



**New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association
Wairarapa Branch Incorporated**

Newsletter for September 2024



Photo credit Peter O'Driscoll, Young tahr near Mount Cook early September 2024

Contacts

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	Dave Bashford	027 459 5477
	Derek Williams	027 656 8897
	Derrick Foley	027 231 4846
	Hamish Graham	
	Lloyd Rayner	027 608 0325
	Luke Johnson	027 630 7640
	Murry Clark	
	Pete Cunningham	021 190 9468
	Philip Gray	027 474 0717
	Richard O'Driscoll	021 141 1472
	Shane Dougan	027 247 4484
	Shane Lehmstedt	
Parkvale Hall Booking	Andrew Dennes	022 323 6993 please use this number for bookings and enquiries
LandSAR	Luke Johnson	027 630 7640
Personal Locator Beacons	4 available for hire \$10 for a weekend \$20 for 3-14 days	Aidan Bichan 027 432 3410

Website <http://www.wairarapanzda.org.nz/>

Facebook  <https://www.facebook.com/WairarapaNZDA>

Closed Facebook page Open only to members. You can apply to join here:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/79860064354866>

Newsletter Story Competition October 2023 to September 2024 – prize of \$50
Stories and photos to the newsletter editor at
wairarapanzda@gmail.com

Calendar

Wed 18 September	2024	General Meeting – Parkvale Hall – 7.30pm – speaker Dave Morris on Hunting in Africa
Sun 22 September	2024	Annual Club Shoot Competition – Gladstone range – 9am (see details later in newsletter)
Wed 2 October	2024	Committee Meeting – Parkvale Hall – 7.30pm
Sat 19 October	2024	Branch Annual Dinner – Parkvale Hall – 6pm
Wed 6 November	2024	Committee Meeting – Parkvale Hall – 7.30pm
Wed 20 November	2024	General Meeting – Parkvale Hall – 7.30pm
11-19 March	2025	Branch Trip to Stewart Island Still places available. Contact Lloyd Rayner 027 608 0325 before the Annual Dinner



Grant Langlands

Langlands Honda Motorcycles Ltd
 11 Chapel Street, Masterton 5810
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 Mobile: (027) 4420 294
 Email: langlands@honda-motorcycles.com
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General Meeting 21 August Hunting & Fishing Masterton

A very well-attended event with 82 people turning up. Great talks by the representatives from Tightlines (sleeping bags and Nikwax) and HikMicro (thermals). A lot of \$\$\$ went over the till, with the new HikMicro thermal binoculars proving a popular item. Thanks to the team at Hunting and Fishing Masterton for hosting us and putting on the barbecue. Congratulations to Shane L who won the raffle draw for a new HikMicro monocular.



Saturday 19 October 2024
Annual Dinner & Prizegiving
Parkvale Hall 6 pm
6 pm start.

Fully catered. BYO refreshments.

The cost for dinner is \$20 per head. Junior members (under 16) are \$10.
Pay on the night with cash please.

Raffles on the night are our major fundraiser for the year. Tickets will be \$4 or \$10 for three.
Please try and bring the correct change. No Eftpos available.



Committee News and Updates

FINANCIALS

Current account balance \$15,637 with \$22,609 in term deposits. Insurance payment of \$2416 recently made for Parkvale Hall.

The branch bank account number for payments (firewood, etc) is 03-0687-0022096-00
(This is not the account for payment of memberships – which go direct to National Office.)

DEER PARK

Deer are all healthy. The memorandum of understanding with Masterton District Council for expansion of the Deer Park is now signed. An irrigation control unit has been donated by Hydroflow. A working bee to be arranged

DOC LIAISON

Hut maintenance agreements for Sayers and Neill Forks Huts for next three years have now been signed. Work in planned to put up spouting and fascia board on Sayers. We will apply to Backcountry Trust for funding for work on Neill Forks.

FUNDRAISING

We have some **split dry pine firewood for sale**. This has been under cover since it was split. Cost \$70 per m3. Contact Andrew on 027 295 5300 to arrange pick-up.

HUTS

Mike Thrupp represents the branch at Greater Wellington Backcountry Network Inc meetings. Hamish Graham has been nominated by the branch to represent us with the Aorangi Restoration Trust.

MEMBERSHIPS

New members still coming through.

RANGE & SHOOTING

Gladstone range is available for the use of members. Branch members get six free visits a year.

Hours for using the Gladstone range for visitors including Deerstalkers 9:30 am to 1:00 pm on Sunday unless you're accompanied by a Gladstone WPSSC member.

Please keep to these times to avoid disappoint as with new police regulations, Range Officers are required on active ranges even for casual shooting.

There is a Precision Rifle match booked on range 6 on the first Sunday of the month so late morning is recommended for that day unless you would like to join in with them which you are more than welcome to do.

Sunday 22 September 2024
Annual Club Shoot Competition
Gladstone range - 9am sharp

Centrefire, Rimfire, F-class, Military
New class: Varmit .17 HMR, .22 magnum through to .221 Remington

Junior prizes – come along and have a go

Wairarapa NZDA Annual Competition Shoot
Gladstone Range
Sunday 22nd September 2024
Registration at 9am, shooting to start 9.30am sharp.

We have a lot of events to shoot in a limited time so please listen to range staff and help with setting up, packing up etc. All shooters to bring own ammunition.

Match 1. Junior (under 18 years of age) Rimfire

50yds, 20 rounds. 5 shots prone, 5 shots sitting, 5 shots kneeling, 5 shots standing.

Match 2. Senior Rimfire

50yds, 20 rounds. 5 shots prone, 5 shots sitting, 5 shots kneeling, 5 shots standing.

Match 3. Varmint rifle (.17 to .221 Rem)

100yds, 20 rounds. 5 shots prone, 5 shots sitting, 5 shots kneeling, 5 shots standing.

Match 4. Centrefire (for larger calibres above .221 up to 8mm)

100yds, 20 rounds. 5 shots prone, 5 shots sitting, 5 shots kneeling, 5 shots standing.

PLEASE NOTE MATCHES 1-4

- Are to be shot unsupported, no slings, bipods, rests etc
- Scopes are to be set not exceeding 6x power.
- Sporting stock configuration only.
- No special target clothing, gloves, jackets etc.
- No heavy or target barrels.

Match 5. Junior F Class

100yds, 10 rounds. Up to 8mm, max score 110. Any aids; bipods, slings, rests, barrel/stock configurations allowed.

Match 6. Senior F Class

100yds, 10 rounds. Up to 8mm, max score 110. Any aids; bipods, slings, rests, barrel/stock configurations allowed.

Match 7. Military

100yds, 10 rounds. For iron sighted (no Parker Hale target sights), bolt action military rifles of military origin (may be sporterised but not restocked with sporting stocks) and must be of military calibre ie, 6.5x55, .303, 8mm etc.

Branch trophies will be competed for in the following categories:

Junior Rimfire, Senior Rimfire, Centrefire, Varmint, Open Aggregate, Women's Aggregate, F Class Junior, F Class Senior, Military.

Range Rules will be read out to you on the day but I would like to remind all:

- All shooters and spectators must abide by WPSSC range rules.
- All children are to have a parent/guardian supervise them at all times.
- All visitors to sign the range book on arrival.
- Hearing and eye protection to be worn while on the range.
- Chamber flags are now mandatory on the range (will be available on the day).

There are four standard rifle-firing positions: prone, standing, sitting, and kneeling.

Prone

The prone position is the steadiest of the four positions. Because it's the easiest to hold, it's the best position for mastering the fundamentals of firing—aiming, breath control, trigger squeeze, and follow through.



Standing

With neither arm supported, this is the most difficult position for firing an accurate shot. Rather than trying to hold the barrel steady, which is impossible, try to keep movement of the barrel to as small an area as possible. Smooth, natural motion will produce the best shot.



Sitting

Both arms are supported by your legs. Next to the prone position, this is the steadiest position.



Kneeling

With only one arm braced, the kneeling position is less steady than the prone and sitting positions.



ARE YOU THE G.O.A.T. HUNTER?



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Department of
Conservation
Te Pūhira Aotearoa



Supported by the Federated Farmers of New Zealand,
Hunting & Fishing New Zealand and Te Tari Pūroke |
Firearms Safety Authority New Zealand.

Competition Information

It's wild goat hunting season!

Date: 1 August – 26 November. Entries close at midnight on 26 November 2024.

Location: Nationwide – on both public and private land.

All goat tails and goat heads entered must be wild and taken legally, recreationally, and humanely during the competition period. Wild goat heads can only be taken to an approved New Zealand Deerstalker Association (NZDA) entry point.

Entry locations: [Find an entry location near you.](#)

Competition rules: [Read the competition rules.](#)

Competition categories and prizes

We have over \$70,000 worth of prizes donated by the hunting and outdoor sector.

Advocacy Alert: National Aerial Operations Plan 2025 taking feedback now

OSPRI is inviting feedback on the 2025 National Aerial Operations Plan for TBfree pest control operations.

Feedback responses are due by 30 September 2024

OSPRI, which manages the TBfree programme, is seeking specific feedback from people and organisations who may be affected by the proposed aerial disease control operations, including landowners and land users, farmers, hunters, and people involved in outdoor recreation.

Full details online can be found [here](#), you'll also find the [National Aerial Operations Plan 2025](#) and the online [feedback form link](#).

Sika Foundation: Assistance with predator trapping

There are opportunities every month to take part in servicing the Cascade, Oamaru, Kaipo, Hinemaiaia, and Clements Mill Rd trap lines. If you are interested and would like to take part in the 2024 trapping roster, please head to the Sika Foundation website to register as a volunteer and view available dates. Or email us at volunteer@sikafoundation.co.nz. We would love to have you on board!



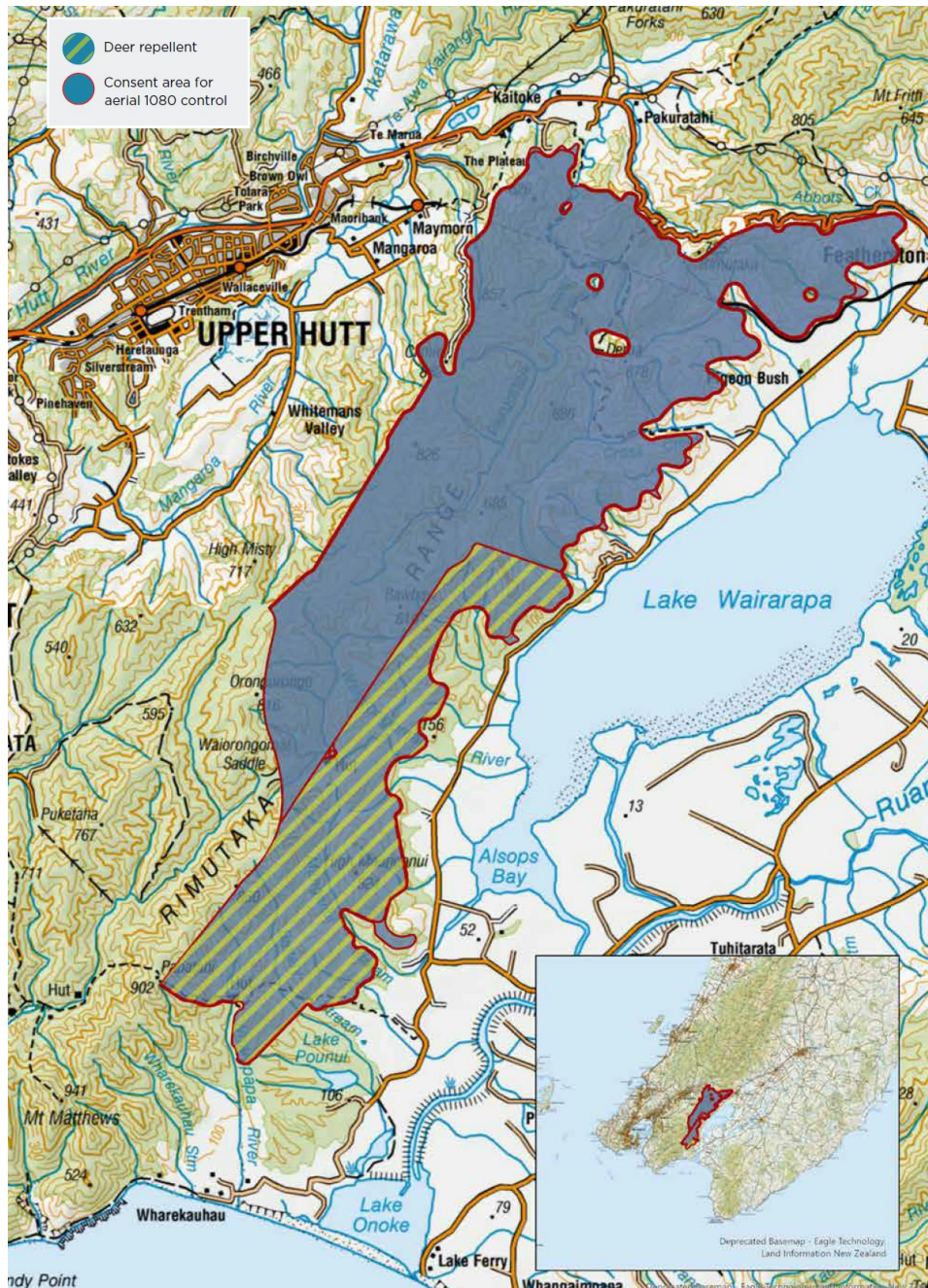
Sika Foundation Volunteers, Dave Bashford and Nic Weatherhead during Cascade trap checks this month.



Northern Remutaka: Proposed Aerial 1080 Programme – Operation Renotification

EcoFX has been contracted by OSPRI New Zealand to undertake a large-scale aerial 1080 operation in the Northern Remutaka Ranges. The purpose of the operation is to reduce the possum population to low numbers to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis (TB).

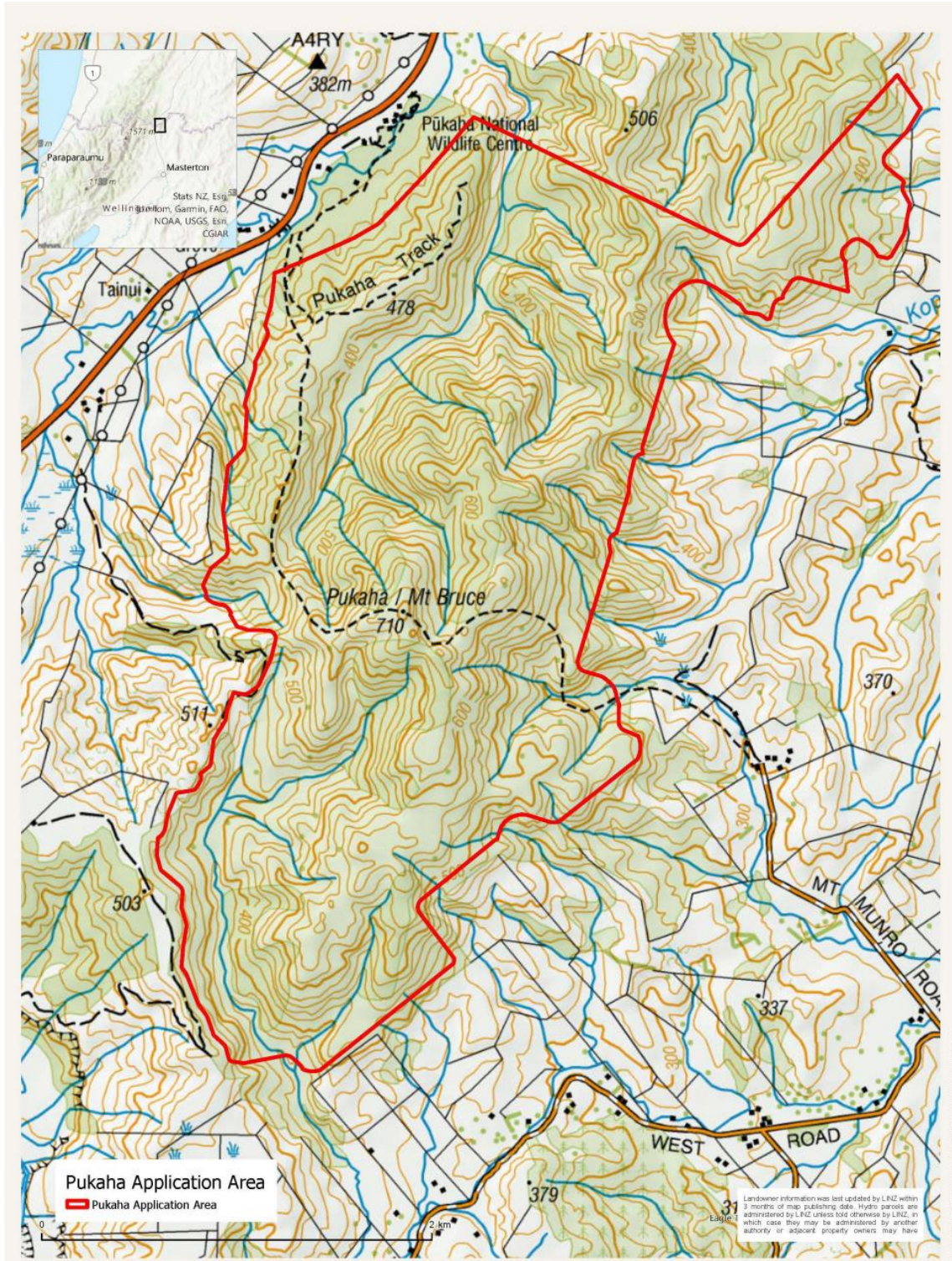
A non-toxic prefeed was undertaken on the 20th May, we were unable to complete the toxic phase due to unfavourable weather conditions. It is now planned to reschedule a second prefeed from mid-September with the Wainuiomata water catchment area being excluded.



Predator Control Operation: Pūkaha – Mount Bruce

Epro Limited has been contracted by the Department of Conservation to undertake an aerial predator control operation the Pūkaha – Mount Bruce a operational area in the Pukaha Reserve.

There is a pending aerial pellet prefeed (non-toxic) application due to be undertaken on 5 September 2024, dependent on weather and operational constraints. This application is scheduled to take one day. Further notification will be sent prior to the intended 1080 application.



Firearms Registry

We have had more than 266,916 firearms registered since the Registry has been live.

Remember, the first time you have an activating circumstance you are required to record all arms items in your possession.

Find out more about activating circumstances and ongoing events here or give our helpful registry team a call on 0800 844 431.

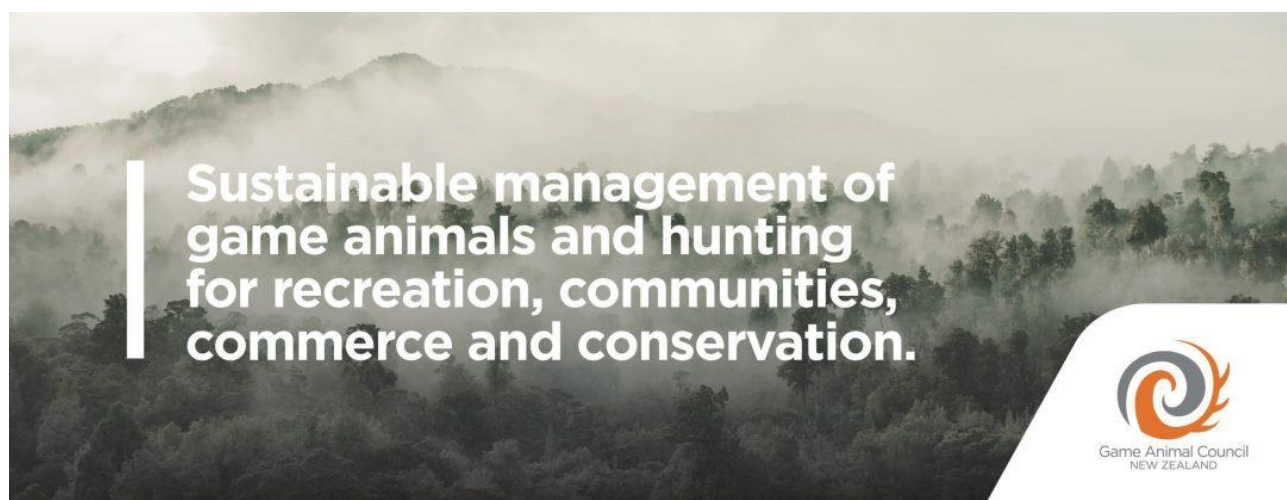


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Hunt safely and successfully by completing our online hunter education courses.

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A major perk of your NZDA membership is the official app.



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What you'll find inside:

- Discounts at major retailers.
- The latest edition of our quarterly Member Magazine: [NZ Hunting & Wildlife](#) - Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter
- Conference and events announcements
- [Competitions](#)
- Link to the NZDA store
- Your membership information
- [HUNTS training program](#) – training courses & certification for HUNTS Instructor

NZDA holds our government to account.

Member's bill to include hunter and angler representation on conservation matters welcomed

A new private member's bill giving hunters and anglers representation on the New Zealand Conservation Authority recognises the role they play in safeguarding the country's wild places, says Fish & Game New Zealand and the Game Animal Council.

ACT Conservation spokesperson Cameron Luxton has introduced a member's bill to the ballot that would give hunters and anglers seats at the table with the Conservation Authority.

The New Zealand Conservation Authority has 13 members, with seats set aside for nominees from iwi, the Royal Society, Forest and Bird, and Federated Mountain Clubs, however there are no places for hunters and anglers.

"Hunters and anglers play a very important role in conservation in New Zealand and it's only fair they have a voice and a seat at the table," says Corina Jordan, chief executive of Fish & Game New Zealand.

"Every day, rain, hail and shine, hunters and anglers are ensuring our wild places stay wild. They act as important guardians of New Zealand's natural environment, contributing thousands of volunteer hours every year to protect our flora and fauna.

"Hunters and anglers bring practical on the ground experience in controlling pests and managing valued introduced species. They're passionate about New Zealand's unique wild places. It's part of who they are as New Zealanders."

Tim Gale, Game Animal Council General Manager, says hunters are one of the largest users of public conservation land so any planning or policy decisions significantly impact hunter activity.

"If passed, this bill will go a long way to continue to strengthen the collaborative links between hunting and conservation."

The bill would allow the Minister of Conservation to appoint two further members to the board – one appointed on recommendation of the New Zealand Deerstalker's Association, and one appointed after consultation with both Fish and Game and the Game Animal Council.

Both organisations look forward to following the progress of the bill.



www.nzgameanimalcouncil.org.nz



New Zealand Food Safety

Haumaru Kai Aotearoa

Donating meat guidelines

As New Zealanders, we are fortunate to have a variety of wild kai at our doorstep. This provides many of us with the opportunity to supplement our tables with meat resource that is a good source of protein, low in fat and high in nutrients. Home kill and recreational catch are unregulated meat sources, not subject to the same rigorous regulatory controls that apply to meat purchased from a supermarket or butcher.

New Zealand Food Safety (NZFS) food safety guidance for hunting, fishing and home kill can be found [here](#). The basic legislation for homekill and recreational catch activity is set out in sections 67 and 68 of the **Animal Products Act 1999**.

MPI has systems to monitor commercial food operations, but no assurances can be given about whether meat from wild animals is safe to eat. MPI does not intend to regulate the harvest and preparation of non-commercial wild foods. If you eat recreationally caught meat, you do so at your own risk.

Recreational catch and homekill meat

Recreational catch means wild animals that are killed, captured, taken or harvested by a recreational hunter or fisher.

Homekill means the slaughtering and butchering of your animals for your own use.

Slaughter must meet the requirements of the **Animal Welfare Act 1999**, you must ensure the animal does not suffer unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress.

The two main food safety risks faced from homekill and recreational catch are:

- **Bacterial contamination** caused by the animal being exposed to pathogens such as Salmonella and E. coli which have contaminated the meat.
- **Chemical contamination** e.g. caused by the animal eating poison baits, lead from bullet fragments or chemicals through transport exposing meat to harmful chemicals.

Homekill and recreational catch must not be exchanged for money, goods or services, or trade in any way. Trading homekill or recreational catch is an offence. This includes barter, serving to paying customers (e.g. at a bed and breakfast), offering as a prize or giving away for the purpose of advertisement.



Te Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri
New Zealand Government

Donating recreational catch and homekill

Under some circumstances, giving away or donating homekill or recreational catch meat products is acceptable, such as donating through an agreed and well managed system with a recognised foodbank or charity organisation.

Key considerations for donating include:

- There will be no element of trade throughout the whole supply chain.
- Only donate meat you would put on your own family's dinner table.
- Meat needs to be cooled or chilled as quickly as possible after harvest and should be delivered chilled or frozen.
- Do not provide damaged or contaminated meat.
- Carefully consider any food safety risks and how they can be managed to protect the public, e.g. clear labelling.

Key considerations for receiving include:

- MPI foremost recommends consumption of regulated meat when possible.
- Check product well and cook thoroughly before consuming
- Store in fridge and consume within 24 hours of receiving or defrosting if frozen.

Each individual, charity or foodbank involved in the delivery of donated unregulated meat need to have systems and complete due diligence to minimise risk and protect all consumers, especially the vulnerable, including elderly or people with weakened immune systems.

Homekill and recreational meat is considered unregulated, and therefore must not be sold or traded. People who consume or donate it do so at their own risk. Specific questions can be sent to animal.products@mpi.govt.nz.

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



December 2023

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

- Aimpoint micro H2 red dot sight. Great condition \$600
Call John on 027 841 3167
- Leupold VX2 1.5-5x20 scope. German #4 reticle. Great condition. \$400
Call John on 027 841 3167
- CHAINSAW BAR OIL
20 litres for \$90. Selling at cost. Please contact Aidan on 027 432 3410
- .223 AMMO
80 cents per round. Contact Aidan on 027 432 3410
- WAIRARAPA BRANCH SHIRTS
We have arranged to get some fancy Stoney Creek Corporate shirts printed with our branch logo. See the below link for shirt details and sizing.
<https://www.stoneycreek.co.nz/index.php?route=product/search&search=HMM-8206-TSC%20> These can only be ordered by attendance at a general meeting at a cost of \$70 per shirt (pay via electronic transfer or cash on the night). We will submit orders every couple of months.
- NZDA MERCHANDISE <https://nzda.shop/collections/all>

Final Thoughts

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

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.

