

Operational Report.

Operational Report – for the period ended July 2020

Prepared by: Dean Kelly – Manager

Introduction

The Council's adopted governance policies require the manager to provide an Operational Report, specific proposals for capital expenditure and acquisitions as well as major issues and opportunities for the Council. There are further requirements for the Manager to provide assurance that the Management Limitations are being observed. The format of this report is therefore to certify compliance with Governance Policies, Management Limitations and provide other material, responses, or assurance that Council objectives, strategies, plans, performance, risks, operation, resources and structure are being met.

Notifications of intention to purchase unbudgeted capital items in excess of \$10,000

Nothing to report

Matters for the information of council

Staff:

Staff holiday entitlements: Manager, 4 days
 Hokitika Officer, 11 days
 Northern Officer, 3 days

Vehicles:

Managers Vehicle: (start) 79,862km (fin) 85,553km. Total private for period: 1,100km
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle: MML 16,866km (start) 21,660 (finish) Total private for period: 1,114km
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle: (start) 52,899 km (fin.) 56,960km Total private for period: 1203 km

Bi-monthly report on outputs

1113 Spawning Surveys

Report completed. Attached

1114 Trend Counts

Both Pukeko and Greylard counts completed. Report attached.

1115 Sportsfishery Research

Second and third spawning count completed on the Mawheraiti streams. Appears the peak spawning period was early June, with good numbers seen in all three streams. New River & Mawheraiti environmental data received and currently being analysed. Interim report will be prepared for the October meeting.

1116 Backcountry Fisheries Management

Trail cameras retrieved, data reviewed, and report compiled.

1121 National Hunter Survey

Survey lists completed for SIT to complete work.

1161 Fisheries Enhancement

Fishery enhancements complete for Lake Ianthe. Funding was provided by Fulton Hogan for procurement of excess stock from Paringa and Silverstream. Approx. 5000 fish around 100g were transferred.

1171 Regulations/Gazette Notices

Worked with Jack Kos to finalise changes to sportfishing regulations and alterations to the game notice. A NZ Council decision on moving to an app at short notice was discussed and consultation was required with licence agents. The outcome was a continuation of a print version for this year with an App to be developed for subsequent years.

1181 Game Bird Control

Hunters directed to properties with gamebird crop predation issues in addition to four Fish & Game organised events targeting areas of complaints have been received/permits issued in the past. Enquiries from WMP and farmers regarding Pukeko control were received and advice given.

1211 RMA Plans/Policy/Consents

Resource Consent application received, and approval given for Oceania Gold water discharge and a dairy discharge for Nathan Molloy at HariHari. There are 5 pending consents seeking approval.

Applicant	Area	Type	Nature of work	Comments
Mossy Creek Mining	Mossy Creek, Ikamatua	Mining Permit	Alluvial Gold Mining.	
Selwyn Earthworks JV Ltd	Waimea Creek, Hokitika	Mining Permit	Alluvial Gold Mining	No Creek disturbance and pond recirculation system
Dempster and Mann	Hatters Gully	Mining Permit	Alluvial Gold Mining	No fishery
Greid Mining	German Gully Stafford	Mining Permit	Alluvial Gold Mining	No fishery
McClellan Company Ltd	Allen Creek, Waitaha	Discharge Permit	Dairy Effluent Discharge	4 pond and ditch system
Westpower Ltd	Wanganui River	Land use consent	River protection works	check timing
Colligan Farms Ltd	Jones Creek	Land use consent	River protection works	
Mill Creek Mining Ltd	Chesterfield	Land use consent	Alluvial Gold Mining	Increase to mining area
John Nolan	Arawhata	Land use consent	Gravel extraction and stop bank.	No issues
Westland Dairy Company Ltd	Hokitika River	Land use consent	Gravel extraction and channel opening	
Wilson-Russ Gold Ltd	Waimea Creek, Stafford	Land use consent	Alluvial Gold Mining	No issues. Reprint of existing mine.
Monkz Farms Ltd	Kokatahi	Discharge Permit	Dairy Discharge	No issues, re-consenting existing system
DoC Kawatiri	Punakaiki River	Land use consent	Rock protection for Swingbridge	Timing issues but able to minimise disturbance.
M J K Mining Ltd	Duffers creek, Stafford Loop Road	Land use consent	Alluvial Gold Mining	Recirculated water, no issues.

1212 Dairy Industry/Farmer Advocacy

Continued work building relationship with farmers that have been affected by the increase in the paradise shelduck population. We will utilise these areas to facilitate organised hunting in the gamebird season. Liaison with farmers increased over COVID concerns regarding access for the gamebird season.

1213 DOC

Enquired with DoC regarding new 'Freshwater Pests' role. Tim Shaw to provide update at meeting.

1311 Access

Signs checked during routine work. List of access points provided for inclusion in the Campermate app. Have aided in hunting access for new and young hunters, as well as directed visiting hunters to areas where hunting pressure is requested by farmers.

1312 Assisted Hunting

We have had four organised hunts this gamebird season.

Date	Location	Number of hunters	% from West Coast	Pukeko Shot	Paradise Shelduck Shot	Swan Shot	Greylards Shot
21/06/2020	Matai	15	100	75	8	0	6
28/06/2020	Barrytown	8	100	50	8	16	5
5/07/2020	Birchfield	16	81	150	5	0	3
11-12/07/2020	Grey Valley	50	82	14	119	0	59

1331 Website/Ezines/Social Media

Relevant material been posted on website. Regular Facebook engagements have been done, focusing on gamebird hunting events and targeting paradise shelducks.

1332 Fish & Game Magazine

West Coasts contribution to the sports fishing edition of the magazine completed.

1361 Clubs, Outdoor Recreation Groups

Continued growth of the West Coast Fish & Game young hunters club, with them having a team in the Mini Grey Valley Duck Hunt.

1371 Okuru Hut

Hut visited post Covid-19 lock down and lawns mowed. A Southland Fish and Game Officer and a researcher are using the hut to collect grey duck samples for a research project.

1421 Media/Communication

Media content release surround opening day and a banded duck shot in Westport.

1511 Compliance

Compliance has focused on hunting and to an increasing extent on winter anglers. Promotion of the winter season plus increasing numbers of anglers from nearby regions on holiday have resulted in more use of our fisheries.

1531 Prosecutions

Completed prosecution of gamebird hunter (Hunting without a licence), offender accepted diversion. An historic case from 2015 revisited – initially a summons was unable to be served and a Warrant for Arrest was issued. The offender (Fishing without licence and failure to provide full name and address) subsequently appeared in court on other charges and we were able to reinstate the case. At a formal proof hearing in Greymouth the judge dismissed the charges saying there was insufficient evidence to prove the identity of the offender.

1621 Agent Liaison

Liaison with agent required over invoicing issues and ammunition availability preceding the game season.

1841 National Liaison

Managers are meeting frequently via internet meetings with the rapidly changing financial and regulatory environment. Health and Safety protocols have also been a focus.

1927 Occupational Safety and Health

Attended staff H&S meetings. Attended staff H&S meetings. Review of Health and Safety documentation completed in lieu of visit by Debbie Mair and Ritchie Cosgrove. Vehicle and Workshop functional areas audited over period.

1980 Offices

Some maintenance work has been completed on the office including lighting and signage.

1980 Equipment

Interim survey of boat completed by Gary Levy and review of MTOP completed.

Staffing

Staff employment agreements revised to incorporate volunteered wage freeze.

Staff Recommendation:

That this report be received.