowl species within these



ecosystems and enhancing downstream water quality. Through negotiations with landowners in the High Country, the "High-Country Wetland & Waterway Protection" project has exceeded its targets, with the retirement of approximately 370ha, utilising existing fences, along with over 20km of new fencing.

Glenariffe Stream / McIntyre Wetland

More information about the Glenariffe Stream and Wetland Protection project's many components is available on the Fish & Game website.

Resource Management Act

Environmental Advocacy & Habitat Protection

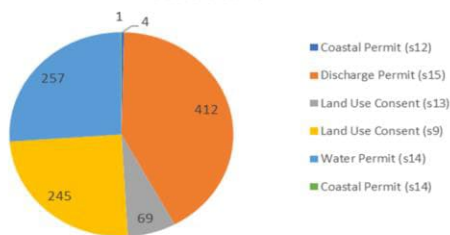
Fish & Game has a statutory duty to protect the country's natural freshwater resources, which provide the habitat to support healthy fish populations and offer some of the best wild trout fishing opportunities available in the world.

Resource Consents

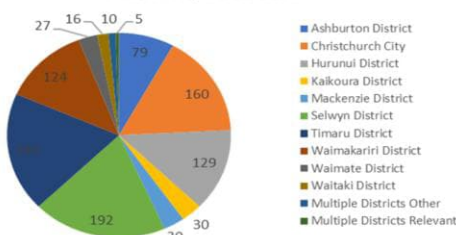
As the statutory management agency for sport fish and game birds, Fish & Game is required to consider the Legislation, the RMA, District and Regional Council plans, and National Policy Statements applicable to our Region.

In Canterbury, all resource consent applications lodged with the regional council are presented weekly to affected parties to assess whether these are relevant to us. Where relevant, Fish & Game provides feedback to Regional or District Councils and, where necessary, proposes applications be publicly notified.

Total resource consent applications per type 2023-2024



Total resource consent applications per local authority 2023-2024



Total consent applications received	988
Applications relevant to Fish & Game values	610

Advocacy / EDS Conference

NZ Council CEO Corina Jordan, NCFG staff and Councillors attended the Environmental Defence Society (EDS) conference in mid-June. The theme for this year's conference was "The Future is Now: Biodiversity, Climate and Us".

Corina chaired a Freshwater Reforms session at the pre-conference workshop, during which Rasmus presented a response from an environmental advocate's perspective.

A short video of Fish & Game's response to the current state of freshwater in NZ, the government's proposed reforms to the RMA (Fast Track Legislation) and Freshwater Policy in NZ is included below.

Submissions / Interested parties

NC Fish & Game play a central role in trying to protect public access for hunters and anglers.

Recently, a proposed Waimakariri District Council (WDC) Bylaw change was going to stop hunters from being able to use dogs for game bird hunting in the lower Ashley River/Estuary. Fish & Game staff went through the consultation process and submitted both a written and verbal submission to WDC. The WDC's final decision regarding the use of dogs and areas where game bird hunting will continue to be allowed in the Ashley/Rakahuri hapua (estuary) aligned with Fish & Game's input.



To View Corina Jordan & Rasmus Gabrielsson speak at the EDS Conference

[CLICK HERE](#)

Protecting NZ Fish & Waterways

Fish & Game has played a major role in protecting some of New Zealand's outstanding wild and scenic waterways through the application of Water Conservation Orders (WCOs).

Over the last few years, NC Fish & Game and Environmental Defence Society (EDS) have been engaging with Environment Canterbury and other river advocates to clarify who has the responsibility for monitoring and managing the Rakaia and other WCOs.

After years of concerns about degradation of river health and fishery values raised by local anglers, Fish & Game, iwi, community members and others, the public debate over the management of the Rakaia River



flared up in the national media in late 2021, following the leaking of a draft Environment Canterbury technical report (The Rakaia Water Balance Report) and the resignation of its author, a senior Environment Canterbury hydrologist.

Environment Canterbury's response was to distance itself from the report's findings, confirming and accelerating public concerns about exceedance of consent limits for water-takers, inadequate monitoring and poor enforcement of consent conditions resulting in the Rakaia River being "impeded and manipulated" beyond the level anticipated in the WCO.

In response, NC Fish & Game and EDS joined forces and agreed to seek a declaratory judgement from the



Rakaia WCO Hearing

Environment Court to determine the fundamental question of who has the responsibility for WCO monitoring and enforcement, which has national implications in terms of the protection offered by all WCOs.

This declaratory judgement is the critical first step in addressing the environmental problems faced by the Rakaia River. It will also determine who is responsible for monitoring and enforcing the WCO, not just in Canterbury but all over New Zealand. The Rakaia River's problems have arisen because of significant intensification in land and water use in recent decades, an overly complex water management regime, a lack of adequate resource and compliance monitoring, and is intensified by a lack of management response from Environment Canterbury.

Links to Media:
[~Link 1~](#) [~Link 2~](#) [~Link 3~](#) [~Link 4~](#)

Initially, it looked as if non-compliance was a significant issue, but as time has gone by, the focus has shifted to Environment Canterbury's failures in land and water management. It seems remedial action can only be achieved progressively through plan changes, consenting processes and WCO amendments.

During winter, staff and our legal/expert advisors participated in mitigation meetings, as instructed by the Environment Court. The limited outcomes from the mitigation process included refinements to the legal questions. The next phase and formal official hearing is scheduled to take place in late November 2024.

For More Information

Legal case documents and supporting affidavits related to this Rakaia WCO proceedings hearing are available for viewing by the public on the North Canterbury Fish & Game website. New documents will be continually uploaded once they have been officially lodged with the Environment Court.

A number of Newsroom media articles written by David Williams have reported on the debate over the health and management of the Rakaia River and the subsequent Rakaia WCO Declaratory Proceedings hearing. Fish & Game is determined to continue to advocate for improving the health of the Rakaia River and ensuring WCO is a powerful instrument for setting rules that recognise and protect the outstanding values of NZ wild and scenic water bodies.

CHAIRS REPORT

Welcome to the 2024 Annual Report on behalf of the North Canterbury Fish and Game Council.

In February this year, the Council had its annual workshop discussing issues and ideas to determine our priorities and work focus for the next fishing and game seasons (2024/2025).

We had a thought-provoking day with Dr Robin Holmes from the Cawthron Institute discussing the important issues primarily regarding our trout fishery and covered factors affecting our sea-run salmon fishery.

During the workshop Councillors talked about our backcountry lakes and in doing so it reminded me how much quality and diverse fishing we have in our region. I hope you can all get out and make good use of this resource.

The Council's Purpose and Priorities for the 2023/24 financial year were;

1. **Compliance** – high levels of compliance amongst licence holders. Regulatory bodies held to account in the implementation of policies and regulations that protect the habitats on which the species we manage depend.
2. **Statutory Responsibilities** – Species management, habitat protection and management and licence holder communication.
3. **Science Driven** – Robust study design for data collection and analysis that informs and improves species management and user satisfaction. That Council has sufficient information for making decisions related to fisheries and game bird management.

Near-Term Priorities

With these aspirations in mind, the Council will focus on achieving or making measurable progress over the next 12-18 months on;

1. The development of a Trout plan.
2. The further development of active, mutually advantageous relationships with key environment agencies.
3. Protection of Lake Heron origin sea-run salmon.
4. Maintaining a high level of compliance with applicable fishing and hunting regulations.
5. Improve the effectiveness of communications with licence holders.

These Priorities are used by staff to help them develop an operational work plan and budget to deliver that plan.

Mid-year I attended a Chair's Forum and meeting the New Zealand Fish and Game Council (NZFGC) in Wellington to discuss governance matters. This is always an

interesting and challenging day, and I look forward to working with the other Fish and Game regions to improve the overall organisation.

I had the privilege of Chairing the Regional Chair's Forum, who meet monthly, to discuss organisational matters. This has proven to be very successful and helped the Chairs understand and discuss issues from all regions. The Chair's group includes the NZFGC Chair, and this has been helpful to talk about national issues.

In May, we received some good photos of successful duck hunts from our region, and I look forward to seeing a few more salmon photos in future seasons.

The Adaptive Salmon Management Plan is working with harvest down on our main rivers ensuring enough salmon can spawn. Warmer sea conditions and climate change are not helping our salmon runs at the moment, however when conditions are more favourable, we should see a recovery in the numbers coming back to our braided rivers.

Our Chief Executive Officer, Rasmus Gabrielsson, completed and was awarded his PHD. Those who know Rasmus know he is passionate about our wild resources and is internationally renowned for his work with chinook salmon. Well done Dr Rasmus Gabrielsson!! Rasmus attended the World Fisheries Conference in America and presented a paper on our Adaptive Salmon Management Plan which was received very well by those in attendance. Many good contacts were made.

Our staff were busy working to deliver the operational work plan for this financial year 1st September 2023 – 30th August 2024. Council will be competing approvals for the next financial year's Operation Work Plan. This is an essential part of the Council's work as we have limited staff and finances to complete all our worthwhile projects.

The winter duck season is now just a memory although some opportunities still exist over the summer for the keen shooter. We are now also into the new fishing season with hope and enthusiasm. I'm looking forward to reports of the first sea-run salmon being caught. The size and condition will be interesting!

This Council has been extremely busy in the past three years with some notable achievements in the past 12 months.

1. Improving our governance performance, making decisions based on evidence, developing clear policies for our staff to follow and building a talented and capable workforce.
2. Successfully completed a three-year restoration project in the in the upper Rakaia catchment (total value of the project \$1.6 million). This was a paradigm shift in working with landowners, farmers and other agencies to secure and protect our sensitive areas for our children and grandchildren.
3. Ensuring North Canterbury Fish and Game was operating within its budget and performing its statutory functions.
4. Implementing a trial 'booking system' in the backcountry on the north and south branch of the Hurunui Rivers.

By the time you are reading this Report, the regional Fish and Game council elections would have been held and a new Council elected. This process is an opportunity for

licence holder to have a say on who manages our resource on their behalf. Congratulations to those who have been elected, you are now part of a special organisation.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the councillors who volunteer their time to manage the resource on behalf of licence holders. This is often a difficult task when our decisions mean some licence holders are unhappy. The Council always works hard to make the best decisions based on the evidence and advice available.

I particularly want to thank and acknowledge the contribution of those councillors retiring this year. Trevor Isitt, Richard O'Keefe and Ken Lloyd.

I would also like to thank our fantastic and skilled staff who are passionate and hard-working for the licence holders of this region. It is not always an easy job to manage the resource and hunter/angler expectations.

During a time of change in Fish and Game and the environment, this Council has made hard decisions on behalf of our stakeholders to ensure the North Canterbury Region is providing the best outcomes possible within our means.

I am proud of our performance, and it has been an honour to Chair this Council.

Tight Lines and Hot Barrels

Alan Strong
Chairman

ENTITY INFORMATION

Legal Name

North Canterbury Fish & Game Council.

Type of Entity and Legal Basis

The North Canterbury Fish and Game Council is a Public Entity under the Public Finance Act 1989 (Schedule 4). The Council was established on 4 May 1991 with the passing of the Conservation Law Reform Act 1990.

Mission and Statutory Functions

North Canterbury Fish and Game Council was established for the purposes of the management, maintenance, and enhancement of sports fish and game in the recreational interests of anglers and hunters.

The Council has statutory responsibilities established by the Conservation Act 1987 (including the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983) and the Wildlife Act 1953 (incl. the Wildlife Regulations 1955)

Functions of North Canterbury Fish and Game Council include:

- monitoring sports fish and game populations;
- monitoring the success and satisfaction of users;
- monitoring the condition and trend of ecosystems as habitats for sports fish and game;
- maintaining and improving access;
- maintaining and enhancing the habitat of sports fish and game;
- formulating and establishing regulations and policies which ensure the maintenance of sports fish and game populations and the recreational experience;
- securing compliance with sports fish and game regulations;
- promoting recreational angling and game bird hunting;
- representing the interests of anglers and hunters in the statutory planning process;
- keeping anglers and hunters informed.

The Council's operations are based upon a national Statement of Purposes and Priorities, a Sports Fish and Game Management Plan which sets long term goals and policies, and an annual Operational Work Plan, which sets out the specific work programme and budget.

The Main Source of the North Canterbury Fish and Game Cash and Resources

The main sources of the entity's cash and resources is from the sale of Fish and Game licences.

STRUCTURE OF THE NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

The Council currently consists of eight councillors who were elected in November 2021. Councillors are elected three yearly by Fish and Game licence holders in the Council's North Canterbury. The Council also has three representative who are co-opted to the Council.

The Council meets a minimum of six times each year at the North Canterbury Fish and Game offices, 595 Johns Road, Harewood, Christchurch that enable licence holders to attend one or more Council meetings should they desire.

The Chief Executive is responsible for the day-to-day operations and reports to the Council. Seven other full and part time staff support the Chief Executive in delivering the Council's objectives.

Alan Strong is the Current Chairman and David Coll was elected by the Council as an appointee to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council.

Council and Staff

Council Members		Meetings Attended	Dates held in position
Alan Strong	Chairman	6/7	From Nov 2018 - current
Phillip Musson		6/7	From Nov 2018 - current
Dave Coll	NZC Appointee	6/7	From Nov 2018 - current
Dave Barron		7/7	From Nov 2021 - current
Ken Lloyd		7/7	From Nov 2021 - current
Niall Coster		6/7	From Nov 2021 - current
Richard O'Keefe		6/7	From Nov 2018 - current
Trevor Isitt		7/7	From Nov 2018 - current
Co-opted Members			
Graeme Nahkies	Governance Specialist	5/7	From Nov 2018 – May 2024
Chris Brankin	Ngai Tahu Representative		From July 2020 – June 2023
Chris Brankin	Co-opted to Council	4/6	From June 2023 - current
Te Hau Anglem	Ngai Tahu Representative	6/7	From July 2023 - current

Staff Members

Dr Rasmus Gabrielsson <i>Chief Executive Officer</i>	Debbie Ambler <i>Office Manager</i>	Lyndon Slater (to Jan 2024) <i>Environment Officer</i>
Emily Craig <i>Fish & Game Officer</i>	Harry Graham-Samson <i>Fish & Game Officer</i>	Matthew Garrick <i>Fish & Game Officer</i>
Steve Terry (from Jul 2024) <i>Fish & Game Officer</i>	Jackson Meecham (from May 2024) <i>Junior Fish & Game Officer and Communications Advisor</i>	
Richard Cosgrove	<i>Fish and Game Officer & Communications Advisor (Seconded to NZC part time)</i>	
Heather Garrick	<i>Quantitative Ecologist (Seconded to NZC part time)</i>	
Steve Terry (to 30 Jun 2024)	<i>High Country Water and Wetland Project Manager</i>	
Belinda Bull (to 30 Jun 2024)	<i>High Country Water and Wetland Project Co-ordinator</i>	

Life Members (North Canterbury Acclimatisation Society)

Knowles R.F

Chairs of the North Canterbury Fish and Game Council – 1991 to 2024

Mugford J.G	December 1991 – April 1994
Curtis J.N	May 1994 – November 2000
Clements M.A	December 2000 – August 2015
Isitt T.L	August 2015 – October 2018
Strong A	November 2018 - current

Auditors

Office of the Auditor-General

Contracted to Aaron Higham, BDO Invercargill, Chartered Accountants

Account

Ben Davidson

Leech and Partners (Christchurch)

Bankers

Kiwibank

Offices

The Council office is located at 595 Johns Road, Harewood, Christchurch 8051

Phone : 03 366 9191

Email : northcanterbury@fishandgame.org.nzWebsite : www.fishandgame.org

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY


18 November 2024

The Council and Management of the North Canterbury Fish and Game Council, accept responsibility for the accuracy of and judgements used in the preparation of the following Financial Statements and Performance Report, the establishment and maintenance of systems of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurance of the integrity and reliability of financial reporting and the end of year performance information.

In our opinion, the information set out in the following statements and attached notes to these statements fairly reflects the financial position and service performance of the North Canterbury Fish and Game Council, for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Signed by:

 4097BAB984D15318
 Alan Strong
 Chairman

Signed by:

 9753EB16C2EE6C55
 Dr Rasmus Gabrielsson
 Chief Executive Officer

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 August 2024

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
For the year ended 31 August 2024

	Note	Actual 2024 \$	Budget 2024 \$	Actual 2023 \$
REVENUE				
Fish and Game licence sales	1	1,722,397	1,706,775	1,669,302
Contracts from central / local government	1	201,694		173,415
Grants from non-government agencies	1	119,503	81,000	62,795
Grants / contracts non-government	1	153,129	106,000	55,113
Interest	1	15,493	21,452	11,067
Other revenue	1	68,813	23,400	22,121
Total Revenue		2,281,029	1,938,627	1,993,813
EXPENSES				
Outputs				
Species management	2	114,901	116,873	83,668
Habitat protection & management	2	236,676	205,500	65,354
Angler & Hunter participation	2	10,499	13,500	10,872
Public interface	2	2,951	400	505
Compliance	2	7,071	5,500	5,262
Licensing	2	77,497	14,385	88,792
Council	2	6,160	6,000	10,446
Planning & reporting	2	21,133	15,500	10,774
Freshwater Improvement Fund Project	2	273,228		187,014
Overheads				
Employee related costs	2	833,788	873,389	725,184
Depreciation	4	115,203	110,000	106,459
Other expenses	2	135,580	130,660	167,256
Total Expenses		1,834,687	1,491,707	1,461,586
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)		446,342	446,920	532,227
Less Other Expenses				
Levies to NZFGC		648,865	648,865	654,627
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		(202,523)	(201,945)	(122,400)

Note:

Depreciation is a non-budgetted item, and has no cash value.

\$74,521 is approved spending by New Zealand Council which has come out of Reserves.

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
For the year ended 31 August 2024

	Note	Actual 2024 \$	Actual 2023 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank accounts and cash	3	327,566	526,406
Debtors and prepayments	3	171,969	195,219
Total Current Assets		499,535	721,625
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	4	2,101,330	2,126,804
Total Non-Current Assets		2,101,330	2,126,804
Total Assets		2,600,865	2,848,429
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Creditors and accrued expenses	3	250,988	280,995
Employee costs payable	3	91,148	106,181
Total Current Liabilities		342,136	387,176
Total Liabilities		342,136	387,176
NET ASSETS		2,258,729	2,461,253
EQUITY	5	2,258,729	2,461,253

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS
For the year ended 31 August 2024

	Actual 2024 \$	Actual 2023 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash was received from:		
Licence sales	1,728,543	1,840,548
Grants, donations and fundraising	474,326	
Interest	15,493	11,067
Other revenue	66,583	328,808
Cash was applied to:		
Payments to suppliers	1,534,227	1,078,818
Payments to employees	848,821	799,793
GST (net)	13,238	26,112
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(111,341)	275,700
CASHFLOW FROM INVESTING & FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Cash was received from:		
Sale of property, plant and equipment	-	4,679
Cash was applied to:		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(87,499)	542,870
Net Cash Flows from Investing & Financing	87,499	(538,191)
Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash	(198,840)	(262,491)
Opening Cash	526,406	788,897
Closing Cash	327,566	526,406
This is represented by:		
Bank accounts and cash	327,566	526,406

North Canterbury Fish & Game Council
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES
 For the year ended 31 August 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES APPLIED

Reporting Entity

North Canterbury Fish and Game Council is a Public Entity under the Public Finance Act 1989 (Schedule 4). The Council was established on 4 May 1991 with the passing of the Conservation Law Reform Act 1990.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Section 153-6 of the Crown Entities Act 2004.

Basis of Preparation

North Canterbury Fish and Game has elected to apply PBE SFR-A (PS) Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting - Accrual (Public Sector) on the basis that it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses of equal to or less than \$5,000,000. All transactions in the Performance Report are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. The Performance Report is prepared under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate in the foreseeable future.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The Council is registered for GST. All amounts are recorded exclusive of GST, except for Debtors and Creditors which are stated inclusive of GST.

2. SPECIFIC ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Revenue Recognition

North Canterbury Fish and Game Council derives revenue through the sale of fish and game licences, interest, contracts, rentals, grants, and miscellaneous sales.

Licence Revenue

Licence revenue is recognised in the period the licence fee is earned, for example, a fish licence sold in August of the current year which relates to the next fishing season is treated as income in advance.

Grants Received

Grants are recognised as revenue when they become receivable unless there is an obligation in substance to return the funds if conditions of the grant are not met. If there is such an obligation, the grants are initially recorded as grants received in advance and recognised as revenue when the condition of the grant is satisfied.

Interest

Interest revenue is recorded as it is earned during the year.

Other Income

Income from contracts, rentals and miscellaneous sales are recorded as revenue in the period they are earned.

Outputs

The Council has allocated expenditure based on the 8 output codes - Species management, Habitat protection & management, Angler & Hunter participation, Public interface, Compliance, Licensing, Council, and Planning & reporting. These are expensed when the related service has been received.

Employee related costs

Wages, salaries, and annual leave are recorded as an expense as staff provide services and became entitled to wages, salaries. Performance payments are recorded when the employee is notified. Superannuation contributions are recorded as an expense as staff provide services.

Levies to NZFGC

A levy is paid each year to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council for the administration of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council, or redistribution to other Councils and for advocacy and research.

Bank accounts and cash

Bank accounts and cash comprise cash on hand, cheque or savings accounts, and deposits held at call with banks.

Debtors and prepayments

Debtors are initially recorded at the amount owed. When it is likely the amount owed (or some portion) will not be collected, a provision for impairment is recognised and the loss is recorded as a bad debt expense.

Property, plant, and equipment

Property, plant, and equipment is recorded at cost, less accumulated depreciation, and impairment losses.

Significant donated assets are recognised upon receipt at valuation. Significant donated assets for which current values are not readily obtainable are not recognised.

Depreciation is charged on all property, plant and equipment other than land, so as to spread the cost of the asset over its useful life. Depreciation for each of the major categories of assets is calculated on the basis noted below:

All Assets Purchased prior to 1 September 2009 are calculated as:

	<u>Life</u>	<u>Depreciation Method</u>
Buildings	40 years	Straight Line
Plant & Equipment	3-10 years	Diminishing Value
Motor Vehicles	3-5 years	Diminishing Value
Office Fittings, Furniture & Equipment	2-10 years	Diminishing Value

All Assets Purchased after 1 September 2009 are calculated as:

	<u>Life</u>	<u>Depreciation Method</u>
Buildings	40 years	Straight Line
Plant & Equipment	3-20 years	Straight Line
Motor Vehicles	10 years	Straight Line
Office Fittings, Furniture & Equipment	2-20 years	Straight Line

Creditors and accrued expenses

Creditors and accrued expenses are measured at the amount owed.

Game Bird Habitat Stamp levy

Levies are collected and paid to New Zealand Fish and Game Council per the New Zealand Game Bird Habitat Stamp Regulations 1993. The levy is \$5 for every game licence sold within the financial year.

Employee costs payable

A liability for employee costs payable is recognised when an employee has earned an entitlement. These include salaries and wages accrued up to balance date and annual leave earned but not yet taken at balance date. A liability and expense for long service leave and retirement gratuities is recognised when the entitlement becomes available to the employee.

Dedicated reserves

Dedicated reserves are those reserves that the Council has elected to transfer from accumulated funds for a particular purpose.

Restricted reserves

Restricted reserves are those reserves subject to specific conditions accepted as binding by the Council and which may not be revised by the Council without specified purposes or when certain conditions are met.

Income tax

The Council is a Public Benefit Entity and is exempt from the payment of Income tax in terms of the Income Tax Act 2007.

Budget figures

The Budget figures are derived from the Council budget that was approved at the Council meeting on 19 July 2023.

Tier 2 PBE Accounting Standards applied

The Council has not applied any Tier 2 Accounting Standards in preparing its financial statements.

3. CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

There have been no changes in accounting policies.

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE PERFORMANCE REPORT

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Note 1: ANALYSIS OF REVENUE	Actual 2024 \$	Budget 2024 \$	Actual 2023 \$
Fish and Game Licence sales			
Fish licence	1,425,193	1,483,168	1,404,751
Non Resident Fish Licence Levy	437	-	38,312
Game licence	242,199	223,607	226,239
Sea-Run Salmon Licence	26,891	-	-
Designated Waters Licence - Resident	10,589	-	-
Designated Waters Licence - Non Resident	17,088	-	-
Total Licence sales	1,722,397	1,706,775	1,669,302
Interest			
Interest Received	15,493	21,452	11,067
Total Interest	15,493	21,452	11,067
Contracts from Central or Local Government			
Freshwater Improvement Fund	201,694	-	173,415
Total Funding from Central or Local Government	201,694	-	173,415
Grants from Non-Government Agencies			
Te Waihora / Muriwai Projects	47,000	-	-
Staff Development Grant NZC	6,000	6,000	-
Legal Fund Grant NZC	66,503	75,000	62,795
Total Grants from Non Government Agencies	119,503	81,000	62,795
Contracts from Non-Government Agencies			
Contracting Income NZC	132,019	106,000	40,478
Fish Salvages	21,110	-	14,635
Total Contracts from Non-Government Agencies	153,129	106,000	55,113
Other revenue			
Angling & Hunting Competitions	3,012	-	2,257
Diversion - Habitat Restoration	28,194	-	316
Rent Received	19,160	20,800	19,080
Miscellaneous Income	3,935	2,600	468
Costs Reimbursed by NZC Other	2,716	-	-
Miscellaneous Income	113	-	-
Gain on Sale of Fixed Assets	3,500	-	-
Depreciation Recovered	8,183	-	-
Total other revenue	68,813	23,400	22,121

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE PERFORMANCE REPORT
For the year ended 31 August 2024

Note 2: ANALYSIS OF EXPENSES	Actual 2024 \$	Budget 2024 \$	Actual 2023 \$
Species management			
Population monitoring	104,999	105,123	60,557
Harvest assessment	1,639	3,000	3,280
Fish salvage	702	500	11,140
Hatchery operations	2,000	2,000	6,273
Releases	5,111	5,000	-
Regulations	105	250	-
Control	345	1,000	2,418
Total Species management	114,901	116,873	83,668
Habitat protection & management			
Resource management	71,149	82,000	63,083
Works & management	-	1,000	-
Assisted habitat	165,527	122,500	2,271
Total Habitat protection & management	236,676	205,500	65,354
Angler & Hunter participation			
Access	1,196	2,000	2,651
Satisfaction surveys	87	500	470
Newsletters	5,556	6,000	-
Training	261	1,500	5,248
Club relations	3,399	3,500	2,502
Total Angler & Hunter participation	10,499	13,500	10,871
Public interface			
Liaison	2,951	400	505
Total Public interface	2,951	400	505
Compliance			
Ranging Programme	7,071	5,500	5,262
Total Compliance	7,071	5,500	5,262

Note 2: ANALYSIS OF EXPENSES CON'T	Actual 2024 \$	Budget 2024 \$	Actual 2023 \$
Licensing			
Licence production & distribution	11,528	14,385	22,775
Commission	65,969	76,805	66,017
Total Licensing	77,497	91,190	88,792
Council			
Council meetings and elections	6,160	6,000	10,446
Total Council	6,160	6,000	10,446
Planning & reporting			
Reporting and Audit	21,133	15,500	10,774
Total Planning & reporting	21,133	15,500	10,774
Freshwater Improvement Fund			
FIF Contractors	-	-	3,915
FIF Legal & Survey Costs	3,162	-	24,781
FIF Culvert	100,974	-	7,162
FIF Lidar Mapping	-	-	11,700
FIF Salaries	111,728	-	130,500
FIF In Kind Expenses	57,364	-	8,956
Total Freshwater Improvement Fund	273,228	-	187,014
Employee related costs			
Salaries & Kiwisaver	789,977	839,189	699,875
Fringe benefit tax	7,731	7,500	7,412
ACC levies	1,028	1,500	4,194
Staff Training and Other expenses	35,052	25,200	10,944
Total Employee related costs	833,788	873,389	722,425
Other expenses			
Office premises	29,458	30,760	56,268
Office equipment	3,027	3,250	1,724
Communications	26,433	16,000	27,245
General	31,076	33,150	24,491
Field equipment	7,574	4,000	3,442
Vehicles	36,742	43,500	53,661
Bad debts written off	-	-	424
Loss on sale of disposal of assets	1,270	-	-
Total Other expenses	135,580	130,660	167,255

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE PERFORMANCE REPORT
For the year ended 31 August 2024

Note 3 : ANALYSIS OF ASSETS AND LIAIBILITES	Actual 2024 \$	Actual 2023 \$
Bank accounts and cash		
Income & Expense Account	45,887	116,977
20% Minimum Cash Reserve	130,930	-
Asset Replacement Fund	59	17,238
Designated Waters Fund	50,628	-
Habitat & Access Improvement Fund	638	-
Non-Resident Fund	105	59,937
Te Waihora (Lake Ellesmere) Reserve	17,600	68,719
Muriwai (Coopers Lagoon) Reserve	1,681	-
Rakaia Reserve	80,038	82,837
General Reserve	-	178,441
Donations Promotions Reserve	-	2,257
Total	327,566	526,406
Debtors and prepayments		
Accounts receivable	151,186	157,704
Prepayments and accrued income	514	30,484
GST Receivable	20,269	7,031
Total	171,969	195,219
Creditors and accrued expenses		
Trade and other payables	56,989	81,254
Income in Advance	182,828	183,196
Accrued expenses	11,171	16,545
GST Payable	-	-
Total	250,988	280,995
Employee costs payable		
Accrued salaries and wages	16,542	16,500
Annual leave and time in lieu	54,425	70,457
PAYE owing	20,181	19,224
Total	91,148	106,181

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE PERFORMANCE REPORT

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Note 4 : PROPERTY PLANT & EQUIPMENT

2024

Asset Class	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales/ Disposals	Current Year Depreciation and Impairment	Closing Carrying Amount
Land	1,048,015	-	-	-	1,048,015
Buildings	847,730	6,457	-	31,927	822,260
Plant & Equipment	35,180	18,834	1,012	6,093	46,909
Vehicles	183,165	65,766	5,100	69,363	174,468
Office Equipment	7,250	5,042	-	6,276	6,016
Furniture and Fitting	5,464	-	258	1,544	3,662
Total	2,126,804	96,099	6,370	115,203	2,101,330

2023

Asset Class	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales/ Disposals	Current Year Depreciation and Impairment	Closing Carrying Amount
Land	373,015	675,000	-	-	1,048,015
Buildings	879,512	-	-	31,782	847,730
Plant & Equipment	30,341	14,151	-	9,312	35,180
Vehicles	192,085	47,917	-	56,837	183,165
Office Equipment	7,782	5,803	-	6,335	7,250
Furniture and Fitting	7,657	-	-	2,193	5,464
Total	1,490,392	742,871	-	106,459	2,126,804

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE PERFORMANCE REPORT
For the year ended 31 August 2024

Note 5: EQUITY

	Actual 2024 \$	Actual 2023 \$
Accumulated Funds		
Balance as at 1 September	2,066,467	1,942,736
Surplus/(Deficit)	(202,523)	(122,400)
Transfer to Reserves	(645,677)	557,364
Transfer from Reserves	733,313	(311,233)
Total Accumulated Funds	1,951,580	2,066,467
<i>DEDICATED RESERVES</i>		
Asset Replacement Fund		
Balance as at 1 September	13,060	48,922
Transfer from Accumulated Funds	61,736	36,356
Transfer to Accumulated Funds	(74,737)	(72,218)
Balance at 31 August	59	13,060
General Reserve		
Balance as at 1 September	129,333	-
Transfer from Accumulated Funds (Income)	-	135,984
Transfer to Accumulated Funds (Expenses)	(129,333)	(6,651)
Balance at 31 August	-	129,333
Back Country Fishery Reserve		
Balance as at 1 September	75,503	46,408
Transfer from Accumulated Funds (Income)	-	35,776
Transfer to Accumulated Funds (Expenses)	(75,503)	(6,681)
Balance at 31 August	-	75,503
Donations / Competition Levies		
Balance as at 1 September	2,257	2,257
Transfer from Accumulated Funds (Income)	-	-
Transfer to Accumulated Funds (Expenses)	(2,257)	-
Balance at 31 August	-	2,257
Designated Waters Fund		
Balance as at 1 September	-	-
Transfer from Accumulated Funds (Income)	50,628	-
Transfer to Accumulated Funds (Expenses)	-	-
Balance at 31 August	50,628	-
Sea-Run Salmon Fund		
Balance as at 1 September	-	-
Transfer from Accumulated Funds (Income)	25,547	-
Transfer to Accumulated Funds (Expenses)	-	-
Balance at 31 August	25,547	-

Note 5: ANALYSIS OF EQUITY CONT**20% Minimum Cash Reserve**

Balance as at 1 September	-	-
Transfer from Accumulated Funds (Income)	280,930	-
Transfer to Accumulated Funds (Expenses)	(150,000)	-
Balance at 31 August	130,930	-

Habitat & Access Improvement Fund

Balance as at 1 September	-	-
Transfer from Accumulated Funds (Income)	29,737	-
Transfer to Accumulated Funds (Expenses)	(29,099)	-
Balance at 31 August	638	-

<i>Total Dedicated Reserves</i>	<i>207,802</i>	<i>220,153</i>
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RESTRICTED RESERVES**Te Waihora (Lake Ellesmere) Reserve**

Balance as at 1 September	83,400	68,749
Transfer from Accumulated Funds (Income)	151,280	14,651
Transfer to Accumulated Funds (Expenses)	(217,050)	-
Balance at 31 August	17,630	83,400

Muriwai (Coopers Lagoon) Reserve

Balance as at 1 September	8,397	-
Transfer from Accumulated Funds (Income)	1,284	8,397
Transfer to Accumulated Funds (Expenses)	(8,000)	-
Balance at 31 August	1,681	8,397

Rakaia Reserve

Balance as at 1 September	82,836	5,024
Transfer from Accumulated Funds (Income)	44,535	77,812
Transfer to Accumulated Funds (Expenses)	(47,334)	-
Balance at 31 August	80,037	82,836

J McIntyre Reserve

Balance as at 1 September	-	471,814
Transfer from Accumulated Funds (Income)	-	-
Transfer to Accumulated Funds (Expenses)	-	(471,814)
Balance at 31 August	-	-

<i>Total Restricted Reserves</i>	<i>99,348</i>	<i>174,633</i>
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Total Reserves	2,258,729	2,461,253
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NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE PERFORMANCE REPORT

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Note 6: COMMITMENTS & CONTINGENCIES

Commitments

There are no commitments as at 31 August 2024 (Last Year - nil)

Contingency

There are no contingent liabilities as at 31 August 2024 (Last Year - nil)

Note 7: OTHER

Goods or Services Provided to the Entity in Kind

Description	Amount
Honorary ranging activities	No Charge
Councillor meetings and even	No Charge

Note 8: RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Related-party disclosures have not been made for transactions with related parties that are within a normal supplier of client/recipient relationship on terms and conditions no more or less favourable than those that it is reasonable to expect the Council would have adopted in dealing with the party at arm's length in the same circumstances.

Related Party	Description	2024 \$ Value	2023 \$ Value	^A 2024 \$ Amount	2023 \$ Amount Outstanding
New Zealand Fish and Game Council	Income	\$ 226,280.00	\$ 91,777.00	\$ 35,210.10	Nil
	Expense	\$ 680,398.00	\$ 695,864.00	\$ 15,786.00	Nil
Graeme Nahkies	Expense	\$ 3,215.00	\$ 445.00	Nil	Nil

Note 9: EVENTS AFTER BALANCE DATE

There were no events that have occurred after the balance date that would have a material impact on the Performance Report. (Last Year Nil)

Note 10: MINISTERIAL REVIEW

In February 2021, the Minister of Conservation presented the review for Governance of Fish and Game New Zealand (NZC) and the New Zealand Fish and Game Councils (NZFGC). This report sets out [36 recommendations](#) to be implemented for the future of Fish and Game.

A review implementation team was established, including the then Chair of the NZFGC, Ray Grubb, Brian Anderton, the acting CEO of NZFGC, and Department of Conservation representatives. After 18 months, the ISG Report from this Committee was drafted but was never approved by the Minister. In November 2022, the Minister disbanded this group. The NZC had been waiting on this report for the direction to implement the Review, as many of the recommendations were reliant on legislative changes. One of the recommendations was for the amalgamation of Councils (reducing the number of Councils from 12 to 6).

In October 2022, the North Canterbury Fish and Game Chairs wrote to the NZC asking them to implement the non-legislative parts of the Review. In November 2022, the NZC, agreeing with the North Canterbury Chair, instructed the NZC CEO to implement the non-legislative parts of the Review. On 6 December 2022, Sia Aston, Deputy Director – Public Affairs on behalf of the Department of Conservation, wrote to the NZC, advising that Fish and Game should proceed with implementing the review recommendations that do not require legislative changes.

Due to the time lost with the ISG, the implementation of many of these recommendations only commenced at the end of November 2022.

In February 2023, NZC established two working groups - Future Finance and Future Structures, which are working on structural and financial considerations for the organisation. These draft reports were presented to the NZC in April 2024 and sent to North Canterbury.

NZC has instigated a Cost optimisation project to determine areas where Fish and Game can identify savings and efficiencies. This report has not yet been completed.

The NZC is currently working with the Minister for Hunting and Fishing to determine the legislative changes required to ensure Fish and Game can operate more efficiently.

National Policies have been adopted this year which are consistent with the recommendations of the Ministerial review.

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE PERFORMANCE REPORT

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Note 11: ALLOCATION OF OVERHEADS TO OUTPUT AREAS FOR 2023

In the Statement of service performance, overheads are allocated across the 8 Output areas based on the hours worked within those Outputs over the year. Below is the calculation for distributing the overheads across the output area.

ACTUAL 2024

Output Area	Actual Direct \$	Actual Hours	Allocation of Overheads	Total Costs per Output
Species management	114,901	1,488	196,195	311,096
Habitat protection & management	236,676	1,297	171,012	407,688
Angler & hunter participation	10,499	973	128,292	138,791
Public interface	2,951	1,118	147,410	150,361
Compliance	7,071	1,073	141,476	148,547
Licensing	77,497	143	18,855	96,352
Council	6,160	456	60,124	66,284
Planning & reporting	21,133	639	84,253	105,386
Totals	476,888	7,187	947,617	1,424,505

Actual Overheads

Employee related costs	833,788
Depreciation	115,203
Other expenses	135,580
Less Administrative Income	(482,640)
Total Overheads to Allocate	601,931

BUDGET 2024

Output Area	Budget Direct \$	Budget Hours	Allocation of Overheads	Total Costs per Output
Species management	116,873	2,740	294,812	411,685
Habitat protection & management	205,500	2,090	224,875	430,375
Angler & Hunter participation	13,500	1,820	195,825	209,325
Public interface	400	1,350	-	400
Compliance	5,500	590	63,481	68,981
Licensing	14,385	100	10,652	25,037
Council	6,000	100	10,652	16,652
Planning & reporting	15,500	1,855	199,590	215,090
Totals	377,658	10,645	999,887	1,377,545

Budget Overheads

Employee related costs	873,389
Depreciation	110,000
Other Expenses	130,660
Less Administrative income	(210,400)
Total Overheads to Allocate	903,649



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE READERS OF NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND STATEMENT OF SERVICE PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Auditor-General is the auditor of North Canterbury Fish and Game Council (the Fish and Game Council). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Aaron Higham, using the staff and resources of BDO Invercargill, to carry out the audit of the financial statements and statement of service performance of the Fish and Game Council on his behalf.

Opinion on the financial statements and the statement of service performance

We have audited:

- the financial statements of the Fish and Game Council on pages 21 to 36, that comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 August 2024, the statement of financial performance, and statement of cashflows for the year ended on that date and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information; and
- the statement of service performance of the Fish and Game Council on pages 1 to 13.

In our opinion:

- the financial statements of the Fish and Game Council: on pages 21 to 36:
 - present fairly, in all material respects:
 - its financial position as at 31 August 2024; and
 - its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
 - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with PBE SFR-A (PS) Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting - Accrual (Public Sector); and
- the statement of service performance of the Fish and Game Council on pages 1 to 13:
 - presents fairly, in all material respects, the Fish and Game Council's performance for the year ended 31 August 2024, including for each class of reportable outputs:
 - its standards of performance achieved as compared with the forecasts included in the annual operating work plan for the financial year; and
 - its actual revenue and expenses as compared with the forecasts included in the annual operating work plan for the financial year; and
 - complies with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.

Our audit was completed on 18 November 2024. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

The basis for our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Council and our responsibilities relating to the financial statements and the statement of service performance, we comment on other information, and we explain our independence.

Basis for our opinion

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New



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Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Responsibilities of the auditor section of our report.

We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of the Council for the financial statements and the statement of service performance

The Council is responsible on behalf of the Fish and Game Council for preparing financial statements and a statement of service performance that are fairly presented and comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.

The Council is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable it to prepare financial statements and a statement of service performance that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements and the statement of service performance, the Council is responsible on behalf of the Fish and Game Council for assessing the Fish and Game Council's ability to continue as a going concern. The Council is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless there is an intention to merge or to terminate the activities of the Fish and Game Council, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Council's responsibilities arise from the Public Finance Act 1989, the Crown Entities Act 2004, and the Conservation Act 1987.

Responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements and the statement of service performance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and the statement of service performance, as a whole, are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures, and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of readers taken on the basis of these financial statements and the statement of service performance.

For the budget information reported in the financial statements and the statement of service performance, our procedures were limited to checking that the information agreed to the Fish and Game Council's annual operating work plan.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the financial statements and the statement of service performance.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and the statement of service performance, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fish and Game Council's internal control.



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- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Council.
- We evaluate the appropriateness of the reported performance information within the Fish and Game Council's framework for reporting performance.
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Council and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fish and Game Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements and the statement of service performance or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fishing and Game Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements and the statement of service performance, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements and the statement of service performance represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

Other Information

The Council is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Chairs Report and Entity information included on pages 14 to 19, but does not include the financial statements and the statement of service performance, and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements and the statement of service performance does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements and the statement of service performance, our responsibility is to read the other information. In doing so, we consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and the statement of service performance or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on our work, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independence

We are independent of the Fish and Game Council in accordance with the independence requirements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of the Professional and Ethical Standard 1: International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than the audit, we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Fish and Game Council.

Aaron Higham
BDO Invercargill
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Invercargill, New Zealand

MINUTES (in Review)

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL



Name:	NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
Date:	Wednesday, 25 September 2024
Time:	5:30 pm to 9:33 pm (NZST)
Location:	NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL, 595 JOHNS ROAD, HAREWOOD, CHRISTCHURCH
Board Members:	ALAN STRONG (Chair), CHRIS BRANKIN, DAVE BARRON, DAVE COLL, KEN LLOYD, NIALL COSTER, PHILLIP MUSSON, TREVOR ISITT
Attendees:	RASMUS GABRIELSSON, DEBBIE AMBLER, MATTHEW GARRICK, STEVE TERRY
Apologies:	RICHARD O'KEEFE, TE HAU ANGLEM
Guests/Notes:	Matthew McClintock, Cody Elliott, Norm Anderson, Larry Burke, Phil Ball, Carlos Feigo, Jhan Ferigo, Barry Cleghorn, Paul Hodgson

1. Opening Meeting

1.1 Welcome by Chairman

Cr Stong advised this would be the last meeting of the current Council and acknowledged three Councillors who had not stood for re-election. On behalf of Council and stakeholders, he thanked Cr Isitt for his contribution, dedication and guidance to the NCFG Council over the past 18 years. He also thanked Council's Lloyd and O'Keefe for their contribution to NCFG.

1.2 Karakia

In the absence of T Anglam, R Gabrielsson gave the Karakia.

1.3 Apologies

R O'Keefe.

It was advised that T Anglam (the Ngai Tahu Representative) had resigned and that a replacement would be sought soon.

C Brankin apologised for lateness.

1.4 Council Discussion on Issues and Risks That May Require Council Attention

- Cr Stong signalled that groups wanting to ban or restrict hunting and fishing on riverbeds so not to disturb nesting native birds throughout Canterbury were changing their focus of protest to local organisations such as Regional and District Councils instead of Fish and Game. A recent example includes calls for a total of all dogs from the Ashley River (including for game bird hunting during the winter season) and the ban of all hunting on Te Waihora. Discussion followed on the implications of this form of advocacy, and if / how to best respond to this sort of correspondence. It was thought that a way to combat the situation would be to ensure all decision makers knew and that our values were well

understood. To make NZC aware of the issue, a copy of all correspondence from this "group" be sent.

- After a question was posed, Cr Barron advised that he and Cr Musson had met with the Chairman plus two others from CSI to commence discussions on mutual issues that affected both regions. He stated there was a huge amount of willingness to work together and that the meeting had been a positive one. Some issues discussed referenced the salmon symposium and how effective that was; that core values be aligned so that the same message went out to both Region's stakeholders; the possibility to develop combined gamebird and fish committees and a suggestion that a combined governance training session for the new councils be had.
- Cr Barron stated that he and Cr Isitt attended a meeting with the TAKF Trust to listen and assist with any issues they had. The Trust thanked NCFG staff on getting work completed for the TAKF event on Sunday 29 September 2024.

2. FOR DECISION

2.1 Game Bird Regulations

Cr Strong strongly urged councillors to stay in governance space and then proceeded to read out the Policy on Regulation Setting to remind Council of the task ahead.

M Garrick presented outcomes and recommendations from the Game Bird Regulations Review Consultation and process.

Findings from the hunter satisfaction survey that was recently completed, and general points raised during included:

- did not recognise hunter effort on feeding ponds prior to the season opening
- the survey was not related to bag limits at all
- how much impact on the survey do hunters have by shooting on their own ponds
- a robust framework needs to be set up to better understand numbers of greylards
- the survey aligns with other regions on bag limit setting closer to that which hunters expect
- aligns regulations with other regions
- bag limit setting was reliant on harvest
- data sets can be improved upon - input welcome by Council
- most farmers treat ducks as pests - that perception needs to change
- decisions should be based on the health of the resource
- three foundation points where questions need to be asked - a. biological- something failing, and we don't know why; b. hunter satisfaction - bag limit set to have better expectations and c. social licence.
- incoming Council should make it a priority to come up with a better way on how data is gathered
- if stakeholders not satisfied, then no licences being sold
- education given on 'take what you need' rather than reducing a bag limit



Game Bird Regulations

Set opening weekend greylard daily bag limit to 20 as a stepwise change.

5 For 2 Against Cr Barron abstained.

Decision Date: 25 Sept 2024

Mover: PHILLIP MUSSON

Seconded: DAVE COLL

Outcome: Approved



Game Bird Regulations

Set regular season paradise shelduck daily bag limit to 15.

3 For 2 Against Cr's Barron and Coster Abstained

Decision Date: 25 Sept 2024

Mover: DAVE COLL

Seconded: PHILLIP MUSSON

Outcome: Approved



Game Bird Regulations

Set summer season paradise shelduck daily bag limit to 15.

2 For 3 Against Cr's Barron and Coster Abstained.

Decision Date: 25 Sept 2024

Mover: DAVE COLL

Seconded: CHRIS BRANKIN

Outcome: Not Approved



2025 Game Season Dates

Species	Season Duration	Daily Bag Limit	Hunting Area
Grey, mallard duck and any hybrid of those species	3 to 4 May	20	All areas
	5 May to 27 July	15	All Areas
	1 to 2 and 8 to 9 Feb 2025	10	Area B Only over agricultural grain crops and green feed paddocks and more than 200 metres from any water body
NZ shoveler duck	3 May to 27 July	2	All Areas
Paradise shelduck	3 May to 27 July	15 20	Area A Area B
	1 Feb to 9 March 2025	15	All Areas and only more than 200 metres from any water body
Pukeko	3 May to 31 August	5	All Areas
Black Swan	3 May to 27 July	2	All Areas
California Quail	3 May to 31 August	10	All Areas
Cock Pheasant	7, 8 & 9 June, 5 to 6 July, and 2 to 3 August	1	All Areas

Chukar	3 May to 31 August	2	All Areas
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Decision Date: 25 Sept 2024
Mover: DAVE BARRON
Seconder: NIALL COSTER
Outcome: Approved

2.2 Rakaia River Fishing Competition 2025

R Gabriellsson advised that staff did not see a problem holding next year's Rakaia River Fishing Promotions (RRFP) annual fishing competition as angler harvest rate of sea-run salmon is currently controlled effectively through the season bag limit (set at two salmon per salmon licence holder each season).

It was acknowledged that a survey maybe required to clarify anglers perceptions regarding future fishing competitions if the overall salmon returns this season are again low. The salmon management plan was developed to assist in controlling harvest rates to support recovery when population monitoring confirms ongoing poor runs over time.

The RRFP should be advised of the consequences of a poor salmon run in relation to possible changes of requirements for holding future competitions.



Rakaia River Fishing Promotions

That the 2025 Rakaia River salmon fishing competition (27th February to 2nd March 2025) is approved.

Decision Date: 25 Sept 2024
Mover: TREVOR ISITT
Seconder: PHILLIP MUSSON
Outcome: Approved

2.3 Feedback to NZ Fish & Game Council on consultation package

NZC sent papers to Councils at short notice. All papers were taken as read.

- Draft Sports Fish and Game Management Plan
- Policy on drafting the Sports Fish and Game Management Plan
- Guide to engaging with Mana Whenua on the preparation of the Sports Fish and Game Management Plan
- 2024/25 Meeting and Budget Schedule
- Budget and Licence Fees and Levy's/Grants 204/25
- Fish and Game Levy System
- Fish and Game Standing Orders



Feedback to NZC on Consultation Package

Staff to review these Policies and alert Council to any concerns as necessary.

Decision Date: 25 Sept 2024
Mover: CHRIS BRANKIN
Seconder: TREVOR ISITT
Outcome: Approved



Feedback on NZC Consultation Package

So review NZC Consultation papers and alert Council of any concerns as necessary.

Due Date: 31 Oct 2024
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON



Consultation Papers from NZC

For future papers presented by NZC, ask to provide a summary front cover memo of each paper, to better understand the content in a shorter version.

Due Date: 27 Nov 2024
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

3.1 Confirm Minutes Dated 22 May 2024

North Canterbury Fish and Game Council Meeting 24 Jul 2024, the minutes were confirmed as presented.



Presentation from World Fisheries Congress

R Gabrielsson to provide a presentation at the Annual General Meeting in November 2024 of his attendance at the World Fisheries Congress held in Seattle USA March 2024.

Paper to be sent to past and new Councillors prior to meeting.

Due Date: 27 Nov 2024
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON



Minutes of the 24 July 2024 Council Meeting

That subject to the changes to the attendees (spelling of Cr Baron to Barron and deletion of Cr's Isitt and Coster to Cr Musson) in "Discussion with Central South Island Regarding Management of Lake Heron & Melish Stream" that the minutes be accepted.

Cr Coll abstained due to absence from that meeting

Decision Date: 25 Sept 2024
Mover: PHILLIP MUSSON
Seconded: KEN LLOYD
Outcome: Approved

3.2 Public Session

Paul Hodgson, President NZSAA, spoke to his project on collating Angler Oral Histories on the Rakaia River.

He stated that he wanted the findings and public report published into a journal article, with a view to have it peer reviewed. He was asking NCFG to assist with funding of this Report and stated that if NCFG contributed, he would include a fifth river.



Oral Histories - Sponsorship Request

To discuss with council and look at possible funding and advise P Hodgson on outcome.

Due Date: 27 Nov 2024

Owner: ALAN STRONG

3.3 General Business

Board Pack - papers to be condensed as this particular set of papers were too long. All Reports should be taken as read.

To get through meetings quicker, Cr Coll stated that Council could have on-line meetings of which decisions would be ratified at those meetings prior to the main Council meeting.

E Craig was commended on her Final Sea-Run Salmon Harvest and Spawning Estimates Report which would be put through social media. A more technical report would be forthcoming.

Weekly Report - the reason for the Weekly Report going to social media was to have cut through to more stakeholders which is Facebook driven.

4. STANDARD REPORTS

4.1 Standard Reports

All Reports were taken as read.

- Adaptive Management Strategy - a review in conjunction with CSI could be undertaken. This presents to the possibility of another salmon symposium.
- New drone purchased used to study changes in habitat and fish counting. Currently is discussion with an American scientist regarding how to best use the data gathered.
- High Country Water and Wildlife Project - Councillors and staff to be invited to the opening of the restoration project at the Glenariffe headwaters. C Brankin congratulated S Terry and R Gabrielsson on the success of the Project. S Terry was praised for his abilities to develop and build landowner relationships which assisted in the success of the Project. Both S Terry and R Gabrielsson were congratulated for their efforts made during the three-year timeline of the Project.

4.2 Action List

Due Date	Action Title	Owner
19 Jul 2023	National Reserves Policy Status: Completed on 30 Jul 2024	RICHARD O'KEEFE
22 May 2024	Trout Management Plan Status: Completed on 12 Sept 2024	RASMUS GABRIELSSON
22 May 2024	Councillor "Alone Time" Status: In Progress	ALAN STRONG
22 May 2024	Building Relationships with Ngai Tahu Status: On Hold	ALAN STRONG
16 Aug 2024	Rakaia Water Conservation Project Status: Completed on 16 Aug 2024	RASMUS GABRIELSSON
21 Aug 2024	Discussion with Central South Island Regarding Management of Lake Heron & Melish Stream Status: In Progress	DAVE BARRON

Due Date	Action Title	Owner
18 Sept 2024	Mai Mai's on Te Waihora and Muriwai Lakes Status: Completed on 1 Sept 2024	RASMUS GABRIELSSON
18 Sept 2024	Operational Work Plan Status: Completed on 1 Oct 2024	RASMUS GABRIELSSON
18 Sept 2024	Actions from General Business Status: Completed on 1 Sept 2024	RASMUS GABRIELSSON
18 Sept 2024	Angler Oral Histories on the Rakaia River Status: Completed on 21 Sept 2024	ALAN STRONG
30 Sept 2024	Fishing Competitions Status: Completed on 1 Oct 2024	RASMUS GABRIELSSON
19 Feb 2025	Rakaia Reserve Status: In Progress	RASMUS GABRIELSSON
28 Feb 2025	Development of an Educational and Promotional Strategy for Gamebird Hunting Status: In Progress	RASMUS GABRIELSSON



Shooting Platform for the Disabled

To bring back to Council information on the feasibility of a shooting platform for the disabled at Te Waihora or Muriwai Lakes.

A examination of potential benefits and challenges for a shooting platform for the disabled hunters within the North Canterbury region is underway, and will be presented to Council at their February 2024 workshop (revised date) in conjunction with the educational and promotional strategy for game bird hunting.

Due Date: 16 Feb 2025
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON

R Gabrielsson updated Council on the Controlled Fishery Booking system.

The meeting moved into Public Excluded session to discuss staff remuneration at 9.33pm.

5. FOR INFORMATION STAFF REPORTS

5.1 For Information Papers

6. Close Meeting

6.1 Close the meeting

Next meeting: No date for the next meeting has been set.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

MINUTES (in Review)

NEW COUNCIL INDUCTION MEETING



Name:	NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
Date:	Wednesday, 13 November 2024
Time:	7:45 pm to 8:19 pm (NZDT)
Location:	NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL, 595 JOHNS ROAD, HAREWOOD, CHRISTCHURCH
Board Members:	ANDY TANNOCK, CHRIS BRANKIN, DAVE COLL, NIALL COSTER, PHILLIP MUSSON
Attendees:	DEBBIE AMBLER, RASMUS GABRIELSSON, Richard Cosgrove
Apologies:	DAVE BARRON, ALAN STRONG, NIC MOODY
Guests:	Cr Strong's and Moody joined via video link. Cr Brankin - apologies for lateness. In attendance; NCFG Staff - E Craig, H Graham-Samson, C Ryder, J Meecham. Staff apologies - M Garrick, H Garrick. Members of the Public - L Burke, D Kirkness, D Godfrey
Notes:	Due to the absence of three Councillors and an apology for lateness from another, the meeting had to wait until a quorum could be formed with the arrival of Cr Brankin.

1. Opening Meeting

1.1 WELCOME BY CEO - NCFG

1.2 KARAKIA

1.3 APOLOGIES

2. FOR DECISION

2.1 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Noted that only the Councillors physically in attendance could vote on these appointments.



Election of the North Canterbury Representative to the New Zealand Council

That Cr D Coll be elected as the North Canterbury Representative to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council.

Decision Date:	13 Nov 2024
Mover:	CHRIS BRANKIN
Seconder:	PHILLIP MUSSON
Outcome:	Approved

Cr Coll accepted the position and reminded the meeting he would be acting as a NZC representative and not a North Canterbury one.



Election of Chairman

That Cr A Strong be elected Chair of the North Canterbury Fish and Game Council.

Decision Date: 13 Nov 2024
Mover: PHILLIP MUSSON
Seconded: DAVE COLL
Outcome: Approved

Cr Strong accepted the appointment as Chair. As he was not physically in attendance, the Chair handed the meeting to Cr Brankin to conduct.



Election of Officers

That NZC be advised of the North Canterbury's new Chair and NZC representative.

Due Date: 22 Nov 2024
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON

2.2 STANDING ORDERS UPDATE



Standing Orders

That the updated Standing Orders be accepted as presented.

Decision Date: 13 Nov 2024
Mover: PHILLIP MUSSON
Seconded: DAVE COLL
Outcome: Approved

Cr Brankin suggested all Councillors become familiar with the updated Standing Orders. Noted part of the update was to allow remote council members to participate and vote in Council meetings.

2.3 INTEREST REGISTER

2.4 PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR 2025

Discussion held on conducting a Council meeting in a rural area was held.

Proposed topics for the Council workshop in February 25 were the letter from Hon T McClay and building better relationships with the Central South Island Region.



MEETING DATES FOR 2025.

That Council accept the meeting dates for 2025 with all meetings commencing at 6.00pm.

19th February, 19th March, 21st May, 23rd July, 17th September and 26th November (Council meeting and Annual Public meeting).

That Council strive to keep meetings to a four-hour timeline.

Cr Moody against.

Decision Date: 13 Nov 2024
Mover: DAVE COLL
Seconded: NIALL COSTER
Outcome: Approved

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

3.1 LETTER FROM HONOURABLE TODD MCCLAY



Letter from Hon T McClay

That the letter from Hon Todd McClay be discussed in a Governance Sprint Meeting.

The pre-council meeting workshop presentation by D Maxwell (previously a co-opted member from North Canterbury Federated Farmer) was also discussed, along with his offer to once again join the Fish & Game Council as a co-opted member. Council to discuss.

Cr Strong undertook to organise a zoom meeting on-line.

Decision Date: 13 Nov 2024
Mover: PHILLIP MUSSON
Seconder: ALAN STRONG
Outcome: Approved



Governance Sprint Meeting

That Cr Strong organise a Governance sprint meeting to discuss the Hon Todd McClay letter and the possible co-option of D Maxwell to the NC Council.

Due Date: 12 Dec 2024
Owner: ALAN STRONG

3.2 PUBLIC SESSION

L Burke congratulated Councillors on their recent election to Council and stated the New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association were keen to see what the future looks like going forward with the North Canterbury salmon fishery.

D Kirkness also congratulated the new Council on their appointments to Council. He mentioned the challenges with the booking system for the North and South branches of the Hurunui River.

4. Close Meeting

4.1 CLOSE OF MEETING

Next meeting: No date for the next meeting has been set.

New Actions raised in this meeting

Item	Action Title	Owner
2.1	Election of Officers Due Date: 22 Nov 2024	RASMUS GABRIELSSON
3.1	Governance Sprint Meeting Due Date: 12 Dec 2024	ALAN STRONG

Signature: _____

Date: _____

FOR DECISION

To: North Canterbury Fish and Game Council

From: Staff

Date: November 2024

Subject: Feedback on NZC consultation papers

Purpose

1. To inform Council on staff recommendations in relation to NZC consultation papers sent out for regional feedback.

Background

2. Staff have reviewed the consultation papers sent out by NZC and provide summary points and recommendations below for Council consideration.

Points of Information

Draft Sports Fish and Game Management Plan, SFGMP drafting policy & Mana Whenua engagement during SFGMP preparation

3. The New Zealand Council Sports Fish and Game Management Plan guidance document is a useful guide for development of and consultation on the SFGMP review. It is not necessarily intended to be adopted as National Policy, but rather better used as a guideline document for how to complete the process

2024/25 Meeting and Budget Schedule, Licence fees & Levy system

4. Key items in the information package about the NZC meeting and budget schedule, licence fee and levy system sent out for regional consultation has been outlined below.
5. NZC propose submissions of regional budgets need to be sent to the NZC CFO is 13th March 2025. The NCFG Council does not meet to until 19th March to confirm their 2025/26 Budget application.
6. Staff recommend - NCFG Council ask NZC to move the proposed regional budget submission deadline to 24 March 2025, to enable regional councils to complete their strategic planning and budget approval process. The revised 24 March submission date aligns better with cutoff dates from previous years (usual ca 23 March) and enables regional councils to complete a robust zero budget process. The extra 10+ days will help support the NZCs budget review and licence fee setting decision making process, by making sure regions have adequate time to complete their planning work and review revised budgets prior to submission.

7. Recommendation from Staff RE NZC input to regional planning and the national Budget Schedule and Licence fees:

NCFG should ask NZC to provide clear guideline for zero budget setting and licence fees after 13th/14th December NZC meeting. It is important that NZC inform regions about their views and appetite for licence fee increases and regional increases due to rising costs and new strategic priorities and previously delayed operational needs.

8. The NZC has provided an update about legal advice they have received regarding the Levy system as a 'for information' update to regional councils. No feedback or other action is required, beyond considering and discussing the legal advice received by NZC on this matter.

Fish & Game Standing Orders

9. The updated Fish & Game Standing Orders circulated by NZC for regional feedback or adoption were discussed and subsequently adopted at the recent 13th November 2024 Council meeting.

Recommendations

- 10. That NCFG Council consider and accept staff recommendations, summarised below, and instruct staff to provide feedback to NZC accordingly:**

- a) *Draft SFGMP drafting policy & Mana Whenua engagement during SFGMP preparation* – NCFG Council thanks NZC for preparing the information and advise them it is a useful guide for the development of and public consultation on the review of regional SFGM plans, but not something that needs to be adopted by NZC and the wider organisation as National Policy.
- b) *2024/25 Meeting and Budget Schedule, Licence fees & Levy system* - NCFG Council ask NZC to move the proposed regional budget submission deadline to 24 March 2025.

FOR DECISION

To: North Canterbury Fish and Game Council
From: Staff
Date: November 2024
Subject: FISHING COMPETITION APPROVAL

Purpose

1. To approve the New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association (NZSAA) fishing competition as per part 7A of the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983.

Recommendations

- a. That the NZSAA Waimakariri Fishing Competition be approved to be held on Saturday 29 March 2024.

Background

2. A club/person must not hold a sports fishing competition unless the club/person has prior written approval from the Fish and Game Council that has jurisdiction over the waters concerned.
3. The NZSAA has filled out the relevant information as required in the Freshwater Fisheries regulations (attached in the appendix).

Points of Information

4. The allowing of competitions managed in a sustainable way and in reference to the management of the species concerned enables the council to meet its strategic Goals 2 and 3 - Key Stakeholders Are More Engaged & Participation In Sports Fishing and Game Bird Hunting Is Increased.
5. Since the introduction of the sea-run salmon season bag limit regime there are no direct fishery sustainability issues or concerns associated with approving this fishing competition.
6. Additionally, the income from fishing competition levies (usually ~\$400+ based on previous events) does get directed to support our regional education and participation (R3) activities.

Workflow/budget Implications

7. There is no significant budget or OWP implications for the above event.



APPLICATION TO HOLD A FISHING COMPETITION RELATING TO SPORTS FISH IN THE NORTH CANTERBURY FISH & GAME REGION

Name of Club	New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association
Address	Box 1113 Christchurch
Email Address	kbel209@gmail.com
Phone / Cell phone No	021625306
Contact Person	Kevin Belcher on behalf of NZSAA committee

Pursuant to section 57b (Applications) of the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983, every application for approval of a fishing competition shall specify the following particulars:

Water(s) where proposed competition is to be held	Lower Waimakariri River (below Main North Road bridge to Mouth)
Dates of the competition	29 March 2025
Anticipated numbers of entrants	100 (Including Adults and Juniors)
The Classes, and respective fees (if any) of entry	Adult- \$30.00 NZSAA member or \$35.00 non member Junior- \$10.00 Child- \$5.00
Categories of competition for which prizes will be offered	Adults-6 heaviest salmon Juniors/child-3 heaviest salmon and 1 other species
The kinds and value of prizes to be offered	Various Sponsors prizes ie: Fishing tackle,gift vouchers,outdoor apparel.etc Total value unknown but may be up to \$5000.00

<p>Details of procedures to be followed to ensure all entrants hold a current fishing licence and are aware of the provisions of relevant District Anglers Notice</p>	<p>All entries are to include current season fishing licence number on each entry form and rules provided on the NZSAA .Fishing licence and completed sea run salmon endorsement card must also be presented at the weigh in.</p>
<p>Details of kind of catch or scientific data (if any) to be collected during the competition to provide to the Fish and Game Council</p>	<p>Records are kept of all fish entered into the competition by the NZSAA weigh master and are available to F&G if requested.</p>
<p>Details of proposed actions (if any) to be taken by the applicant to reduce the impact of the competition on fish stocks or habitat</p>	<p>Only one entry per person and salmon stocks are now further protected by the F&G initiative by the currency of each entrant's salmon endorsement card as only those who have yet to complete the annual sea run salmon harvest allocation are eligible.</p>
<p>The rules of the competition. (To be supplied on a separate sheet if necessary).</p>	<p>The NZSAA will provide competition rules which comply with the current F&G regulations.</p>
<p>The purpose for which any profits are proposed to be used</p>	<p>Administration costs for organizing the competition and also, funds for the enhancement/protection of the rivers and salmon fishery.</p>

Please return all paperwork to the following email address as soon as possible for consideration by the North Canterbury Fish and Game Council: northcanterbury@fishandgame.org.nz

OPERATIONAL PROGRESS REPORT

To: North Canterbury Fish and Game Council

From: Staff

Date: November 2024

PURPOSE

1. To provide North Canterbury Fish & Game Council (NCFG) with an update on work done by staff.

BACKGROUND

2. Below is an overview of achievements, risks, or issues that help or hinder progress on council priorities, followed by a summary of how we are tracking with the Operational work plan projects and activities.
3. This Operational Progress Report provide a higher-level outline, but also allow governors an opportunity to ask the CEO about things that may have changed in the operating environment (internal or external) or to expand on operational activities and areas of specific interest.

PRIORITY STRATEGIC OUTCOMES

1. Our Species Populations Are Enhanced

Staff continue to engage in discussions with DOC, regional and district councils, universities, irrigators and Iwi on issues and projects concerning sports fish and game birds. Progress made on operational work plan activities is outlined below and includes trout fishery assessments, harvest surveys, Designated Waters and the Controlled Fishery booking system. Development of a "Trout Management Plan" and a review of our 10-year Sports Fish and Game Bird Management Plan for the 2025 – 2035 period will be key focus areas for the coming year. Staff have also provided support to multiple University post-graduate research students which once completed, should provide positive insights for species management in the future. More details about these projects and their preliminary findings will be included in the Annual Report.

2. Key Stakeholders Are More Engaged

New output formats using social media platforms for communications (e.g., Facebook) have improved our outreach, increasing our ability to keep the public and licence holders informed. Collaborations with licence agents have been working well to further our engagement with anglers to help encourage participation, and further our reach to the general public through their channels, allowing NCFG to further showcase the fantastic

opportunities our region holds. Staff have also been involved in some national aspects of angler and hunter outreach, including licence system updates.

3. Participation In Sports Fishing and Game Bird Hunting Is Increased

Staff organised and ran the 2024 Lake Coleridge competition on the first Saturday of November, encouraging anglers to travel for high-country opening. Staff were also in attendance at the 2024 Take a Kid Fishing day at the Groynes, and provided free child licences on the day so families could return and try their luck another day. Staff have connected with the Trust and plan to meet to start discussing the 2025 competition.

More juvenile salmon have been released into the Lake Roto Kohatu urban fishery, with the hope that some of them will be catchable size for the 2025 winter season and beyond. In addition, salmon and rainbow trout have been ordered for releases during 2025 (April, July/August).

Staff continue building new maimais to go into the Boggy Creek balloted area, with the goal of all seven being finished in time for game bird opening weekend in 2025. Collaborative work with other agencies continues regarding vehicle access laneways around Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere to ensure continued access for game bird hunters.

Staff have begun discussions with various clubs for club visits in the new year.

4. The North Canterbury Fish and Game Council Has a Relationship With Iwi In Its Region Consistent With Its Obligations To Give Effect To The Principles Of The Treaty of Waitangi

Staff have prepared a summary report to Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu of Fish & Game activities related to the two maimai funds for Te Waihora and Muriwai Lagoon, and Fish & Game decisions related to the management of native game birds. We are awaiting feedback, and once completed a copy will be made available on our Fish & Game website under downloads

Our focus for this priority outcome remains centred on building local relationships and working with Iwi partners on clarifying cultural values, expectations, and identifying collaboration or co-management opportunities. Going forward, fostering these relationships is essential for achieving improved local environmental protection and/or restoration outcomes. For example, around wetlands buffering lower sections of local rivers and Hapua.

OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN UPDATE

The regional team continue to make good progress on discharging our statutory duties to the best of our ability. Our field and operational support has been improved with new staff member Caleb Ryder joining the team. Staff continue to work together with supporting volunteers and short-term contractors to ensure field work and key statutory duties are carried out, with support from external specialist staff (e.g., RMA / planning functions) or national office when needed.

OUTPUT AREA 1: SPORT FISH AND GAME BIRD SPECIES MANAGEMENT

Population Monitoring

Trout management plan

Preparations are underway towards the trout management plan. Staff have begun collating and analysing data from existing sources (fishing competitions, spawning surveys, electric fishing data and salvages) to work into the plan. Work on high-country lakes has begun including creel surveys and data collection from anglers, evaluation of recruitment areas and growth rates of translocated fish (crossing over with trout-native interaction research – see below). Staff are currently planning drift dives in early 2025 in key high-country rivers, with a focus on our Designated Waters (see below).

Coleridge rainbow trout spawning

Staff conducted rainbow trout spawning surveys in the Lake Coleridge tributaries towards the end of September. Priority areas included confirmation of successful spawning migration to and from the Harper Avoca rivers where there are a number of high value and quality spawning areas. Additional surveys were planned, but due to weather constraints and turbid water conditions, these were not able to be carried out. Electric fishing surveys to evaluate juvenile trout rearing areas and recruitment sources has begun, with the key focus placed on the Waimakariri and Rakaia catchments.

Designated Waters system

Staff continue to attend National Designated Waters (DW) meetings, with the most recent meetings centred around ranging and survey plans for the coming season. In addition, we have revised and updated the information available on the Fish & Game website about the Designated Water system and CF Trial. We continue to work closely with neighbouring regions, the NZC Team and our licence service provider ESL to improve the overall service and experience provided to licence holders.

For more information on the Trial Controlled Fishery on the North & South Branches of the Hurunui River, see the Regulations section below.

Harvest Assessment

Game Bird Harvest Surveys

The final surveys for the National Game bird harvest survey were carried out at the end of September with the conclusion of the September hunting seasons (pukeko & Area B paradise shelduck season in North Canterbury). A South Island harvest report is in the final stages of completion and will be available soon.

Regulations

North & South Branch Hurunui River Controlled Fishery Trial

With the start of the new season, the Controlled Fishery trial on the North & South Branches of the Hurunui River began. Unfortunately, there were some unexpected teething problems with the Fish & Game licencing system concerning the trial booking system. What NCFG had originally asked of our licence system provider ESL, wasn't achievable with the current licence system. We worked with ESL to resolve the problem and emulate the booking system used for the Greenstone River in Otago Region. Via the Fish & Game website's Controlled Fishery Booking system, anglers should be able to see up to five days in advance and make a booking where there is a vacancy. When they secure that vacancy, they will also be able to book up to two more additional days. A booking may be made for one primary angler and up to three companion anglers who must all hold an appropriate Whole Season Fishing Licence AND North Canterbury Designated Waters Licence.

After the last update to Council at the end of September, a statement was also sent out to anglers and uploaded to the website explaining the situation. Staff continue to work to ensure ESL implements any needed changes so that anglers who want to experience these great fisheries can do so with surety and have a great angling experience. While there are still a few necessary changes to be made, the system now appears to be working, and we have received good feedback from anglers that have successfully booked and fished on both the North & South Branches. Staff continue to regularly monitor the booking system for both branches and follow up with anglers where necessary.

Visit the webpage here for more information: [Upper Hurunui River Controlled Fishery](#)

Species Management and Control

Game bird Control

Staff have responded to queries, evaluated, and processed applications for game bird control permits. Financial Year-to-date, 8 control/disturbance permits have been issued (4 for pukeko, 1 for black swans, 3 for paradise ducks). An additional 3 permits have been issued for cultural harvest of Paradise shelduck and Black swan (birds and/or eggs).

Sports fish Control

Nine new requests for sports fish permits have been made since the last Council meeting. Financial year-to-date, nine sports fishing permits/special licences have been issued (2 for electric fishing, 1 for netting/trapping, 5 permits for coarse fishing & rudd control out of season, 1 special licence for Take a Kid Fishing day).

Fisheries New Zealand (Ministry for Primary Industries) made contact regarding a request from Salmon Smolt NZ (SSNZ) to provide salmon to an individual for private pond fish-out use. Through discussions with Fisheries New Zealand this was deemed not possible within current legislation (Conservation Act 1983 sections 51J and 26ZQ), and as such would not be approved by Fish & Game (whom from which Fisheries New Zealand would need to obtain written approval before any authorisations could be given).

Staff have continued discussions with the General Managers of Willowbank Wildlife Reserve regarding re-commissioning their trout display. Improvements have been made to the existing enclosure/tank which staff will inspect in the coming months during a site visit. Approval is required from multiple agencies, and if successful, staff will collaborate with Willowbank on supplying both fish and adequate signage/information that reflects the positive work of Fish & Game.

Research

Collaborations with other agencies continue as they provide an invaluable source of information from new and developing projects. The upcoming Fish Futures Working Group meeting is being held at the North Canterbury Fish & Game office and provides staff an opportunity to be included and contribute to conversations across agencies. By continuing to develop and maintaining these positive relationships into the future, Fish & Game can ensure we are involved in *all* aspects of sports fish and game bird management and interactions.

University of Canterbury collaboration

Staff continue to provide operational support to a University of Canterbury PhD project in the Waimakariri and Rakaia catchments relating to trout/native fish interactions and trout removal. Juvenile trout from small streams holding key native fish habitat are removed and relocated to downstream areas or connected lakes within the same catchment of a higher fishery value. The

small focal areas where trout are removed from as part of this project are deemed to be areas of low fishery value, thus relocating a small number has the added benefit to both native species and high-country trout anglers in the years to come.

Staff have also met with an additional PhD candidate beginning her research on trout-kōaro interactions and food webs in South Island lakes, including within the North Canterbury region. Staff plan to support this project where possible when trout data is being collected, as this information will be beneficial towards the trout management framework.

These types of collaborations with university students are both helpful and rewarding, as they significantly improve our ability to take on and complete high-quality research projects of relevance to Fish & Game values and priorities.

OUTPUT AREA 2: HABITAT PROTECTION, MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT

Statutory Planning Process

Work has progressed on the Rakaia WCO Declaratory Proceedings hearing, with the Environment Court hearing data set for late November 2024.

For a more detailed overview of the RMA advocacy and planning work done to represent the interests and aspirations of anglers and hunters in the statutory planning process see the separate RMA Report.

OUTPUT AREA 3: PARTICIPATION

Increase Participation

Lake Coleridge Fishing Competition

Staff organised and ran the 2024 Lake Coleridge fishing competition on the first Saturday in November, as part of the high-country opening celebrations. The weather wasn't very conducive to fishing on the day, but still had a great turnout. Fifty-four fish were weighed in by the 1:30pm deadline, and approximately 150 anglers, staff, honorary rangers and volunteers attended the prizegiving. Once again Hunting & Fishing (Christchurch, North Canterbury and Ashburton stores) provided a total of \$7000 worth of gear to be given out as prizes and spot prizes to anglers on the day. A review of the competition is under way and will be brought to council for discussion at a later date.

Take a Kid Fishing

Staff, Councillors and Honorary Rangers attended the 2024 Take a Kid Fishing day organised by the Kids Fishing Charitable Trust. NCFG purchased 800 rainbow trout for the event which were released into the Groyne junior fishing lakes. Staff were in attendance on the day and provided information, as well as free child licences to attendees who wished to return with their families and try again.

Trustees are planning to meet with Staff in November/December to debrief on the 2024 event and discuss details for the 2025 event. Also to be discussed is a Heads of Agreement document that would set out and clarify NCFG support and input, as well as outline how the Trust would like future events to be run. This would ensure there is no confusion moving forward as to the expectations of each other, so that if there are any staffing or trustee changes, the foundations unpinning the relationship and event management are clearly laid out for both parties.

Lake Roto Kohatu Salmon releases

Staff released salmon smolt from Mt Cook salmon into both lakes at Lake Roto Kohatu in October. These fish will be a catchable size within the next few years and support our goals for our urban fisheries. In addition, further salmon and yearling rainbow trout and salmon has been ordered for releases during 2025 (April, July / August).

Social Media Videos

The interview style video with a local young angler that went out via multiple channels late-September had an incredibly positive response by both anglers and non-anglers. The video of the 2024 Amuri Salvage showcasing the work Fish & Game does in this space reached over 22,000 viewers, of which 20,000 at the time were not followers of the NCFG Facebook page. This shows the potential reach of such content and how we can reach a wider audience and encourage further participation in fishing.

Boggy Creek Maimai building

Staff continue to work on building maimais for the Boggy Creek balloted sites, and as at mid-November, four have been completed. Three more maimais are planned for a total of seven, with the goal of having all seven prepared for the 2025 opening weekend for Game Bird hunting.

Satisfaction Surveys

National Game Bird Hunter Satisfaction Survey

This survey was run by North Canterbury staff and carried out in conjunction with the national Game bird harvest surveys. Final reporting is underway.

Designated Waters and Trial Controlled Fisheries

Staff have been contacting both resident and non-resident DW/CF anglers since the beginning of the season to collect information on access and satisfaction. This will continue throughout the season and will be followed up with public consultation late summer when the busiest fishing period has concluded. Towards the end of the season, staff will visit local angling clubs to relay information and findings from these surveys and consultations.

Access

Access charter

Minister for Hunting and Fishing Todd McClay launched an 'access charter' at the Sika Show held in early November. The charter establishes guiding principles for the Department of Conservation to provide clear and transparent decisions on public conservation land access that make it easier for kiwis to go hunting and fishing, supported by Fish & Game.

Stewardship Land Review

Information from NZ Council has been circulated to regions regarding the modernisation of conservation land management by DOC. The Government has released two conservation discussion documents that include proposals to:

- explore introducing access charging for some public consultation land
- streamline concessions and planning processes and enable more flexibility around land exchange and disposals.

NZC is currently working on a summary of the proposals, and DOC have planned public seminars on the review for early 2025. This provides a valuable opportunity for Fish & Game to advocate for access to hunting and fishing areas.

More information about the proposals is available at www.doc.govt.nz/modernising-the-conservation-system.

Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere Access

Discussions are underway with other agencies to extend the current vehicle laneway fencing/access on Embankment Road by 500m embankment road to further improve game bird hunting opportunity and access at Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere.

Porter access

Staff investigated claims that a high-country station had put up signage at the access point to the Porter River denying anglers access. It was determined that the signage had been misinterpreted and was for deterring access across private land, but not up the river. Public access along the marginal strip has not been denied or removed.

Newsletters

Ezines

Staff have commenced publishing the new style of fishing reports. The new reports are a combination of video and text, with various local licence agents collaborating to provide video content, including fishing tips for anglers. One key takeaway has been the impact of using Facebook as a platform to achieve reaching a broader audience. Over 60% of those viewing our weekly fishing report on Facebook aren't followers of our page, which shows how the platform is helping us connect with a wider community of anglers at all levels.

View the North Canterbury Facebook Page using this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/NorthCantyFishGame/>

Website

Staff continue to update the North Canterbury website pages with new and updated information.

Client Relations

Club Relations

Staff continue to keep communications with local angling and hunting clubs. Staff visits to clubs and assistance at club events in the new year are in the planning stages.

OUTPUT AREA 4: PUBLIC INTERFACE

Liaison

Staff continue to work with other statutory bodies, landowners, Iwi, Irrigators and other companies to identify pathways forward to build and continue to foster these relationships, understand engagement expectations, and explore co-management opportunities.

During November North Canterbury region helped support and host a national Fish & Game managers meeting, led by the NZC CEO Corina Jordan.

OUTPUT AREA 5: COMPLIANCE

Staff compliance activities are well underway for the new season and multiple new offences have already been detected, all of which are in the processing stages. Locations visited include Lake Sumner area (both the lakes and Trial Controlled fisheries), the Lewis Pass fishery, the Rakaia lakes, the Waimakariri Lakes, Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere and tributaries, the lowland fisheries around Christchurch, and the lower reaches of the major rivers. Boat-based ranging has been conducted for the larger lake fisheries, which has enabled us to reach a wider area, increasing our presence to anglers who, in the past, have missed licence checks and/or interactions with Fish & Game.

Sixteen offences have been detected so far this season. With the addition of our new staff member, our ranging efforts have started off strong, and we will continue to increase this effort as angler usage starts to increase across the region over the summer period.

A new compliance framework has been developed for the new season and staff are underway in carrying this out, with ranging operations in targeted areas planned for the next few months. Processing of the new fishing offences are underway. A new focus has been placed on getting improved outcomes from honorary rangers by clarifying targets and expectations. Improved communications between honorary rangers has also been facilitated to increase opportunities for joint ranging and information sharing.

OUTPUT AREA 6: LICENCING

Licence production/distribution

Staff continue to oversee licence production in the office for the new season.

Agent Servicing

Staff continue to connect with licence agents, most recently visiting when the Controlled Fishery Trial booking system went live to show them how it works so they are placed to inform anglers where necessary.

OUTPUT AREA 7: COUNCIL

The CEO and staff have assisted the Council Chairman in administrating the preparation of updates and Reports/Papers for both Annual Public meeting and bimonthly Council meetings and regional and national subcommittee workshops.

OUTPUT AREA 8: PLANNING AND REPORTING

Planning and Reporting

Staff are preparing for next year's Operational Work Plan.

Financial Position

Improvements to financial planning and reporting is progressing with support from our local accountant. The national review of financial efficiency, led by an independent contractor is overdue but progressing. NZC commissioned this review to help identify areas where potential efficiency gains can be made. It will (hopefully) provide helpful insights to safeguard the wider organisations financial sustainability.

INPUT AREA 9: ADMINISTRATION

New staff

New staff member Caleb Ryder joined the team mid-November.

Staff training

Staff attended a presentation/workshop run by Steve Terry and Morgan Trotter about habitat restoration.

Office Premises Maintenance

Staff have carried out general maintenance of the office grounds.

FINANCE REPORT

To: North Canterbury Fish and Game Council

From: Rasmus Gabrielsson

Date: November 2024

Subject: FINANCE REPORT – UP TO 31 OCTOBER 2024

1. PURPOSE

To inform Council on the financial performance and position, using an accounting accrual basis. It documents income and expenditure against the current annual budget.

The Report gives comments at the bottom of the Profit and Loss Report for each code that has incurred spending over \$1,000.

2. RECOMMENDATION

1. *That the Finance report be accepted to 31 October 2024.*

3. POINTS FOR INFORMATION

a. Profit and Loss – Table 1

The Profit and Loss Report reports direct costs for the period stated. It has been set up in the same format as the year-end Annual Report.

The 24/25 Budget used in this Report is \$1,068,935. This is made up of baseline funding of \$1,038,935, with the addition of approved use of regional reserves (\$30,000).

Note: any spending from Reserves requires notification to NZC – approval to use Reserves will not be approved if those Reserves drop below the 20% threshold. The approved forecasted use of Reserves by NZC is \$13,940. (-1.34% of budget)

Note: a Depreciation budget of \$110,000, Levy payments of \$645,290 plus Eyede charges (\$69,038) that are outside the normal budgeting process have been added.

Note: The restoration of approved use of general reserves by Council from the Rakaia Reserve of \$75,000 for cashflow purposes for the period Aug/Sep 24 will be repaid in November 2024.

Revenue

- i. Licence sales are received by two methods: Public On–Line is paid to NCFG monthly, and Agency On-Line is paid to NCFG on a bi-monthly basis.
- ii. The sea-run salmon and Designated Waters licence charges are included in the overall licence income however are separated out in the Profit and Loss Report and are accounted for in their respective reserves as shown on the Balance Sheet.

b. Balance Sheet – Table 2A

- i. Employee Entitlements: is annual leave and PAYE owing at month end.

c. Cashflow - Table 2B

Improved Cashflow Forecast as developed by NCFG Accountant to support decision making.

d. Asset Replacement Fund 2024/25

Has been updated from the commencement of this financial year – September 2024 to August 2025..

Table 1 : Profit and Loss

North Canterbury Fish and Game Council For the 2 months ended 31 October 2024

	OCT 2024	MONTH TO DATE BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	2024 / 2025 BUDGET	% OF TOTAL BUDGET
REVENUE					
Fish and Game Licence Sales					
Fish Licence Sales	359,601	355,307	730,307	1,426,915	51%
Game Licence Sales	-	-	-	246,806	-
Total Fish and Game Licence Sales	359,601	355,307	730,307	1,673,721	44%
Sea-Run Salmon Licence	6,322	-	11,852	-	-
Designated Waters Licence	5,278	-	9,778	-	-
Other Income					
Other Income					
Interest Income	992	995	1,975	13,367	15%
NZC Secondment Income	8,754	8,754	17,508	105,048	17%
Agency Income - Eftpos Sales	(528)	-	(2,138)	-	-
Diversion - Habitat Restoration	-	-	950	-	-
Miscellaneous Income	27	-	27	-	-
Rent Received	2,000	2,000	3,600	20,800	17%
RMA Costs Reimbursed	15,370	-	38,318	-	-
Total Other Income	26,616	11,749	60,240	139,215	43%
Total Other Income	26,616	11,749	60,240	139,215	43%
Total REVENUE	397,817	367,056	812,177	1,812,936	45%
EXPENSES					
Outputs					
Species Management	-	-	446	104,100	0%
Habitat Protection & Management	18,893	-	46,480	18,100	257%
Angler & Hunter participation	560	-	700	4,500	16%
Public Interface	-	-	19	400	5%
Compliance	186	209	697	5,000	14%
Licensing Commission & Fees	13,800	-	28,605	69,038	41%
Council	241	290	655	5,000	13%
Planning & reporting	7,580	-	(1,955)	20,000	-10%
Total Outputs	41,262	499	75,648	226,138	33%
Overheads					
Employee Related Expenses	65,512	72,647	130,764	881,735	15%
Other Overheads	15,903	7,263	22,146	123,400	18%
Total Overheads	81,414	79,910	152,910	1,005,135	15%
Depreciation	9,490	9,166	18,979	110,000	17%
NZ Fish & Game Levies	161,323	-	161,323	645,290	25%
Total EXPENSES	293,488	89,575	408,859	1,986,563	21%

1. Licence Sales

Table 1 : Profit and Loss

As a comparison for sales year to date to 30 October 2024 are as follows;

Fishing 2024/25	FAMILY	ADULT W/S	NON RES ADULT	LOYAL SENIOR	JUNIOR W/S	SEA RUN SALMON	DES WATER RES	DES WATER NON RES
	1369	2350	83	884	340	2973	2086	49
Fishing 2023/24								
	1510	2560	72	906	265	3341	2591	12
Plus/Minus	-141	-210	11	-22	75	-368	-505	37

Total year to date Licence Equivalentents (LEQ's) are down by 414.

2. Habitat Protection and Management

The Rakaia Water Conservation Order invoices totalling of \$18,152.72 which is reimbursed by New Zealand Council in total.

3. Licence Commission and Fees

Made up of commissions to Agents and bank charges for Public online sales.

4. Planning & Reporting

Accountants' fees for assisting with Audit preparation.

5. Employee Related Expenses

Includes payroll & kiwisaver, staff training, staff uniforms and Health and Safety - such as Trackme (field communications systems) and Seaflux (a cloud-based vessel management software package).

6. Other Overheads

Includes, bank charges, field equipment purchases, office cleaning, leasing of eftpos machine / photocopier, office maintenance, photocopying, power, rates, communications and all vehicle expenses.

Table 2A: Balance Sheet

North Canterbury Fish and Game Council As at 31 October 2024

	31 OCT 2024	31 AUG 2024
Assets		
Bank	414,433	327,566
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	695,052	151,186
Other Receivables	-	514
GST	-	20,269
Total Current Assets	695,052	171,968
Fixed Assets	2,092,347	2,101,331
Total Assets	3,201,831	2,600,865
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	249,194	55,303
Visa	4,274	1,686
Accruals	1	11,171
Employee Entitlements	93,415	91,148
GST	78,275	-
Income in Advance	114,626	182,828
Total Current Liabilities	539,785	342,136
Total Liabilities	539,785	342,136
Net Assets	2,662,046	2,258,728
Equity		
Accumulated Funds		
Accumulated Funds	1,617,811	1,820,334
Current Year Earnings	403,318	(202,523)
Transfer to and from Reserves	331,138	333,692
Total Accumulated Funds	2,352,266	1,951,503
Dedicated Reserves		
20 Minimum Cash Reserve	131,842	130,930
Asset Replacement Funding	59	59
Non Resident Licence Revenue	105	105
Designated Waters Revenue	50,981	50,628
Salmon Card Revenue	25,547	25,547
Habitat Protection Revenue	1,238	638
Total Dedicated Reserves	209,772	207,907
Restricted Reserves		
Te Waihora (Lake Ellesmere) Mai Mai Reserve	17,624	17,600
Murawai (Coopers Lagoon) Mai Mai Reserve	1,681	1,681

Table 2A: Balance Sheet

	31 OCT 2024	31 AUG 2024
Rakaia Fund Reserve	80,703	80,038
Total Restricted Reserves	100,008	99,319
Total Equity	2,662,046	2,258,728

TABLE 2B

**NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
ANNUAL CASH FLOW CALCULATION
2024 - 25 FINANCIAL YEAR**

OPERATING CASH FLOW

	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25
Operating Balances													
CASH IN													
Opening Balances	\$ 20,230	\$ 33,818	\$ 154,222	\$ 345,750	\$ 290,650	\$ 196,765	\$ 186,420	\$ 90,500	\$ 78,392	\$ 109,695	\$ 187,016	\$ 55,960	\$ 22,913
Licence Sales	\$ 19,219	\$ 38,743	\$ 36,038	\$ 28,985	\$ 38,451	\$ 23,747	\$ 19,724	\$ 33,027	\$ 25,590	\$ 14,966	\$ 21,716	\$ 21,723	\$ 14,603
Other Income	\$ 39,449	\$ 72,561	\$ 190,260	\$ 374,735	\$ 329,101	\$ 220,512	\$ 206,144	\$ 123,527	\$ 103,982	\$ 124,661	\$ 208,732	\$ 77,683	\$ 37,516
Total Income	\$ 78,908	\$ 145,122	\$ 380,520	\$ 749,470	\$ 657,752	\$ 441,024	\$ 412,288	\$ 247,054	\$ 208,964	\$ 249,322	\$ 417,484	\$ 155,366	\$ 52,032
CASH OUT													
Operational Expenses	\$ 53,939	\$ 23,781	\$ 39,438	\$ 49,414	\$ 29,123	\$ 25,650	\$ 31,250	\$ 46,063	\$ 37,233	\$ 19,657	\$ 18,923	\$ 30,135	\$ 14,452
Employee Related Expenses	\$ 76,049	\$ 63,251	\$ 65,351	\$ 66,591	\$ 96,800	\$ 66,591	\$ 66,591	\$ 96,800	\$ 66,591	\$ 66,591	\$ 66,591	\$ 66,591	\$ 66,591
Overhead Expenses	\$ 11,503	\$ 6,665	\$ 12,035	\$ 11,200	\$ 9,140	\$ 43,765	\$ 12,137	\$ 11,430	\$ 13,702	\$ 21,077	\$ 11,562	\$ 11,896	\$ 13,257
NZ Fish & Game Levies	\$ 186,549	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 185,521	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 185,521	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 185,521	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 185,521
GST Expense	\$ 3,127	\$ 33,917	\$ 1,939	\$ 12,661	\$ 26,105	\$ 12,676	\$ 13,403	\$ 4,615	\$ 2,031	\$ 25,228	\$ 16,748	\$ 4,611	\$ 36,345
Purchase of Assets	\$ 27,542	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Expenditure	\$ 358,709	\$ 97,761	\$ 118,761	\$ 302,987	\$ 181,168	\$ 148,682	\$ 282,096	\$ 149,678	\$ 115,495	\$ 267,618	\$ 113,824	\$ 103,811	\$ 243,476
Nett Cash Flow	\$ 319,260	\$ 12,781	\$ 71,499	\$ 71,748	\$ 147,933	\$ 71,830	\$ 75,952	\$ 26,151	\$ 11,513	\$ 142,957	\$ 94,908	\$ 26,128	\$ 205,960
Opening Bank Balance of All Accounts	\$ 645,140	\$ 325,880	\$ 338,660	\$ 410,159	\$ 481,907	\$ 629,840	\$ 701,670	\$ 625,718	\$ 599,567	\$ 568,054	\$ 445,098	\$ 540,006	\$ 513,878
Closing Bank Balance implied based on movement above	\$ 325,880	\$ 338,660	\$ 410,159	\$ 481,907	\$ 629,840	\$ 701,670	\$ 625,718	\$ 599,567	\$ 568,054	\$ 445,098	\$ 540,006	\$ 513,878	\$ 307,918
Actual Closing Bank Balance for All Bank Accounts (Incl Visa)	\$ 325,880	\$ 338,660	\$ 410,159	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Variance	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 481,907	\$ 629,840	\$ 701,670	\$ 625,718	\$ 599,567	\$ 568,054	\$ 445,098	\$ 540,006	\$ 513,878	\$ 307,918
Total Income/Expense Accounts (Incl Visa)	\$ 43,614.00	\$ 55,404.00	\$ 125,926.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Unallocated Reserves	\$ 182,356.00	\$ 183,602.00	\$ 184,244.52	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Reservoir Restricted Reserves	\$ 99,319.00	\$ 99,654.00	\$ 100,008.17	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 325,289.00	\$ 338,660.00	\$ 410,178.69	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Table 3: Aged Payables Summary

North Canterbury Fish and Game Council

As at 31 October 2024

CONTACT	CURRENT	< 1 MONTH	OLDER	TOTAL
Aged Payables				
Action Signs	271	-	-	271
Anderson Lloyd	9,082	-	-	9,082
ANZ Merchant	50	-	-	50
Avon City Ford	837	-	-	837
BP Connect	105	-	-	105
BP FUELCARD	1,572	-	-	1,572
Bunnings	615	-	-	615
Burnsco Marine	29	-	-	29
Busy Bees Services Limited	161	-	-	161
Carters	271	-	-	271
Christchurch City Council	2,296	-	-	2,296
Code 9	49	-	-	49
Eastern Fish and Game Council	92	-	-	92
Eyede Agent	4,960	-	-	4,960
Genesis	539	-	-	539
Hothouse Communications Limited	268	-	-	268
Huntercraft	11,494	-	-	11,494
Kahu Environmental Ltd	8,593	-	-	8,593
Kats Alignment & Tyres	1,766	-	-	1,766
Leech & Partners	8,625	-	-	8,625
Nectar	83	-	-	83
New Zealand Fish and Game Council	185,880	-	-	185,880
Oasis Clearwater	173	-	-	173
ONE	1,282	-	-	1,282
Otago Fish and Game Council	3,200	-	-	3,200
Rangiora Mitsubishi	611	-	-	611
Redstripe	36	-	-	36
Ricoh	176	-	-	176
Ronald Mottram	240	-	-	240
Starcard	30	-	-	30
Stihl Shop Fosters	4,735	-	-	4,735
TrackMe	446	-	-	446
Wild Balance	604	-	-	604
Worldline	22	-	-	22
Total Aged Payables	249,194	-	-	249,194
Total	249,194	-	-	249,194

1. EXPLANATIONS OVER \$1,000

1. Anderson Lloyd - Rakaia Water Conservation Order (RWCO) hearing
2. BP Fuelcard - fuel for the NCFG fleet

Table 3: Aged Payables Summary

3. Christchurch City Council - rates
4. Environment Canterbury - Resource Consent - Glenariffe
5. Eyede Agent - licence sales made through the office
6. Huntercraft - safety upgrade - boat hull
7. Kahu Environmental Ltd - RWCO)
8. Kats Alignment - new set of tyres and repair of tanker trailer
9. Leech & Partners - accounting and audit preparation
10. New Zealand Fish and Game Council - levies
11. One - communications internally and cell phones for staff
12. Otago Fish and Game - RWCO
13. Stihl Shop Fosters - robotic lawnmower and weed eater

Table 4: Aged Receivables Summary

North Canterbury Fish and Game Council As at 31 October 2024

CONTACT	CURRENT	< 1 MONTH	1 MONTH	OLDER	TOTAL
AOL EYEDE - 23/24	228,969	-	-	-	228,969
EYEDE - AGENT 24 / 25	244,266	-	-	-	244,266
Ministry for the Environment	-	-	-	27,317	27,317
New Zealand Fish and Game Council	27,743	-	-	-	27,743
POL EYEDE - 24/25	166,757	-	-	-	166,757
Total	667,734	-	-	27,317	695,052

EXPLANATIONS OVER \$1000

Eyede Agent - licence sales made in September due to be paid November 2024

Eyede POL - licence sales made in October to be paid in November 2024

New Zealand Fish and Game Council - Contract income for NZC staff secondments and Rakaia WCO invoices to be repaid.

Ministry for the Environment - final payment once the "washup" of the High-Country Water and Wildlife Project is made

RMA REPORT

To: North Canterbury Fish and Game Council

From: Emily Craig

Date: November 2024

Purpose

1. This report has been prepared for Council to summarise key RMA activities undertaken by the NCFG team throughout the period September 2024 to mid-November 2024.

Background

2. As the statutory management agency for sport fish and game birds we are required to consider the Legislation, the RMA, local plans, regional plans, and National Policy Statements applicable to our Region.

Points of Information

Resource Consents General

3. All resource consent applications lodged with the regional council are presented weekly to affected parties to assess whether these are relevant to us. Where relevant we provide feedback to Regional Councils and where necessary propose these be publicly notified.
4. Through the period September-October we have received and assessed an initial **226** resource consent applications, of which **130** (57%) are relevant to the North Canterbury region, with the remainder spread between Nelson/Marlborough and Central South Island regions (Figure 1).
5. Only applications that are relevant to the North Canterbury region are reported on below.
6. This is the first reporting period for the 2024-2025 financial year, therefore a total of **130** North Canterbury region resource consent applications have been assessed, of which the type (Figure 2) and local authority (Figure 3) are presented below:

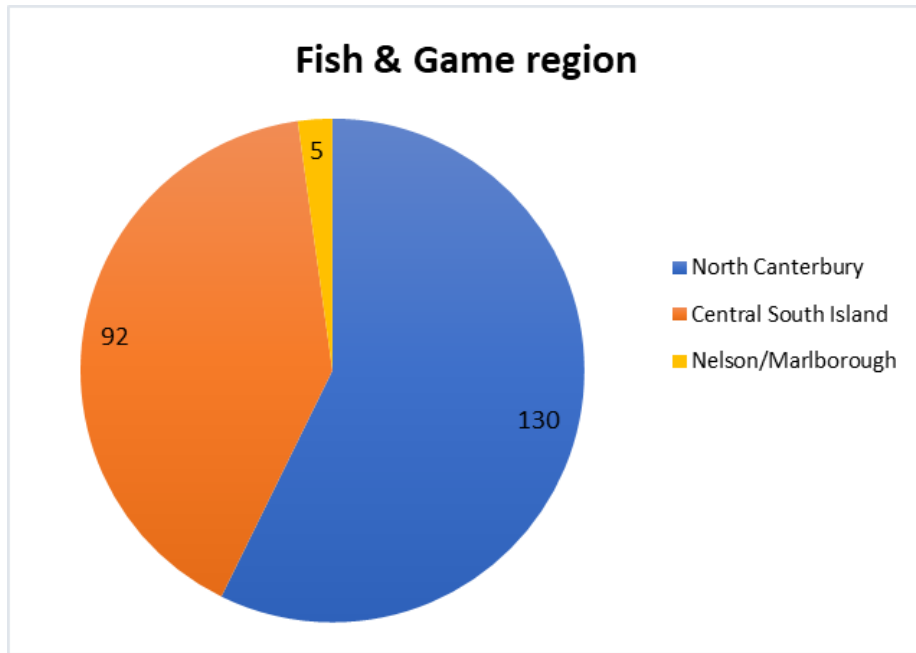


Figure 1. Total cumulative resource consent applications per Fish & Game region September – October 2024.

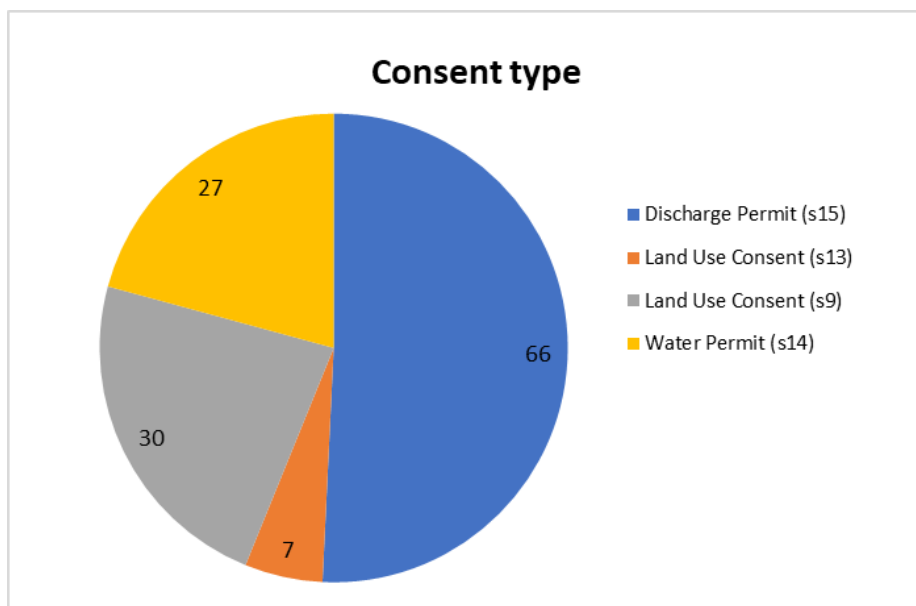


Figure 2. Total cumulative resource consent applications per consent type within the North Canterbury Fish & Game region September – October 2024.

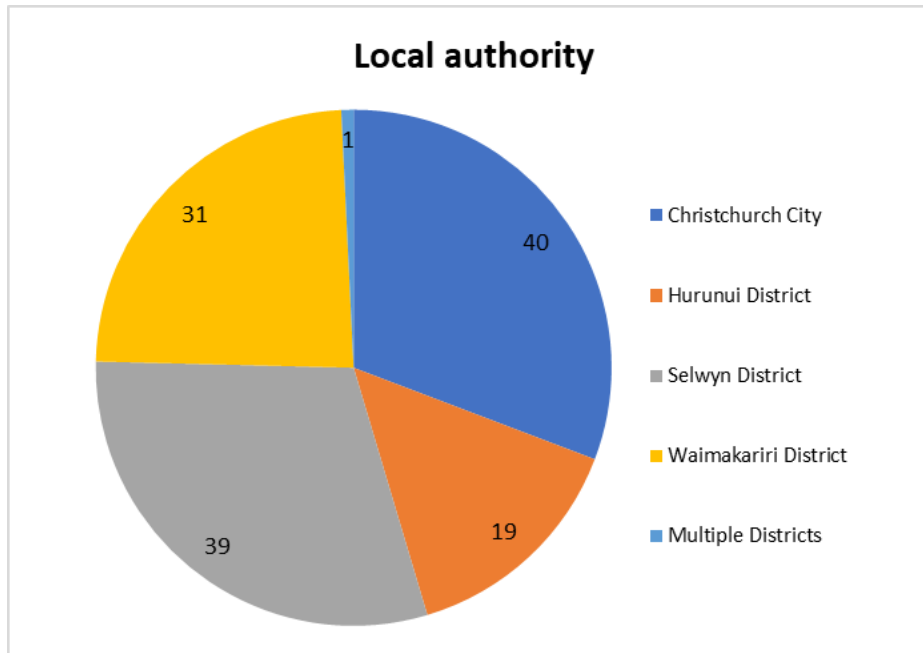


Figure 3. Total cumulative resource consent applications per local authority within the North Canterbury Fish & Game region September – October 2024.

7. The most common theme/priority applications for the September - October period was Discharge permits (s15); a majority of these discharge permits were either to air or land.
8. The most common district in the North Canterbury region is Christchurch City District, followed by Selwyn District and Waimakariri District.

Submissions/Interested parties

9. Staff successfully negotiated consent conditions with Waimakariri Irrigation Limited's contractor Pattle Delamore Partners regarding fish salvages in the irrigation pond at Browns Rock. Fish & Game will be involved annually for collaborative salvages. This is a great start to developing Fish & Game's relationship and working more actively with Waimakariri Irrigation Limited.
10. Staff continue to communicate with Landpro Ltd who are processing applications on behalf of Environment Canterbury (ECAN) regarding water take consent renewals on the Waiau Uwha River. A submission to one of these consent applications has been made.
11. **Regional Draft Plan Feedback**
Staff from North Canterbury, Central South Island, and Nelson/Marlborough regions, with help from NZ Council staff, prepared a submission on draft changes to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan, the Waipara Catchment Environmental Flow and Water Allocation Regional Plan and the Hurunui and Waiau River Regional Plan.

Key points covered by Fish & Game in this submission include:

- A further comprehensive review of the operative Hurunui and Waiau River Regional Plan is required beyond the draft changes being proposed at this stage.
- Interception of groundwater via groundwater takes and subsequent impacts on wetlands and springheads.
- Nutrients & groundwater contamination.
- Further reductions in flow allocation needed.
- Permitted activity rules for wetland construction
- CLWRP needs to reflect angling and game bird hunting values – not just values for indigenous species.
- Changes to activities and land use that will achieve ecosystem health and reduce risks to public health.
- Canterbury provides examples of degradation from overallocation and nutrients including some of the worst examples in the country.

12. **Regional plans**

District Councils continue to notify NCFG of regional planning and current works.

Staff attended further meetings with Selwyn District Council's Te Komiti Waiora and Catchment Management Plan Working Party. The committee and working party are focused on the land drainage network and how it integrates with Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere. From these meetings Fish & Game has the opportunity to have input on upcoming catchment management plans for the area.

13. **Rakaia Water Conservation Order Hearing**

The legal submission was filed on 11 November 2024, and the declaration proceedings hearing is scheduled to take place 20 – 22 November 2024.

Copies of the relevant legal submissions and affidavits are uploaded to the Board Pro platform for governors to review. Currently all hearing submissions is privileged information available only to the parties participating in the case. However, once the formal hearing starts (20 November) the court has clarified it will make legal submissions and affidavits available to the media and presumably members of the public.

Fish and Game is pleased to finally (almost) have this hearing underway and looks forward to the Environment Court's decision on where the responsibility lies for Water Conservation Order monitoring and compliance. It will be an important decision.

Water Conservation Orders (WCOs) are the highest form of legal protection available for rivers, lakes and wetlands sustaining outstanding values or characteristics such as nationally important sports fisheries or wildlife habitats. Uncertainty over where responsibility for WCOs lies appears to have been a contributing factor in the declines experienced by recreational users on the Rakaia River.

There has been a lack of focus by Environment Canterbury on trends in outstanding values sustained by the river. A Water Conservation Order has been in place on the Rakaia for over 30 years recognising as outstanding but not adequately protecting:

- braided river characteristics;
- wildlife habitat;
- fisheries and

- recreational angling and jetboating features

Environment Canterbury's current position – that the RMA does not require them to monitor WCOs specifically they are not responsible for WCOs – first surfaced publicly following the leaking of a major hydrology report in 2021 which was critical of various aspects of the water management regime for the river.

HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT

To: North Canterbury Fish and Game Council
From: Staff
Date: November 2024

PURPOSE

1. This report has been prepared for the Council to provide a summary of health and safety across the organisation.

INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

2. This report provides a summary of:
 - a. The health and safety performance across the organisation inclusive of any contract work.
 - b. Health and safety risk across the organisation.
 - c. Any significant health and safety incidents for the months reported and any recent updates on past incidents.
 - d. Any near-miss events and subsequent follow-up actions.
 - e. The progress against the Health and Safety Strategy Work Programme.
 - f. The report also responds to any matters arising from the last Council Meeting.

ANALYSIS

3. The table below summarises the reporting statistics for this period. Further information regarding context and follow up process is captured in a register.

Lost time injuries this period	Lost time injuries this year	Incidents this period	Incidents this year	Near Miss Events this period	Near miss events this year	New Hazards reported this period	New Hazards reported this year
0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1

4. This dataset continues to build over time particularly as our work programme grows and health and safety reporting culture are ingrained into our work ethos.

Near Miss and Incident Events

1. One Near Miss was recorded in this period (relating to BBQ hardware malfunction), has been added to the hazard register and has been mitigated for the future. No Incident events have occurred in this period.

New Hazards

2. A potential Hazards (related to jetboating safety assessments) was recognised this period and has now been added to the hazard register to ensure these types of risks are routinely considered and evaluated, so when needed ways to appropriately mitigate them are clearly identified.

Health and Safety Culture

3. The overall Health and Safety culture in our organization continues to be positive and proactive, and staff continue to actively contribute to risk identification n and system improvements.
4. With various tools at the office, staff are working to create a new register and competency sign-off.

H&S Meetings

5. Monday morning staff meetings have moved to a bi-weekly format and as such, health and safety discussions are now being held on a bi-weekly basis in addition to the larger monthly health and safety meetings.

Contractors

6. One fieldwork support contractor was engaged during the end September-October period, to assist with field support for electric fishing surveys and trout recruitment studies around high-country lakes in the upper Waimakariri and Rakaia catchments.

Staff Competencies and Training

7. Staff attended a presentation/workshop run by Steve Terry and Morgan Trotter about habitat restoration and planting, highlighting the importance of landowner relationships and longer-term strategic planning for habitat protection and access creation.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE HEALTH AND SAFETY

8. Discussions have been had at a National level about applying for funding to create a National Health & Safety platform to provide a consistent H&S system throughout Fish & Game. A National Health & Safety committee has been established and staff are working towards providing regional H&S information to support this. North Canterbury has also been meeting with representatives from NZC staff team to progress and prepare for a Health & Safety Audit.

CONCLUSION / DISCUSSION

9. Staff note that NCFG is tracking well toward our Health & Safety goals. With increased National investment to ensure systems and processes are adhered to, a good H&S culture continues to be developed at a regional and national level.

Action List

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL



As of: 25 Nov 2024

Councillor "Alone Time"

In Progress

The Chair to work out how to include a 30-minute Councillor alone session to Council meetings.

NOTE DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 24

Consider daytime meetings or consider councillor alone times starting at 5.30pm with the Council meeting starting at 6.30pm.

Due Date: 22 May 2024

Owner: ALAN STRONG

Meeting: 22 Feb 2024 North Canterbury Fish & Game Council Meeting, 3.2 General Business

Building Relationships with Ngai Tahu

On Hold

Cr Strong and T Anglem (Ngai Tahu) to discuss how to best progress a governance relationship between NCFG and Ngai Tahu.

NOTE DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 2024

Hold until a new Ngai Tahu representative is appointed.

Due Date: 22 May 2024

Owner: ALAN STRONG

Meeting: 22 Feb 2024 North Canterbury Fish & Game Council Meeting, 3.2 General Business

Discussion with Central South Island Regarding Management of Lake Heron & Melish Stream

In Progress

That Cr's Barron and Musson arrange discussions on a governance-to-governance level with Central South Island to further a management strategy for the upper Rakaia catchment.

Due Date: 21 Aug 2024

Owner: DAVE BARRON

Meeting: 24 Jul 2024 North Canterbury Fish and Game Council Meeting, 1.5 Council Discussion on Issues and Risks That May Require Council Attention

Latest Update:

Meeting with CSI on the 4\09\2024

DAVE BARRON | 3 Sept 2024

Operational Work Plan

Done

That the format of the Operational Work Plan be reviewed with an in-depth version with measurable goals and objectives for staff and a summarised version for Council.

To review staff hours in the OWP to align with budgeted staff hours.

A wider document to go alongside the OWP focusing on the engagement of key stakeholders and what NCFG are doing for them.

To rewrite the wording regarding under Point 4 in the "near-term priority results regarding "a boundary adjustment to encompass Lake Heron"

Due Date: 18 Sept 2024
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON
Meeting: 24 Jul 2024 North Canterbury Fish and Game Council Meeting, 2.1 2024/25 Operational Work Plan and Budget

Fishing Competitions **Done**

That a reporting template be included with fishing competition applications, to ensure competition organisers provide data, in a useable format, back to NCFG.

Due Date: 30 Sept 2024
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON
Meeting: 22 Feb 2024 North Canterbury Fish & Game Council Meeting, 2.3 Rangers Fishing Competition Application

Feedback on NZC Consultation Package **Done**

So review NZC Consultation papers and alert Council of any concerns as necessary.

Due Date: 31 Oct 2024
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON
Meeting: 25 Sept 2024 NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL, 2.3 Feedback to NZ Fish & Game Council on consultation package

Election of Officers **Done**

That NZC be advised of the North Canterbury's new Chair and NZC representative.

Due Date: 22 Nov 2024
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON
Meeting: 13 Nov 2024 NEW COUNCIL INDUCTION MEETING, 2.1 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Consultation Papers from NZC **In Progress**

For future papers presented by NZC, ask to provide a summary front cover memo of each paper, to better understand the content in a shorter version.

Due Date: 27 Nov 2024
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON
Meeting: 25 Sept 2024 NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL, 2.3 Feedback to NZ Fish & Game Council on consultation package

Presentation from World Fisheries Congress **In Progress**

R Gabriellsson to provide a presentation at the Annual General Meeting in November 2024 of his attendance at the World Fisheries Congress held in Seattle USA March 2024.

Paper to be sent to past and new Councillors prior to meeting.

Due Date: 27 Nov 2024
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON
Meeting: 25 Sept 2024 NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL, 3.1 Confirm Minutes Dated 22 May 2024

Oral Histories - Sponsorship Request**Done**

To discuss with council and look at possible funding and advise P Hodgson on outcome.

Due Date: 27 Nov 2024**Owner:** ALAN STRONG**Meeting:** 25 Sept 2024 NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL, 3.2 Public Session

Governance Sprint Meeting**Not Started**

That Cr Strong organise a Governance sprint meeting to discuss the Hon Todd McClay letter and the possible co-option of D Maxwell to the NC Council.

Due Date: 12 Dec 2024**Owner:** ALAN STRONG**Meeting:** 13 Nov 2024 NEW COUNCIL INDUCTION MEETING, 3.1 LETTER FROM HONOURABLE TODD MCCLAY

Shooting Platform for the Disabled**In Progress**

To bring back to Council information on the feasibility of a shooting platform for the disabled at Te Waihora or Muriwai Lakes.

A examination of potential benefits and challenges for a shooting platform for the disabled hunters within the North Canterbury region is underway, and will be presented to Council at their February 2024 workshop (revised date) in conjunction with the educational and promotional strategy for game bird hunting.

Due Date: 15 Feb 2025**Owner:** RASMUS GABRIELSSON**Meeting:** 25 Sept 2024 NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL, 4.2 Action List

Rakaia Reserve**In Progress**

Provide to Council the financial summary for the Rakaia Reserve including any spending from the HCWWP project.

Due Date: 19 Feb 2025**Owner:** RASMUS GABRIELSSON**Meeting:** 24 Jul 2024 North Canterbury Fish and Game Council Meeting, 2.3 Rakaia Reserve

Development of an Educational and Promotional Strategy for Gamebird Hunting**In Progress**

A draft educational and promotional strategy is being formulated, in collaboration with key stakeholder groups and treaty partners. It is anticipated that a Draft Strategy will be presented to Council at their workshop in February 2025 (revised date).

Due Date: 28 Feb 2025**Owner:** RASMUS GABRIELSSON**Meeting:** 17 Feb 2021 COUNCIL MEETING - 17 FEBRUARY 2021, 1.4 ACTION SHEET