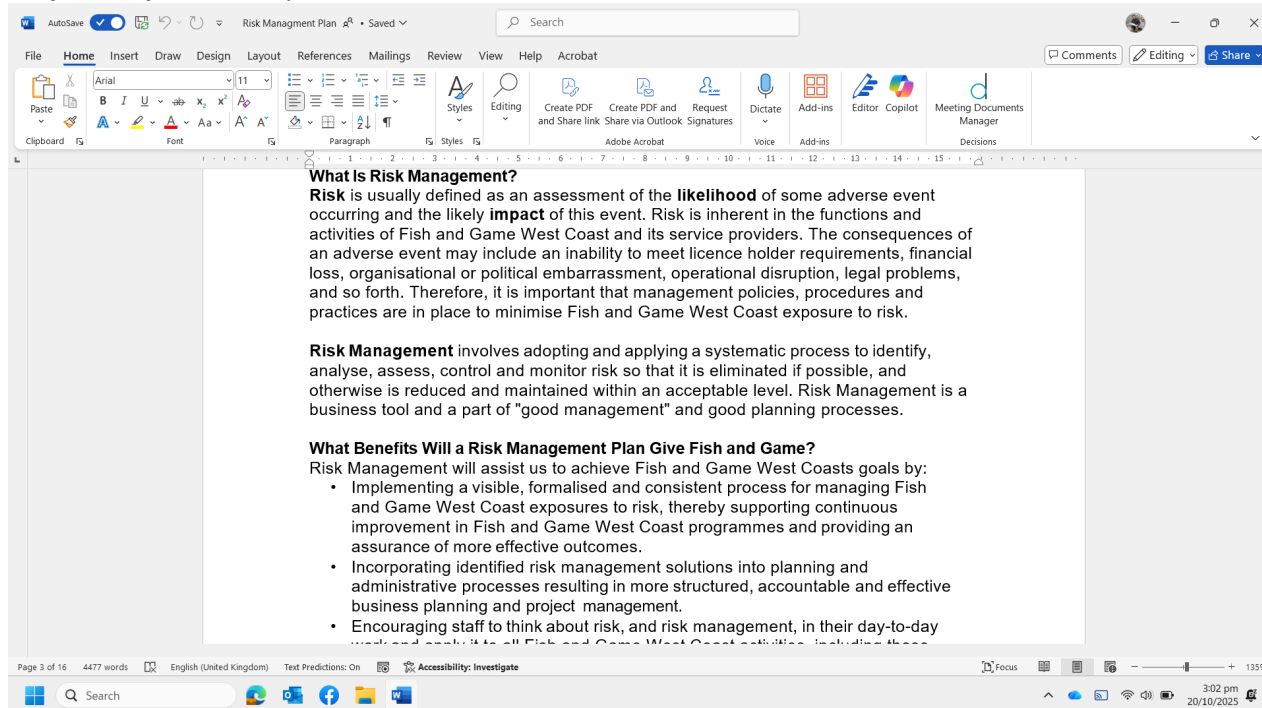


Agenda Item 12.1:

Operational Report – for the period ended September 2025

Prepared by: Dean Kelly – Ma



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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.

Matters for the information of Council.

Staff:

Staff holidays estimated (days): Manager, 8
 Officer, 11
 Admin, 3

Vehicles:

Managers Vehicle RHG: (start) 0km (fin) 4,025km. Total private for period: 1,260km
Fish & Game Officer Vehicle PSM: (start) 84,877km (fin.) 89,745km. Total private for period: 710km

The Temporary Ranger vehicle was sold and replaced with the Managers vehicle. This will be sold in the near future with replacement of the Senior Officer vehicle.

Bi-monthly report on outputs

1111 Trout Surveys.

Nothing to report in this period.

1112 Lake Netting

Nothing to report in this period.

1113 Spawning Surveys.

Spawning counts completed on MacDonalds and Windbag creeks. Spawning surveys completed at known spawning sites in the Taramakau and Hokitika catchments. Report attached.

1114 Trend Counts

Shoveler and Grey Teal survey completed.

1115 Sportsfishery Research

Nothing to report in this period.

1116 Designated Waters Fisheries Management

Regional representation at the bimonthly meetings to discuss issues.

1121 National Hunter Survey.

The National Hunter Survey summary has been completed and the data passed on for the production of the South Island report.

1161 Fisheries Enhancement.

On the 15th of August, approximately 8,130 parr-stage salmon (10 g) were released into the Lake Kaniere put-and-take fishery.

1171 Regulations/Gazette Notices

Nothing to report in this period.

1181 Game Bird Control

Two crop predation complaints have been received, one regarding a black swan and one concerning a paradise shelduck. Advice was provided in response to the paradise shelduck complaint, and a permit was issued following an organised hunt in response to the black swan complaint.

1211 RMA Plans/Policy/Consents

Applicant	Area	Type	Nature of work	Comments
Jacob VanAlphen	Buller River	Discharge Permit	Suction Dredging	Specific conditions
Jason and Catherine Kelly	Waimea Creek, Buller.	Land use consent	Culvert installation	Well engineered for flows.
Titan Resources Ltd - Riley Perkins	Roche Creek	Water Permit	Water take for Gold Mining	AEE and less than 20% MALF

The Tai Poutini Plan and been approved. Decisions are currently being reviewed by staff to ascertain if our minor issues have been addressed.

1213 DoC

Nothing to report in this period.

1311 Access.

Continued contribution to the 2025 Mapping Working Group to support discussions and planning for the future development of the Fish & Game mapping system. Access signage and access audit underway. Contribution into National DoC policy on land management and Fish and Game management activities.

1312 Assisted Hunting.

Nothing to report in this period.

1331 Website/Ezines/Social Media

Facebook engagements have been done, focusing on game bird hunting opportunities and promoting both barrels. Reel life and both barrels completed.

1332 Fish & Game Magazine

Sportsfish supplement completed focusing on the work Fish and Game does in the region.

1341 Sportsfisheries Guides.

Agents regularly visited and stocked with guides.

1361 Clubs, Outdoor Recreation Groups

A fishing event is planned in conjunction with the Big Brothers Big Sisters organisation on Saturday, 27 September, at Lake Brunner.

1371 Council properties.

General maintenance at Okuru. People stopping to look at the Deer and the Hokitika Angling Club tenant continue to create issues at Lake Kaniere. Hunting the deer is the solution but this is problematic due to safety concerns.

1411 Conservation Boards, Iwi, Allied Groups.

No headway with access to Arahura River by Mawhera Incorporation. Revised access pamphlet accordingly.

1421 Media/Communication.

Content was provided to local papers focusing on spring fishing and introducing children to the sport. Communication with licence-holders has mostly been around licencing issues and spring fishing opportunities.

1431 Political Advocacy

Communications from regions to Minister regarding organisational structure reviewed. Communications from Minister received regarding SFGMP's.

1511 Compliance.

Compliance completed around lower reaches of rivers and Lake Brunner. Lower river fishing signs erected in South Westland. With the Okuru hut now having internet connectivity staff can also complete office work from this location and perform compliance activities at appropriate times.

1521 Ranger Training.

Nothing to report in this period.

1531 Prosecutions.

The angler detected fishing more than one rod at Lake Brunner has completed diversion and the case is now closed.

1611 Licence Production & Distribution.

Issues with the eligibility of the Family Licence continue with substantial negative feedback received.

1621 Agent Liaison.

Regular visit to agents. Frequently stocked with access guides, how to guides, child licence pads and excess F&G magazine in the office.

1721 Council.

Regular bi-monthly reporting.

1821 OWP & Budget

The OWP and Budget were redone in light of directions from the NZC. This is provided for adoption at this meeting.

1831 Annual Public Meeting & Report.

The Annual Report has largely been completed. The draft has been provided to the Chair and the Audit scheduled. A big thanks to Helen Cate for continuing on until the completion of this process.

1841 National Liaison.

Communication with other regions regarding regulations, compliance, budgeting and Health and Safety.

1910 Staff Salaries & Payroll.

Some training is required for the Administration position and Helen is still providing guidance on a consultancy basis.

1940 Office Premises.

General Maintenance including lawns and cleaning.

1950 Office Equipment

Nothing to report.

1970 General.

All accounts payable continue to be paid on time, all providers to us are emailing accounts directly rather than posting so this is also minimising delays.

1980 Equipment

Staff reviewed field equipment and safety gear and replaced/procured new gear where required.

1990 Vehicles

All vehicles are up to date for their on-road requirements.

Staff Recommendation:

That this report be received.