

**Agenda for the Meeting of the
Otago Fish & Game Council to be held on 17th August 2017
At the office of Otago Fish & Game Council
Corner Hanover and Harrow Streets Dunedin**

Commencing at 12.15pm

Please note: A Lunch will be provided at 11.45

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1 Present and Apologies

2 Declaration of Interest

3 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes

**Minutes of Otago Fish and Game Council Meeting
St Johns Room, 145 Scotland Street, Roxburgh
15 June 2017
Commencing at 12.00 pm**

1.0 Present

Monty Wright (Chair), Adrian McIntyre, Colin Weatherall, John Jillett, John Barlow, Rick Boyd, Dan Rae, Vicky Whyte, David Witherow, Richard Twing, Murray Neilson, and Alan Hammond

In attendance: Niall Watson (CE) Ian Hadland (OM).

Apologies were received from, Mike Turner and Ian Cole.

Resolved (moved from the Chair)

That the apologies be received.

Co-opted Councillor

Mr Wright welcomed Mr Richard Twing who had been nominated by Ngai Tahu for the Council's co-opted councillor position. It was noted that co-opted councillors had full speaking rights but were not able to vote.

Resolved (Boyd/McIntyre)

That Richard Twing be co-opted on to the Council on the nomination of Ngai Tahu

2.0 Declaration of Interests

There were no new declarations of interests

3.0 Minutes

Resolved (Weatherall/Jillett)

That the Minutes of the meeting on the 20th April 2017 be confirmed as a true and correct record subject to minor corrections to the heading in 7.2 and addition of the word 'applications' after 'legal pool' in 8.2

4.0 Matters Arising from Minutes.

Nil

5.0 Communications New Zealand Council

5.1 NZC Correspondence to Otago

5.1.1 2017/18 Licence Fee Recommendations

The memo on the 2017/18 Licence Fee Recommendations was discussed noting that proposed fee increase for adult whole season fish to \$127 and AWS game to \$94 (including a \$3 Habitat Stamp). Otago's core budget moved to \$984,399 but the increase (\$9565) would be funded from regional reserves because Otago's reserves now lay above the 30-50% of licence income set by policy for levels of financial reserves to be maintained by councils.

It was resolved (Weatherall/Barlow)

That the NZC's recommendations be supported.

The addition of a staff member for Northland at a cost of \$85,300 was discussed. Concern was expressed about the apparent lack of process for assessing the need for new staff for any of the 13 Councils. The CE advised that there was a comparative analysis of staff levels for regional councils prepared previously but no criteria had been developed and it did not cover NZC.

The progressive addition of staff on a first come first served basis was seen as undesirable because it added fixed costs to councils' budgets and put pressure on discretionary spending power.

Resolved (Boyd/Witherow)

That NZC be requested to develop criteria for the consideration of new staff appointments to any of the 13 councils prior to further appointments being made.

Mr McIntyre requested his vote be recorded against the motion

5.2 Correspondence from Otago to NZC

5.2.1 Otago response on sales and licence category paper

Noted

6.0 Health and Safety (H&S)

The OM reported on council health and safety obligations and emphasised that the council has clear H&S responsibilities. He said requiring regular reporting was helpful in meeting obligations and that at a staff level there was an H&S audit checklist.

He advised that H&S was 'managed' at a staff level but the Council needed to be aware of that management and how staff responded to new hazards and incidents.

The report on the use of Robinson helicopters was discussed, noting the conditions proposed would be added to the hazard management plan.

It was resolved (Weatherall/McIntyre)

That the report be received

7.0 Chief Executive's Report

7.1 Administration

Finance and licence sales reports to the end of May 2017 were discussed with 78% of the budget spent at a point 75% through the financial year. Income received was currently 102% of budget

Licence Sales

It was noted that and that fishing licence sales were slightly behind the same period last year at 15041 LEQs versus 15135 LEQs for 2015/16. Game sales at 4208 LEQs was well ahead of last year (4007 LEQs).

Capital purchases

Noted that a replacement truck had been ordered.

Land and buildings

In response to the Lake Wanaka Trust request for someone from Fish and Game to act on a governance group.

It was resolved (Weatherall/Rae)

That John Barlow be appointed to represent Fish and Game on the trusts governance group

It was **agreed** that Rick Boyd act in support of that role.

The CE reported on Mr Van Klink's progress with tracks within the hatchery property, including alignments and easements. The progress was noted but the need to consider health and safety, control of visitors and the actual alignment and structure was considered to require more definition.

Resolved (Rae/Jillett)

That Finance report for the period ending 31 May 2017 and Licence sales report to 31 May 2017 be approved.

It was agreed that the financial summary be moved to the front of the financial reports

7.2 Species

Captive Reared Mallards

The previously circulated paper by Dr Murray Williams on captive reared mallards was discussed. Dr Williams concludes there is no effect on wild populations. The practice is popular in the North Island with 40-50 groups rearing and releasing birds. The value on communicating mallard work to hunters was noted and it was agreed the report be put onto the website's waterfowl page.

Wanaka Salmon Farm

The granting of a fish farm licence to Inderlee Fish Out Pond in Wanaka was noted. Staff did not consider this had implications for enforcement and the outcome was a result of the very open regulations relating to fish farms. The farm area did not include Cameron Creek but a consent to dam Cameron Creek had been issued in the past.

7.3 Habitat

Consents

Kye Burn

Kye burn Catchment Limited's consent application is to go to a hearing on 21 June. Fish and Game had sought a residual flow of 300 l/s in the mainstem, and KCL sought a flow of 180 l/s dropping to 160 l/s below the last take. The mean annual low flow is 539 l/s

Contact Energy

The CE advised that Contact had not completed their stakeholder consultation over a hatchery option but expected to do so in the near future. The requirement for a clear timetable for consideration of a hatchery option was accepted.

Minimum Flows

Lindis

The Environment Court mediation hearing on the Lindis minimum flow (Plan Change 5A) is to reconvene in early July after further assessment of technical aspects the expert conferencing. The details of mediation are confidential.

Manuherikia

ORC has held drop in sessions on Manuherikia River minimum flows (Plan Change 5C) to consider different minimum flow options and minimum flow locations.

Arrow

ORC has advertised drop in sessions and stakeholder meetings for a proposed Arrow River minimum flows Plan Change .

Plan Change 1D

ORC plan change (ID) to address issues relating to the transition from mining privileges to RMA consents is reported to be back on the agenda

Water Quality

A meeting is planned with ORC senior staff to follow up on winter crop issues and impacts on water quality.

Reserves Management

Takitakitoa Wetlands

The CE reported that the Takitakitoa Wetlands development project had been entered in the Southern Region contractors awards and that Southroads, the contractors, had won the competition. Mr Hadland was congratulated on the win.

Maniototo Wetlands

As well as covenants over wetlands on Maniototo farm properties adjacent to the Upper Taieri, which were nearing completion, there had been an enquiry about whether Otago Fish and Game was willing manage Wildlife Management Reserves covering wetlands in the same area. The CE said he had given a positive response and the Council **agreed** to ratify that position. Mr Neilson noted the wetlands had high value in their present state without any active management.

Pomahaka River

Expressions of concern about the status of the fishery in the upper Pomahaka were discussed and it was **agreed** that a report be commissioned to draw together available information and to survey regular users.

Mr McIntyre noted Morgan Trotter's positive liaison with the Pomahaka Landcare Group and said it was important to stay involved. The Council congratulated Morgan on the positive feedback received from the group.

7.4 User Participation

No discussion

7.5 Public Interface

Liaison

The CE reported that DOC had come back with an MOU acceptable to them. The draft would be circulated after he had reviewed it but it was noted that the scope for change was now limited because of the extent of consultation undertaken.

7.6 Compliance

No discussion

7.7 Licencing

No discussion

7.8 Council

The joint meeting with Southland Fish and Game Council had been rescheduled for Tuesday 18th July in Clinton and items on the agenda were mallard research, backcountry fisheries, and grazing of winter crops.

Standing Orders

The Draft Standing Orders based on the NZC model were discussed along with Colin Weatherall's suggested changes, namely:

1.3.1 Council focus of governance - should be broadened from just licence holders to anglers and hunters and fish and game resources

1.4.4 Membership of committees – Employment Committee needs a degree of confidentiality

1.9.1 Delegations – No reason why Council can't delegate employment of a CE to a selected committee

It was resolved (Jillett/ Whyte)

That the draft standing orders adopted as the Council's Standing Orders subject to changes to reflect the points above

7.9 Planning and Reporting

No discussion

8.0 Committee Reports

8.1 Clutha Fisheries Trust

No meetings in the intervening period. Ongoing work includes:

- Completion of Kane Road access
- River flow work on the Lindis and Cardrona
- Analysis of conductivity monitoring

8.2 New Zealand Council

Dr Jillett reported on business from the last meeting which included:

- Recruitment of new chief executive
- Additional conflicts of interest process for councillors requiring signed declaration at each meeting.
- Approval of legal pool funding for Kye Burn
- Approval of Otago's exceptional funding application for \$50,000
- Approval of staff travel scholarship for Ian Hadland to attend a marketing conference in Arizona
- Discussion of delays to the guides licence
- Consideration of the Overseas Investment Office's decision on Hunter Valley Station and the national implications. NZC is in consultation with the OIO on these issues.

9.0 Technical Reports

9.1 Angler Notice 2017/18 – Cliff Halford

The report was discussed and it was resolved (Rae/Boyd)

That the draft Anglers Notice be approved

9.2 Luggate Creek Spawning Survey – Paul van Klink

The report was discussed. The success of the fish pass installation was noted and it was resolved (Whyte/Hammond):

That the report be received

9.3 Game Season Opening – Cliff Halford

Resolved (Whyte/Barlow)

That the report be received.

9.4 Otago Mallard Monitoring

Resolved (Weatherall/Barlow)

That the report on this seasons monitoring be received

10.0 Correspondence

Nil

11.0 General Business

11.1 Spawning - Mr Rae noted observations of spawning in the Kawarau River where it emerges from the gorge above Cromwell

11.2 1080 – Mr Witherow expressed concern that the increased application rates for 1080 were being managed too casually. He advised the manufacturers recommendation, recommended restriction on use within ½ mile from waterways, or human habitation and burying of poisoned animals. The matter was discussed and the proposed drops in Silverstream and Evansdale catchments were noted.

11.3 Parliamentary Commissioners Report on Water Quality

(see <http://www.pce.parliament.nz/explore/water-quality>) Recent reports were discussed and recommended to council and staff.

11.4 Kiwisfirst – the Kiwisfirst initiative targeting angling pressure on rivers, particularly from increased tourism was discussed. The CE noted his reply to the organisation and said he was having ongoing contact with them.

It was **agreed** that a workshop session of say 2 hours duration was required to discuss the issue either as part of a future meeting or as a separate exercise.

The meeting closed at 4.30pm

4 Matters arising from the minutes

5 Communications New Zealand Council

5.1 Correspondence from NZC to Otago

5.1.1 Code of Conduct for Sports Fishing - Robert Sowman NZC

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SPORTS FISHING

July 2017

Memorandum to: Fish and Game Councils

Prepared by: Robert Sowman, NZ Council Policy & Planning Manager

The July 2017 New Zealand Fish and Game Council meeting considered feedback on Angling Ethics – Catch & Release, a paper that had been circulated to Fish and Game Councils back in July 2016. Consultation with regions found a good deal of support. This will complement planned pamphlets educating anglers on handling and releasing fish and practicing selective harvest.

As part of its feedback, Otago Fish and Game Council contributed a draft code prepared by staff member Helen Trotter. Helen was a recipient of the Staff Development Grant and attended the 7th World Recreational Fisheries Conference (7WRFC) in Brazil. Based on the contacts made in Brazil, she searched the publications for model codes and found several useful examples with common points of emphasis. The proposed Code of Practice Helen has prepared, has been adapted from that of RecFish Australia. Reference has also been made to the 1998 Anglers Code of Conduct published by Central South Island Fish and Game Council and catch and release guidelines published by DOC Taupo.

The style and format is intended to highlight the key messages and provide relevant easy to follow guidelines on angler responsibilities as ethical fishers. Helen proposes that when finalised, the Code of Practice be published widely including in regulation guides, on the website, and in brochures or factsheets.

The New Zealand Council found Helen's code worthy of wider consideration and supported the proposal that it be circulated to regions for comment before being finalised and put on the website with an abbreviated version updating what is in the regulations guide.

Resolved: (John Jillett/John Cumberpatch)

That the NZ Council:

1. *thanks the efforts of Helen Trotter from Otago Fish and Game Council for putting together a useful code of conduct.*
2. *that this code of conduct be circulated to regions for feedback before finalising.*
3. *provides educational material on handling of caught fish*
4. *promotes the hooking & landing per angler of no more than 6 fish a day.*

Recommendation

That Fish and Game Council's consider and provide feedback to the NZ Council on the attached code of conduct with the intention that it be finalised and published.

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR FRESHWATER SPORT FISHING

Freshwater angling is a favourite kiwi pastime loved by hundreds of thousands of New Zealanders across the country. New Zealand's fisheries are also internationally renowned, with tourist anglers making significant contribution to the economy. With the enjoyment of a natural resource comes a responsibility to support its sustainability and to behave ethically, in order to safeguard the future of freshwater angling for all New Zealanders.

Fish and Game New Zealand (comprised of 12 regional Fish & Game Councils across New Zealand and one national Council) are the statutory managers of freshwater sport fishing in New Zealand and represent the interests of anglers. This Code of Practice has been developed to set standards of practice which clearly outline our responsibilities as freshwater anglers in order to support the practice of ethical angling.

Summary

The Code of Practice for Recreational Fishing outlines our four key responsibilities as anglers:

- 1. Treat fish humanely**
- 2. Protect our fisheries**
- 3. Care for the environment**
- 4. Respect the rights of others**

These four key responsibilities incorporate 12 specific principles:

- **Quickly and correctly return any fish to be released**
- **Quickly and humanely kill any fish to be kept for consumption**
- **Value our fish and respect the food and recreational resource they provide**
- **Understand and observe all fishing regulations and licensing requirements**
- **Support enhancement and management activities**
- **Take no more than our immediate needs**
- **Remove all rubbish and prevent pollution**
- **Prevent the spread of freshwater pests**
- **Use established tracks and roads**
- **Be considerate of other users**
- **Respect private property and always ask for access permission**
- **Be aware of our safety and the safety of others when fishing**

1. Treat fish humanely

QUICKLY AND CORRECTLY RETURN ANY FISH TO BE RELEASED

Fish may need to be released to comply with regulations, because the fish is not of sufficient quality to eat, or because we choose to practice catch and release fishing. Following correct catch and release practice will minimise the duration and stress resulting from the direct handling of fish and will ensure fish released will have a good chance of survival.

Quickly and correctly returning fish means:

- *Minimise air exposure*
 - Keep the fish's mouth and gills fully submerged in the water as much as possible during handling
- *Eliminate contact with dry surfaces*
 - Attempt to land fish in the water
 - If possible leave the fish in the water and unhook it without handling it
 - Wet hands prior to handling (or use wet cotton or untextured gloves)
 - Hold the fish in or slight above the water, away from dry or hard surfaces
 - Never let a fish flap around on the floor of your boat or on the ground
 -
- *Reduce angling duration and handling*
 - Land fish as quickly as possible without playing it to exhaustion
 - Use tackle matched to the target species – use strong line so you can land fish quickly
 - Use barbless hooks and hook removal devices (long nose pliers or forceps)
 - Fish with a knotless or rubber landing net
 - Avoid large hooks and treble hook lures
 - If the fish to be released is bleeding excessively it should be humanely dispatched (where taking of the fish is permitted)
 - When bait fishing, if the fish to be released is deeply hooked the line should be cut close to the mouth
 -
- *Be prepared if intending to take photographs*
 - Photograph wet fish
 - Keep the fish as close to the water as possible if removing from the water momentarily, and fully submerge the fish between pictures
 -
- *Carefully revive fish*
 - Hold the fish lightly without squeezing, gently support the body under the front fins and grip the tail (never hold a fish up by the tail only)
 - Face the fish into the current and gently release the fish when it has revived
 - Do not pull fish back and forth through the water
 - Never throw a fish back into the water

QUICKLY AND HUMANELY KILL ANY FISH TO BE KEPT FOR CONSUMPTION**Quickly and humanely killing fish means:**

- Minimising handling prior to dispatch to reduce stress on the fish and increase the quality of the flesh
- Immediately and humanely dispatching fish by:
 - Cranial concussion - administering an accurate, sharp blow to the head, with a blunt object and a blow of appropriate force for the size of the fish to render the fish unconscious; followed by bleeding out, or decapitation. This method ensures the fish is unconscious at the time of death and bleeding out ensures high quality flesh is maintained.

- Ike jime - driving a spike through the brain, when done correctly results in immediate death and high quality flesh. This is considered the fastest and most humane method of killing fish.

VALUE OUR FISH AND RESPECT THE FOOD AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCE THEY PROVIDE

Our treatment and handling of fish is a direct reflection of the respect we have for sport fish, our appreciation of the food and recreational resource they provide, and our commitment to protecting the angling tradition for future generations.

Respecting the resource means:

- Never leaving fishing gear unattended
- Use appropriate gear for the species and size being targeted
- Storing harvested fish in a cool place away from sunlight, preferably in a chilly bin or cooler bag
- Avoiding waste and never discarding any retained fish
- Treating non-target fish with the same care and respect as that is given to targeted sport fish

2. Protect our fisheries

UNDERSTAND AND OBSERVE ALL FISHING REGULATIONS

Fish and Game New Zealand set and enforce regulations to manage our fisheries and the quality of the angling experience. Regulations safeguard the sustainability of the fishery by placing limits on harvest and protecting of spawning areas. They also outline acceptable methods and rules for different fisheries.

Understanding and observing all fishing regulations means:

- Obtaining the required licence(s) - carry it at all times when fishing, and produce it if requested by a Fish and Game Ranger
- Becoming familiar with Fish and Game's regulation guide, including both the First Schedule for regulations generally common to all regions, and the Second Schedule for regional fishing regulations
- Checking the method, bag limit, season length regulations of the fishery *before* commencing fishing
- Being aware of the additional licencing requirements and regulations for designated Backcountry Fisheries
- Reporting any illegal fishing activity or inappropriate animal welfare behaviour to the local Fish and Game office

TAKE NO MORE THAN OUR IMMEDIATE NEEDS

We can limit pressure on fisheries and conserve fish stocks by limiting our catch and taking only the fish we require for our own immediate needs.

When harvesting fish for consumption taking no more than our immediate needs means:

- Only killing fish we intend to eat, and not taking more than we need

This principle also applies to catch and release angling. Even when we practice correct catch and release techniques we still exert pressure on the fishery. This may impact the quality of the fishery and the catchability of sports fish, particularly for some backcountry rivers which may be subject to high levels of catch and release angling.

When catch and release fishing ‘taking no more than our immediate needs’ means limiting our fishing pressure by:

- Selecting and targeting a limited number of trout rather than trying to catch as many fish as possible in one day
- Spreading our effort across fisheries and avoiding camping out on the same stretch of river for extended periods
- Measuring success on the overall experience and angling challenge, not the number of fish landed

SUPPORT SPORT FISH AND HABITAT MANAGEMENT AND ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Sustainable and productive fisheries rely on the maintenance and protection and enhancement of freshwater ecosystems.

Supporting efforts to manage our fisheries and freshwater ecosystems means:

- Cooperating with the collection of recreational catch and effort data
- Participating in research, educational and enhancement projects
- Participating in public processes concerning environmental management and protection
- Participating in Fish and Game elections and submitting on consultative and long term planning processes
- Promoting ethical fishing practices and sharing knowledge and skills with others, especially youth

3. Care for the environment

REMOVE ALL RUBBISH AND PREVENT POLLUTION

Rubbish and pollution can affect the health of the environmental and wildlife and can degrade the outdoor experience of others.

Caring for the environment means:

- Taking all rubbish away from fishing sites including waste nylon, hooks, tackle packaging and personal litter
- Dispose of fish offal and carcasses responsibly – offal and other waste must not be left unburied on the river bank or lake shore
- Report pollution of waterways to the local council or Fish and Game office

PREVENT THE SPREAD OF FRESHWATER PESTS

New Zealand has a large number of pristine rivers and lakes which are threatened by invasive freshwater species including algae, weeds and pest fish.

Preventing the spread of invasive freshwater species means:

- Being aware of biosecurity risks in all waterways and treating every waterway as a potential source of invasive pest species
- Always **CHECK** (remove all plant matter from your gear) **CLEAN** (spray or soak with 5% detergent solution) and **DRY** (completely dry for 48 hrs) when moving between waterways
- Never transferring any fish, fish ova (eggs), or other aquatic organisms between waterways
- Reporting any observations of pest species to Ministry of Primary Industries or the local Fish and Game office

USE ESTABLISHED TRACKS AND ROADS

Off-road access can contribute to erosion, vegetation loss and disturb riverbeds. Using established tracks and roads means:

- Using designated access points and roads, and avoid straying from established tracks
- Sticking to marked tracks on riverbeds or parking and walking to the fishing site
- Using established fords when crossing rivers where possible
- Avoid obstructing access when parking vehicles

4. Respect the rights of others**BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHER USERS**

We each fish for a variety of reasons and may take particular enjoyment from different aspects of our angling. It is important to acknowledge these factors may vary between anglers, and to recognise that our behaviour has the potential to impact on the experience of others.

Being considerate of other users means:

- Never cutting-in on, or crowding anglers already on the water
- Communicating our intentions when we encounter another angler – the reasonable distance covered in day will vary between anglers and fisheries so where practical a quick conversation will ensure enough water is left before the second angler begins fishing
- Looking out for other anglers when accessing a fishery by helicopter/plane. Provide a generous allowance for anglers already on the water to continue fishing (remember they may have walked several hours to get there)
- Fishing upstream from beat markers where they are present – attempting to gain more water by first walking downstream is unfair to other anglers
- When fishing from a boat give way to anglers fishing from the shore, adhere to all boating rules and restrictions and be considerate of the impacts of our boat noise and wake on other anglers
- Respecting the rights all outdoor users (e.g. swimmers) to enjoy our rivers and lakes even if their activity is not ideal for our own fishing

RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY AND ALWAYS ASK FOR ACCESS PERMISSION

Public access to our rivers and lakes is at heart of our Kiwi way of life and angling traditions. However sometimes access over private land is required and this privilege is given at the discretion of the landowner. As an angling community we all have a responsibility to behave appropriately while on private land to ensure continued access into the future.

Respecting private property means:

- Asking the land owner for access if there is no Fish and Game signage
- Leaving gates as they are found
- Not disturbing stock, crops, machinery or other property

BE AWARE OF OUR SAFETY AND THE SAFETY OF OTHERS WHEN FISHING**Caring about safety means:**

- Being aware of the dangers fishing around river mouths and when crossing rivers
- Gaining local knowledge about boating hazards and carry safety equipment onboard
- Checking the weather and be prepared for the conditions
- Notifying someone of our intentions, particularly when boating, heading into the backcountry or to a remote fishing location (i.e out of cell phone coverage).

*Example summary for regulations book***CODE OF PRACTICE**

Fish and Game New Zealand actively promotes responsible and ethical freshwater fishing practices. As licenced freshwater anglers we have the following responsibilities when fishing, as detailed in the National Code of Practice:

- **TREAT FISH HUMANELY**
 - **Quickly and correctly return any fish to be released**
 - Minimise air exposure, keep mouth and gills submerged at all times
 - Eliminate contact with dry surfaces
 - Reduce angling duration and handling
 - **Quickly and humanely kill any fish to be kept for consumption**
 - **Value our fish and respect the food and recreational resource they provide**

- **PROTECT OUR FISHERIES**
- **Understand and observe all fishing regulations and licensing requirements**
- **Support enhancement and management activities**
- **Take no more than our immediate needs**

- **CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**
- **Remove all rubbish and prevent pollution**
- **Prevent the spread of freshwater pests**
- **Use established tracks and roads**

- **RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS**
- **Be considerate of other anglers**
- **Respect private property and always ask for access permission**
- **Be aware of our safety and the safety of others when fishing**

For further guidance on how to meet these responsibilities read the full National Code of Practice for Sport Fishing at www.fishandgame.org.nz

Current Sports Fishing Regulations Code of Conduct

Regulations

CODE OF CONDUCT

Please consider the rights of others and observe the anglers' code of conduct

- Always ask permission from the land occupier before crossing private property unless a Fish & Game access sign is present.
- Do not park vehicles so that they obstruct gateways or cause a hazard on the road or access way.
- Always use gates, stiles or other recognised access points and avoid damage to fences.
- Leave everything as you found it. If a gate is open or closed leave it that way.
- A farm is the owner's livelihood and if they say no dogs, then please respect this.
- When driving on riverbeds keep to marked tracks or park on the bank and walk to your fishing spot.
- Never push in on a pool occupied by another angler. If you are in any doubt have a chat and work out who goes where.
- However if agreed to share the pool then always enter behind any angler already there.
- Move upstream or downstream with every few casts (unless you are alone).
- Fish being returned to the water should be released as carefully and quickly as possible. Ideally leave the fish in the water and remove the hook with long-nosed pliers without handling the fish.
- While catch and release fishing is widely promoted by some as a conservation minded approach to angling it remains the anglers choice. However the catching of large numbers of fish in a day can impact on individual fish and also on the angling experience for others. Fish & Game advocate hooking and landing a limited number of fish per day.
- Fish being retained should be killed as quickly as possible, ideally by spiking or stabbing the brain slightly behind and above the eye (also known as iki jime – pronounced "iki jimi").
- Always respect the environment, wildlife, other anglers and members of the public.
- Remove waste nylon and personal litter from the river banks and parking places.
- The only way we can protect our rivers in the long term is to CHECK, CLEAN and DRY all your gear before entering another river or lake anywhere in New Zealand.

REMEMBER TO TREAT OTHERS AS YOU WOULD WISH TO BE TREATED YOURSELF!

5.1.2 Memo to Regions - Budget policy for consultation as National policy

BUDGET POLICY FOR CONSULTATION AS NATIONAL POLICY

Memorandum to: Regional Fish and Game Councils

Prepared by: Alison Lyall, Finance & Administration Manager, NZ Fish and Game Council

July 2017

Purpose

The National Financial Review Committee (convened by Matthew Hall) was set up to bring forward recommendations for standard operating procedures relating to financial management recording and reporting to the New Zealand Fish and Game Council (NZ Council), for consideration as national policy.

Required Action

That consultation is undertaken with regional Fish and Game Councils with the intention that policies proposed by the National Financial Review Committee on changes to Budget Policy be accepted as National policies.

Background

At its March 2017 meeting the NZ Council adopted the Financial Review Committee recommendations to change existing National Budget policies. These involved Policies 2.7.6, 2.7.7, 2.7.8, 2.7.9, 2.7.10, 2.7.11, 2.7.12 (Based on 2003 numbering) being deleted and replaced with the following policies:

- 2.7.6 All expenditure will need to be approved as part of the budget round including
- expenditure to be funded from the bulk fund for the year, capital expenditure,
 - allocations to and from reserves and expenditure from reserves.
- 2.7.7 An exclusion to the above rule is that replacement of assets funded from an asset replacement reserve will not require approval but the proposed replacement will be advised as part of the budget process.
- 2.7.8 Three categories of reserve have been identified:
1. Accumulated Funds,
 2. Dedicated Reserves,
 3. Restricted Reserves.

Equity is the total of all reserves.

Note:

Accumulated funds (sometimes called general reserves) include:

- All funds from prior years that have been allocated to accumulated funds,
- Current profits or losses (income and capital) that have been allocated to accumulated funds, and
- Any transaction that have been properly authorised. (An example could be an adjustment to a dedicated or restricted reserve or a reserve for building maintenance or where Council felt funds should be set aside from current profits to cover future expenditure).

Dedicated reserves include:

- Those reserves that have been resolved by Council for a dedicated purpose.
 - Asset Replacement,
 - Building reserve where created by Fish and Game,
 - Non-resident licence contribution,
 - Historic reserves where the total control and purpose rests with Fish and Game,
 - Legal Fund Reserve,
 - Research Fund Reserve.
 - Other dedicated reserves.

Restricted reserves include:

- Those reserves that are under Fish and Game's control where an external party sets a restricted purpose. (Could be a bequest or donation accepted by Fish and Game that has been tagged for a special purpose.)
 - Eg, Waikaremoana Fund where a special trust applies.
 - Dedicated by donor for wetland development etc.
 - Other restricted reserves.

2.7.9 All income (including interest from all reserves (with the exception of restricted reserves that specify otherwise) shall be brought into the budget.

Note 1. As a result of these changes numbering of the remaining policies will need to be altered if there is to be consecutive numbering.

Note 2. This numbering change may be placed on hold because the intention is to review the remaining policies in 2.7.

Recommendation

That regional Fish and Game Councils:

- i. **note that the Financial Review Committee has provided a revision of existing budget policy.**
- ii. **consider and provide final comments on the revised policy to the NZ Council prior to its November 2017 meeting.**
- iii. **note that these policies will be adopted as Fish and Game New Zealand's national policy.**

Existing National Budget Policy

2.7 National Budget Policy

- 6 Note that all expenditure will need to be approved as part of the budget round including expenditure to be funded from the bulk fund for the year, capital expenditure and expenditure from dedicated reserves.
- 7 Note that replacement of assets funded from asset replacement reserves will not require approval but that proposed replacement of capital assets should be indicated in budgets.
- 8 Note that four categories of reserve have been identified, namely:
 - a) *Special Purpose Reserves* - held external to Fish & Game
 - b) *Historical Reserves* – generated from the sale of an asset, or which have been accumulated for/dedicated to a specific purpose over time and (normally) inherited.
 - c) *General Reserves* – operating funds
 - d) *Asset Replacement Reserves* – dedicated to replacement of existing assets.
- 9 Note that special purposes reserves are outside of the control of the Fish & Game budget system.
- 10 Agree that Historical Reserves will remain under the control of individual regional councils. However, expenditure from them will require approval as part of the budget round, given that the acquisition of further assets (including habitat) does impose a cost on the system as a whole.
- 11 Agree that all income from all Reserves (with the exception of Special Purposes Reserves) be brought into the budget.
- 12 Agree that asset replacement funds be re-established.

Approved November 2003

5.2 Correspondence from Otago to NZC

5.2.1 Nil

6 Health and Safety Report

No incidents or injuries during the reporting period.

The OM will make a presentation on the risk assessment matrix in use and describe the major risks for the council.

OM to report

7 Chief Executives Report

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT AUGUST 2017

7.1 ADMINISTRATION

Finance and Administration

Financial Reports to 1 August 2017

The finance report for the period from 1 September 2016 to 31 July 2017 is attached for your information.

Key budget figures are included in the front of the Annual Work Plan

Expenditure to date is \$1,858,739 (including levies \$629,802 and commission \$82,480 but excluding depreciation (\$71,786) compared with the annual budget of \$1,866,562 (operational expenditure: \$993,826, depreciation: nil, and levies: \$839,736 and excluding commission: \$95,504). Expenditure represents 97% of budget at a point 92% through the financial year

Total income to date is \$2,159,789 compared with budget of \$1,986,629 or 109% of budget.

Fishing licence sales revenue received for the year to 31 July 2017 is \$1,638,193 (including commission). The fish budget figures for the full year is \$1,596,522 including commission.

Game licence sales revenue received for the year to 31 July 2016 is \$344,643 (including commission). The year's budget for game licence sales is \$313,552 including commission.

Budget and expenditure figures are exclusive of GST

Licence Sales to 25 July 2017

Sales recorded to 25 July are outlined for fish and game licences in the attached table from Eyede and compared with last year on the same date. Figures are inclusive of GST. Fishing licence sales to date in whole season licence equivalents (LEQs) at 15,207 LEQs are ahead of this time last year (14,913 LEQs). The budget LEQ figure for the year (whole season adult licence equivalents) is 14,688.

Game sales for the period stand at 4250 LEQs by comparison with 4074 are well ahead of last year. The budget Game LEQ figure is 4,007.

Overall this is a very satisfactory position to be in at this stage in the year.

Funds Position at 31 July 2017

ANZ 00 account	\$153644.32
ANZ 70 account	\$624630.64

Reparation Trust Account

Account balance to 31 August 2016	\$ 62,448
Revenue for year to 31 July 2017	\$ 11,550
Less grants to 31 July 2017	<u>\$ 29,665</u>
Total	\$ 44,333

Backcountry Management

Account balance to 31 August 2016 \$38,585

Term investments as at 31 July 2017:

ASB 0079 \$325,456.46 @ 3.60% maturing January 2018

SBS 44624 \$486,209.07 @ 3.70% maturing January 2018

The sum of \$76,110 is held by Anderson Lloyd in trust for wetland management via DOC.

Agents and Debts

No liabilities or potential liabilities at the present time.

Capital Expenditure

One vehicle has been purchased (\$38,542+GST) as part of our routine vehicle replacement programme. The old vehicle is for sale on Trade me.

Summary of Position 31st July 2017

Total Expenditure		\$ 1,808,739.00
Less Depreciation		71786.00
Less Levies	\$ 839,736.00	\$ 629,802.00
Less Commission		\$ 82,480.00
Less RMA Reimbursed		\$ 82,751.00
Net Expenditure		\$ 941,920.00
Budget		\$ 974,834.00
% Spent		97%

Summary of Profit and Loss Statement Income 31st July 2017**As At 8/08/17**

Income	Total Budget	Actual Income	YtD %	Comment
		Ytd		
Fish	\$ 1,596,522.00	\$ 1,639,594.00	103%	
Game	\$ 313,552.00	\$ 344,643.00	110%	
Prosecutions	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 6,345.00	127%	
Rent	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 37,829.00	95%	
Interest	\$ 31,555.00	\$ 30,603.00	97%	
Grants Donations	\$ -	\$ 31,612.00		
	\$ 1,986,629.00	\$ 2,090,626.00	105%	

Summary of Draft Profit and Loss Statement Expenses 31st July 2017
As At 8/08/17

Expense	Total Budget	Actual Expenditure	YtD %	Comment
		Ytd		
Projects				
Species	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 14,487.00	58%	
Habitat	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 112,463.00	1406%	Includes expenditure to be reimbursed \$82751 and donations \$31612
Participation	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 38,325.00	124%	Fish News letter postage increased
Public Interface	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 2,475.00	55%	
Compliance	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 23,683.00	237%	Expensive prosecutions
Licences	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 513.00	103%	Production now national
NZC Levies	\$ 839,736.00	\$ 629,802.00	75%	
Agent Commission		\$ 82,480.00		
Council	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 11,654.00	97%	
Planning	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 15,260.00	117%	Audit 2016
Projects Total	\$ 922,736.00	\$ 931,142.00	101%	
Administration				
Salaries	\$ 718,462.00	\$ 690,650.00	96%	
Staff Expenses	\$ 18,564.00	\$ 21,701.00	117%	
Office Premises	\$ 81,200.00	\$ 63,338.00	78%	
Office Equipment	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 3,811.00	51%	
Communication	\$ 25,100.00	\$ 15,255.00	61%	
General	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 8,073.00	135%	
General Equipment	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 1,051.00	30%	
Depreciation		\$ 71,786.00		
Vehicles	\$ 50,500.00	\$ 1,932.00	103%	
Administration Total	\$ 910,826.00	\$ 877,597.00	96%	
Total	\$ 1,833,562.00	\$ 1,808,739.00	99%	

*Land and Buildings***Freshwater Research Centre Wanaka**

John Barlow has met with Ella Lawton about Otago Fish and Game's expectations of involvement with the Alpine Lakes Research and Education Centre (ALREC) and our hosting of research facilities at Wanaka Hatchery. John has indicated that the Council has an interest that extends beyond just being a landlord into the stream of research resulting from the collaboration.

John Barlow to report**Wanaka Hatchery Field Trip**

I am in the process of arranging a half day onsite meeting at Wanaka Hatchery for Councillors to look at subdivision planning, access track alignment, wetland restoration and replanting, covenant protection for the natural area of the property and other matters. The aim is to arrive at a consensus on the next steps in the management of the property. I will identify some suitable dates in the near future.

CE to report**Dunedin Office**

The replacement of ceiling tiles and insulation at Dunedin office is underway. Costs have already been approved.

Recommendation

That the Finance and Licence Sales Report for the period ending 31 July 2017 be received.

7.2 SPECIES**Waterfowl Monitoring (1111)**

The shoveler monitoring counts are complete for the season. Data will be fed into the national database which is being managed by Eastern Region. Pukeko counts have also been completed. Counts might be disrupted by recent flooding in Otago.

Spawning Surveys (1112)

Spawning surveys are underway

Population Monitoring:

Nothing to report

Success & Satisfaction (1122)

Nothing to report

Fish Salvage (1131)

Nothing to report

Hatchery Operations

Hatchery operations are running normally. A new intake screen has been installed at the hatchery as a follow up action to avoid sub-adult fish entering the pipework and blocking valves as happened in March.

Releases (1161)

Nothing to report

Game Notice (1171)

Nothing to report

Anglers Notice (1172)

A meeting is planned to set up the process for the coming Anglers Notice review

Game Bird Control (1181)

Nothing to report.

7.3 HABITAT**Resource Management (1211)****Resource Management Complaints 2014/15**

Date/Agency	Issue	Response
October/November 2016	A complaint was lodged with ORC about silt contamination in both Mill Creek (Lake Hayes) and Bullock creek (Wanaka)	Abatement notices issued by QLDC. ORC investigation complete. No further action planned
January 2017	A complaint was lodged with ORC by a third party about stream channel works in Camerons Creek outside Wanaka	Under investigation by ORC

Resource Consents

There have been positive discussions with Contact Energy about lower Clutha salmon fisheries mitigation options involving a Clutha catchment hatchery. Further discussions are planned

CE to Report**Upper Clutha Boating**

The Council has been consulted on consent applications by Paddle Wanaka and Rafting Wanaka for an increase in use of Southern Lakes waterways for commercial boating. These applications have included sensitive locations such Lake Wanaka outlet and concern has been expressed about recreational capacity pressures and conflict between recreational users. A satisfactory solution has been negotiated with Paddle Wanaka and negotiations are continuing with Raft Wanaka. From initial discussions with the QLDC, it appears there is no mechanism to guide the distract plan rules with regard to commercial recreational activity and assessment of cumulative effects. It is in the interests of all recreational interests and tourism operators to ensure that quality of recreational experience is not compromised by congestion. The issue is particularly topical given tourism pressures in other areas such as freedom camping and the matter is proposed as a topic for discussion with QLDC.

Planning (1212)

Manuherikia Catchment Water Strategy Group

The collaborative process involving irrigators and stakeholders including DOC, Fish and Game, Ngai Tahu, Forest and Bird and Central Otago Environmental Society is nearing its end. The MCWSG is, at the time of writing, about to have its last meeting after 6 years of operations. The strategy group approach was aimed at developing a consensus over water use within the catchment while looking for alternative irrigation storage options. The latter search eventually settled on looking at increasing the height of Falls Dam and a new irrigation company has been established to pursue that aim. The MCWSG developed a 'community proposition' and funded a large amount of investigative work on catchment resources (hydrology, fisheries, engineering) which will no doubt be brought to bear in future consent hearings and minimum flow plan changes. Environmental objectives for the catchment from the community proposition included:

- water-based ecosystems, habitats and biodiversity will be showing significant improvement
- water quality indicators will be showing signs of improvement
- opportunities for recreation activities will have been enhanced and the area's positive reputation in this regard preserved

The new irrigation company is continuing feasibility studies for increased irrigation storage at Falls Dam but the site is not without its sensitivities.

CE to report

Minimum and Residual Flow Setting

Manuherikia Minimum Flow – Plan Change 5C

ORC have released responses to the second round of feedback sought by ORC on Manuherikia minimum flow options for the river but have yet to advise on their decision on a minimum flow or flows to provide for the life supporting capacity, the natural character or the amenity value of the river. There has been further media coverage of the consequences of higher minimum flow levels from irrigators

Kye Burn

ORC has released a decision flowing a hearing of a consent application lodged by Kye Burn Catchment Limited for RMA consents to replace about 30 deemed permits (mining privileges) within the catchment.

Refer to separate confidential report.

Lindis Minimum Flow Plan Change

Mediation has concluded without agreement being reached by the parties involved in Lindis Catchment Group's appeal over the Lindis minimum flow. The Environment Court has set a timetable for evidence preparation with a hearing scheduled for 29 January 2018.

Refer to separate confidential report.

Minimum and Residual Flows and Transition from Mining Privileges (TMP)		
River	Activity and status	Status
Lindis	Minimum flow & transition from mining privileges (TMP). Overallocated MALF 1860 1750 l/s	ORC decision on Water Plan Change 5A set a summer minimum of 900 l/s. The decision was appealed and went to mediation on 8/9 December 2016 in Cromwell and was concluded in early July without resolution. An Environment Court hearing is scheduled for 29 January 2018
Cardrona	Minimum Flow & TMP Overallocated	ORC are actively working on drawing together known information on the Cardrona. ORC advise there is likely to be a community report back in the first quarter of 2018.
Waikouaiti	Minimum Flow Fully allocated MALF 258 l/s	F&G supported a minimum flow of 220 l/s proposed through community consultation. Further action on the minimum flow has been deferred pending more research by ORC on estuary health.
Pomahaka (Concluded)	Minimum flow MALF 4300 l/s Min Flow 3600l/s (84% MALF)	The plan change has been completed setting minimum flows of 3600 l/s (summer) 7000 l/s (winter), primary allocation limit of 1000 l/s, and a supplementary allocation minimum flow of 13,0000 l/s.
Waiwera (Concluded)	Minimum flow MALF 310 l/s Min Flow 280 l/s (90% MALF)	The ORC hearing panel decision set a 300 l/s summer minimum flow instead of the 260 l/s notified. That decision was appealed to the Environment Court and the matter was resolved through mediation in early December 2015 with agreement on 280 l/s.
Manuherikia	Minimum flow Irrigation scheme investigation. MALF Ophir 3,200 l/s (± 800) MALF Campground 3,900 l/s (± 600) Overallocated	The Manuherikia Catchment Water Strategy Group process which Fish and Game has been a part of, is nearing completion and a new water company is looking at proposals which are focused on raising the level of Falls Dam. The Manuherikia catchment has over 220 mining privileges (or deemed permits) in place. The present minimum flow at Ophir at 820 l/s is considered inadequate and ORC are planning to set a minimum flow for the lower river at the Alexandra Campground and possibly elsewhere in the catchment. A minimum flow plan change for the Manuherikia River has started but a minimum flow figures have still to be formally notified.

Benger Burn	Minimum flow &TMP. Overallocated	Further action by ORC has been deferred pending more research on water resources and aquifer/surface water interaction.
Sow Burn (Concluded)	TMP Overallocated Residual flow of 70 l/s + off-site mitigation	The Sowburn all-of-catchment consent has been granted by ORC. The residual flow requirement is 70 l/s on a stream that is considered to be ephemeral in nature in the middle reaches. Off-site mitigation conditions include a protective covenant over a large area of the Maniototo wetlands
Kye Burn	TMP Overallocated MALF 539 l/s	F&G position is that a mainstem environmental flow between 200-300 l/s is required and that it probably has to be in the upper half of that range (250+ l/s) A consent application was heard in June and a decision has been released by ORC proposing mainstem residual flows of 180 l/s reducing to 160 l/s (<30% MALF) at the lowest take point on the river.
Low Burn	Minimum flow TMP Overallocated	Catchment group meeting held early 2017
Bannock Burn	Minimum flow TMP Overallocated	Catchment group meeting held late 2016
Arrow River	TMP Overallocated	Catchment group meetings were held early 2017 and a minimum flow plan change process is just starting up
Quartz Creek	TMP Overallocated	Reports on fishery values have been completed along with a reports on fish salvage. There is little information on stream hydrology.
Tuapeka River	ORC Management Flow Report MALF 314 l/s	No action
Upper Clutha		ORC has undertaken research on flow requirements for fish in the Clutha to inform a minimum flow setting process

12 Mile Creek (Wakatipu)	ORC Management Flow Report	Stream survey work is being undertaken
Fern Burn	Overallocated	Status of flows and takes needs to be investigated. Spawning surveys have been undertaken by Upper Clutha Anglers.
Coal Creek	TMP	Catchment group meeting held May 2017

CE to Report

Transition from Mining Privileges (MPs) to RMA Consents.

Fish and Game staff have been supporting ORC catchment group meetings involving irrigators and other stakeholders – DOC and Ngai Tahu.

Reserves Management (1221)

Takitakitoa Wetland

The annual monitoring report and site visit by ORC consent/compliance staff to Takitakitoa is now complete. The ORC staff member was impressed with the improvement to the wetland and an inspection report is due to confirm that all consent conditions have been met. The bund operated well in the recent floods with no damage sustained.

Wetland Protection (1232)

Nothing to report

Assisted Habitat (1230)

See HEF reports elsewhere in this agenda

River Management (1233)

Work is continuing on three applications for global consents to allow landholders to clear river channels. This is a new trend and replaces some ORC river management activity. It is being treated as a sensitive issue by Fish and Game because of the risk of over-use.

7.4 USER PARTICIPATION

Access (1311)

The OIO decision on Hunter Valley Station attracted further media coverage but the situation has not changed. There is a generic issue in LINZ and OIO dealings with Crown land disposals – public access does not receive a high priority and it appears that LINZ

CE to report

Signage (1312)

Nothing to report

Backcountry Fisheries (1321)

Nothing to report

Magazine Supplements and Newsletters (1331)

Supplement copy has been provided for the Fish and Game magazine which is to be distributed about 20th August.

Reel Life/Both Barrels

Monthly contributions to online newsletters are continuing

Newspaper Supplements (1332)

Nothing to report.

Publications (1342)

Nothing to report.

Web Site (1343)

The web site has been upgraded nationally and feedback is being given on its look and functionality. Please advise if you spot any problems.

Fishing and Hunting Events (1351)

Nothing to report

Take-a-kid-fishing (1352)

Nothing to report

Club Liaison (1361)

Nigel Paragreen has been working closely with Upper Clutha Anglers on boating pressure at Wanaka outlet

Commercial Use (1362)

Nothing to report

7.5 PUBLIC INTERFACE

Liaison (1411)**Media (1431)**

There has been media coverage of fish and game issues including Kye Burn consents, Mill Creek fish kills and other matters.

Advocacy (1432)

Discussion of the winter cropping with senior ORC staff has continued along with continued aerial monitoring.

Tenure Reviews (1433)

There has been no further action on tenure reviews.

7.6 COMPLIANCE

Ranging (1511)

Nothing to report

OM to update.

Ranger Support (1520)

Nothing to report

Prosecutions (1530)

Three late season angling offences (FWL) have been detected by rangers. At this stage all are expected to be resolved by way of reparation, including the two Australians who have returned home.

7.7 LICENCING**Licencing System (1611)**

The Eyede licencing system continues to operate well.

Agents (1612)

Nothing to report

7.8 COUNCIL**Council (1720)**

A useful liaison meeting was held with Southland Fish and Game Councillors and staff in Clinton on 18th July last. Winter cropping, mallard research results and backcountry fisheries were discussed without any significant differences of opinion emerging. Those present agreed that the implementation of the guides licence was the next obvious step for the better control and management of pressure sensitive fisheries. That the current interest in tourism pressures offered an opportunity for Fish and Game to press its case for the licence's implementation.

Winter cropping was seen as an activity that required close management by regional councils because of the potential for silt laden run off to clog riverbed gravels

For discussion**7.9 PLANNING AND REPORTING****Strategic Planning (1811)**

Nothing to report

Annual Planning (1821)

The draft annual plan and budget are enclosed separately. They have incorporated input from the planning meeting in February and the staff report back

Recommendation:

That the annual plan and budget for the 2017/18 financial year be approved

Annual Report (1831)

BDO, the Council's auditors, have done some preliminary work towards the audit for the year ended 31 August 2017. The main body of audit work will occur in November

National Liaison (1841)

Otago hosted the Fish and Game staff conference in early July in Dunedin. By all accounts participants considered the event an outstanding success. The organisers were Sharon, Helen and Ian.

Niall Watson
Chief Executive
August 2017

Otago Fish & Game Council

Balance Sheet

As at 31 July 2017

CAPITAL	This Year	Last Year End
Opening Equity	1,039,201.00	1,039,201.00
Retained Earnings Brght Fwd	<u>1,519,497.04</u>	<u>1,437,918.74</u>
	2,558,698.04	2,477,119.74
Plus Current Year Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	301,050.05	81,578.30
TOTAL CAPITAL FUNDS	<u><u>2,859,748.09</u></u>	<u><u>2,558,698.04</u></u>
REPRESENTED BY		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash on Hand	200.00	200.00
Stock on Hand	11,004.00	11,004.00
Accrued Interest	5,431.03	5,431.03
Prepayments	7,589.77	7,589.77
ASB Investments	325,456.46	314,286.45
SBS Investments	486,209.07	469,149.43
GST Paid	10,835.74	9.13
GST Payments/Refunds IRD	166.29	0.00
Trade Debtors	30,274.42	142,602.75
ASB 00 Account	10.98	10.98
National/ANZ 00 Account	153,600.32	131,754.48
National/ANZ 70 Account	624,630.64	272,619.93
SBS Account	24.66	24.66
Unbanked	<u>1,093.23</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	1,656,526.61	1,354,682.61
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Sundry Creditors	19,681.95	19,681.95
Holiday Pay Accrued	42,701.40	42,701.40
PAYE Control	28,917.44	2,529.70
GST Received	9,927.37	0.00
Funds received in Advance	178,472.13	178,472.13
Trade Creditors	<u>43,349.48</u>	<u>99,224.09</u>
	323,049.77	342,609.27
NET WORKING CAPITAL	1,333,476.84	1,012,073.34
TERM ASSETS		
Anderson Lloyd Investment	<u>76,110.10</u>	<u>76,110.10</u>
	76,110.10	76,110.10
FIXED ASSETS		
Vehicles Purchases	332,227.37	280,794.82
M/V Accum Deprn	(177,061.04)	(135,261.04)
Boat Purchases	100,497.93	100,497.93
Boat Accum Deprn	(82,155.30)	(77,975.30)
Plant Purchases	72,806.18	72,806.18
Plant Accum Deprn	(62,138.89)	(54,724.89)
Furniture & Fittings	30,847.94	30,847.94
Furniture Accum Deprn	(29,902.26)	(28,582.26)
Field Equipment Purchases	34,610.96	34,610.96
Field Eq Accum Deprn	(25,414.52)	(24,974.52)
Land Purchases	414,410.77	414,410.77
Buildings Purchases	642,892.49	642,892.49
Buildings Accum Deprn	(334,859.33)	(321,857.33)
Land @ Fair Value	426,260.00	426,260.00
Building @ Fair Value	162,085.11	162,085.11
Buildings @ FV - Accum Deprn	<u>(54,946.26)</u>	<u>(51,316.26)</u>
	1,450,161.15	1,470,514.60
NET ASSETS	<u><u>2,859,748.09</u></u>	<u><u>2,558,698.04</u></u>

**Otago Fish & Game Council
Profit and Loss - Summary
for Period Ended Jul:2016/17**

	-----Month to Date-----			-----Year to Date-----			Annual Budget	YTD Actual Budget	Last YTD	
	Actual	Budget	% of Budget	Actual	Budget	Variance				
INCOME										
FISH AND GAME LICENCE SA...										
1000	Fishing Licences Dn Agency	283	0	0%	1,401	0	1,401	0	0%	1,801,255
1002	Fishing Licences Income	5,377	133,043	4%	1,638,193	1,463,479	174,714	1,598,522	103%	0
1006	Game Licences Income	1,808	26,129	7%	344,643	287,423	57,220	313,552	110%	329,636
		7,468	159,172	5%	1,984,236	1,750,902	233,334	1,910,074	104%	2,130,891
OTHER INCOME										
1010	Interest received	6,132	2,629	233%	30,603	28,926	1,677	31,555	97%	35,623
1020	Fines - Fishing & Game Offences	214	416	51%	6,345	4,584	1,761	5,000	127%	833
1022	Reparations Trust Fund	(1,000)	0	0%	(18,115)	0	(18,115)	0	0%	8,580
1025	Rent Received	3,913	3,333	117%	37,829	36,667	1,162	40,000	95%	34,920
1065	Fishing Competitions	0	0	0%	1,046	0	1,046	0	0%	1,018
1075	Commissions Income	0	0	0%	620	0	620	0	0%	1,082
1090	Sundry Income	0	0	0%	1,666	0	1,666	0	0%	6,137
1092	Merchandise Sales/Other	185	0	0%	1,197	0	1,197	0	0%	(6,440)
1094	Donations and Grants Received	0	0	0%	31,612	0	31,612	0	0%	39,519
1096	RMA Costs Reimbursed	15,711	0	0%	82,751	0	82,751	0	0%	61,490
		25,155	6,378	394%	175,553	70,177	105,376	76,555	229%	182,762
	TOTAL INCOME	32,623	165,550		2,159,789	1,821,079	338,710	1,986,629		2,313,653
EXPENDITURE										
SPECIES MANAGEMENT										
	POPULATION MONITOR / MMT	0	1,000	0%	9,348	11,000	(1,652)	12,000	78%	11,396
	HARVEST ASSESSMENT	0	250	0%	0	2,750	(2,750)	3,000	0%	0
	FISH SALVAGE	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
	HATCHERY OPERATIONS	364	833	44%	5,114	9,167	(4,053)	10,000	51%	7,781
	RELEASES	0	0	0%	25	0	25	0	0%	0
	REGULATIONS	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
	CONTROL	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
	SPECIES MANAGEMENT-...	364	2,083	17%	14,487	22,917	(8,430)	25,000	58%	19,177
HABITAT PROTECTION										
	RESOURCE MANAGEMENT A...	18,302	374	4,893%	97,191	4,126	93,065	4,500	2,160%	79,905
	WORKS & MMT COUNCIL LAND	578	291	199%	14,463	3,209	11,254	3,500	413%	21,752
	ASSISTED HABITAT	0	0	0%	809	0	809	0	0%	1,203
	HABITAT PROTECTION-T...	18,880	665	2,839%	112,463	7,335	105,128	8,000	1,406%	102,860
PARTICIPATION										
	ACCESS	541	166	326%	1,315	1,834	(519)	2,000	66%	1,935
	SATISFACTION SURVEYS	417	0	0%	10,150	0	10,150	0	0%	28,033
	NEWSLETTERS	0	1,458	0%	20,889	16,042	4,847	17,500	119%	16,309
	OTHER PUBLICATIONS	(37)	291	(13)%	2,901	3,209	(308)	3,500	83%	675
	TRAINING	0	333	0%	1,480	3,667	(2,187)	4,000	37%	1,642
	CLUB RELATIONS	573	333	172%	1,509	3,667	(2,158)	4,000	38%	859
	HUTS	0	0	0%	81	0	81	0	0%	826
	PARTICIPATION-TOTAL	1,495	2,581	58%	38,325	28,419	9,906	31,000	124%	50,279

Otago Fish & Game Council
Profit and Loss - Summary
for Period Ended Jul:2016/17

	-----Month to Date-----			-----Year to Date-----			Annual Budget	% of Budget	
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance			
PUBLIC INTERFACE									
LIAISON	0	41	0%	9	459	(450)	500	2%	63
COMMUNICATIONS	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
ADVOCACY	0	333	0%	2,466	3,667	(1,201)	4,000	62%	587
PUBLIC INTERFACE-TOTAL	0	374	0%	2,475	4,128	(1,651)	4,500	55%	650
COMPLIANCE									
RANGER ADMIN	0	208	0%	1,728	2,292	(564)	2,500	69%	2,541
RANGER TRAINING	0	375	0%	3,862	4,125	(263)	4,500	86%	4,093
COMPLIANCE	0	250	0%	18,093	2,750	15,343	3,000	603%	8,211
COMPLIANCE-TOTAL	0	833	0%	23,883	9,167	14,516	10,000	237%	14,845
LICENCES									
LICENCE PRODUCT/DISTN	0	1,000	0%	0	11,000	(11,000)	12,000	0%	0
AGENT SERVICING	209	41	509%	513	459	54	500	103%	292
COMMISSION	350	0	0%	82,480	0	82,480	0	0%	82,725
NZFG LEVIES	0	69,978	0%	629,802	769,758	(139,956)	839,736	75%	850,957
LICENCES-TOTAL	559	71,019	1%	712,795	781,217	(68,422)	852,236	84%	933,974
COUNCIL									
COUNCIL ELECTIONS	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
COUNCIL MEETINGS	118	1,000	12%	11,654	11,000	654	12,000	97%	13,671
COUNCIL-TOTAL	118	1,000	12%	11,654	11,000	654	12,000	97%	13,671
PLANNING / REPORTING									
MMT/STRATEGIC PLANNING	490	0	0%	2,028	0	2,028	0	0%	2,607
REPORTING/AUDIT	0	1,083	0%	13,146	11,917	1,229	13,000	101%	5,884
NATIONAL LIAISON	(985)	0	0%	86	0	86	0	0%	12
PLAN/REPORT-TOTAL	(495)	1,083	(46)%	15,260	11,917	3,343	13,000	117%	8,503
ADMINISTRATION									
SALARIES	85,535	59,871	143%	690,850	658,591	32,059	718,462	96%	575,303
STAFF EXPENSES	1,576	1,545	102%	21,701	17,019	4,682	18,564	117%	20,679
STAFF HOUSES	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0%	0
OFFICE PREMISES	9,492	6,763	140%	63,338	74,437	(11,099)	81,200	78%	65,332
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	968	624	155%	3,811	6,876	(3,065)	7,500	51%	2,571
COMMUNICATIONS	1,387	2,090	66%	15,255	23,010	(7,755)	25,100	61%	22,840
GENERAL	540	499	108%	8,073	5,501	2,572	6,000	135%	13,941
GENERAL EQUIPMENT	15	291	5%	1,051	3,209	(2,158)	3,500	30%	3,754
VEHICLES	3,838	4,207	91%	51,932	46,293	5,639	50,500	103%	54,641
ADMINISTRATION - TOTAL	103,351	75,890	136%	855,811	834,936	20,875	910,826	94%	758,860
DEPRECIATION	6,526	0	0%	71,786	0	71,786	0	0%	71,786
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	130,798	155,528	84%	1,858,739	1,711,034	147,705	1,866,562	100%	1,974,605
Profit (Loss)	(98,175)	10,022		301,050	110,045	191,005	120,067		339,047

Otago Fish Licence Sales YTD to 25 July 2017																	
	Channel	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWJ	FWNJ	FWIA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDJ	Total Fish	Fish LEQ	Fish Var	Fish \$
Otago	Agency Online	2,879	3,624	534	505	402	521	24	186	65	371	4,449	330	13,890			
	Retail Book	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	30	2	36			
	Public Online	1,419	1,460	607	164	275	201	15	69	35	236	3,326	160	7,967			
	Eyede Call Centre	40	36	7	22	1	2	0	1	1	2	36	1	149			
2015-2016	Total	4338	5123	1148	691	678	725	39	256	101	609	7841	493	22042	14913		\$1,608,017
	Agency Online	2,636	3,542	514	511	263	486	28	179	60	319	4,653	328	13,519			
	Retail Book	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
	Public Online	1,582	1,752	803	229	263	227	26	112	47	262	3,931	204	9,438			
	Eyede Call Centre	10	6	7	11	0	5	1	1	0	2	14	0	57			
2016-2017	Total	4228	5300	1324	751	526	718	55	292	107	583	8598	532	23014	15207	2.0%	\$1,652,927

Otago Region Game Licence sales as of 25 July 2017

Otago	Channel	GWA	GWJ	GWC	GDA	GDJ	Total Game	Game \$	Game Var	Game LEQ
	Agency Online	3,390	278	88	38	0	3,794			
	Retail Book	4	1	0	0	0	5			
	Public Online	593	63	15	43	5	719			
	Eyede Call Centre	2	0	0	0	0	2			
2015-2016	Total	3989	342	103	81	5	4520	\$318,821		4074
	Agency Online	3,524	283	98	47	0	3,952			
	Retail Book	0	0	0	0	0	0			
	Public Online	634	59	25	59	3	780			
	Eyede Call Centre	2	0	0	0	0	2			
2016-2017	Total	4160	342	123	106	3	4734	\$332,588	4.3%	4250

8 Committee Reports

8.1 Clutha Fisheries Trust

8.2 NZC Meeting

9 Staff and Technical Reports

9.1 Legislative Compliance 2016/17 Financial Year - N Watson

COUNCIL REPORT AUGUST 2017

Legislative Compliance 2016/2017 Financial Year

Introduction

Council adopted a Legislative Compliance Schedule in August 2015 (see below) The purpose of the schedule is to provide a framework for reporting on legislative compliance across relevant Acts and Regulations.

Legislative Compliance

In my opinion the Council is currently compliant with its legal obligations under the Acts and Regulations listed. There are two matters which deserve specific mention:

1. Health and Safety – New health and safety policies have been adopted during the year.
- 2 Tax Status –IRD is currently still looking at Fish and Game Councils' Public Authority Tax Status. NZ Council is providing a coordinated response on the issue raised by IRD on behalf of all 13 Fish and Game Councils

Recommendation

That Council notes it currently complies with legislation and that this report be received

OTAGO FISH AND GAME COUNCIL - LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE – prepared 29.07. 2015

The Council has to comply with all relevant legislation. This schedule includes the main Acts and Regulations relating to Fish and Game Council activities but is not exhaustive.

Act or Regulations	Key Provisions	Comments	Responsibility
Conservation Act 1987	S 17 s26 R, s26S s26T, s26X s26ZD, s40 (1) (5)	Council responsible for: preparation of Fish and Game Plan; compliance with Conservation Act and Wildlife Act, regulations and gazette notice conditions; preparation of Anglers Notices; appointment of staff; production of annual report; holding at least 6 meeting PA.	Chief Executive
- Freshwater Fisheries Regulations	Regulation 51	Authorisation of use of electric fishing machines within region	Chief Executive
- Fish and Game Council Election Regulations 1990	Regulation 3, 20, 26	Council responsible for: Appointing a returning officer; returning officer responsible for preparing rolls and conducting elections. Council responsible for meeting post election and appointment of NZ Council member	Council Chief Executive
Crown Entities Act 2004	S150 (3)	Annual Report presented to Parliament	Chief Executive
Public Finance Act 1989	S 43, Part 5, subpart 2, Schedule 4	Council responsible for preparation of annual report including financial statements and statement of service performance	Chief Executive Administration Officer Accountant (Adair Craik)
Public Audit Act 2001	S4	Council defined as a public entity	
Wildlife Act 1953	s15, s39 (1), s44, s53, s54	Council responsible for: Annual game season recommendations; day to day management of Wildlife Management Reserves under delegation from the Minister [Inch Clutha, Little Hoopers Inlet]; exercise any written authority from the DG for taking or killing of game	Chief Executive Fish and Game Officers Rangers
- Wildlife Regulations	Parts 2 and 3		

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act	Parts 2 and 7	Council responsible for conduct of meetings in accordance with Act and responses to OIA requests	Council Chief Executive
Resource Management Act 1991	Parts 3 and 6	Council responsible for compliance with the Act in terms of buildings, structures and land and water use.	Chief Executive Operations Manager
Employment Relations Act 2000		Employment contract obligations in respect of restructuring	Council (CE) Chief Executive (staff)
Parental Leave and Employment Protection Act 1987	Parts 1 and 2	Employment contract obligations in respect of parental leave	Council (CE) Chief Executive (staff)
State Sector Act 1988	s 56, s58	Council responsible for being a good employer	Council (CE) Chief Executive (staff)
Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992	Part 2	Council responsible for taking all practicable steps to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide and maintain a safe working environment for employees • Ensure employees are not exposed to hazards while at work • Develop emergency procedures • Ensure employees are trained and supervised • Provide employees with information on hazards • Record, report and investigate accidents • Systematically identify and assess hazards • Control significant hazards 	Operations Manager Chief Executive Council
Maritime Transport Act 1994	Part 2	Council responsible for boat certification and safe use by staff	Operations Manager Chief Executive Council
Privacy Act 1993		Council responsible for appropriate handling of personal information notably licence holder data; compliance reports; mail lists	Chief Executive Operations Manager Administration Officer

Human Rights Act 1993		Council responsible for compliance with human rights obligations under the Act	Chief Executive Operations Manager Compliance Coordinator
Protected Disclosures Act 2000		Council responsible for compliance with obligations under the Act	Chief Executive
Search and Surveillance Act	S3, Part 4, s169 (2) (3), s171, s172`	Council responsible for compliance with obligations under the Act including annual reporting on exercise of surveillance powers during ranging.	Rangers and F&G Staff Operations Manager Chief executive
Holidays Act 2003		Employment contract obligations in respect of annual leave and public holidays	Administration Officer Chief Executive
Crown Entities Act 2004	s25	Council responsible for exercise of its powers and performance of functions under the Act and other Acts	Chief Executive Council
Income Tax Act 2007	Parts CX and RD	Council responsible for FBT returns and PAYE deductions and returns	Administration Officer Chief Executive
Goods and Services Tax Act 1985	Parts 2 and 3	Council responsible for GST payments, deductions and returns	Administration Officer Chief Executive
KiwiSaver Act 2006	Parts 2 and 3	Council responsible for enrolment of staff in kiwisaver	Administration Officer Chief Executive

9.2 Confidential – Update on Lindis Minimum flow Plan Change and Kyeburn Catchment Consents – N Watson

9.3 Confidential – Habitat Enhancement Cairnlea – P van Klink

9.4 Confidential – Habitat Enhancement Prospect Farm – P van Klink

9.5 Confidential – Habitat Enhancement Mt Albert Station – P van Klink

9.6 Bullock Creek Update - P Van Klink



Bullock Creek Wetland Restoration – Update on issues raised from 15 June 2017 Council meeting

From Council Meeting minutes June 2017;

The CE reported on Mr Van Klink's progress with tracks within the hatchery property, including alignments and easements. The progress was noted but the need to consider health and safety, control of visitors and the actual alignment and structure was considered to require more definition.

Health & Safety

All visitors to the Bullock Creek Wetland Restoration site are given an up-to-date Health & Safety briefing. This covers the hazards at the site and what PPE gear is required for the job at hand. Volunteers are asked to sign a job analysis sheet before any work commences. This includes Department of Corrections community service workers and volunteers working with contractors on vegetation clearance and chipping. When Te Kakano or Tree Tamers are doing work on the site they both provide an additional Health and Safety briefing to volunteers.

It should be noted that to date Fish & Game staff member Paul van Klink has been present for all work days except the Department of Corrections work days.

Control of Visitors

The Wanaka Hatchery Site and Bullock Creek Wetland Restoration Projects are currently closed to the public. The main vehicle access gate to the site including the hut is locked. People are often authorised to have access to the site for tasks associated with the Bullock Creek Wetland Restoration Project or for ALREC. Other members of the public and hatchery neighbours do from time to time come onto the site but there is very little we can currently do to stop this despite signage being in place.

It is anticipated that once the track is established that members of the public and Wanaka Retirement Village residents will have access to the Reserve through the formed access track.

Walkway Alignment

The proposed walkway through the Bullock Creek Restoration Site is 330m in length (Figure 1). This provides public access through the site between Stone Street and the Alpha Series subdivision. The walkway at the Stone Street end runs adjacent to Bullock Creek so that it is compatible with future ALREC developments. Fundraising for the walkway has been spearheaded by the Wanaka Residents Association who have committed to the Bullock Creek Wetland Restoration as their Cornerstone project for the next 5 years.



Figure 1. Location of the proposed public access walkway through the Bullock Creek Wetland.

Fish & Game Covenant

It is proposed that the Bullock Creek Restoration Project area to the south of Bullock Creek be covenanted with a Fish & Game Covenant. This will provide community supporters with confidence to back the project in its entirety. It will also assist community groups in securing funding for the site works such as the proposed walkway and the long-term protection of the wetland.

Recommendations

That a site visit be undertaken with Lakes District Fish and Game Councillors to discuss elements of the project.

That is report be received.

Paul van Klink
Fish & Game Officer
August 2017

10 Correspondence

10.1 Otago Regional Council – ORC response on annual plan submission (submission appended)



Our Ref: A1023731

31 July 2017

Mr Nigel Paragreen
Environmental Officer
Fish & Game NZ
PO Box 76
Dunedin 9054

N.Paragreen@fish-game.org.nz

Dear Mr Paragreen

2017/18 Annual Plan

Thank you for your submission on our consultation document for our annual plan and your support for many of our proposals. Council has considered your submission and has made the following comments;

Minimum flows and deemed permits

Council has confirmed that the accelerated programme of work to set minimum flows on a number of rivers and aquifers in Otago will proceed as consulted on. Further, it has agreed that the deemed permit transition work will be funded from the Water Management Reserve. It is noted that this funding does not cover the cost of processing new resource consents. These costs will be paid for by the consent applicant.

Rural water quality risk assessment programme

Council has confirmed that the environmental risk assessment programme is to be implemented in at least two catchments in the first year. It has however asked that staff come back to Council with options for a revised approach, taking into account the concerns and suggestions raised by submitters. The approach is to be developed and monitored, working with key stakeholders.

Risk based dairy farm inspections

Council has agreed that the dairy farm inspection programme will change from every dairy farm being visited each year, to a risk based approach, which prioritises the farms most at risk of impacting water quality. Using this approach, some farms may get two or three visits a year, while a low risk farm may only get one visit, say every two years. Every dairy farm, regardless of the number of inspections made, will be charged the dairy inspection rate of \$478.

Lake Snow

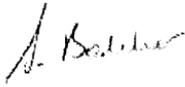
Council has confirmed that \$100,000 will be provided in 2017/18 towards research on lake snow.

For our future

70 Stafford St, Private Bag 1954, Dunedin 9054 | ph (03) 474 0827 or 0800 474 082 | www.orc.govt.nz

Thank you for your input into our planning process. If you would like to receive a copy of the 2017/18 Annual Plan, it can be found on our website at www.orc.govt.nz, or alternatively a copy can be sent to you when available by phoning (03) 474 0827 or emailing annual.plan@orc.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Sharon Bodeker
Manager Projects



10 May 2017

Otago Regional Council
70 Stafford Street
Dunedin, 9016

To Whom It May Concern,

RE: Submission on Draft Annual Plan 2017/2018

Thank you for providing the opportunity for the Otago Fish and Game Council (Fish and Game) to provide a submission on the *Draft Annual Plan 2017/2018*. Below, I have provided the submission on behalf of Fish and Game. I would be pleased to discuss the submission content in further detail should you find it necessary.

Yours faithfully

Nigel Paragreen
Environmental Officer

Fish and Game Submission

Background

[1] This is a submission from the Otago Fish and Game Council (Fish and Game) on the *Draft Annual Plan 2017/2018*, as notified by the Otago Regional Council.

[2] Fish and Game is the statutory manager of sports fish and game resources within Otago. It is the manager of these species but no direct powers to protect their habitat (in most cases). As such we rely on the *Local Government Act* and the *Resource Management Act processes* (RMA) in order to fulfil our statutory functions. Healthy aquatic ecosystems are central to sustaining productive fish and game populations.

[3] We request to be heard at any oral hearing convened to consider this proposed annual plan.

Water Quantity

[4] Fish and Game supports the ongoing minimum flow setting processes across Otago. With the October 2021 deadline rapidly approaching it is imperative that these processes be adequately resourced to cope with the increased workload.

[5] In line with the above, Fish and Game also supports the accelerated minimum flow process on the basis that we would like to see a swift and smooth transition from deemed permits to RMA consents.

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

Otago Fish and Game Council

Cnr Hanover & Harrow Sts, PO Box 76, Dunedin 9054, New Zealand. Telephone (03) 477 9076

[6] The focus so far on encouraging the creation of catchment management groups by water users for the deemed permit transition process is encouraging. Fish and Game believes that group management of shared water resources is the most effective approach to long term water management in the region. In the short term, group management presents an opportunity to streamline the renewal process and reduce pressure on Fish and Game staff when the organisation is identified as an affected party. Fish and Game is supportive of the group approach to this process and would like to see adequate funding available to engage with and support water users effectively.

[7] It is noted that some catchment management groups have been encouraged to undertake deemed permit transitions through RMA consenting processes alone, rather than being supported by a minimum flow plan change. Fish and Game would be supportive of adequate funding being set aside for the ORC to engage with these groups. We believe such groups will have elevated resource requirements compared to a run of the mill water permit renewal – as with minimum flow processes.

[8] For the above work, Fish and Game is supportive of utilising funds from the Water Management Reserve.

Water Quality

[9] The successful implementation of *Plan Change 6A*, with its 2020 water quality compliance deadline, is of great importance of Fish and Game. To this end, we support the environmental risk-assessment programme at the property level. We are also encouraged by the planned assistance to help landholders achieve the required compliance standards.

[8] Following on from the above point, Fish and Game sees opportunities to utilise catchment management groups as a supportive community structure to assist with meeting 6A compliance standards. Adequate funding for facilitation and engagement, as is provided for on water quantity issues, would assist greatly in a smooth transition to improved water quality for the whole of Otago.

[10] Fish and Game is very supportive of the risk based approach to compliance and monitoring. We believe that strong compliance monitoring and enforcement activities are a critical aspect of improving Otago's water quality and require adequate resources to meet that end.

[11] The preliminary consultation of both the identified water quality plan changes (human sewage and stormwater discharges) is supported by Fish and Game. Urban, or non-rural, water quality plan changes are seen as complementary to the 6A plan change and necessary to improve Otago's water quality.

Pest Management

[12] The planned review of the *Pest Management Strategy* is supported by Fish and Game. Due to the impacts on sports fish and game bird habitat, we have an interest in controlling the adverse impacts of any introduced fauna which have the potential to increase sediment loss or any introduced flora which may alter the morphology and/or natural character of waterways.

[13] Fish and Game also supports the continuing development of the *Biodiversity Strategy for Otago* this year.

[14] Additional funding for Lake Snow research is supported by Fish and Game.

Waterway Management, Safety and Hazards

[15] Fish and Game supports the ongoing management of rivers for flood protection. In these matters, it is important to balance ecological and human needs. As one example, gravel aggradation can pose a flood risk; however, gravel banks are also a resource which is distributed downstream during high flows and provides habitat for future salmonid spawning. Fish and Game is supportive of the continued development and implementation of *River Morphology and Riparian Management Plans* with the aim of getting this balance right.

10.2 G Crutchley- Letter On Taxes On Water'

1838 Puketoi Highfield Road
RD 4 Ranfurly
26/07/2017

Niall Watson
Otago Fish & Game
Dunedin

Dear Niall,

Thank you for your time yesterday. I notice that since we spoke the decision on the Kyeburn consent has been announced, though I have not had time to look at the detail. I reiterate that whatever the outcome, the Kyeburn Farmers wish to develop an ongoing dialogue with Fish and Game. I hope that we can achieve this through the Upper Taieri Forum with increased effect as more of these catchment groups develop. I understand that the Strath Taieri initiative is regaining some momentum. This could prove to be of significant benefit to upper Taieri summer flows.

I discussed with you my concern at the moves at a national level to levy a charge on the use of water. You asked me to put my thoughts on paper for your council to view in advance of the next meeting. I am happy to do so. My opinions on this are based on my experience of water transactions within the Maniototo Irrigation Scheme over more than 30 years. Of course, I am concerned at the financial burden this would impose on farmers, but I am more affronted by the injustice as well as the futility of such a move.

The common catch phrase "we must put a price on water" sounds reasonable, and it is certainly saleable. It is also utterly in conflict with long held principles around water ownership and with a fundamental premise of the Resource Management Act, the "triple bottom line". The three legs of the case on which allocation decisions are made must carry equal weight. Social, environmental and economic effects must coexist in mutual respect if we are not to see serious injustice and misappropriation of this critical resource.

It is the responsibility of regional authorities to ensure that environmental and social values are properly considered during the consenting process, but they can only judge the merits of cases presented. The cost of water is already high, given the infrastructure required, not to mention the consenting process itself. This presents a financial barrier to many who might otherwise make a good case for the use of water.

Those who advocate a water tax or resource rental should consider the implications of adding to this barrier. The big winners, if water is to become a contest of the cheque book, will be the large, predominantly intensive corporate farmers who have already indicated an appetite to swallow as much allocation as they lay hands on at whatever cost. Intensification of land use is closely linked to the degradation of waterways.

There are many water users who irrigate a strategic portion of dry extensive properties. It adds resilience to these properties which have traditionally been vulnerable to drought, and contributes to the long-term sustainability of these farms which often include hill country. It is a well proven option with low risk to the environment. In a free market, or where cost becomes the primary consideration, such allocations will be stripped from these properties, to further intensify the use of the heavier land nearer to the riparian zone. To some extent this is already occurring as irrigated land is sold off from existing properties. This trend towards intensification of land use will be accelerated by the proposed extra charges for water.

To those who think that a water tax will force farmers to "value water more", I suggest you think again. At the very lowest level of the proposed tax, the Maniototo Irrigation scheme would have to pay an annual extra fee of between \$1.2 and \$1.4 million. It will damage the operations of those who present no threat to social and environmental values to the delight of big business, absentee owners and overseas corporates.

Having been involved with the Upper Taieri initiative you are aware that we have been promoting the consolidation of large numbers of individual water users into catchment groups where the consents are held within a single entity, usually a company. I believe that this structure at sub-catchment level offers advantage to all interested parties, including Fish & Game. These groups operating together and with agencies such as yourselves can work to greater effect than was possible before, across the whole upper Taieri. I believe that the positive relationship that F & G have shared with the Maniototo Irrigation Company over the last three decades has proved the potential of this approach.

I do not believe that that relationship would have been possible under the financial pressure that a water tax would have imposed. By now you would have been dealing with a very different group of people with little or no stake in the local environment or the community.

We are told that the money collected would be used to “clean up the rivers and the lakes”. When asked how this can be done they reply, “it can only be done through regulation”. I have no doubt that some use will be found for the money after it is collected, but the proposal is popular more as a perceived punishment for farmers than for what it might achieve. I do not believe that many farmers are deserving of this. I believe it will make matters worse.

I think we have not been visible in this debate to date, but with the pending election that must change. I would like to think that you and your council would support this argument.

Regards,

Geoff Crutchley.

10.3 ORC – Arrow River Minimum Flow Consultation on Plan Change FYI



7 June 2017

Fish and Game Otago
PO Box 76
Dunedin 9054

9 - JUN 2017

Niall Watson, Chief Executive

Dear Niall

Managing water in the Arrow catchment and Wakatipu basin aquifers by setting minimum flows and water allocation limits

We are developing a change to Otago's Regional Water Plan (Water Plan) to manage the amount of water in the Arrow catchment and Wakatipu basin aquifers. This includes setting minimum flows and water allocation limits for the Arrow catchment and managing water quantity in the nine Wakatipu basin aquifers.

Before we notify a proposed change to the Water Plan, we will be consulting with stakeholders and the community over the coming months. The feedback we receive will help us develop the plan change.

We would like to invite you to a stakeholder workshop in Dunedin on the morning of the 30th of June. At this workshop we will outline the purpose of the plan change and its process over the coming months, discuss catchment values and share information, including any important information you have that could assist us with this work.

To attend the workshop, please RSVP to arrow@orc.govt.nz or call **0800 474 082** and ask for Lisa Cain.

The first community consultation sessions will be held on 26th and 27th June at Arrowtown and Frankton respectively, where we'll be asking what's important to people about the Arrow catchment and Wakatipu basin aquifers and the availability of water. You are also welcome to attend – see attached flyer.

Yours sincerely

Fraser McRae
Director Policy, Planning and Resource Management

For our future

70 Stafford St, Private Bag 1954, Dunedin 9054 | ph (03) 474 0827 or 0800 474 082 | www.orc.govt.nz

HAVE YOUR SAY

Managing water in the
Arrow catchment and Wakatipu Basin
aquifers ...



Talk to us!

We want to find out what's important to you and why as we are developing a change to Otago's Regional Water Plan to manage water in the Arrow catchment and Wakatipu Basin aquifers.

Your feedback will help us set minimum flows and water allocation limits for the Arrow catchment and manage the quantity of water in the nine Wakatipu Basin aquifers.

When and where

Monday 26 June 2017
Arrowtown Bowling Club
6 Hertford Street
1pm-3pm and 6pm-8pm

Tuesday 27 June 2017
Queenstown Events Centre
33 Joe O'Connell Dr, Frankton
12.30pm-2.30pm

At the start of each session there'll be a brief presentation, but you are welcome to drop in and give your views at any time. If you can't make it to a session you can provide feedback online.



For more information
www.orc.govt.nz/Arrow

Call: 0800 474 082

Email: arrow@orc.govt.nz

Feedback closes: **Wednesday 12 July 2017**

10.4 ORC Clarifying Residual And Minimum Flows Plan Change Consultation

Niall Watson

From: Dolina Lee [Dolina.Lee@orc.govt.nz]
Sent: Monday, 17 July 2017 11:50 a.m.
To: Niall Watson
Subject: Updated: Clarifying residual flows for surface water takes

Our Reference: A1017702

13 July 2017

Niall Watson
Chief Executive
Fish and Game Otago
PO Box 76
Dunedin 9054

Dear Niall

Clarifying residual flows for surface water takes – let's talk more!

In March 2017, we invited you to tell us about what's important about surface water in Otago. We also wanted to know about your experience with the current residual flow provisions of the Regional Plan: Water for Otago (Water Plan). You might remember it as consultation for Plan Change 1D: Flow requirements for water takes.

You told us during the consultation that it was not clear and asked:

- why we were looking to develop a plan change,
- who may experience changes to their water permit as a result, and
- why we need to develop a plan change now.

We would like to clarify why it's important that we review the residual flow rules and policies in the Water Plan now, and what reviewing them could achieve for you.

We've prepared a video to take you through the reasons why this plan change is important and the issues that we've seen and experienced with setting and calculating residual flows. We encourage you to check it out online at www.orc.govt.nz/residualflows

If you still have questions about residual flows and why we are developing a plan change, please come along to one of our Community Discussion Sessions – there's a list of dates, times and places enclosed.

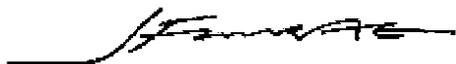
At the start of each Community Discussion Session we will address what you indicated was not clear (as listed above) and outline the process for developing the plan change. That way you'll know what to expect from us, and how and when you can choose to be involved. After the presentation, there will be opportunities for everyone to talk in small groups and ask questions directly of ORC staff.

Please RSVP if you plan to attend one of the discussion sessions (see over) so we can ensure adequate seating and staff available to answer your questions.

To attend, please RSVP by 31 July to our customer services team on 0800 474 082 or email customerservices@orc.govt.nz.

If you have any questions about the Community Discussion Sessions or the project, you can also call 0800 474 082 and ask for Denise Anderson or Lisa Cain, or email planchange1D@orc.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Fraser McRae
Director Policy Planning and Resource Management

Community Discussion Sessions

Clarifying residual flows for surface water takes
developing a change to the Regional Plan: Water for Otago

<p>Tapanui Friday 4 August 2pm West Otago Community Centre</p>	<p>Roxburgh Monday 7 August 10am Roxburgh Memorial Hall</p>
<p>Wanaka Monday 7 August 3.30pm St John Rooms</p>	<p>Omakau Tuesday 8 August 10am Matakanui Rugby Club</p>
<p>Ranfurly Tuesday 8 August 2pm Maniototo Rugby Club</p>	<p>Middlemarch Wednesday 9 August 10am Strath-Taieri Community Centre</p>
<p>Outram Wednesday 9 August 2pm West Taieri Memorial Hall</p>	<p>Maheno Thursday 10 August 2pm Maheno Hall</p>

10.5 ORC Manuherikia Minimum Flow Feed Back FYI

Niall Watson

From: Dolina Lee [Dolina.Lee@orc.govt.nz]
Sent: Tuesday, 18 July 2017 12:21 p.m.
To: Niall Watson
Subject: Manuherikia feedback

18 July 2017

Niall Watson
Chief Executive
Fish and Game Otago
PO Box 76
Dunedin 9054

By email

Dear Niall

Manuherikia community feedback – what you told us

In March we sought feedback from the community on a range of options for managing water in the Manuherikia catchment. We want to share with you what we heard, so we have summarised the feedback and uploaded it to our website, www.orc.govt.nz/5C-Manuherikia.

This feedback will contribute, along with social, economic, and cultural impact assessments, towards selecting the option preferred for managing water in the Manuherikia catchment.

When the reports are available, we will let you know and come and talk to you about them and the preferred option for water management. We will again be seeking to hear your views and will write to you again closer to the time to let you know when that will be.

Once we've received your feedback on the preferred options, in light of the social, economic, and cultural reports, we will consider your feedback and make any changes necessary. Once we've done that, we will publicly notify the plan change, and you will have further opportunities to have your say through formal submissions.

If you have any questions, please contact me on 0800 474 082 or at Manuherikia5c@orc.govt.nz. Once again, thank you for taking the time to have your say.

Yours sincerely

Fraser McRae
Director Policy Planning and Resource Management

10.6 Lindsay Lyons – Letter of Thanks for Conference



1 - AU

28 July 2017

Monty Wright
Chairman
Otago Fish and Game Council
PO Box 76
DUNEDIN 9054

Dear Monty

The New Zealand Fish and Game Council agreed that I write to congratulate and thank the Otago Fish and Game Council on its successful hosting of the Staff Conference 5 – 7 July 2017.

The Council wishes to extend its appreciation to the key organisers of the Conference, who we understand to be Sharon Milne, Helen Trotter and Ian Hadland, ably supported by Niall Watson and other staff. It also acknowledges the contribution of Sue MacLeod from the NZ Council Office in securing travel arrangements for those who flew to and from Dunedin.

Judging from feedback by NZ Council's own staff and comments from others, such as those at the Eastern Fish and Game Council, it was one of the better run staff conferences and everyone had a great time, dampened unfortunately by a nasty bug that seemed to surface at the event and then follow several participants back home.

Your own welcome and introductory remarks went down well and the NZ Council was appreciative of its own Councillor and your own colleague John Jillett making the time to attend and participate at various times.

Please pass on the NZ Council's congratulations and approval of a job well done.

Yours sincerely,

Lindsay Lyons
Chairperson

cc: Sharon Milne
Helen Trotter
Ian Hadland
Sue MacLeod
John Jillett

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

New Zealand Council

or, 2 Jarden Mile, Ngauranga, PO Box 13141, Wellington 6440, New Zealand. Telephone (04) 499 4767 Facsimile (04) 499 4768
Email nzcouncil@fishandgame.org.nz www.fishandgame.org.nz

10.7 Waiau Trust – Cover Letter to Annual Report (On request) FYI



30 June 2017

Dear *Niall*

The Trustees are pleased to forward you a copy of the 2017 Annual Report covering the 20th year of operation by the Trust. We hope you enjoy reading it.

We have had another productive year in terms of our habitat enhancement projects. Our whitebait habitat project at the mouth of the Waiau River continues to be a major focus. Most of the capital expenditure on building wetlands is now complete. The project is in maintenance mode, with minor adjustments to enhance water flows through the wetlands, being made.

Joint Waiau Trust/QEII National Trust enhancement projects feature again this year, with excellent wetland and stream protection gains being made, throughout the catchment. The benefits to fisheries and wildlife are proving positive. Demand for this grant money for these projects continues. We acknowledge the excellent cooperation of landowners, including Landcorp Farming Ltd, and other groups and organisations such as the QE II National Trust, in helping keep up the momentum of this work.

We also acknowledge the good working relationship we have with Meridian Energy Ltd. We will continue to work closely together so good environmental outcomes for the Waiau catchment can be achieved, into the future.

The Fund, under the 4 Fund Managers continues to perform well, achieving a 6% return on investments (after withdrawals, fees and brokerage) for the year. Although down on last years' returns, it is still a good result providing cash for the ongoing operation of the Trust.

In an organisation like the Trust, a large number of people contribute to its success, including the Trust Board and people we work with within the community. I wish to particularly thank Mark Sutton and Jan Riddell for their continued work. The Trustees wish to thank everyone who has supported us during the last 12 months. Your interest, cooperation and assistance have been invaluable and enabled us to meet the Trust aims and objectives now and in the future.

Yours faithfully

CA McCulloch
 C A McCulloch
 Chairman
 Email: cammcculloch@ihug.co.nz

P.O. Box 159 Invercargill 9840 New Zealand
 Telephone (03) 215-9117 Facsimile (03) 215-9118

11 General Business
