



NORTHLAND FISH AND GAME COUNCIL AGENDA

PLACE	:	NORTHLAND FISH & GAME OFFICE UNIT A5, 7–11 NELL PLACE, WHANGAREI
DATE	:	<u>Thursday 12 February 2026</u>
MEETING STARTS	:	7.00pm
DINNER	:	6.00pm

Welcome/Apologies

Annual or One Year Agenda Pg 1

**Confirmation of 11 December 2025 Meeting Minutes
Matters Arising from Minutes** Pg 2

Managers' Report Pg 9
Field Officers Reports Pg 12

NZFGC Update

Audit Completion Report Pg 24
Draft Budget and OWP 2026-2027 separate paper
Memorandum – Budget and OWP 2026-2027 Pg 29
Memorandum – Trout Liberations 2027 Pg 31
Consultation document – Addressing Crop Depredation Policy Pg 33

Health & Safety Report Pg 42
Executive Limitations Report Pg 43
Financial Report to 31 December 2025 Pg 45
Correspondence Schedule Pg 50

Other Business

NORTHLAND FISH & GAME ANNUAL OR ONE-YEAR AGENDA

Meetings	Council process	Regular agenda items	Annual items	Ad hoc items
Thursday 12 Feb 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routine – Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising, agenda items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managers Operational & Financial Reports ▪ Urgent General Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evaluation of Council’s Governance Review ▪ Confirm trout order for 2027 liberation ▪ Draft budget ▪ Draft OWP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Wednesday 01 April 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routine – Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising, agenda items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managers Operational & Financial Reports ▪ Urgent General Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report from Chairman on governance review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Thursday 21 May 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routine – Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising, agenda items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managers Operational & Financial Reports ▪ Urgent General Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Licence Fee and Form consultation ▪ Anglers Notice – issues requiring NZC consideration ▪ Report from Chairman on governance review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Thursday 06 August 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routine – Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising, agenda items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managers Operational & Financial Reports ▪ Urgent General Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Budget and OWP – final sign-off ▪ Managers Annual Performance Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Thursday 22 October 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routine – Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising, agenda items. Final meeting of current council before elections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managers Operational & Financial Reports ▪ Urgent General Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meeting programme - dates & venues for next year’s meetings. ▪ Managers performance review report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Thursday 03 December 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routine – Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising, agenda items. Inaugural meeting of new council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managers Operational & Financial Reports ▪ Urgent General Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chairman and Managers Annual Report ▪ Financial Statement for year ended 31 August 2026 ▪ Review of audit report for 2025-26 FY ▪ Draft Game Notice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪

NORTHLAND FISH & GAME COUNCIL
UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD AT THE NORTHLAND FISH & GAME OFFICE
NELL PLACE, WHANGAREI
7.00PM THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER 2025

PRESENT:

Chairman: Phil Durham

Councillors: Mark Bell, Cameron Shanks, John McEntee, Sean Brickland, Darryl Reardon, Kelvin Ellis, Lloyd Altham, Barrie Barnes

Staff: Craig Deal (Manager), Rachael Quin (Administrator)

Members of the Public: Ralph Correa (Northland Conservation Board), Noel Birchall

The Conflict-of-Interest register was circulated around the table for all councillors to sign and declare any conflicts.

APOLOGIES: Russell Daniels

It was moved: *That the apologies be accepted.*

Cameron Shanks / Darryl Reardon **CARRIED**

Adoption of the Performance Report 2024-25

The Chairman stated he was remiss in the Chairmans report for not thanking Cr Barnes for the good work he does on behalf of the licence holders. The Chairman reiterated that the appalling behaviour from some on social media directed at volunteers is unacceptable and acknowledged all effort and thanked the staff.

Noel Birchall thanked all councillors in volunteering their time and stated it was disheartening so few licence holders give back by volunteering for Council.

Cr Barnes praised the Council for their positivity and outlook.

The Manager acknowledged Rachael's effort in delivering a seamless and positive audit.

It was resolved: *That the Council adopts the Audited Performance Report of the Northland Fish & Game Council for the year ended 31 August 2025.*

Kelvin Ellis / John McEntee **CARRIED**

The chairman then presented the Annual Performance Report to the public.

Previous Minutes

It was resolved: *That the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 23rd October 2025 are confirmed as true and correct.*

Mark Bell / Darryl Reardon

CARRIED

Matters Arising

Leave of Absence

Cr Barnes advised that Cr Peart had resigned due to a change in circumstances that left him unable to participate and noted that Cr Peart had advised the Minister.

Action: NFGC to advertise council vacancy in new year and advise the Minister.

Consolidated Annual Reporting

The Chairman wrote a letter to Cr Barnes to forward to NZC for collation.

Wetland Repair

Discussed later in the meeting.

Health and Safety

The Manager has not yet clarified Health and Safety policy wording with Adrienne Murray from NZFGC.

Sports Fish and Game Management Plan

The Manager wrote to the Minister regarding extending the deadline and received a response issuing a deadline of 30 June 2027 to have a new SFGMP published for the region.

It was moved:

The members of the public have speaking rights.

Kelvin Ellis / Cameron Shanks

CARRIED

Managers' Report

1110 Species Monitoring

The Chairman asked if correct safety protocols would be followed for duck banding in 2026. The Manager confirmed that staff would be under the leadership of the Auckland Waikato region and safeguards would be in place to mitigate the risks of handling live birds.

1221 Jack Bisset Wetland

The Manager discussed the complexity imposed by Northland Regional Council classifying Jack Bisset Wetland as a "Natural Inland Wetland". This could create delay and extra cost in having to obtain multiple resource consents to complete the repair work.

Action: The Manager will seek to obtain permissive wetland classification in writing and obtain a simple resource consent.

2025 Wetland Performance Report

It was discussed and decided that the policy of Fish & Game owned wetlands being excluded from hunting over special season, should be included in the game regulations for clarity.

It was moved: **The addition of a special condition that Fish & Game wetlands are closed for hunting over the special season.**

John McEntee / Kelvin Ellis

CARRIED

It was moved: **The 2025 Northland Game Bird Dispersal Report, National Hunter Harvest Survey Report, Shoveler Census Report and Wetland Performance Report be received.**

Cameron Shanks / John McEntee

CARRIED

2026 Game Bird Notice

A summary of analysis for the Northland region of the NZ Game Bird Harvest Survey for all game bird species taken in the 2025 open game season was circulated for the council's information. The Manager pointed out the proposed delay of one week for paradise shelduck special season, the reduction for shoveler bag limit and extending the pheasant season by one week. The 300m exclusion zone around oxidation ponds was discussed and considered justified. The following draft Game Gazette notice for the 2026 season was presented for the Council's approval:

NORTHLAND FISH AND GAME REGION¹

1 Game That May Be Hunted or Killed—Duration of the 2026/2027 Season

Species	Season Duration (dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit
Grey/mallard duck and any hybrid of that species	2 May to 28 June 2026	12
NZ shoveler duck	2 May to 28 June 2026	2
Paradise shelduck	2 May to 26 July 2026 20 Feb 2027 to 28 Feb 2027	25 25
Black swan	2 May to 26 July 2026 20 Feb 2027 to 28 Feb 2027	20 20
Pukeko	2 May to 30 Aug 2026 20 Feb 2027 to 28 Feb 2027	12 12
California quail	2 May to 30 Aug 2026	10
Brown quail	2 May to 30 Aug 2026	10

¹ Reference to description: *New Zealand Gazette*, 24 May 1990, No. 83, page 1861.

2 Shooting Hours

- (1) 6.30am to 6.30pm, except the hunting of:
- (a) Paradise shelduck, pukeko and black swan on 20 Feb 2027 to 28 Feb 2027 will be from 6.30am to 8.00pm.

3 Decoy Limit

No limit.

4 Special Conditions

- (1) No person shall wilfully leave on the hunting ground any game bird(s) shot or parts of any game bird(s) shot.
- (2) Camouflaged Rowboats: Persons may hunt or kill game from an unmoored camouflaged rowboat.
- (3) During the 20 Feb 2027 to 28 Feb 2027 special open season, no person shall hunt within 300 metres of any urban sewage oxidation ponds.
- (4) Any licensed game bird hunter who has a Department of Conservation permit to take or kill wildlife for the purpose of hawking may hunt with an Australasian Harrier (*Circus approximans*) to take game birds. This is subject to the season length and bag limit for each game bird species in clause 1 of this notice and any other special conditions for the Northland Fish and Game region and also subject to any conditions imposed by the Director-General of Conservation under such a permit.

It was moved: ***The Northland Fish and Game region 2026/27 be approved subject to the shoveler bag limit remaining at 3, and with a special condition excluding Fish and Game managed wetlands from hunting during the February special season.***

Cameron Shanks / Sean Brickland ***CARRIED***

The council discussed the administration required in producing game bird hunting permits for Northland Fish & Game wetlands and the need to raise it as reasonable business practice. It was decided to provide a bundle permit for all wetlands at a discounted cost to encourage usage.

It was moved: ***To raise the game bird hunting casual permit fee to \$15 for a single wetland and \$40 for a bundle permit.***

Sean Brickland / Lloyd Altham ***CARRIED***

Remuneration Policy

The Remuneration Policy adopted by NZFGC was circulated and proposed for adoption by NFGC. Cr Ellis stated it was a sound, consistent policy, and supported its implementation.

It was moved: ***To adopt the Remuneration Policy.***

Gas Gun Hire

The Manager outlined the options of either persevering with hiring gas guns or abandon and encourage farmers to purchase their own. To continue to hire out gas guns will require increased financial and time investment to meet WorkSafe Regulations. It was decided that persevering served a promotional purpose, in which case an extra spend will be made to upgrade the fleet.

Health and Safety Report

Northland Fish & Game is required to give a Health & Safety report at each council meeting detailing:

- The implementation and adherence to Health & Safety policy/manual
- Any new issues or hazards that have arisen and how these have been addressed
- Progress with any ongoing issues
- Outcomes of audits and reviews required in the Health & Safety manual
- Any near misses or injuries

The Manager advised that NFGC now has a subscription to Track Me app and the audit report is being worked through and tracked.

It was moved: **That the Health and Safety Report be received.**

John McEntee / Kelvin Ellis

CARRIED

Executive Limitations Report

It was moved: **That the Executive Limitations Report be received.**

Barrie Barnes / Mark Bell

CARRIED

Financial Report

The Manager informed the council that the current budgeted deficit is \$6715 which will come from reserves. This amount differs from the approved budget, as the advised amount from NZC did not include the original calculated amount from reserves. Jill Meunch has been advised and concurs.

It was moved: **That the Financial Report ending 31 October 2025 is adopted.**

Sean Brickland / John McEntee

CARRIED

General Business

Cr Brickland stated that he is impressed by the knowledge and passion of the Council.

Noel Birchall advised he has heard of an excessive number of swan culled in Lake Omapere over the last year.

Cr Shanks asked Cr Barnes about the role Corina Jordan holds with each organisation (Game Animal Council and Fish and Game).

The Manager advised that the Sports Fish Management Plan has a published due date with the Minister of 30/06/2027 which leaves a tight timeline. This was circulated to the council along with a proposed timetable and the potential risks. The Manager intends to share progress at each meeting and queried whether a subcommittee was needed.

Action: NZFGC COO will provide the West Coast SFGMP to the Manager and Chairman.

The Chairman wished the council a Merry Christmas.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.44pm.

Phil Durham

Chairman

To: All Councillors
From: Craig Deal
Date: 29 January 2026
Subject: Managers Report

The following is an account of activities that management has been involved in since the 11 December 2025 meeting.

1110 Species Monitoring

Feeding has been occurring at Matakohe since the new year. Currently about 200 ducks are utilising the feed. Banding will occur 11-12 February.

Trend counts for paradise shelduck and swan were completed.

A netting survey is planned on Wilsons Dam 2-3 February to ascertain if trout have survived the high temperatures in the dam. I have requested monitoring data for temperature, dissolved oxygen and pH from WDC for the last two months and for the summer months in previous years.

1161 Trout Releases

A memo is enclosed with the agenda to discuss the trout order for the 2027 releases.

1172 Game Gazette

The game notice as approved at the meeting 11 December 2025 has been submitted to NZC.

1180 Game Bird Dispersal

Complaints about game bird damage are steady as the summer progresses. Mainly paradise shelduck. A draft national policy is included in the agenda for consultation with the regions.

1210 Resource Management Act

I have been engaging with Meridian Energy on the design and development of the wetlands that are being restored as part of the Marsden Solar Park.

1221 Jack Bisset Wetland

I am in the process of arranging quotes for an engineering report as tasked at the meeting in December. If the repair work is unable to be completed this year (likely), I will seek council approval to use the unspent budget on the purchase of a replacement ATV, as the current machine is beginning to have excessive maintenance issues.

1242 Botulism Monitoring and Clean Up

On 03 January a local reported dead waterfowl at the Ngunguru wastewater treatment plant (wwtp). Dead birds were collected and sent to be tested for avian influenza, which returned a negative result. The cause of death was deemed to be botulism. DOC and local conservationists got involved as that plant hosts a high number of brown teal. I provided

advice over the phone as I was away camping. DOC, Whangarei District Council (WDC) contractors and local volunteers collected and buried the carcasses and sent sick birds to an animal hospital in Kerikeri. An estimated 80 brown teal and 120 other waterfowl (greylard, paradise duck and shoveler) have been killed. This is 3% of the estimated total brown teal population which is a huge blow to the conservationists that participated in the recovery effort over the last decade. I have been providing advice to WDC on how to manage botulism in wwtp. Initially the response seemed positive, and it looked like they would adopt botulism management plans voluntarily however now that there is a need to increase staff presence at the wwtp and put resources into preventing birds from using the site they have started to back-pedal. The Northern Advocate is showing interest in the issue and have asked DOC for comment.

1311 Access Negotiation

I am working to have PF Olsen allow us to issue forestry permits on their behalf. They are managing a large number of new forestry blocks across the region.

1330 Newsletters

Reel Life Articles are being produced monthly for the fishing season.

The regional supplement to the game magazine has been submitted. I also submitted a feature article on upland hunting.

1412 Mana Whenua Liaison

Far North Field Officer has been engaging with Te Hiku Iwi to determine if there is any interest in participating in the development of our new Sports Fish and Game Management Plan.

1440 Public Promotions

The competition offering a free full season licence to be drawn from a pool of all anglers that submit weight and length for trout caught in Northland is being run again this season.

1451 Regional A&P Shows

A 6x12m site has been booked for Northland Field Days. Planning is underway for the stand format.

1453 Office Habitat Print

The habitat print will no longer be produced after the 2026 season.

1511 Ranging

Staff responded to a report of a net set across the Mangakahia River. When staff arrived the net had been removed however it was determined to have been targeting mullet due to the high number of mullet seen. This does create a compliance problem as trout may be caught unintentionally. The net was breaking MPI netting regulations in that it was set across more than 25% of a channel and was tied off to a stake. The report and photos were passed on to local MPI staff.

One ranging team will be out on patrol on each Saturday of the special season. Police support has been arranged.

1600 Licensing

Fish licence sales are up 1% on this time last year. This should see Northland making its target for the year. Nationally sales are down slightly 2.2% which is a slight improvement on earlier in the season.

1630 Commission

Commission is being paid by way of a credit on invoices issued to agents.

1821 Annual OWP/Budget

The approved budget for 2025-26 is underway. Any spend over the \$606,833.00 allocated will come from regional reserves.

The Zero-Base-Budget (ZBB) is under development to submit to NZC. The draft budget and OWP for 2026-27 is presented as an agenda item.

1831 Annual Audit

The audit has been completed and the letter of representation sent to councillors.

1840 National Liaison

Administrators met in Christchurch in December as part of the training to use the new Zero-Base budgeting format.

1900 Administration

The office has been open for all the required hours during the reporting period and has served the public and licence holders.

The Councils assets are well maintained and fully insured. New insurance for contents and vehicles was arranged as of 01 September 2025.

A new Mitsubishi Triton has been purchased and delivered. The old Triton NGM245 was sold for \$28,000.00.

Recommendation

That the Northland Fish and Game Council receive this report.



Craig Deal

Manager

29 January 2026

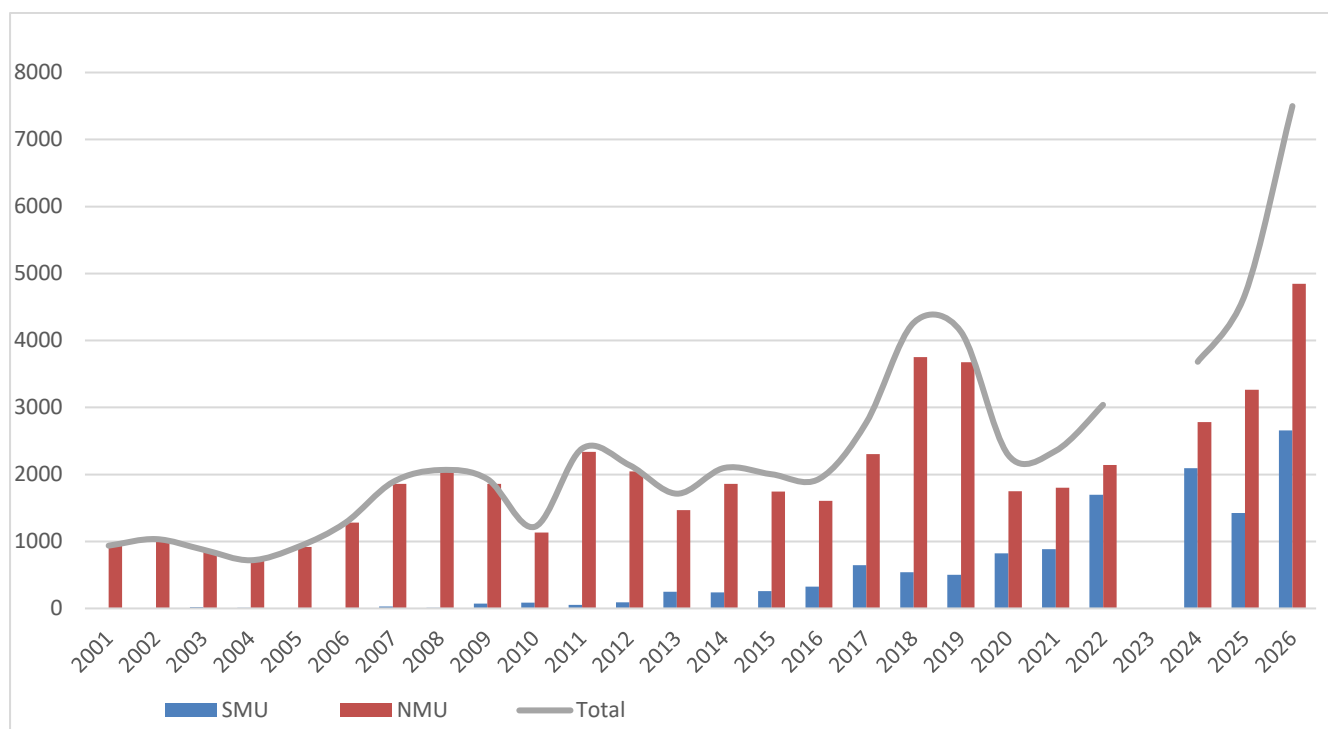
To: All Councillors
From: Graham Gallagher
Date: 1/02/2026
Subject: Field Officer Report (Whangarei)

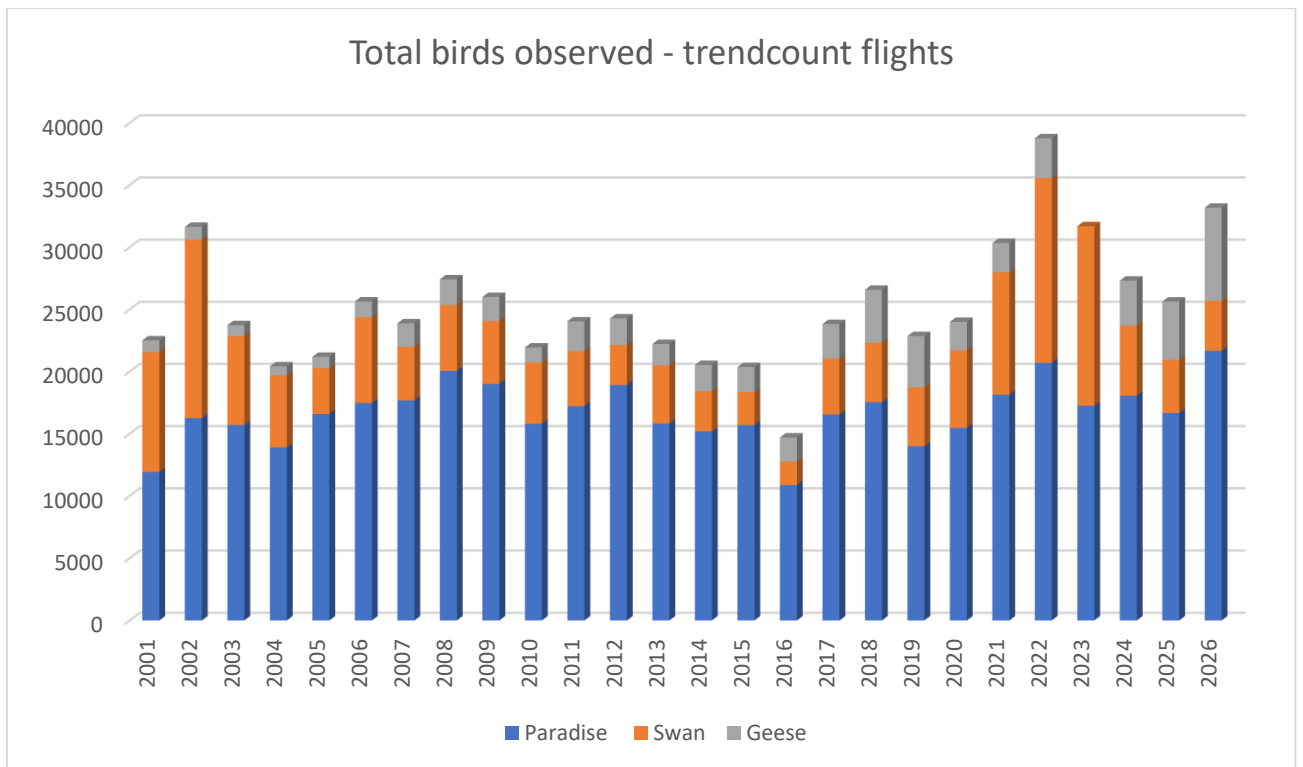
1111 Trend counts and population monitoring.

Shelduck: See attached shelduck trend count report.

Swan: Swan numbers have seemed to have settled to historical averages. The large reduction a few years ago was mostly due to the decrease in the Omapere and Owhareiti counts. The swan have moved back to the Kaipara Harbour and south of Northlands border as indicated by the increase in the Auckland Waikato swan counts for that site. *Note: Lake Omapere has changed in colour significantly this year to a chocolate brown colour.*

Canadian Geese: Geese continue their unstoppable rise in numbers in both the Northern and Southern part of the region.





1119 Trout population assessment

It appears that the conditions at Wilsons Dam have become unsuitable for trout survival as the temperature is hovering in the mid 20 degree range. The lake is not stratifying so there is little refuge for the trout.

1172 Regulations

Nothing to report.

1181 Game bird dispersal

Nothing to report

1220 Works and Management Wetland Summary

Mowing has been organised for the wetlands.



Telemetry report for a GPS tagged bittern at the Underwood Wetland (Supplied by DOC Kauri Coast)

1231/2 Landowner advice / NZGBHT applications

Nothing to report

1313 Ballots/Permits

There are three stands to be balloted out at the Underwoods.

1331 Media

The Game Magazine articles have been submitted and Reel Life articles produced.

1510 Ranging/Compliance

Ranging operations are planned for the Shelduck Special season in Mid February.

1923 Staff Training

I am in the process of renewing my First Aid Certificate, CHC and CSL.

Maritime/Moss

Drills and maintenance/checks continue to be conducted.

Graham Gallagher
Field Officer

Paradise Shelduck Moulting Survey

January 2026

Results of annual counts at Northland moulting sites



Graham Gallagher, Fish & Game Officer, January 2026

Summary

The endemic Paradise Shelduck (Tadorna variegata) is Northland's most intensely managed game bird. Shelduck harvest makes up the largest proportion of hunters bag by far. Large concentrations of birds can result in localised crop damage causing issues for landowners. These large concentrations can create opportunities for hunters to harvest surplus birds. Each year repeat counts are made of known moult sites to gain an index of relative abundance. This year 21,665 birds were observed in total, this is a 30% increase from the previous year and well above the 20-year average. Long term monitoring (over 25 years) indicates that the northern population (Towai North) is slowly decreasing in the long term but stable in the short term (5 years). Long term monitoring (over 25 years) indicates that the southern population (Towai South) has increased both in the short term and long term. Monitoring has shown a relatively stable but slightly increasing overall population for Northland.

Introduction

Paradise Shelduck (*Tadorna variegata*) 'shelduck' are an endemic New Zealand species and well distributed throughout much of the country. Highest concentrations of shelduck are typically found adjacent to areas of developed farmland and around civil sewage oxidation ponds. In Northland, large concentrations of shelduck can be found in and around the Hikurangi Swamp, Mangawhai, Kerikeri, Kaikohe and Kaitaia areas.

Monitoring has occurred since the late 1980's and has seen the population of shelduck increase with a slight compounding annual increase over the last 25 years. Monitoring along with the hunter harvest results gives us critical information for us to set robust regulations.

Shelduck congregate during January to March at specific sites to moult. These areas are typically a small to medium sized water body with a nearby food supply. We have large moult sites located around irrigation dams and oxidation ponds.

The aim of the current survey was to:

- 1) Repeat the annual counts of known shelduck moult sites to gain an index of relative abundance of shelduck in Northland.
- 2) Provide recommendations for management of the shelduck population in context of the goals and objectives of the Northland Region 'Sports Fish & Game Bird Management Plan.'

Method

The 2026 moult site counts were undertaken in mid-January using a fixed wing aircraft. The aerial surveys were carried out with a Cessna single engine aircraft. The aircraft flies at low altitude and low speed circling the ponds to be surveyed. Usually two passes are required to count each site. A camera was utilised to 'ground truth' counts at suitable sites. The number of birds and the percentage change from the previous year was calculated for all sites and then for the Northern and Southern management units. Swan and geese are also counted during the shelduck survey.

Results

Overall numbers

A total of 21,665 shelduck were observed moulting across all sites in 2026. This value was up from the 2025 count of 16,663. This equates to an approximate 30% increase. This is an all time high count. Similar peaks of this magnitude occurred in 2022, 2012, 2008 and 2009.

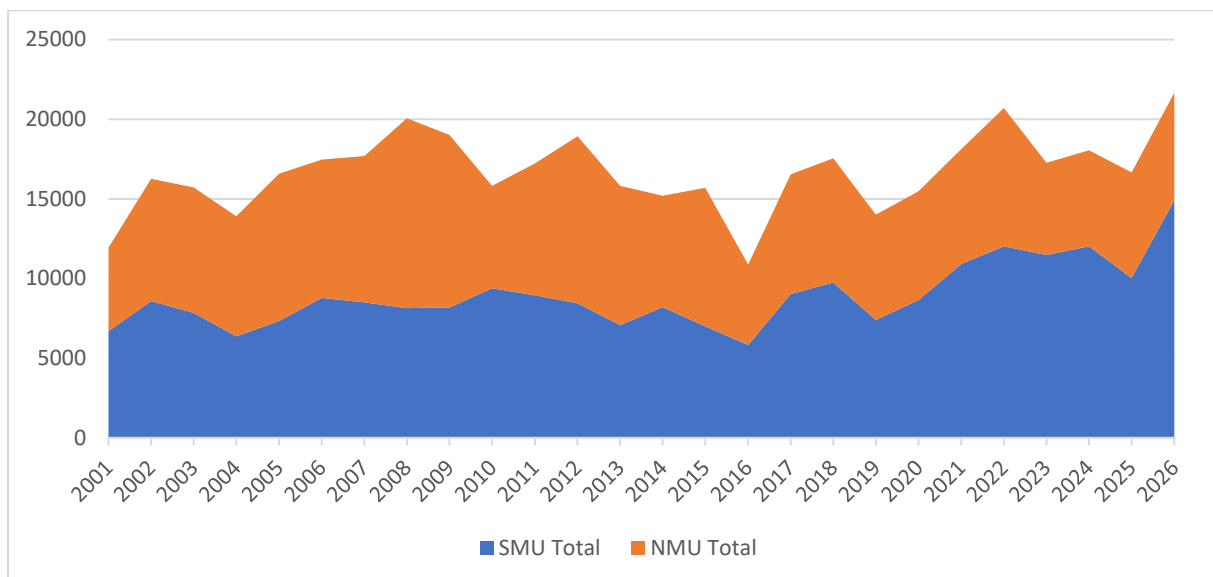


Figure 1: Number of Paradise Shelduck observed moulting in each of the separate management areas since 2001

Northern Management Unit (North of Towai)

A total of 6,379 shelduck were observed moulting at sites north of Towai in 2026. This value was down 255 birds from the 2025 count of 6,634; this equates to an approximate 4% decrease in overall numbers counted from the previous year (see Appendix 1). Conversely, over the past 21 years (2006-2026) shelduck across all monitored sites north of Towai have decreased with a maximum recorded count of 11,912 birds in 2008. Over the past five years (2022-2026) numbers of shelduck across all sites north of Towai have remained stable.

Southern Management Unit (South of Towai)

A total of 14,926 birds were observed moulting south of Towai in 2026. This value is an increase of 4,897 birds from the 2025 count of 10,029 and equates to a 49% increase in numbers from the previous year (see Appendix 1). Over the past 21 years (2006-2026) shelduck across all monitored sites south of Towai have shown an increasing trend and a stable if not slightly increasing population over the last five years.

Discussion

Northern Management Unit (NMU)

The analysis shows that sites in the NMU have been relatively stable in the short term but with a decrease in the long term. The botulism affecting several large moulting sites could have affected overall numbers. Persistent droughts in the Far North have also impacted on population numbers and distribution. The conversion of pastoral land into intensive horticulture and pine plantations farms could also be affecting numbers. The largest decreases have been seen at Te Paki, Nilsson's Dam and Paua Station. Nilsson's Dam suffered a major breach and has not been fixed. This was an exceptional pond on the Parengarenga Harbour and it is a great loss for game birds on the Far North. TePaki Station and Paua Station have had management changes with less cropping and pasture renewal, impacting on the shelduck numbers there.

Southern Management Unit (SMU)

The analysis shows that on average, numbers have increased in the SMU over time. The sites with the largest increases were the Maungaturoto oxidation ponds, Ruakaka area and the Wairua River above the falls.

Note: Avian influenza (HPAI) arriving in New Zealand is unavoidable due to migrating sea birds. New Zealand shelducks could be very susceptible due to the fact that they congregate in large numbers during the moulting period. This will enable rapid infection and perhaps high mortality during this time.

References

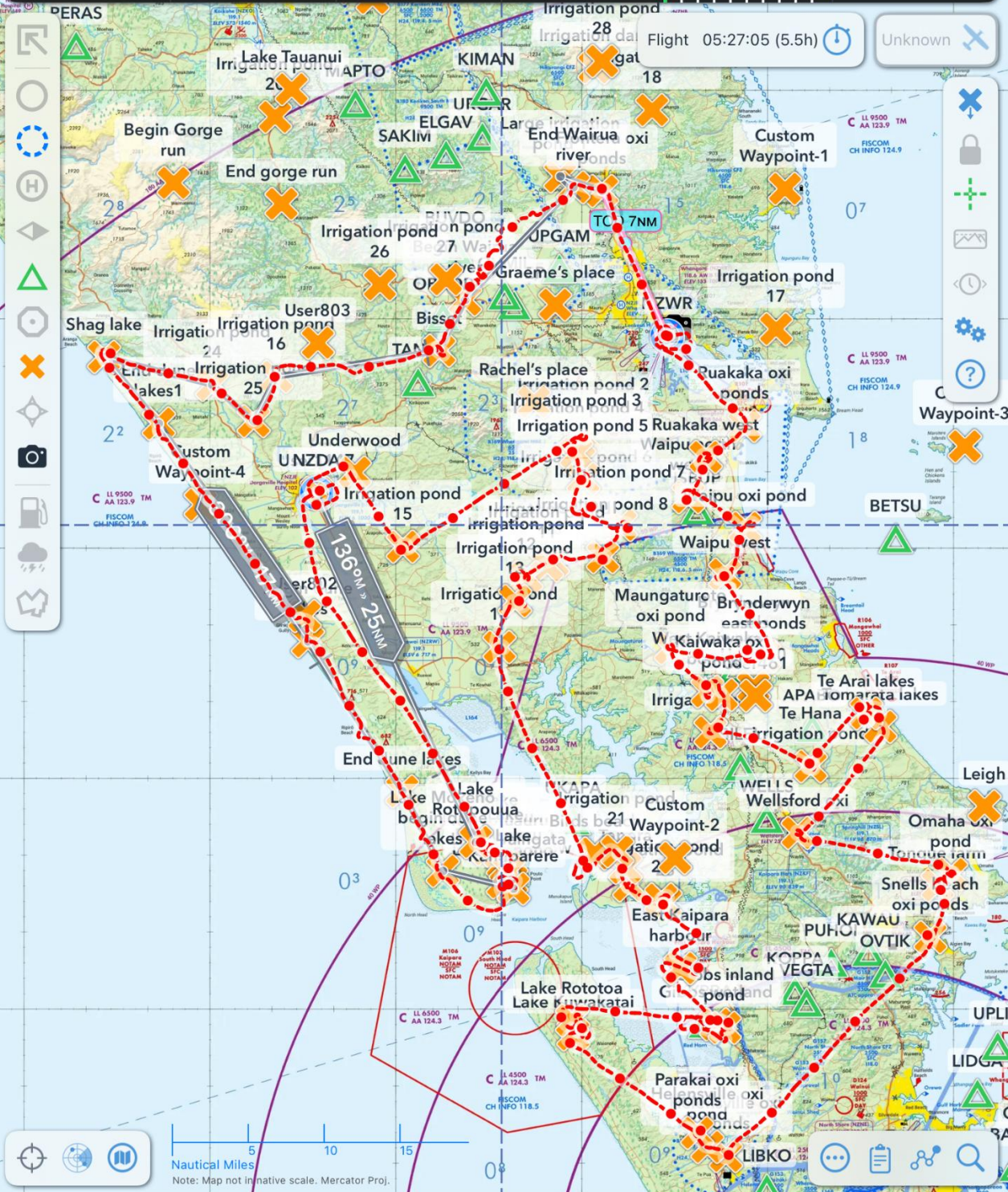
Kelly, D (2010). *Paradise Shelduck Moulting Survey 2010*. Fish & Game West Coast internal report.

Newton, G. (2019). *Paradise Shelduck Moulting Survey January/February 2019*. Fish & Game West Coast internal report.

Appendices:

Paradise Shelduck 16/01/2026 Ex Whangarei Graham Gallagher	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
SITE																											
Ruakaka/Waipu Obedition + Wilson Dam+ Mounifield	199	36	440	286	195	406	462	385	476	620	582	290	355	220	410	435	160	725	550	550	636	915	984	1530	180	1600	
Brydenway Pond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Mangaroa Obedition + Worsfold ponds	138	193	330	60	270	330	330	330	200	60	380	740	830	800	690	12	45	122	40	60	120	50	590	44	10	120	
Bold Rock Dam x2	250	250	450	400	350	500	600	550	300	700	800	550	800	800	700	650	800	875	650	700	1727	1938	450	1000	1050	520	
Wellsford Obedition Ponds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Tapanui/Journeys End/Kaipara Harbour	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Gibbs Farm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Helenville Obedition Ponds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Panaki ponds x 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Lake Otoboa and surroundings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Shells Beach obedition pond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Tongue Farm pond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Omaha Beach Obedition Pond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Tomarata - Slipper, Spectacle lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Ingration Pond Te Hana (silver hill)	142	150	440	300	390	60	650	300	500	700	500	700	120	550	1000	1200	1000	930	1100	1100	2393	1950	1720	2400	2210	2000	
Topuni C/H	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Kawaka Railway Pond and obedition pond	350	350	175	150	60	15	280	150	350	200	150	50	300	44	0	25	100	50	150	270	250	550	410	200	50	450	
Mangaroa Obedition	300	300	375	150	200	100	100	150	200	200	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	
Tapanui/Wallaces	300	300	400	350	300	250	100	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	
Milbrook Rd Ingration Pond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Whangarei/Waikohu/Taranaki area (Neville Road, Paparua road wakiekie r, russek road mangapai pond)	220	220	500	700	670	300	370	870	1250	1650	825	450	615	890	1050	1145	100	720	530	660	2085	790	650	1000	1040	850	
Waiana River (Palakau)	150	15	20	50	50	50	70	70	50	40	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	
Westlakes Pond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Mangapai River DoC Reserves	570	750	340	120	460	550	670	320	385	250	600	630	340	314	200	100	150	85	105	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Mathews Ingration Dam (Neck Road)	75	300	120	60	150	120	350	220	160	150	300	40	170	200	250	320	350	320	250	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Hollybay Dams/ Ruawai (combine NECC road data30)	160	160	250	470	150	400	350	60	270	190	160	250	140	72	150	75	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Araucaria Ingration Lake x2 (Poyner Rd/Bull Rd/Matakohe)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Wellwood Dam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Northern Waioa River near Ruawai	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Poua Lakes	270	915	217	130	220	135	460	420	475	480	600	510	670	840	540	550	650	890	650	360	860	530	1170	940	107	1270	
Poua Lakes to Dargaville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Omapepe to Dargaville	210	140	550	280	160	240	280	180	150	50	40	78	180	385	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Flaxmill	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Baynes Beach Golf Course ponds (coastal Lakes BB North)	500	1150	1210	880	620	260	165	325	74	230	435	300	95	12	240	630	200	150	150	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Shag Lake	700	1100	0	450	460	700	350	500	700	500	400	500	450	140	550	430	450	280	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	
Waipahi Stream	140	200	130	70	60	0	45	50	20	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Kahui KDC reservoir	100	250	270	70	220	420	275	400	400	210	100	40	80	250	140	70	500	650	450	300	480	330	210	440	210	500	
Waipua Pond and Area	220	150	200	100	100	300	500	450	50	70	300	230	80	280	200	200	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Houaui Kirikiri/Tangawahine?	165	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Tangawahine	170	0	50	10	70	10	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Tapanui	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Bevan Wetlands	650	500	700	400	320	720	320	300	475	620	200	420	250	210	100	200	250	150	200	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	
Levenworth Dam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Mangaroa River Flats/Twin bridges	370	100	180	280	450	400	0	215	340	150	200	170	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Tiaki	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Daughes Dam and Vicinity	100	130	60	110	300	160	450	250	250	150	250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Waioa River above Falls	140	200	200	450	560	350	350	100	100	300	300	370	185	380	130	190	610	550	830	400	760	300	910	500	1600		
Smith's Dam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Hikurangi Obedition	280	270	455	400	400	600	650	450	550	500	500	550	500	470	625	0	800	850	450	800	900	730	650	450	640	1000	
Wharariki Sh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Puhitahi Ingration dams	150	140	130	300	290	300	240	350	56	0	200	350	250	400	200	200	350	450	570	785	440	650	450	200	550		
Opuahanga Ingration	300	145	375	150	100	300	150	0	300	0	0	130	25	175	50	170	70	30	280	150	380	300	45	210	560	560	
SUB TOTALS	7075	8978	8742	7068	6080	9340	8653	9077	8885	10784	10239	9634	7990	9652	8764	7715	11078	14090	10550	13433	18429	20632	19312	21165	18029	25252	
AW Numbers	390	400	890	700	740	560	1150	930	800	1400	1300	1250	920	1450	1750	1880	2050	4337	1646	7513	8618	7838	6035	8000	10326		
Whangarei ex AW numbers	6895	8578	7842	6368	7340	8780	8903	8147	8185	9384	8939	8444	7070	8204	6884	6535	8028	9743	7390	8637	10916	12914	11474	12002	10029	14826	
16/01/2026 Ex Whangarei Graham Gallagher																											
SITE																											
Oyster Beach/Pataua North/South	20	100	300	300	700	1070	900	400	140	500	460	200	500	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	
Miswhangaroa Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Kerikeri Obedition	145	210	140	220	120	145	190	130	200	400	75	185	132	310	200	310</											

GS	TRK	GPS ALT	UTC	BULLSEYE	DTG
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ETE	ETA	ETA(LAST)	TDR	305° M	Cancel
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Maps ScratchPad Airfields Documents SmartBrief Settings

GS --	TRK 181°M	GPS ALT 130'	UTC 01:51Z	BULLSEYE --	DTG 0.1NM
ETE --	ETA --	ETA(LAST) --	TDR --	181°M 16 17 18 19 20	Cancel DCT NZWR

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- Maps
- ScratchPad
- Airfields
- Documents
- SmartBrief
- Settings

To: All Councillors
From: John Macpherson
Date: 30/01/2026
Subject: Field Officer Report (Kaitaia)

Permits have been the focus, with farmers grazing crops the new regrowth of the crops is getting eaten. Paradise shelduck are getting together before the moult causing damage to crops and new pasture. Pukeko are an ongoing problem in crops, although not as bad on the corn, now it is well established. Crops that produce fruit or vegetables are still getting predated on, where young bananas seem to be the plant of choice through the summer months. Pre-winter pukeko tend to target plantings and subdivision plantings, making them difficult to control.

Botulism monitoring is ongoing with the warmer weather. The outbreak at Ngunguru oxidation ponds has been killing pateke, while there are only grey teal in the Kaitaia area, allowing the mass killing of any birds on Council controlled and operated facilities cannot be ignored. Cleanups of dead birds, or at least putting chloride of lime on carcasses not able to be removed is essential, doing nothing is not a solution. The Kaitaia area has been extremely depleted of game birds; teal, swan, due to botulism.

FNDC have been dredging the Kaitaia Oxidation ponds (there are around 12-14 swan on the ponds) and this is the first cleaning the ponds have had since they were built in the 1970's. Ahipara ponds have half a dozen mallards, and have also been cleaned with no sign of botulism. Kaeo oxidation ponds have around 400 paradise shelducks, Taipa around 350 birds of mixed mallard, grey, teal, but predominantly paradise.

Farm visits carried out at TePaki, Rangiputa. Managers are happy to have hunters coming onto the properties. Lower than normal numbers of birds on the TeWerahi Wetlands at TePaki. The lake on TePaki Stream Road has almost been cut in half by sand being blown in, Over the next 3-4 years I expect the lake to be cut completely in half, then it is probably going to be filled by sand over the following years. Rangiputa have ever increasing numbers of geese. Waiporohita Lake is normally low on water this time of year and frequented by up to 1500 Canadian Geese. This year due to the high water and no loafing area there are few geese on the lake.

I've had no response from any of the Iwi groups I visited regarding submissions on the sports management plan for Fish and Game.

Doc and NRC meetings are progressing well although neither of these groups have had any operations we could collaborate on in the last couple of months. All quiet from Summit Forest and Bushlands Trust is also quiet this time of year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. J. Macpherson'.

John Macpherson
Field Officer (Kaitia)



Tel: +64 9 430 0471
northland@bdo.co.nz
www.bdo.co.nz

BDO NORTHLAND
Level 3, BDO Business Centre
15 Porowini Avenue
P O Box 448
Whangarei 0140
NEW ZEALAND

15 December 2025

Northland Fish and Game Council
Unit A5, 7-11 Nell Place
WHANGAREI 0110
New Zealand

For the Councillors

1. COVER LETTER

We recently completed our audit of Northland Fish and Game Council (the "Council") for the year ended 31 August 2025.

We set out the findings of our audit work for that year in the report attached to this letter.

We would like to thank Rachael, Craig and Rob for the assistance extended to BDO Northland during the course of the audit. We have received full and frank cooperation. There is nothing we wish to raise solely with the Council.

The primary aim of our audit is to form an opinion as to whether your financial statements fairly reflect the results of your organisation's activities for the reporting period and its financial position at balance date. The audit report expresses this opinion.

Our work has focussed on material transaction streams and therefore our work should not be relied upon as a complete review of the organisations systems, procedures and controls. An audit provides a high but not absolute level of assurance; it is not designed to be relied upon to detect all incidences of fraud or error. The responsibility to maintain adequate accounting systems and controls designed to prevent and detect fraud and error is the responsibility of the Council.

As part of our audit we review the accounting systems and procedures in operation and consider effectiveness from an audit perspective. As a result of this process we generally identify several matters that we draw to your attention together with our recommendations for improvement. The recommendations below are at best practice and do not reflect in any way on any particular individual in the organisation.

We welcome your response regarding any actions you are planning to take on the matters raised. If it is of value to your Council, we would be happy to attend a Council meeting to discuss any finance related issues you have.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

BDO Northland

Adelle Wilson
Partner
Audit & Assurance Services
Email: adelle.wilson@bdo.co.nz

2. AUDIT CONCLUDING MEMORANDUM

2.1 Audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the auditing standards issued by the New Zealand External Reporting Board ("NZ ISAs"). We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatements, whether caused by fraud or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

We signed an unmodified audit opinion over the financial statements of the Council for the year ended 31 August 2025.

2.2 Internal controls

During the audit we identified some improvements in internal controls that in our opinion, should be brought to your attention. These are outlined in section 3 of this report.

We have included all findings that our audit procedures highlighted. However, you will appreciate that our work is undertaken primarily to enable us to form an opinion if the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects the financial statements of the Council in accordance with the Tier 3 (PS) accounting standard. Accordingly, we have designed our tests and the evaluation of your systems only to the extent necessary to enable us to arrive at this opinion.

2.3 Fraud risk

The primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with the Councillors and management.

As your auditor, we have a responsibility to assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud. We identified potential fraud risk areas and designed audit tests to mitigate the risk of material error due to fraud. During the course of our audit we did not identify any instances of suspected or actual fraud.

2.4 Management judgements and accounting estimates

Overall, we note that the judgements and estimates by management in preparing the results for the year ended 31 August 2025 appear reasonable.

2.5 Audit misstatements

There were some disclosure adjustments to the financial statements. This was to ensure compliance with the new Tier 3 standard that is applicable for the first time in 2025. We appreciate the Council utilises a National template. It is likely that it will be further refined in 2026. We note that licenses are separately disclosed in the profit and loss. The Council has applied the exemption within the standard due to the importance of this line item.

One adjusting journal was requested during the audit, this is disclosed in section 4 of this report

2.6 No disagreements with management

We have had no disagreements with management during the course of our audit.

2.7 No difficulties were encountered when dealing with management

We have encountered no difficulties with management about accounting treatment, measurement and disclosure during the course of the audit.

2.8 Independence

We have complied with the independence requirements of the Code of Ethics issued by the External Reporting Board and Guidelines on Independence issued by BDO New Zealand.

2.9 Going concern

There are no material uncertainties over the appropriateness of applying the going concern assumption in the preparation of the financial statements.

2.10 No non-compliance with laws and regulations

We have made enquiries in relation to non-compliance with laws and regulations during the course of our audit. We have not become aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations which has materially impacted the financial position or performance of the Council.

3. AUDIT FINDINGS

3.1 Invoices

We were pleased to note that record-keeping is generally handled effectively, and expenses are backed up by suitable invoices.

We did note one minor exception: a credit card payment of \$79 for a Warrant of Fitness was supported a till receipt as opposed to a detailed invoice.

Although the amount is small, we recommend keeping full supporting documents like tax invoices for all credit card transactions. This also ensures proper GST evidence.

3.2 Bank Signatories

Having only two bank signatories risks inadequate segregation of duties. We understand that in a small organisation, it is difficult to have effective independent oversight and this limitation can lead to increased vulnerability to errors or potential misuse of funds, as fewer individuals are involved in the authorisation and review process.

It was noted that a decision was made last year to add the Council Chair as an additional signatory to strengthen controls; however, this change has not yet been implemented. Prompt action to include the Council Chair or an alternative would help mitigate the current risk and enhance accountability and transparency in financial operations.

3.3 Xero Access

We noted that a recently resigned staff member of the national Fish and Game Council retains access to the Xero accounting system and the Xero subscription is allocated to her. While we understand that authority from the Eastern Region is in the process of being transferred to your region, we recommend that access for this individual be removed as soon as the appropriate authority is in place.

Maintaining up-to-date user access is essential for safeguarding financial data and ensuring appropriate system controls.

As a general rule we recommend that the list of Xero users is reviewed annually and upon changes in employees or advisors.

4. SUMMARY OF ADJUSTED ITEMS

The following journal was identified during the course of the audit, and has been adjusted in the financial statements:

Accumulated Funds	12,606.48	
Asset Replacement Reserve		12,606.48

Movement between Reserves - amount recorded in the Asset Replacement Reserve did not take into account the gain on disposal.

Memorandum

To: Councillors
From: Manager
Subject: Draft Budget and OWP 2026-27
Date: 29th January 2026

This memo is to discuss the draft budget and OWP for 2026-27 financial year that are presented for Council approval.

Context:

Fish and Game nationally is in a period of change. With the new Fish and Game Act being drafted and an intention to standardise outputs (i.e. species monitoring) nationally, it makes sense to keep regional outputs simplified and make changes as required by new legislation and policies as required.

The Minister for Hunting and Fishing may not agree to increase the licence fee again in 2026 if he is not satisfied with our budgeting process or cash reserves once again. This will increase the financial stress on the regions, and new or enhanced projects will not be achievable.

Because we are moving to Zero-Base Budgeting (ZBB) there is no indication of what NZC will approve as a baseline budget for the regions. It will be difficult to request an increase to expenses, outside of inflationary adjustments. This adds weight to the reasoning to keep the budget simple this year.

Budget:

While we now have to produce a ZBB template to NZC for approval, I have presented the budget in a similar format to the original spreadsheet for council to consider. It allows a comparison with the current year and shows the allocation of funding and staff hours in a much simpler format than the ZBB template. It would also be exceptionally difficult to print the ZBB template in a readable format due to its size. An electronic copy can be sent to councillors that wish to review it. No substantive changes or additional activities have been made to the budget for 2026-27. The same activities are planned, and the budget figures reflect historical spend with an inflationary increase.

Total operational spend in 2026-27 is \$79,100. In comparison the operational spend in the current budget is \$90,190 (a 14% decrease).

Total overhead spend in 2026-27 is \$538,150. In comparison the overhead spend in the current budget is \$513,400 (a 5% increase).

Total spend in 2026-27 is \$634,911. In comparison the total spend in the current budget is \$620,346 (a 2.3% increase). This total increase is less than an estimated inflationary adjustment of 3%.

The only significant changes are:

- 1181 Game Bird Dispersal increased budget \$2,000 to get the gas gun fleet up to standard
- 1223 Wetlands down \$5,000 to meet historical spend

- 1531 Prosecutions down \$3,000. Less lawyer effort is anticipated now that we have a working diversion system and an infringement notice system being developed
- 1843 Maritime Currency down \$3,000 as no vessel survey is required in 2026-27
- 1911 Salaries up \$14,000 to reflect an anticipated 3% increase
- 1912 Kiwisaver up \$2,400 as a proportionate increase plus the extra cost of it becoming mandatory 3.5% this year
- 1922 FBT up \$2,500 to reflect historical spend

OWP

OWP has followed similar suit to the budget. No new activity or significant changes to outputs are requested. The only changes to hours are to reflect the usage trend in recent years. The significant changes are

- 1181 Game Bird Dispersal up 160 hours. Matching last year plus expected increase due to changes to process
- 1122 Hunter Survey up 160 hours to match last years usage
- 1211 RMA up 70 hours – With Mischa Davis from Auckland Waikato away on parental leave I have to pick up this work myself
- 1221, 1222, 1223, 1223, 1225, 1226, 1226.1, 1227, 1228.02 Wetlands down 240 hours based off historic usage
- 1313 Ballots/Permits up 60 hours to reflect historic usage
- 1315 Whau Valley Fishing Day down 50 hours to reflect historic usage
- New category 1333 – F&G Website and Social Media – to capture time spent collecting material for publications and conform with other regions project codes. 140 hours allocated
- 1412 Mana Whenua Liaison – down 120 hours to 80 – has previously been overestimated due to false starts on SFGMP work
- 1431 Media liaison from 250 hours to 24. Remainder gone to 1333 F&G Website and Social Media
- 1432 Far North Community liaison projects from 100 hours to 0 – it is not getting used anymore
- 1455 Information to Licence Holders from 100 hours to 180 to reflect historic usage
- 1521 CLE course down 40 hours as the courses are all getting done by staff this year, and are 2-yearly
- 1812 SFGMP down 180 hours to 80 – most of the drafting and consultation will be done by 2026-27 and only the final steps.
- 1841 National liaison down 70 hours to 200 to reflect historical usage.

Recommendations:

- Council receives this information
- Council dictate changes to hours or budget if required
- Council resolve on a budget and OWP for 2026-27 FY

Yours sincerely,



Craig Deal
29 Jan 2026

Memorandum

To: Councillors
From: Manager
Subject: Trout Liberations 2027
Date: 29th January 2026

Orders will soon be due for trout liberations in 2027. Northland region currently has three stocked reservoirs where trout are liberated annually.

Wilson's Dam (Ruakākā) can receive rainbow and brown trout as can Whau Valley Dam in Whangārei. Lake Manuwai in Kerikeri can receive rainbows only.

Typically yearling fish are released however council agreed to trial two-year-old fish to investigate if this generated a better result for anglers. This was supposed to begin from 2027 however Ngongotaha hatchery has enough fish available to stock two-year-old trout from May this year. As the trial of two-year-old trout is beginning this year in May, there is no data or observations to inform what a good stocking rate for two-year-old fish is. Therefore it is recommended for the 2027 order to mirror the same numbers that will be released this May. Recent years have seen conservative releases due to reports of poor fish condition in Wilson's Dam and Lake Manuwai.

The 2026 liberation will be:

- Wilson's Dam 100 rainbow 2-year-olds
- Whau Valley 150 rainbow 2-year-olds
- Lake Manuwai 150 rainbow 2-year-olds

It has been discovered recently that Wilson's Dam may no longer be viable as a fishery due to its environmental conditions and its management regime by Whangārei District Council. Wilson's Dam is prone to reaching warm temperatures over the summer months. It is also prone to algal blooms. In order to mitigate algal blooms part of the management regime is to mix and oxygenate the water. This means that the water never stratifies in the warmer months – there is no cool water for the trout to seek refuge in when surface temperatures are high. It has been confirmed by WDC that Wilson's Dam may spend several days or even weeks at a time at 24 degrees Celsius (degC) or higher. Trout may tolerate water up to 24degC for short periods of time but sustained exposure to this temperature is lethal to them. It is assessed that Wilson's Dam frequently reaches lethal temperatures to trout each summer. This would explain the poor performance of the fishery in recent years.

In the most recent Angler Survey (2021-2022 season) Wilson's Dam hosted ~50 angler days, so its loss as a fishery is not expected to be a large blow to licence holders and is not expected to put regional licence sales into decline.

It is recommended that council retain a conservative stocking rate in Lake Manuwai due to the assessed lower carrying capacity of the reservoir habitat and the low angling activity. A recommended liberation for 2027 is:

- Wilsons Dam – Discontinue stocking
- Whau Valley – 150 rainbow 2-year-olds
- Lake Manuwai 150 rainbow 2-year-olds

The anticipated cost of a yearling trout in 2027 will be \$8.90. This will result in a \$2,700 cost and a \$4,000 budget for trout liberations in 2026-27.

Recommendations:

- Council receives this information
- Council resolve on whether to continue or cease stocking of Wilsons Dam with trout
- Council resolve on a trout order for the 2027 liberations

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Craig Deal', written in a cursive style.

Craig Deal
29 Jan 2026

DRAFT NEW ZEALAND FISH AND GAME POLICY FOR ADDRESSING CROP DEPREDAATION ¹

INTRODUCTION

Fish and Game Councils are responsible for managing, maintaining and enhancing the game bird resource in the recreational interests of hunters.

We anticipate that a new authorization from the Director General will be provided to cover damage to crops under Section 53, 54 and 56 of the Wildlife 1953. The template provided by DOC enables our existing authorization from DOC (2018) to work in the mean time so that the relevant regional council to respond to farmers experiencing crop depredation.

It has been and will continue to be a significant challenge for Fish and Game to provide recreational opportunities that hunters demand while simultaneously managing game bird conflicts with people. Game bird species that Fish and Game manage provide recreational, ecological, and aesthetic benefits to the New Zealand public; balancing and prioritising the often conflicting needs of everyone will continue to be difficult.

The following definition comes from the Wildlife Act 1953 relating to hunt or kill:

hunt or kill, in relation to any wildlife, includes the hunting, killing, taking, trapping, or capturing of any wildlife by any means; and also includes pursuing, disturbing, or molesting any wildlife, taking or using a firearm, dog, or like method to hunt or kill wildlife, whether this results in killing or capturing or not; and also includes every attempt to hunt or kill wildlife and every act of assistance of any other person to hunt or kill wildlife

Activity that requires a permit from Fish and Game

Any activity that results in the handling or harming of birds, or requires the use of firearms needs a permit from Fish and Game. Actions that harm birds or their nests without express authority to do so could be subject to legal action by Fish and Game.

The Regional Fish & Game Council will liaise closely with the farming community to provide sufficient advice to assist farmers in dispersing game birds from crops. Regions may be able to loan gas guns, however the dispersal of game birds in perpetuity is the farmer's responsibility.

PROCEDURES FOR ADDRESSING CROP DEPREDAATION

To maintain adequate game bird populations Fish and Game New Zealand depends a great deal on landowners. As natural habitat decreases, it is becoming increasingly crucial that farms are managed with consideration for the requirements of birds. Fortunately, many farmers appreciate that game birds provide added interest and sporting opportunities.

¹ Updated and based on the 2003 NZC Crop Depredation Policy

Some farmers take active steps to encourage the use of their land by game birds. There are times, however, when game birds can cause damage to certain crops or pasture. This need not be a serious problem if the correct action is taken quickly.

Fish & Game Councils are Crown Entities ultimately responsible to the Minister for Hunting and Fishing for managing sports fish and game birds in New Zealand. That responsibility is carried out on behalf of all New Zealanders, but the management costs are borne almost entirely by the purchasers of hunting and fishing licences. The fees for those licences are spent on restoring and creating wetlands, maintaining and enhancing water quality, and retaining and improving public access to water bodies.

As managers of game bird populations, Fish and Game has some responsibility to also manage their impacts on the farming community. Whilst we have a responsibility to game bird hunters to have as many ducks as possible flying on the first weekend in May, we cannot do this to the detriment of the farming community. Therefore, we have a working relationship with farmers, assisting those who contact us when they have a problem with game bird impacts on crops.

SPECIES

Mallards – Mallards are a short-lived species and can rear many young when conditions are suitable. The mallard population does not continually increase but fluctuates depending on conditions encountered during the breeding season. Generally, if we have a wet spring, we have lots of ducks, but a dry spring does not have so many. Wet spring conditions provide plenty of surface water, allowing young ducks to satisfy their high protein demands with plenty of worms, grass grubs, and porina grubs so more of them survive.

Paradise Shelduck – The “Parrie” is one of our native game birds and is longer lived than the mallard. Whilst they can also produce significant numbers of young, they do not start breeding until they are at least two years old. Like all native game birds, they lack some of the guile and cunning of their mallard counterparts. This makes them easier to manage with hunter harvest. Parries eat grass and are often attracted to grain being fed out in the winter.

Black Swan – Is another native game bird. They are longer lived, and do not start breeding until they are at least two years old. Swans typically feed on submerged aquatic vegetation but, at times, can graze on grasses around lake shores causing property owners to complain.

Pukeko and pheasant are two other species that can damage pasture and crops.

SUSCEPTIBLE CROPS

Both Mallards and Paradise Shelduck prefer peas, barley, oats, and wheat. However, with the introduction of highly palatable brassicas and other crops such as chicory,

mallards have found a ready food source to fill in the period between nesting and harvest season. The problem has been exacerbated by “chemical ploughing” and direct drilling. Ducks are attracted to the yellowing grass that yields a ready diet of insects and then stay on to graze the young brassica leaves as they pop out of the ground. Paradise Shelduck can be a problem on peas, but mainly become a nuisance on young grass paddocks.

Some regions have issues with game birds feeding on market garden crops for example Pukeko damaging pumpkins and feeding on or pulling out planted seedlings.

SOLUTIONS

Vigilance

The key to minimising damage to crops is vigilance. Game birds usually take some time to establish a new feeding site, so it is important to spot the potential problem when the first 20 or 30 start into a crop. These initial ducks are relatively easy to move on, whereas big mobs are not. A regular look around the farm at dusk or dawn during the cropping season will detect where ducks are feeding. Ducks do not like to land directly into a standing crop. Therefore, they prefer to have a low spot from which to attack a crop. If an area of the crop has become too wet, resulting in stunted growth, mallards will generally start landing in this area and walk through the crop from this point on. As they themselves knock more of the crop down they will change their initial landing zone. They will also start to attack crops from a grass paddock next door. Crops near ponds and wetlands supporting large numbers of game are likely to be attacked. Crop protection in these situations requires extra vigilance and effort.

Act immediately

Farmers who experience game bird crop-feeding damage should apply immediately to their Regional Fish and Game Council office for assistance. If acted upon early enough, dispersal can generally be achieved without killing birds. In isolated cases, usually involving persistent species such as pukeko, it may be necessary to capture or kill the birds.

Permits

Under section 54 of the Wildlife Act 1953, there is a provision to issue permits for farmers to hunt or kill game birds that are damaging crops. A permit is needed when a firearm is used to disperse or kill birds or where they are trapped for removal.

Permits are intended to assist land owners to disperse game birds who are preying on crops. Permits are not intended for providing hunting opportunities outside the hunting season (dates of season vary by region and species).

Land owners shall report to Fish and Game on the number of birds killed. Fish and Game will be able to report to Director General number of permits issues and number of birds killed in relation to this policy.

METHODS FOR DISPERSING GAME BIRDS

1. Propane-powered bird scarer

Gas-operated scare guns can be purchased from several retailers across the country. Occasionally, arrangements can be made to hire a gun through the local Fish and Game Council. The scarer is particularly valuable to farmers in areas where game birds consistently cause damage or show a tendency to return to paddocks from which they have been scared. If you are likely to have annual problems with game birds, it may be advisable to purchase a gas gun.

2. Firing over birds

Firing loaded or blank cartridges near the birds can be effective. Firing shots, running of dogs, and extensive human activity are helpful preliminary tactics to the installation of static scaring devices. Shooting ducks/swans is less effective than dispersing them via nonlethal methods. It is far better to have 'scared ducks/swans' than 'dead ducks/swans'. When landowners are given permission to disturb ducks/swans, Fish & Game recommend that they purchase ammunition of small shot size, #8s or so. The smaller the shot, the more pellets you actually fire at birds; therefore, the more birds you are likely to hit in a distant mob. The use of smaller shot also prevents wounding birds as the pellets won't penetrate unless ducks are very close.

3. Flashing lights, scarecrows and flags

Flashing lights, spotlights, and scarecrows may be used in conjunction with other scarers to increase effectiveness. A sheet, or piece of unbleached calico, suspended between two 2-metre posts and allowed to flap in the wind, makes a successful scarer, especially if erected before a crop is vulnerable. This method is even more effective if used with flashing lights. Flags 1m x 2m in size can be made of colourful plastic sacks or polythene sheeting. When they are attached to poles 2 or 3 metres high and spaced 200 metres apart about the field, wind causes them to flap and crackle loudly, making them a very useful and cheap scaring method.

4. Flames and smoke

Small oil drums filled with sacking and waste oil may be placed around the crop. When the contents of the drums are set alight, the flames and smoke will scare birds. "Burning off" the stubble in adjacent fields has a similar effect, taking note of any local fire bans.

5. Chemical repellents

A chemical repellent is available through some seed merchants. The active ingredient of the chemical is methiocarb, which has insecticidal, molluscidal and bird repellent properties. The compound is mixed with the seed at planting or is sprayed onto the foliage. It is used to protect grapes, seedling cereals and vegetables. Methiocarb has a nauseating effect on birds attempting to eat the treated crop, which they soon learn to avoid. The chemical has

been successfully used to protect sprouting maize from pukekos. It is illegal in all circumstances for a landowner to use poison or narcotics such as alpha-chlorolase on game birds.

6. Human activity – essential

All scare devices lose their effectiveness if left in one position for days. They should be shifted before this value is lost. Human disturbance, where it can be maintained, is always best and will significantly reinforce the effect of static devices.

7. Lasers

Lasers have been recently developed with exceptional results in dispersing game birds. These powerful lasers can be programmed to run during specific times of the day, and to cover specific areas. They can run on a 360-degree rotation, with the speed of turn determined by the user. They are an effective passive tool. They are charged with solar or plugged in.

8. Trapping and removing

This method of counteracting damage can be used on the written authority of the Regional Fish and Game Council. It has proved effective with some species, such as pukeko. Most game birds have a strong "homing instinct" and must be moved many miles away from the trapping site. Consequently, this method becomes impractical in many cases. When transferring pukekos and ducks, it is necessary to clip the primary feathers on one wing. The new habitat, therefore, must be a suitable one with plenty of natural food available, and the birds should not be released where they can cause further damage.

9. Electric fencing

A hot wire about 40cm above the ground and operating at normal voltages will deter swan or geese from walking onto lakeside pastures. It may be useful against ducks in similar situations if set near the ground.

10. Diversionary feeding areas

Feeding areas have been used in North America for many years as a significant and most successful means of damage prevention and control. A *lure crop* is a field set aside to provide a feeding area for ducks or geese in order to keep them off surrounding fields. A *feeding station* is designed to keep ducks on a lake by spreading grain along the shoreline until the harvest on farmlands is completed. Feeding stations may be operated by placing grain in fields, as well as stubble paddocks.

The advantage of diversionary feeding areas is in concentrating large numbers of waterfowl in a small area and troubling fewer farmers and ducks. Ducks can be fed on much less grain than they might destroy through wide-ranging field feeding, trampling and fouling. Feeding areas are most effective when operated in conjunction with a scaring programme on the susceptible crops. It is vital that lure crops and feeding stations be left undisturbed. Diversionary feeding areas are little used in New Zealand. However, the technique is briefly described should an opportunity for use arise.

SUMMARY

To protect your crop from damage by game birds, you should:

1. Be prepared by checking crops regularly for any sign of trouble.
2. Act as soon as there is any indication that birds are being attracted.
3. Apply to your Regional Fish and Game Council for advice and assistance.
4. Apply for a permit if you intend to use a firearm to disperse birds.

Further advice on specific problems relating to crop damage by game birds can be obtained by contacting your Regional Fish and Game Council.

FISH AND GAME RESPONSE TO GAME BIRDS CAUSING DAMAGE

Fish and Game Staff will, upon receiving a complaint of game birds causing damage, respond in the following way:

1. An application will be provided to a landholder seeking assistance to disturb game birds that are causing damage to crops. Such application may only be made by the landholder or leaseholder of the property concerned.
2. Staff will investigate the complaint to confirm that it is valid and, respond to the affected landholder and provide advice on the best course of action to mitigate the problem, including authorizing disturbance, at the Regional Manager's discretion.
3. We will telephone the land owner and discuss the case and ask the following information for our investigation: This will include the location of the property affected, the number and species of gamebirds causing the damage, the crop or property being damaged, the name of the landholder or leaseholder, and the name(s) of the people to be authorized by either the permit holder or Fish and Game staff to undertake disturbance.
4. The completed assessment and the terms and conditions of the draft permit will be provided to the applicant for verification and signature to confirm agreement. On receipt of the signed assessment and agreement to the terms and conditions

of the draft permit from the applicant, Fish and Game will issue the permit in a timely manner.

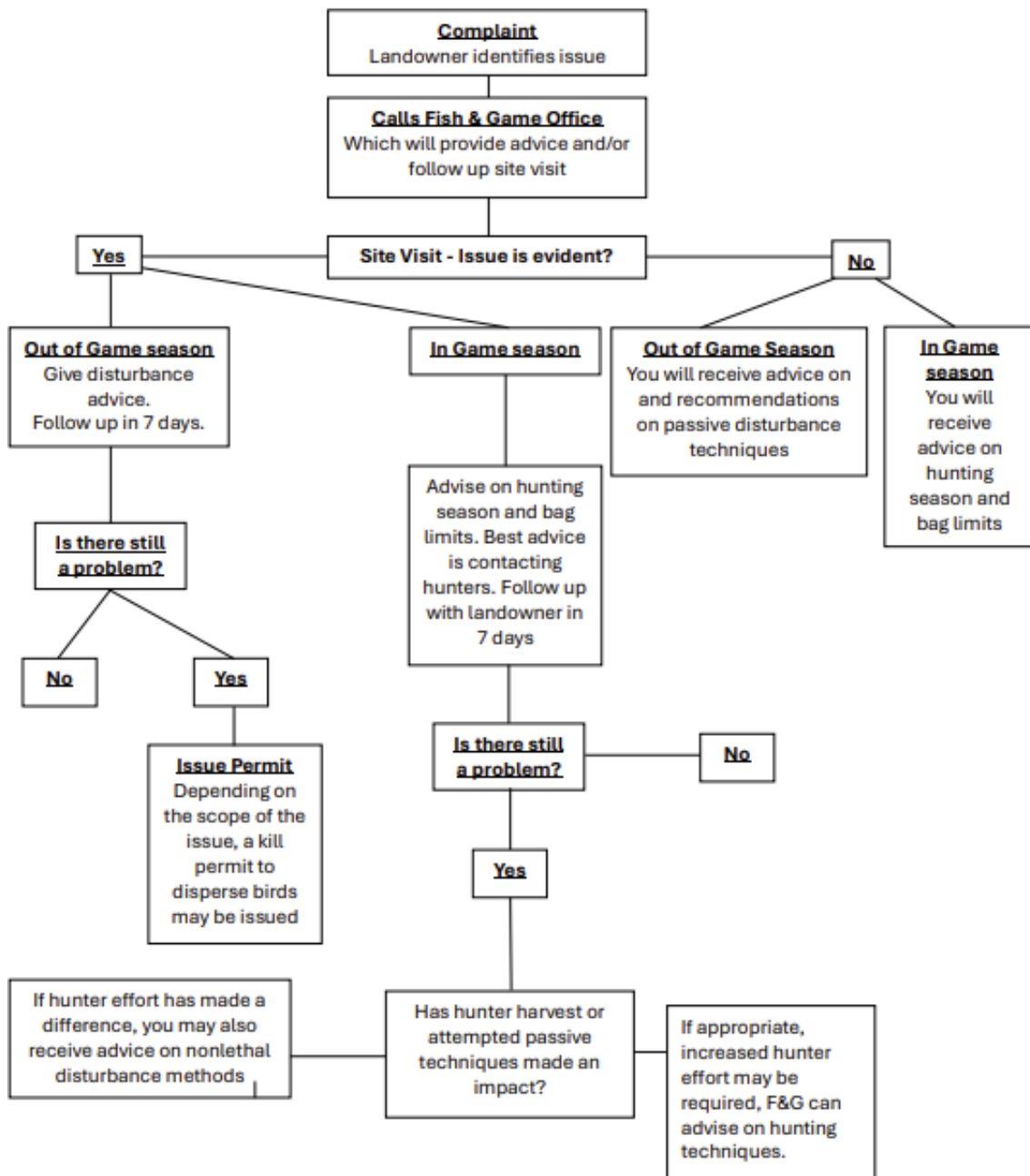
5. All permits must be issued under s53, 54 and 56 as relevant. If the main activity is disturbance, the number of days that the permit is valid and when relevant the number of birds of each species that can be killed.
6. The Council will maintain devices to disperse game birds and mitigate the effects of crop damage. These will be available for loan or rental to properties affected by game birds.
7. Property owners experiencing their first case of crop depredation by game birds will be instructed in methods to mitigate the adverse effects on their crops. A demonstration of techniques, including the loan of a scaring device, if available, will be given.
8. All property owners who are affected by crop depredation will be encouraged to purchase devices as appropriate to mitigate damage in the future. The principle of self-determination will be encouraged for landholders seeking assistance following the initial demonstration and advice.
9. Permits to disturb will be issued pursuant to 54 of the Wildlife Act (1953) and under the limitations of this Policy.
 - When Staff have verified that game birds are causing damage, they will decide on a course of action from within the disturbance only methods and advise the landholder.
 - Staff will undertake or directly oversee the disturbance only exercises.
10. Permits to disturb and, where the Regional Manager considers necessary, kill game birds causing damage will be issued pursuant to relevant Sections 53, 54 & 56 of the Wildlife Act (1953) under the limitations of such delegations as may be made by the Minister of Conservation or the Director General and this Policy. Permits will detail when the permit can be used (and when it cannot), devices to be used and where, and expiry of permit, and maximum number of game birds by species that can be killed (if appropriate to situation).

- When it is deemed necessary to kill game birds for the disturbance to be effective, the killing shall be carried out by the landowner or delegated person at the discretion of the landowner.
- Staff may oversee the disturbance exercise but must advise the property owner accordingly.
- Staff will conduct compliance inspections randomly or where some irregularity under the permit is suspected.

11. Property owners are required to provide a written report confirming the number of birds killed (if allowed in their permit).

12. Council staff will check compliance with permit conditions. Failure to provide correct information within the report may result in future permit applications being declined or a prosecution taken at the discretion of the Regional Manager.

GAME BIRDS DAMAGE COMPLAINT PROCESS



HEALTH AND SAFETY – February 2026

Background

As part of its commitment to Health and Safety and providing a safe workplace the Council requires a report at each meeting detailing;

1. implementation and adherence to Health and Safety policy / manual
2. any new issues and updates
3. progress with any ongoing issues
4. outcomes of audits and reviews required in the Health and Safety manual
5. any near misses or injuries and any new hazards and how these have been addressed

Update

1. Development of policy / manual	Status
Policy and Manual is in place.	Current
2. New issues and information	
New personnel safety system in service.	To receive the GPS equipment, familiarise and train staff.
3. Ongoing issues	
Nil	
4. Audits, reviews, and meetings	
H&S Meetings Vehicle inspections Annual Audits and Reviews	Monthly meetings held. Completed. Reviewed flooding procedure.
5. Audit Recommendations Progress	
None to report	
6. Near misses, injuries, and hazards	
ATV brakes not functional	ATV repaired.



Craig Deal
Manager
February 2026

Executive Limitations Report

Northland Fish and Game Council Meeting 12 February 2026

Prepared by: Craig Deal, Manager

Report frequency: Reports as required by ML 4.4.1

General Comment

The policy ML 4.4.1 requires the Manager to report bi monthly on Financial Planning and Budgeting; Financial condition and activities: Protection of Assets, Programmes and services and Public Affairs. These are regular reports and they are primarily aimed at certification by me that I have complied with the Executive Limitations Policies, or identifying any occasions where I have, either not been able to comply with the policies or there are issues that I believe need to be brought to the Councils attention the format of this report is therefore to certify compliance and note any exceptions.

EL 1 Financial Planning and Budgeting

Level Two

EL 1.2 Financial Planning for any financial year or the remaining part of financial year shall not deviate materially from the Councils strategic Ends policies, risk financial harm or fail to be derived from a multi year plan.

Report

Expenditure is likely to exceed budget in this FY due to unforeseen costs which will be required. In the effort to modernise our health and safety systems and practices there will be some unplanned costs such as training courses that will need to be completed.

The repair to the Jack Bisset Wetland Bund Wall may end up costing more than anticipated and has the potential to either result in an operational overspend, or the requirement to draw funding from regional reserves. This will not be fully understood until ground conditions in the wetland allow for work to commence. There is also a possibility that Regional Council will impose additional cost through resource consenting and delays due to processing times.

EL 2 Financial Condition

Level Two

EL 2.2 With respect to the actual and ongoing financial condition and activities the Manager shall not cause or allow the development of financial harm or material deviation of expenditures from Councils priorities.

Report

Expenditure has been in accordance with the Council priorities and the Councils financial position is sound. A new Triton utility vehicle has been purchased for a price of \$45,207.99 + GST. The old vehicle has been sold for \$28,000.00.

EL 6 Protection of Assets

Level Two

EL 6.2 *The Manager shall not allow the Councils assets to be unprotected, inadequately maintained or unnecessary placed at risk.*

Report

All of the Councils assets are regularly maintained and serviced by appropriate and experienced personnel. All assets are kept in secure locations and are fully insured against theft, loss or damage. Insurance for vehicles, the vessel, trailers and office contents has been renewed as of 01 September 2025.

EL 14 Programmes and Services

Level Two

EL 14.2 *The Manager shall not allow programmes and services to be established which are not thoroughly researched prior to commencement and carefully managed, monitored and reviewed.*

Report

No programmes or services have been entered into which do not align with the organisation's purposes or priorities.

EL 15 Public Awareness

Level Two

EL 15.2 *The Manager shall not approve or in any way support any action or activity or statements to the news media that are derogatory or in any way damaging to Fish and Game New Zealand*

Report

No actions or statements that might generate media attention have been made or supported in this reporting period and the reputation of Northland Fish and Game remains intact. There has been media interest in the Ngunguru wastewater treatment plant botulism outbreak. If I am approached for comment I intend to express the view that:

- district councils are responsible for outbreaks that occur in their wastewater plants
- Northland Fish and Game are responsible for the sustainable management of game birds in the region, and that game birds usually suffer the highest mortality in botulism outbreaks
- district councils can take actions to prevent and mitigate botulism outbreaks before they cause excessive bird mortality
- Fish and Game will support district councils with the development of botulism management plans that identify conditions that may lead to an outbreak and detail actions that can be taken to provide early detection and mitigation of outbreaks.



Craig Deal
29 January 2026

To: All Councillors
From: Rachael Quin
Date: 29 January 2026
Subject: Financial Report for the period ending 31st December 2025

Revenue

Fish & Game Bird Licence Income **\$45,608**

The latest national licence sales spreadsheet will be circulated at the Council meeting for Councillor's information.

NZFG Council Grant **\$94,296**

The first instalment of the NZC grant was made on the 21 November 2025. The second instalment is due to be received 20 February 2026.

Interest Income **\$4,253**

The term deposits (73 & 74) mature on 17 February 2025.

Other Income **\$2,405**

This figure includes Greenheart Wetland grazing lease, gas gun hire and cost recovery for personal use of vehicles.

Total Income **\$146,562**

Expenditure

The current financial situation for the Council is that expenditure is under the budget in most areas. All depreciation has been accumulated.

Total Overheads **\$178,312**

Total Operating Expenditure **\$196,876**

Net Loss **\$50,314**

Recommendation

That the financial report to the 31 December 2025 be adopted.

Rachael Quin
Office Administrator

Balance Sheet

Northland Fish and Game Council

As at 31 December 2025

Account	31 Dec 2025
Assets	
Bank	
ASB Cashflow	861.56
Cheque Account	3,867.34
Habitat Development Fund	4,630.24
Savings on Call Account	215,169.46
Term Deposit (73)	201,991.23
Term Deposit (74)	100,995.62
Total Bank	527,515.45
Current Assets	
Accounts Receivable	10,980.49
Accrued Interest	1,500.66
Total Current Assets	12,481.15
Fixed Assets	
Accum Dep Field Equipment	(7,548.81)
Accum Dep Improvements	(42,117.10)
Accum Dep Office Equipment	(26,594.91)
Accum Dep Vehicles	(108,474.49)
Field Equipment	19,915.32
Improvements	140,383.00
Land	278,592.75
Office Equipment	29,951.93
Vehicles	226,102.11
Total Fixed Assets	510,209.80
Total Assets	1,050,206.40
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	4,183.58
Accrued Expenses	11,380.00
Annual Leave & Time in lieu	35,795.72
Designated Waters Clearing	8.31
Game Bird Habitat Stamp	4.35
GST	7,760.02
Income in Advance	5,910.00
PAYE Clearing	17,012.88
Salmon Endorsement Clearing	20.78
Visa Credit Card - Craig Deal	2,309.36
Total Current Liabilities	84,385.00
Non-current Liabilities	
Payroll Clearing	(8,439.43)
Total Non-current Liabilities	(8,439.43)
Total Liabilities	75,945.57
Net Assets	974,260.83
Equity	
Accumulated Funds	
Current Year Earnings	(50,313.79)
Accumulated Funds	989,740.00
Transfer To/From Reserves	(330,052.50)
Retained Earnings	22,228.14
Total Accumulated Funds	631,601.85
Asset Replacement Reserve	23,576.96
Non-Resident Levy Reserve	23,989.75
Habitat Development Fund Reserve	4,581.94
Kai Iwi Lakes Fishing Competitions Reserve	1,204.00
NFGC Sports Fish & Game Mgmt Plan Reserve	3,535.00
Habitat Enhancement Programme	4,165.33
Game Bird Habitat Development Reserve	281,606.00
Total Equity	974,260.83

Profit and Loss

Northland Fish and Game Council

For the 4 months ended 31 December 2025

Account	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance	Annual Budget	Unused Budget	% of Budget
Trading Income						
Licence Sales						
Fish Licence Sales	45,589	0	45,589	83,833	(38,244)	54%
Game Bird Licence Sales	19	0	19	145,362	(145,343)	0%
Total Licence Sales	45,608	0	45,608	229,195	(183,587)	20%
Grants NZC	94,296	94,296	(0)	377,183	(282,887)	25%
Interest Income	4,253	0	4,253	6,421	(2,168)	66%
Other Income	2,405	2,000	405	15,900	(13,495)	15%
Total Trading Income	146,562	96,296	50,266	628,699	(482,137)	23%
Gross Profit	146,562	96,296	50,266	628,699	(482,137)	23%
Operating Expenses						
Species Management						
1111 Trend Counts	0	0	0	13,000	(13,000)	0%
1116 Mallard Research	1,036	0	1,036	1,000	36	104%
1161 Trout Liberations	0	0	0	4,200	(4,200)	0%
1181 Gamebird Dispersal	0	0	0	2,000	(2,000)	0%
Total Species Management	1,036	0	1,036	20,200	(19,164)	5%
Habitat Protection/Management						
1221 Jack Bisset Wetlands	660	0	660	0	660	0%
1223 Habitat Maintenance	835	0	835	40,000	(39,165)	2%
1225 Flaxmill Development	699	0	699	0	699	0%
1226.1 Underwood Wetland Development	315	0	315	0	315	0%
1228.2 Greenheart Lease/Development	468	0	468	0	468	0%
Total Habitat Protection/Management	2,977	0	2,977	40,000	(37,023)	7%
Participation						
1312 Anglers/Hunters Access Signs	0	0	0	1,000	(1,000)	0%
1313 Ballots/Permits/Liability insurance	0	2,000	(2,000)	2,000	(2,000)	0%
1315 Fishing Comp & Tuition Days	456	500	(44)	500	(44)	91%
Total Participation	456	2,500	(2,044)	3,500	(3,044)	13%
Public Interface						
1412 Mana Whenua Liaison	0	0	0	500	(500)	0%
1423 F&G Website updates & maint.	150	0	150	0	150	0%
1451 Regional A&P Shows	40	0	40	3,000	(2,960)	1%
1453 Office Habitat Print & Poster Material	0	0	0	300	(300)	0%
Total Public Interface	190	0	190	3,800	(3,610)	5%
Compliance						
1511 Ranger Allowance/Mileage	0	0	0	1,500	(1,500)	0%
1531 Court Prosecutions	0	0	0	5,000	(5,000)	0%
Total Compliance	0	0	0	6,500	(6,500)	0%
Licensing						
1613 Printing Regulation booklets (Fish)	0	0	0	100	(100)	0%
1614 Printing Regulation booklets (Game)	0	0	0	300	(300)	0%
1617 Transaction Fees	68	0	68	0	68	0%
1618 Transaction Fees excl GST	757	0	757	0	757	0%
1631 Commission on Sales - Fish	360	0	360	2,750	(2,390)	13%
1632 Commission on Sales - Game	0	0	0	6,418	(6,418)	0%
Total Licensing	1,186	0	1,186	9,568	(8,382)	12%
Councils						
1721 Council Meals	558	666	(108)	2,000	(1,442)	28%
1722 Councillor Travel Reimburse/Accom	0	2,000	(2,000)	6,000	(6,000)	0%
Total Councils	558	2,666	(2,108)	8,000	(7,442)	7%
Planning/Reporting						
1822 Annual Report & Financial Statements	3,000	3,500	(500)	3,500	(500)	86%
1831 Audit	6,260	8,500	(2,240)	8,500	(2,240)	74%
1843 Maritime currency and qualifications	2,900	0	2,900	3,800	(900)	76%
Total Planning/Reporting	12,160	12,000	160	15,800	(3,640)	77%

Overheads						
Salaries						
1911 Salaries	110,935	123,664	(12,729)	371,000	(260,065)	30%
Kiwisaver Contributions	3,421	3,700	(279)	11,100	(7,679)	31%
1913 Seasonal Contractor	1,302	0	1,302	5,000	(3,698)	26%
1914 Allowances	1,606	0	1,606	1,800	(194)	89%
Total Salaries	117,264	127,364	(10,100)	388,900	(271,636)	30%
Staff Expenses						
1921 ACC Levy	786	0	786	1,000	(214)	79%
1922 Fringe Benefit Tax	2,552	0	2,552	7,500	(4,948)	34%
1923 Staff Training	546	0	546	2,400	(1,854)	23%
1924 Health & Safety (OSH)	157	0	157	2,000	(1,843)	8%
1925 Staff Expenses	186	0	186	4,100	(3,914)	5%
1926 Staff Uniforms	0	0	0	500	(500)	0%
Total Staff Expenses	4,227	0	4,227	17,500	(13,273)	24%
Office Premises						
1941 Rent	12,667	13,332	(665)	40,000	(27,333)	32%
1942 Office Premises Rates (inc Water)	6,303	0	6,303	8,800	(2,497)	72%
1943 Office Maintenance	39	0	39	500	(461)	8%
1944 Insurance (mgmt fees)	490	0	490	500	(10)	98%
1945 Power	1,149	0	1,149	2,600	(1,451)	44%
1946 Office Security	285	0	285	1,000	(715)	29%
Total Office Premises	20,933	13,332	7,601	53,400	(32,467)	39%
Office Equipment						
1951 Purchases (Under 2,000) Office Equipm	0	0	0	1,500	(1,500)	0%
1952 Asset Replacement/Depreciation	1,194	0	1,194	7,310	(6,116)	16%
1953 Equipment Maintenance	166	0	166	400	(234)	42%
1954 Equipment/Contents Insurance	1,136	0	1,136	500	636	227%
Total Office Equipment	2,496	0	2,496	9,710	(7,214)	26%
Communications/Consumables						
1961 Telephone/fax/internet	1,584	0	1,584	6,000	(4,416)	26%
1963 Courier/Freight	0	0	0	1,000	(1,000)	0%
1964 Stationery	196	0	196	1,000	(804)	20%
1965 Photocopier	681	0	681	1,800	(1,119)	38%
1966 Computer Expenses	1,558	0	1,558	6,000	(4,442)	26%
Total Communications/Consumables	4,019	0	4,019	15,800	(11,781)	25%
General						
1972 Subscription	216	0	216	500	(284)	43%
1974 Bank Charges	46	0	46	0	46	0%
1975 General (inc Petty Cash)	312	0	312	900	(588)	35%
1976 Public & Statutory Liability Insurance	1,629	0	1,629	1,500	129	109%
Total General	2,202	0	2,202	2,900	(698)	76%
General Equipment						
1981 Purchases (Under 2000) Field Equipme	130	0	130	1,500	(1,370)	9%
1982 Asset Replacement Field Equipment	883	0	883	13,000	(12,117)	7%
1983 Field Equipment Maintenance	0	0	0	500	(500)	0%
1985 Equipment Hire/Rental	0	0	0	500	(500)	0%
Total General Equipment	1,014	0	1,014	15,500	(14,486)	7%
Vehicle Expenses						
1991 Purchases (Under 2,000) Vehicles	724	0	724	600	124	121%
1992 Asset Replacement -Vehicles	5,743	0	5,743	336	5,407	1709%
1993 Vehicle Maintenance	3,771	0	3,771	6,500	(2,729)	58%
1994 Vehicle Insurance	7,752	0	7,752	7,000	752	111%
1995 Vehicle Registration	106	0	106	1,000	(894)	11%
1996 Vehicle Fuel & RUC	5,162	0	5,162	16,000	(10,838)	32%
1997 General Trailer Maintenance	0	0	0	500	(500)	0%
1999.1 Boat Maintenance	1,140	0	1,140	800	340	142%
1999.3 Polaris ATV	1,759	0	1,759	1,600	159	110%
Total Vehicle Expenses	26,157	0	26,157	34,336	(8,179)	76%
Total Overheads	178,312	140,696	37,616	538,046	(359,734)	33%
Total Operating Expenses	196,876	157,862	39,014	645,414	(448,538)	31%
Net Profit	(50,314)	(61,566)	11,252	(16,715)	(33,599)	301%

Aged Receivables Summary

Northland Fish and Game Council

As at 31 December 2025

Ageing by due date

Contact	Current	< 1 Month	1 Month	2 Months	3 Months	Older	Total
Fish & Game, Eyede Solutions Ltd for	10,788.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,788.83
Graham Gallagher	0.00	27.07	164.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	191.66
Total	10,788.83	27.07	164.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,980.49
Percentage of total	98.25%	0.25%	1.50%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

Aged Payables Summary

Northland Fish and Game Council

As at 31 December 2025

Ageing by due date

Contact	Current	< 1 Month	1 Month	2 Months	3 Months	Older	Total
Aged Payables							
Bencraige Ltd T/A Firewatch Whangarei	191.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	191.37
Boutique Body Corporate Ltd	1,522.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,522.03
BP Oil New Zealand Ltd	999.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	999.42
Fish & Game, Eyede Solutions Ltd for	0.00	148.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	148.20
New Zealand Fish and Game Council	69.00	69.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	138.00
Northland Business Systems Limited	340.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	340.68
OfficeMax	103.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	103.71
Paymark / Worldline	21.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21.74
Powershop	341.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	341.44
SprayShop Limited	27.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	27.10
Sutherland Security Centre	0.00	97.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	97.75
TSC IT Consultants	252.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	252.14
Total Aged Payables	3,868.63	314.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,183.58
Total	3,868.63	314.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,183.58
Percentage of total	92.47%	7.53%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

CORRESPONDENCE

September 2025 to August 2026

Inward

No.	DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	FILED
1807	19/09/2025	Hon James Meager	Sports Fish and Game Management Plans	Craigs emails
1808	21/11/2025	Hon James Meager	Fish and Game Reform update	C:\Users\Craig\NZ Fish & Game\Northland - Documents\1900 ADMINISTRATION\Correspondence\Incoming
1809	21/11/2025	Hon James Meager	Fish and Game Reform update Q+A document	C:\Users\Craig\NZ Fish & Game\Northland - Documents\1900 ADMINISTRATION\Correspondence\Incoming
1810	3/12/2025	Hon James Meager	Ref JMC-931 SFGMP extension approval 30 June 2027	C:\Users\Craig\NZ Fish & Game\Northland - Documents\1900 ADMINISTRATION\Correspondence\Incoming
1811	27/01/2026	Hon James Meager	Acknowledged receipt of letter advising resignation	Administration emails

Outward

No.	DATE	SENT TO	SUBJECT	FILED
927	4/09/2025	Nicholas Walsh	Response to letter querying season length	Northland - Documents\1900 ADMINISTRATION\Correspondence\Outgoing\L etter to N Walsh - 4 Sep 2025.doc
928	31/10/2025	Hon James Meager	Response to letter JMC-725 re Sports Fish & Game Management Plan time extension	Northland - Documents\1900 ADMINISTRATION\Correspondence\Outgoing\ Northland Fish and Game Council - Response to JMC-725 - 28 Oct 2025.doc
929	27/01/2026	Hon James Meager	Advising resignation of L Peart from NFGC	Administration emails