



New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association Wairarapa Branch Incorporated

Newsletter for **May 2022**

General Meeting Wednesday 18 May
6:30 pm at Hunting & Fishing Wairarapa

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Our friends at Hunting & Fishing Wairarapa will host us at their new store at 319 Ngaumutawa Road starting 6:30 pm. Pizza and soft drinks will be provided. And plenty of good deals in store!



Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events

18 MAY GENERAL MEETING Hunting and Fishing 319 Ngaumutawa Road, Masterton. Starting 6:30 pm.

21 MAY FIREWOOD WORKING BEE Starting 9am. Venue is Dave McKay's at Gladstone. Head north past the school and turn left where the big stack of green balage is (just before the dip/corner in the road). Head through between the sheds and turn left. Bring chainsaws, or log splitters and PPE. We have about 10 cube to ring/split so will not take long. The more people the better. Remember attendance at working bees counts for any club trip subsidy. If the weather is too inclement an email will be sent early on the Saturday morning. No email by 8 am means it is still going ahead.

21-22 MAY WANGANUI FALLOW MEAT HUNT Full

NO JUNE COMMITTEE MEETING Committee will meet after General Meeting on 15 June.

15 JUNE GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm. Speaker is new branch member **Miles Cranston** from **Bodies Alive Coaching** on getting fit for the hills. See www.bodiesalivetraining.co.nz



6 JULY COMMITTEE MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.

JULY GENERAL MEETING We are trying to arrange a smallbore shooting evening again. Date and time to be confirmed

29–31 JULY NZDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, WAIKATO

15 OCTOBER BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER Parkvale Hall. Put this date in your calendars now!

29–30 OCTOBER SIKI SHOW Mystery Creek Events Centre Hamilton. For more details see www.sikashow.co.nz



Recent Events

THE ROAR

There was no general meeting in April with our members out in the hills. With some success too. Here are some trophies featured on the Branch Closed Facebook Group (open only to members). You can apply to join here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/798600664354866>



Miles Cranston Tararua



Peter O'Driscoll Nelson tops



Hamish Graham Kaimanawas



Gary Warren Central North Island



News

MEMBERSHIPS

We continue to welcome new members. Please introduce yourself to the new faces welcome at meetings and club events. Email membership@deerstalkers.org if you have not received your invoice.

PARKVALE HALL

Like many places in the rural Wairarapa we have had recent issues with cluster flies. The transfer of land is still bouncing back and forwards between Incorporated Societies and the lawyers. Regular hall bookings continue to come through. **PHONE 022 323 6993 for hall bookings.**

SEARCH AND RESCUE

The SAR AGM is on 19 May at 7:30 pm at the SAR base. If you're interested in joining SAR please contact Phil Gray on 027 4740717.

RANGE & SHOOTING

Arrangements are being made for smallbore shooting in association with our July meeting. Gladstone range is available for the use of members on weekends when not in use. Branch members get 6 free visits a year. **The branch needs more range officers.** If you are interested in doing range officer training please contact Alex on 027 4359216.

HUTS

The renovations and re-cladding on Sayers Hut has been scheduled for Queen's Birthday weekend (weather permitting). A couple of members flew into Neill Forks during the roar and reported that the hut needed some paint but was otherwise in good condition. Some of the trees around the hut need pruning. Thanks to Glenn Richardson for the photo.



DOC LIAISON

Murry Clark is looking to book Waiuku Lodge (northern Haurangis) for a club trip.

DEER PARK

A report of a dog in the deer pen was investigated and deer were all found to be in good condition. The sheds and pens need a clean-up. We are still in discussions with Masterton District Council about extending the deer pens.

FINANCIALS

Bank balance \$12,610.45 + \$15,861 in term deposits. We will transfer another \$5,000 to a term deposit. The branch bank account number for payments (firewood, etc) is 03-0687-0022096-00 but please not this is not the account for payment of memberships – which go direct to National Office.

FIREWOOD/FUNDRAISING

The wood split in January and February has already been sold. More trees have been sourced. About 10 m³ is waiting to be split at the working bee on 21 May and more logs will be delivered soon.

WEBSITE

The material is out of date. Luke Johnson has gone through and made a list of suggestions for updates which will be discussed with Nick Perkins who administers the website on behalf of the branch.



Changes to Shooting Club and Ranges Regulations | Police Open Consultation

NZ Police announced on 23 March that it is seeking submissions on a raft of proposed amendments to the Arms Regulations 1992, seeking to introduce regulations to support mandatory shooting range and club registration and certification and associated fees.

Submissions closed on Wednesday, 4th of May. I hope many of you had your say? NZDA National Office submission is on <https://portal.deerstalkers.org.nz/docs/pub/3c01248df5af807fc5261912362f0ea4/default/?&>

Firearms licence renewals

A further reminder about renewing your firearms licence well before it is due to expire. Applying for your renewal early will improve the likelihood that your licence will be processed on time. The link to Police's website is here: <https://www.police.govt.nz/advice-services/firearms-and-safety/what-do-i-need-know/news-and-updates>



NZDA Member survey

National Office is conducting a survey and would greatly appreciate your feedback and comments. They are asking some questions to make sure we're on the right track in meeting our members' expectations.

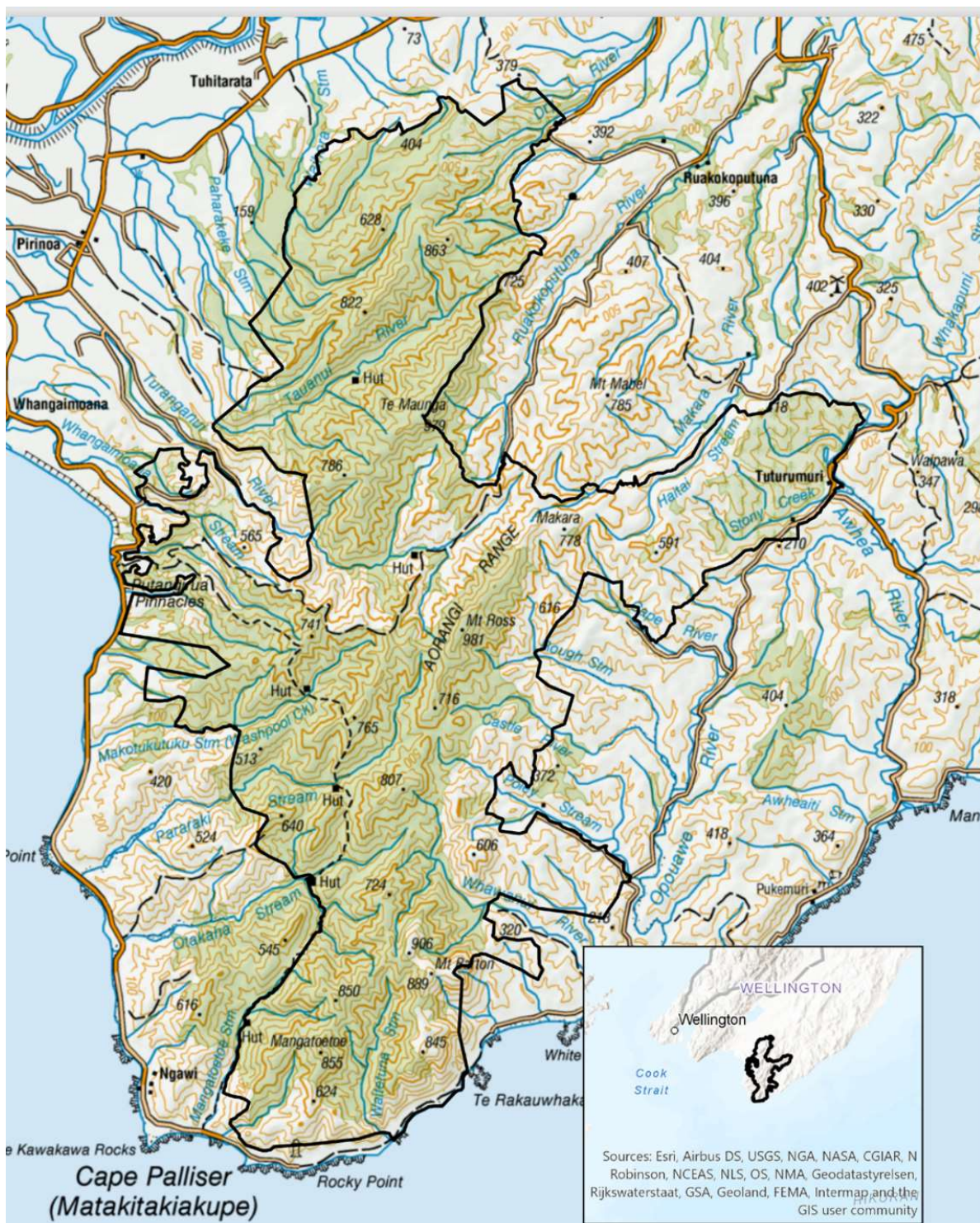
The survey should take you roughly 10-15 minutes and can be done on your phone, computer or laptop.

Please take the time to answer, as we value your feedback. The survey will be open for the month of May. All members were emailed as link or it can be accessed by copying and pasting the following link into your web browser: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z6TTLCB>

Aerial possum Control Operations

Aorangis

OSPRI, the Department of Conservation (DOC), Aorangi Recreational Hunters Group and the Aorangi Restoration Trust (ART) are teaming up again for the next phase of Project Aorangi. The 10-year project aims to provide a "triple hit" on pests by reducing the number of possums, stoats and rats over approximately 36,000 hectares of the Aorangi Forest Park and surrounding private farmland. The next stage involves a repeat of the 2014 and 2017 aerial 1080 operation in May–June 2022. **We have been told that deer repellent will be used again in 2022.** The area of operation is shown on the next page.

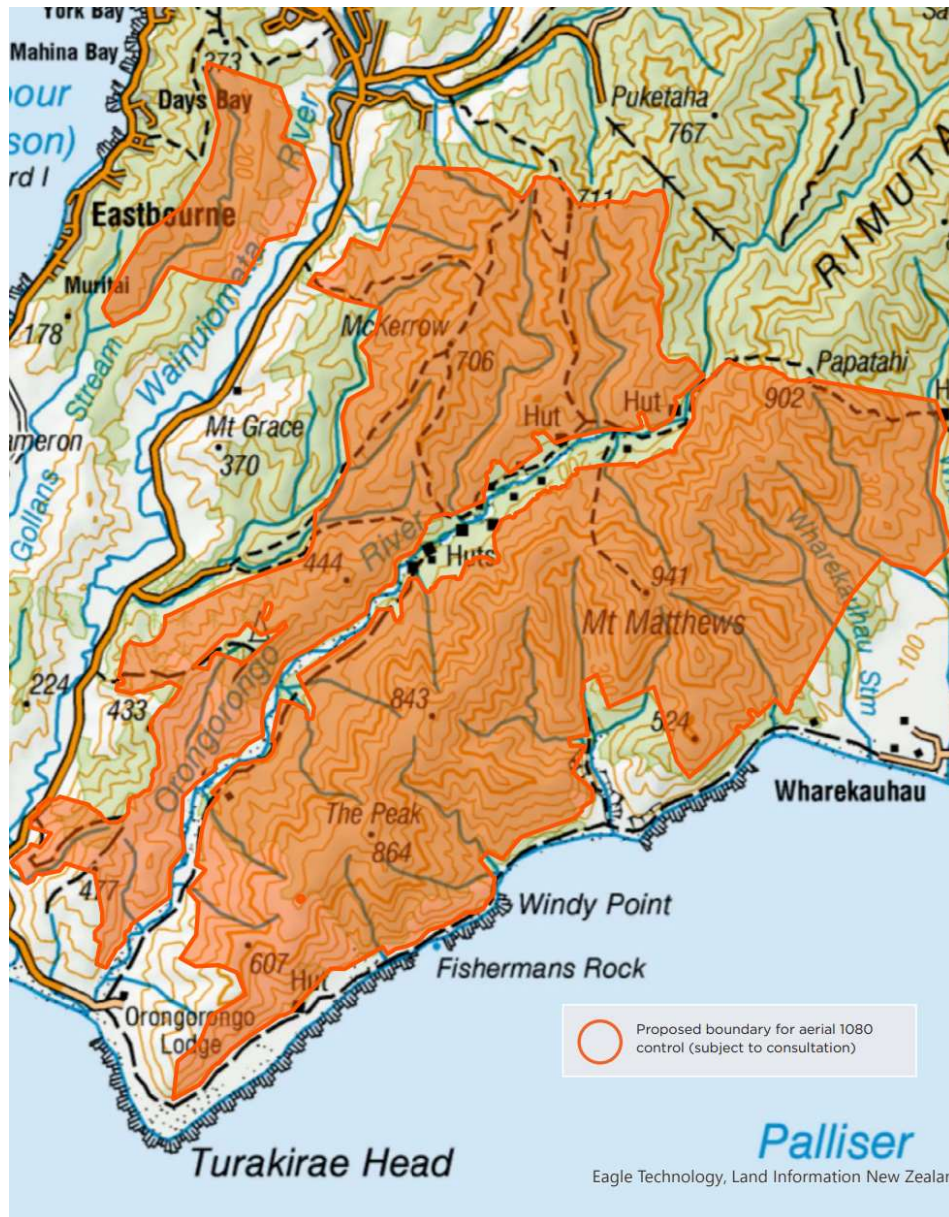


Southern Remutakas

EcoFX has been contracted by OSPRI New Zealand to undertake a large-scale aerial 1080 operation in the Southern Remutaka Ranges. The purpose of the operation is to reduce the possum population to low numbers to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis (TB). The operation is scheduled to be delivered in May 2022, but may occur as late as June as the programme is weather dependent. There are two phases to the proposed programme.

- Non-toxic prefeed cereal baits will be sown over the treatment blocks at an average rate of 1.0 kg per ha.
- Approximately 7 days later toxic 1080 baits will be sown over the treatment area at an average rate of 2 kg/ha.

Both phases are weather dependant requiring 2-3 fine nights with minimal rainfall after application. EcoFX is obtaining required consents from the relevant agencies to carry out the work. A map of the proposed operational area is below. The factsheet is available online here: www.ospri.co.nz or www.ecofx.co.nz.





Hunting Reports

A great story from junior member Liam Dennes this month. Remember there is a **prize of \$50 for the best newsletter story** from October 2021 to September 2022. Open to all members, so please send stories and photos to the newsletter editor at wairarapanzda@gmail.com. Hopefully there will be some more great stories from the 2022 roar!

A Personal Best by Liam Dennes

It was the night before our Te Munga hunting trip and my Dad, my brother Callum and I went to bed in excitement as we knew we had an early start in the morning. As we awoke, we realised what today was going to bring, so we packed our stuff and hit the road. It was a cold morning and there was a lot of fog on the road. But we saw some astonishing sunrise views on the tops of the hills. Then we hit the turn off for the dusty windy road into the house. This road was very bumpy in some spots and even muddy which was a little bit surprising as we had had pretty good weather for the whole week.

When we arrived at the house, we unpacked our gear and had a look around. Once we had finished checking the place out, we got ready to go for a hunt. The quad didn't want to start so we jumped on the back of Brad's truck and headed out for the evening to look for deer. We saw quite a few.

When we got back to the house at about 7:30 we were the only ones there. We wondered where the other people, who were hunting with us for the weekend, were. Besides my dad and brother, we also had Brad, Terry, Luke and his son, William, hunting with us. The others all got back pretty late. We made dinner, talked about how our night went, and after that we kids went off to bed.

The next morning when we woke up, had some breakfast, got on our jackets and went out for most of the day. As we drove up the hill on the quads, which finally decided to start working, we pulled off to the side of the road. As we were getting the guns and binos out, we saw a deer not that far away. Dad decided to put a round into him with the .243. After we knew the deer was dead, Callum and Dad went over to gut it. Luke, William and I went around the corner and found this nice little flat spot on the side of the hill. We decided to set up there. After seeing about six or so deer across the gully we made our choice on what one we wanted to take. Luke took his shot first at a fallow doe. We saw a couple more on the same hill just on different clearings. We decided that is was my turn to shoot. But since Dad had left with the range finder, we couldn't get the exact distance. We guessed about 385 yards, then dialled up the scope on Luke's 30-06. I got set up and off the bullet went heading straight for the deer. Dad and Callum came back because they heard the shot. We ranged how far the shot was and it turned out to be 392 yards so we weren't too far off. I got the kill and a personal best!

There was also a buck across the gully. Dad ranged it at 450 yards. Luke got behind the gun, dialled it in and squeezed off the shot. Boom, thump and he fell over. Man it was a long way!

Once we had retrieved the deer, we decided that it was time to head back for lunch. On the way back to the house, we picked up dad's spiker. After everyone had lunch, we thought we might take a rest for a bit and go back out in the evening. So we did. Dad and Luke thought we should go and check out where the trail went that was behind the house. We shot up the trail and found a little slip on the track. We all got off the bikes and had fun throwing rocks into the water next to the road.

In the evening, we found a good spot to stay in. Luke and Dad saw some more deer. Luke had a crack at one and thumped it. When we got over to where the deer was, Dad saw another buck just across the creek from us. It had a split palm so we decided to take it. But by the time we had got Luke's deer done it was time to head back to the house.

The next day we went back to the same spot to get the head off of Dad's buck, it was a bit of a mission trying to get to the deer because it was down a very steep hill covered in bushes, but we made it. We got Dad's deer and then took a quick break before heading back up the massive hill. We went back to the house after retrieving Dad's buck head. By this time, the trip was pretty much over so everyone packed up their gear, tidied up the house, and we all headed home.

I had lots of fun hunting this weekend and was glad that Dad was able to take us. I was really happy to shoot a deer and excited that the shot was a personal best. I can't wait to go hunting again.





Buy, Sell, and Swap

If you have hunting or outdoor related items that you want to buy, sell, or swap, then we'll include these in the Newsletter free of charge (better than TradeMe). Send items (with picture if you wish) to wairarapanzda@gmail.com

PERSONAL LOCATOR BEACONS

The four club PLBs purchased with a grant application from Trust House Wairarapa are available for hire for \$10 for a weekend or \$20 for 3-14 days. Contact Aidan on 027 432 3410.

Book: An Affair of the Hart.

Fourteen copies available for \$60 each. Pick up from the hall, or postage extra. Email wairarapanzda@gmail.com if you would like to purchase a copy.

NZDA MERCHANDISE

<https://nzda.shop/collections/all>

SPORTCO .222 RIFLE

With Leopold scope and suppressor. Contact Murry Clark on 027 4515195 for details.

CHILLER

For sale \$6000 I replaced the chiller unit about 3 years ago go well I have built a larger one. Dimensions 2200 / 1150 outside; 2000 / 940 inside
Phone Dave Mckay 0274395034



Final Thoughts

Be safe be sure.
Assume it is a person not a deer.
No meat is better than no mate.
Identify your target.

Hard Copy Newsletter Recipients – if you are receiving this newsletter by post but also use email, please contact the editors at wairarapanzda@gmail.com so your newsletter can be sent electronically.

Disclaimer: The contents of this Newsletter come from various sources, and the opinions or ideas expressed are not necessarily endorsed by this committee or by National Executive, nor may they reflect Branch policy.

Check us out on Facebook:  We have over 1000 likes!! <https://www.facebook.com/WairarapaNZDA>

The Branch now has a Closed Facebook Group (open only to members). You can apply to join here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/798600664354866>

The website is at: <http://www.wairarapanzda.org.nz/>. Thanks to **Nick Perkins** our website administrator.