

April 2024



Mike Cook with his 'hut working bee stag' – Kaimais

Very well deserved Mike and top stuff Kelby as well – Team work for sure

Identify your target beyond ALL doubt

Thames Valley Committee and Contacts

Clubrooms: 101 Morrison Road, Paeroa

www.tvda.co.nz

CLUB NIGHTS: Are always the LAST Wednesday of the month.

Start time 7.30pm

Patron	Basil Morrison	021 946403
President	Maureen Coleman	027 3337786 or a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz
Vice President	Wayne Stachurski	027 4916352
Secretary	Liz Millington	027 4415575
Treasurer	Lisa Daly	0272 557792
Committee:	Keven Caddy	027 4881207
	James Cole	027 7386924
	Tony Coleman	027 9271848
	John Senk #	027 4660549
	Dennis Hayfield*	027 2211892
	Alton Whibley*	021 1825403
	Andrew Austen	027 7269457
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Clay Target Contact	Tony Coleman	027 9271848
HUNTS Co-ordinator	Brian Neilson	027 8910958
Chief Range Officer	Maureen Coleman	027 3337786
Douglas Score Contact	Len Cubitt	027 4978598
Kaimai Ridgeway Trust	Wayne Stachurski	027 4916352
Motutapere Hut contact	Mike Cook	027 4741112
Kauritahi Hut	Jason Affleck	021 2719464
Club Trip organiser	Brian Neilson	027 8910958
Bar Manager	Keven Caddy	027 4881207
Bar Assistants	As shown above (#) and Trish Stachurski	
DOC Liaison	Maureen Coleman	027 3337786
Police Liaison	Maureen Coleman	027 3337786
Kids Survival Camp	Nigel Lesley	027 4823117
Membership Officer	Maureen Coleman	027 3337786
Property	Wayne Stachurski	027 4916352

Disclaimer: As the contents of this magazine come from various sources, the opinions or ideas expressed are not necessarily endorsed by this committee or by the NZDA Board, nor may they conform to branch or National Policy. The official publication of the New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association is the "NZ Hunting and Wildlife".

Club Events Calendar

April		
Monday	22	Private use (Range available after 3pm)
Tuesday	23	Private use (Range available after 3pm)
Wednesday	24	Range Induction at the clubrooms 5.00pm
Wednesday	24	Club night *
Thursday	25	ANZAC DAY – reminder no shooting on the range till after 12 noon
Monday	29	Private use (Range available after 3pm)
Tuesday	30	Private use (Range available after 3pm)

May		
Wednesday	1	Entries open for Kids Little 3 competition – SEE ALL NEW TYPE OF COMPETITION AND DETAILS IN THIS NEWSLETTER. *
Thursday	2	Private use (Range available after 3pm)
Saturday	4	Opening of duckshooting *
Monday	6	Private use (Range available after 3pm)
Wednesday	8	Committee Meeting
Saturday	11	MSC Firearms Safety Training – clubrooms only (range available)
Sunday	12	Bowhunters Club Day
Sunday	12	Range Induction at the clubrooms 1.00 pm
Monday	13	Private use (Range available after 3pm)
Wednesday	15	Annual General Meeting
Monday	20	Private use (Range available after 3pm)
Monday	27	Private use (Range available after 3pm)
Tuesday	28	Private use (Range available after 3pm)
Wednesday	29	Club Night - MEASURING NIGHT *
Friday	31	Attitude Archery National Bowhunters Tournament at TVDA *

June		
Saturday	1	Attitude Archery National Bowhunters Tournament at TVDA

Sunday	2	Attitude Archery National Bowhunters Tournament at TVDA
Monday	3	Attitude Archery National Bowhunters Tournament at TVDA
Tuesday	4	Private use (Range available after 3pm)
Wednesday	5	Private use (Range available after 3pm)
Saturday	8	MSC Firearms Safety Training – clubrooms only (range available)
Sunday	9	Bowhunters club Day
Monday	10	Private use (Range available after 3pm)
Sunday	16	NZCTA Juniors only Sporting Clays Shotgun Shooting Coaching*
Sunday	16	Range Induction at the clubrooms 4.00 pm
Wednesday	26	Club Night
Wednesday	26	Range Induction at the clubrooms 4.00 pm
Thursday	27	EVENING OF 27 TH – Travel down to Sika Lodge
Friday	28	Clements Road / Sika Lodge Club trip *
Saturday	29	Clements Road / Sika Lodge Club trip
Sunday	30	Clements Road / Sika Lodge Club trip

www.ngaituhoe.iwi.nz – website for Te Urewera Hunting Permit



RANGE USE

As an important FYI to all members – please make sure that regardless of what range you are using when you come up to sight rifles in, this **MUST BE DONE**

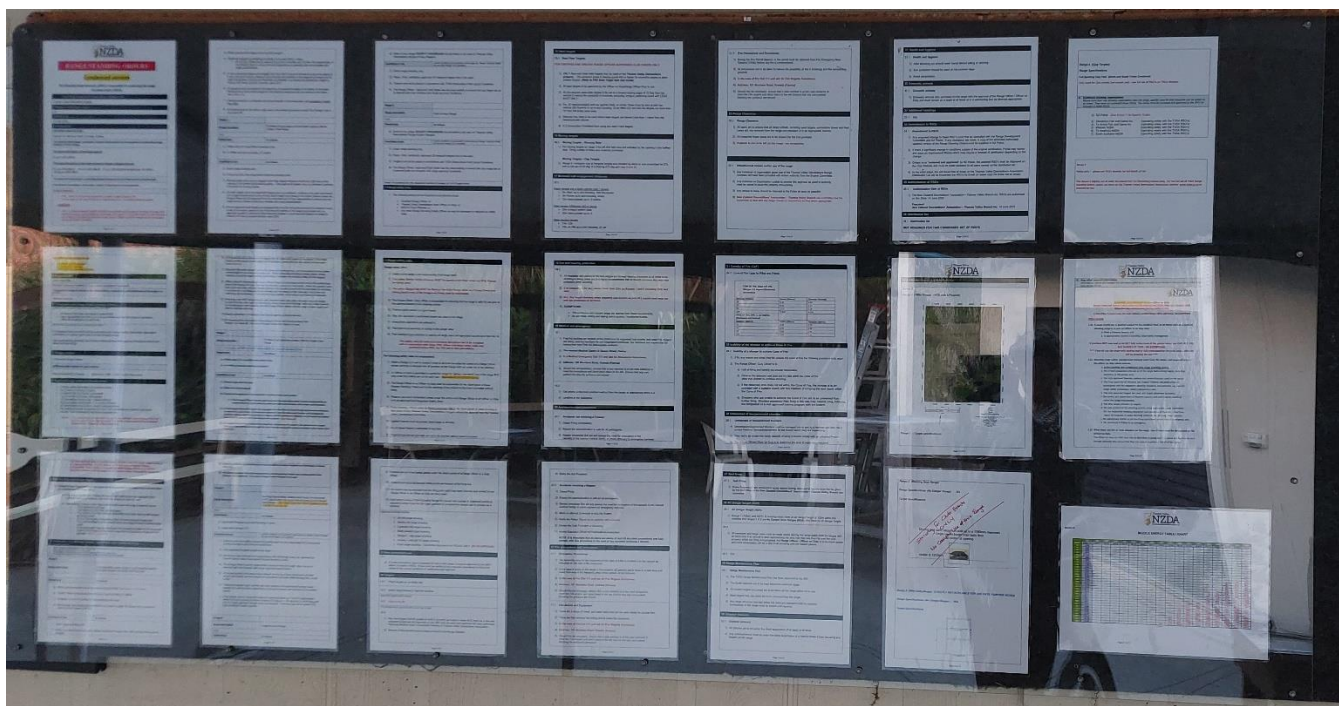
- **BARRIER AT THE GATE WAY must be across the driveway.... (as shown in the photo below)**

AND the

- **FLAG ON THE FLATPOLE AT THE 100m shooting mound MUST BE PUT UP.....**

AND

- There is also a red flag (and road cone) at each range. This cone with the flag in it is to be placed in front of the shooting mound when up checking your targets.
- If someone leaves the range but you are still shooting – **YOU MUST MAKE SURE THAT THE BARRIER HAS BEEN PUT UP AGAIN WHEN THEY LEFT.** THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AS YOU ARE STILL ON THE RANGE. *We do however ask that all people leaving the range to make sure you do your bit too please by putting the barrier up again if there are still shooters using the range. Thankyou very much*
- The Condensed version of the range standing orders are now on the club notice board and have all the relevant info for members using the range on a casual basis –please ensure that you are fully familiar with all of these details.



WAIRERE FALLS TRACK CLOSURES

We are upgrading multiple structures along the Wairere Falls Track. Until approximately June 2024 the track will be closed from Mondays to Fridays for public and work safety. We plan to have the track open most weekends for public use.

This closure will also affect track users wanting to access the Wairere Falls Track from the North/South Track.

Alternative Route....

The old Cullers Track up the True Right of the Wairere Stream is another option for mid-week trips. Just after leaving the carpark; branch off to the left just before the first bridge; follow the fence line till you get past the angle in the corner of the paddock and then it's pretty straight forward and marked after that.

You do have to continue quite a way back once you get to the top of the ridge as the falls are a lot further back than they actually look like.

President's Report

Yep Im getting back into the groove of getting newsletters done so don't die of shock with having another one so soon!!!!

What will help immensely though is material that reflects what we and YOU are doing out there as members of this branch. Ultimately we have 600+ members so a couple of photos here and there, a story or a snippet to include in a newsletter is always great too but if you don't feel like you are the 'write a story kinda person' just give me a phone call and I can rattle something up for you to go with a couple of photos. I don't think I can make it any easier than that.....really!!!

For newsletter info moving forward; can you please email it to me at a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz or if you have an item or article and you are NOT on email; please feel free to catch up with me at a club night or similar and we can still certainly include it from there.

I know I said in the last newsletter that the last few months has seen the club really busy, well that just continued into April **as well so a massive shout out and thank you to the team of helpers who have chipped in**, in all manner of ways to make these improvements happen.

Earlier this week there was group of members up there doing more range reinstatement, retaining work and putting in culverts...as well as picking up stones to ensure that the new 'lawn area is a pleasure to mow' once the new grass seed strikes. Having Wayne's tractor and levelling bar there certainly saved a massive amount of rake work but still the 'many hands makes light work' scenario was very evident on the day.

Since the last newsletter we have been very fortunate to be advised that our Grant application to NZ Community Trust was approved to assist with the purchase of some new 3D archery targets and inserts. Sadly the Grassroots application didn't yield the same result but we are still delighted to get the 'yes' vote from NZCT.

Details for our 2024 HUNTS course are in this newsletter, with the price included so please get in touch with us if you are keen to do the course.

We have already got bookings so please don't leave it too late. Just a heads up, the price is \$625.00 which is for the course AND the club helicopter flyin trip once the course is finished. If you only want to do the course (and not the flyin), then just let us know; that is not a problem.

There is a NZCTA sporting clay target coaching session at TVDA on Sunday 16th June and this is about to be advertised through our network of shooters who come to our major sporting clay events next week.....SO, you are getting a first bite of the cherry if you are keen to take part in this. See more details further through this N/L

Range Inductions: There are more range inductions noted on the club website calendar and ive noted them in the Calendar page in this newsletter as well so if you have not done one yet (as an existing member) then please come along and get it done and that way you can use the range whenever it works in for you (in accordance with our RSO's of course).

IMPORTANT: The full set of Range Standing Orders RSOs are on our TVDA website www.tvda.co.nz (and a condensed version is now on the club notice board for those who use the range on a casual basis). It is your responsibility to read and understand them as Range Users. If you have any queries; please contact a committee member or give me a call. There are also time changes for the range so please make sure that this is being adhered to and **NO SHOOTING before lunch on ANZAC Day.**

There is an exciting new and enhanced Little 3 Competition that begins on 1 May so make sure you read all about it in the newsletter – and PLEASE GET THE ENTRY FORMS SENT IN....and get the kids involved!!! Weighin is Sunday 22 September and will be run in conjunction with the SWAZI Shoot as per normal.

Remember that firearms safety is absolutely paramount at all times.....and No Meat is always better than No Mate.

Once the bullet has left your firearm, or the arrow left the bow, it is forever your responsibility.

Maureen

Annual Kids Little 3 Competition
Entry Form
Weighin Date: Sunday 22 September 2024



Name of individual entrant: _____ NZDA M/s Number: _____

Team members Names for **Little 3 ONLY**: _____

Contact email address: _____

Contact Phone Number/s: _____

By completing this form and submitting it; you are automatically agreeing to all terms and conditions.

Little 3 and Individual Species Competition Categories:

Please tick the age group box that is relevant to your age and circle the specific competitions/categories you wish to enter:

- Little 3** Heaviest combined weight of 1 of each from the categories below:
(this can be a team event – maximum of 3 people and all must be members & in the correct age range of 8 – 14 year olds as the day of the weighin). No exceptions.
- 1 x run (rat, rabbit, hare, mustelid)
 - 1 x climb (possum)
 - 1 x fly– (magpie, myna, spur-winged plover)
- 0 – 3 year olds**
- Best dressed rabbit (camo or otherwise) – can be a real rabbit or a toy rabbit
 - Most snails *(can start collecting these now)*
- 4 - 7 year olds**
- Most Rat tails *(can start collecting these now)*
 - Most Mice tails *(can start collecting these now)*
- 8 - 14 year olds**
- Heaviest Goat **these animals must be no more than 3 days old**
 - Biggest Goat Horns **Hunting for these can be started now**
 - Heaviest Big Bird (turkey, peacock, Canada Goose) **these birds must be no more than 3 days old**
 - Most hare tails *(can start collecting these now)*
 - Most rabbit tails *(can start collecting these now)*
 - Most possum tails *(can start collecting these now)*
 - Most mustelid tails *(can start collecting these now)*
 - Little 3 as set out above as a separate entry
- 15 - 18 year olds**
- Heaviest Goat **these animals must be no more than 3 days old**
 - Biggest Goat Horns **Hunting for these can be started now**
 - Heaviest Big Bird (turkey, peacock, Canada Goose) **these birds must be no more than 3 days old**
 - Most Hare tails *(can start collecting these now)*
 - Most Rabbit Tails *(can start collecting these now)*
 - Most Possum tails *(can start collecting these now)*
 - Most mustelid tails *(can start collecting these now)*

Prizes and Categories Summary:

SUMMARY: There will be prizes for every category and in each age group as well. As there is a huge amount of work going into this event and it's going to be there for everyone to enjoy; please make sure there is an excellent uptake of registrations and participation.

See the TVDA website www.tvda.co.nz for the full list of categories, placings and their allocation process.

Please make sure you get your forms filled out and emailed back to TVDA at a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz as soon as possible.....and NO LATER THAN 1 September 2024.

There is NO CHARGE or fee for this event, it is just for members only and we'd love to see as many juniors as possible taking part in this; hence the wide range of prize options and chances to be a winner.

If you have any queries or questions, please contact Maureen on 027 3337786 or at a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz

**ENTRY FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED AND EMAILED TO TVDA AT a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz
NO LATER THAN 1 SEPTEMBER 2024**

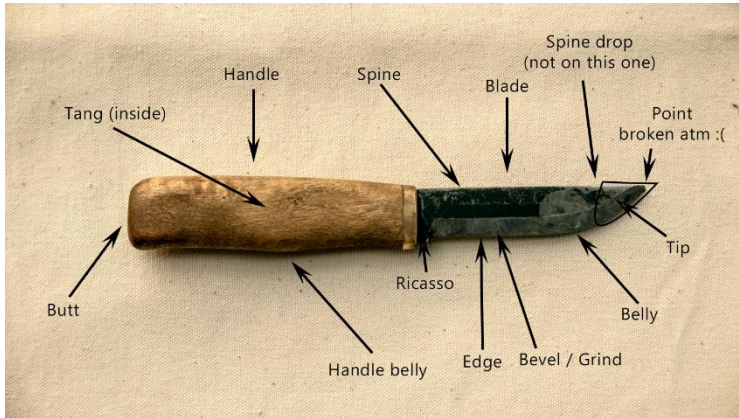
Terms and Conditions:

1. All ages are to be taken as at the day of the weigh in.
2. All entrants must be members or children or grandchildren/family member of a current TVDA member.
3. Entry forms must be completed and emailed to TVDA at a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz no later than 1 September 2024
4. Weights will all be determined at the day of the weighin and using TVDA provided scales.
5. Tail Counts will be done at TVDA on the day of the weighin.
6. Full tails are required for all species except for possums – which just need the end 75-100mm of the tail.
7. Judging of the Best Dressed Rabbit will be done by assigned judges at TVDA.
8. Best Goat Horns will be determined using the Douglas Score and measured by TVDA measurers.
9. Any entries that have been altered, modified or enhanced will be disqualified and all other entries by that person will also be disqualified without question. The judge's decision will be final.
10. All entrants and their entry species must be at the TVDA Grounds by 3pm on Sunday 22nd September 2024. No exceptions.
11. For all of the drawn prizes; the entrants must be on site to claim your prize – if not, a redraw will occur until a winner is on site to claim their prize.
12. All entries in the MOST TAILS – please remove the tail from the animal and put them in the freezer and bring them to the competition straight from the freezer please. Any fresh ones taken in the last 3 days are fine to not be frozen.
13. Entries in the Goat and Heaviest Big Bird Sections:
 - a. The Heaviest Goat & Heaviest Big Bird – these must not be any more than 3 days old and preferred to have been in a chiller if possible please
 - b. For the best Goat Horns – These can be from any goat taken from the start of the competition date – 1.5.2024. If the heads are going to be more than 3 days old on the weighin day, please have them either frozen or cooked out when presented at the weighin. Please also take a photo and email it in to tvdeerstalkers@gmail.com as soon as possible after taking the animal – and with the correct date on the photo to validate when it was taken.
14. ALL animals/birds/carcasses MUST be removed from the TVDA grounds by the entrants when they leave on the day of the event. No Exceptions

April Club Night

Wednesday 24th April

Knife Sharpening



Bill Olsen's has very kindly offered to do a knife sharpening session at club night so this will be one that all of us can benefit from – yep one for the whole family as let's face it, we will have all complained at some stage about blunt knives!!!

Offer: Bring a knife that needs sharpening or a touch base along to club night (& a steel if you have one) and you get to put the tips and skills you have just learnt into practice with someone there assist you (after Bill's finished his presentation).

Once Bill's finished, you will all be better informed about how to sharpen the knives yourself rather than blaming the person who took the edge off them.....maybe!!!

As per the above in 'red', for those who regularly sharpen your knives, here is a chance for you to be involved and help out too please with those who bring along a knife that needs sharpening. Having someone there to share some additional advice and guidance as they get 'hands on and sharpening' their own knife will be invaluable. This will be an awesome way to further impart and share those bits of advice that make the whole job so much easier and successful, and it will be a huge help to Bill just wont be able to catchup with everyone on the night.

Social hour at the clubrooms will be from 6.30pm onwards and the club night itself will start at 7.30pm.

As with all club nights, supper is provided and everyone is most welcome.

PS: There will also be a Range Induction session at the clubrooms starting at 5pm on Wednesday 24th (immediately prior to club night)

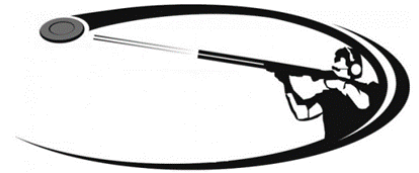
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Kelby Stewart 021 395 400 kelby.co.nz

-  Design and concepts
-  All construction and building
-  Planting and pruning
-  Excavation services



JUNIOR Sporting Clays Coaching Session at TVDA



If you snooze on this you will miss out.....

NZCTA, through their Junior Sporting Clays Training Programme have funding set aside to undertake the coaching of juniors (up to 20 years on 1 January 2024) **in the discipline of Sporting Clays Shooting.**

This training programme will be run by Des Coe who will be coaching on behalf of NZCTA Sporting Clays and as such; the full cost of the coaching session and the clays used will be covered by the Association.

For those that don't know Des; he has been a multiple national and international championship shooter in the full range of clay target disciplines and his vast knowledge and his willingness to share this will be an invaluable asset to all those who attend this coaching session.

This is certainly an excellent opportunity and one not to be missed.

Thames Valley Deerstalkers at Paeroa is the host venue for this **Sporting Clays Junior Coaching** session on **Sunday 16th June**. Numbers are limited and this is on a first in first served basis

Who can take part:

- Sporting juniors who are under 20 on 1 January 2024
- **Must be an NZ Clay Target Assn member**
- You can be from anywhere in NZ (not restricted to just local Thames Valley Shooters)
- You must have a genuine willingness to learn and fully take part in the coaching session

Start time will be 10am and run till approx 3pm.

Food will be available on the day and if anyone was needing to stay at the clubrooms the night before if travelling from further afield, please just ask as this can also be accommodated.

Once you reply at a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz and register your interest in this event, you will be sent a form to be completed and returned within a set timeframe so as to help with the planning for the session.

Once again this is an excellent opportunity that is being made available to you as Junior shooters and we are delighted to be able to help facilitate this on behalf of NZCTA Sporting Clays.

For any queries or questions, please give me a call on 027 3337786 or email me at a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz

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STOP and read STOP and read STOP and read STOP and read

If you've got this far and haven't seen the info about the new and revised version of the Little 3 that we will be holding at TVDA, then I suggest you go back and have a re-read!!!!

The Nature of this event will now be broken into different age categories and while there will still be the Little 3 where the animals and the bird has to be brought along on the day of the event, there is a really strong emphasis on getting the kids out there and catching, trapping, gathering and hunting various species and collecting the tails for the 'tail count' competitions as part of the overall day.

More info will be in the next newsletter as we are seeking to get sponsorship on board to assist with this and the prizes but in the meantime, please get your entries in folks so that we have a really good idea on the number of people taking part and can really give this a good nudge and promo along the way.

Once the kids have entered and it's the 1st of May, the kids can start trapping, hunting, catching.....and collecting the tails.

NOTE TO THE KIDS: If you are going to put the tails in the freezer, make sure you have checked with an adult first and put them in a sealable container!!!

**KAIHERE SCHOOL PTA
PRESENTS...**

**THE 2ND ANNUAL
KAIHERE HUNT**

**Hunting starts Friday 17 May
Weigh in Sunday 19 May**



GREAT PRIZES! GOOD TIME TO BE HAD ALL ROUND!!

For more details and entry forms

Email: pta.kaihere@gmail.com

Tall Hills and Taller Stories

Written by Roy Alspach - TVDA Newsletter from October 1989

As there have been NO STORIES AT ALL coming through to me from current members, I have retrieved this from an old Club Newsletter – 1989.

This story is dedicated to all those deer that fell educating the 'young ones' on the Junior Hunt.

We left Hikutaia with John Minifie at the wheel of his jeep, heading to the Mid Okahu hut, only stopping at Rotorua for lunch and something for tea (KFC). We arrived at Okahu late in the afternoon to find that some of those who had arrived ahead of us had gone hunting, some had returned and had now start to dry off after getting wet behinds in the bush and no meat. Reverend Peter was teaching Steven Amies how to wipe down a table. There was also a jeep drying out, which had been stuck in the crossing due to some bad direction to the driver from his passengers. That night not many people got any sleeping done, I didn't (Jock snores too much and it echoes a lot in the back of Wayne Bennett's vehicle). Inside the hut it was hot with 18 people breaking wind and Reverend Peter padding up and down the hut keeping everyone awake except for Starnes who was snoring all night. Then there was the mosquitos biting people at random, enjoying the many blood types.

The real hunters had a dog's breakfast (a pee and a look around) while others had bacon and eggs with toast and tea. Now it was off to the wild blue yonder of the sky with our chopper pilot Derek. While waiting for the helicopter lots of brave men dived off into the scrub for a nervous one. Derek turned up on time and now the fund started, watching the other groups load up and wonder what they will do if they have to walk out carrying radios, gumboots, raincoats, gas cookers and other essential living tools (in boxes).

One party had 18 loaves of bread, heaven knows how they were game to eat that many. As it turns out they didn't, and the pigs probably had a right royal time after they'd left. But not our group (Jock, John, Colin and I) we got everything into 4 packs including Jock's red wine or petrol....well that's what it tasted like – he only drunk it when we felt the need (every night).

After loading up the chopper with our stuff we enjoyed a 10 minute flight to the hunting ground. From the air we could see miles of bush, and then more bush. The helicopter pad was an overstatement – a small patch of ground and too many trees which Derek had to dodge.



Watching the chopper leave left a lonely feeling but there was a camp to build.

Jock gave out the orders to John, Colin and myself to dig out a flat area to sleep which took some time without prehistoric spades....(sticks). Then we laid on an assortment of ferns and leaves to form an inner sprung mattress. A thin rope was tied across to the top of the base then tied to a tree (one on each side) and a plastic sheet was tossed over the rope to form something that looked like a tent – there it was; home for a while.

Now the hunting started and we had to cross TeTotora Creek (just below the tent) this meant that we had to get our feet wet. Once we reached the top of the ridge we split up. Jock and Colin; John and I. John and I didn't see a thing; we watched a drinking spot (where deer ARE supposed to be) in TeTotora Creek. So we did a bit of Danish hunting that John had learnt from his Danish friend Martin whom we had taken on an earlier hunt this year. In Denmark; a person buys a block of land with a hut, then they sit in the hut and wait for the game to walk, fly or crawl past. Nobody ever gets anything but it's fun anyway. That evening it was a delicious meal of sausages and rice stew followed by rice pudding. As we were all a bit tired sleep came easy that night and I slept between Jock and John. I was not frightened of the moreporks and other creatures that make strange noises in the night.

We awoke to silence – Jock has stopped snoring and the night had peeled back to show a cold morning; it should be a good days hunting. We finished off last night's tea (rice) for breakfast which has been expertly made by four people while Colin told us one many of his tall stories.

That day lead Jock and I up TeTotora Creek to a valley of dead deer shot by Bowhunters (they had got 6 in their stay). The valley was one big slip after another. A cricket ball sized rock tumbled down a steep slip and landed in front of us. Jock stood still watching (this

was the master at work) and up there somewhere stood a mighty stag (so the master said) but it wasn't that big close up though. Jock got down by a rotten log ready to shoot. I couldn't see a thing apart from bush and more bush..... That shot that was fired was fatal for the hunter and the hunted. In the process of shooting the deer up a steep hill, the scope had hit Jock in the forehead just above his right eye – it wasn't deep so there was nothing to worry about.

Jock asked "did I get it"? "yep" – I lied but I wasn't really sure as I thought he was firing for the fun of it as I couldn't see the deer. We bravely climbed the slip which seemed bigger than it really was a few thousand feet (only a joke) we climbed to where Jock reckoned it should be. Bloodstains were found and there just down the hill a little bit in the gut was the stag which I now saw for the first time. I checked to see if it was still warm and not an old carcass from the Bowhunters.



With the surgical brilliance of the mater hunter, Jock cut off the back steaks and boned out the back

legs. We stopped at a small lake at the foot of the slip where we watched 2 blue ducks. Jock tried to get a photo of them but they turned out to be two very small dots in the photos. We walked back to camp, me being under a lot of weight, I fell most if not all the rotten logs that I stood on. After sorting the mean into our moveable fridge thanks to Mother Nature in the form of a cold stream and big plastic bags, John and Colin then headed off again.

Jock lead me down the creek into some windfall which had covered the creek in the last storm. Wandering around the creek bed we had to walk up hill to escape from the mean waterfall. Jock stopped, his eye scanning the damp bush. He pointed – I nodded. It was a deer but where. Jock handed me the rifle with instructions to rest and relax. Watching carefully I finally spotted a hind. The hind fell in one deadly shot – hit in the brisket. Jock butchered the hind legs off the animal then hung them up high to pick up later on. We carried on our little walk but not much else happened except for getting barked at by a deer.

At one stage we stopped off amongst ferns on a ridge, Jock was fascinated by a group of mosquitos on a leaf –



they were all joined together and I couldn't make out what the big deal was. Green Me!!! I then got a lecture on the birds and the bees and apparently a lot of this applies to mosquitos as well. One learns all the time – Jock even took a couple of photos and then knocked them all off the leaf.

Back at camp Colin and I were sent to pick up the meat. When we arrived back the meat was covered in dirt due to my brilliant idea of taking the skin off the hind legs to make them lighter. That night we had fresh meat and rice followed by rice pudding. Night crept in slowly and Colin's stories got worse and Jock was still trying to burn his gut out with his red wine.

The morning saw me following John off into the mysteries of the Urewera bush (John has some nice biscuits), we saw some sign but no wildlife worth shooting. The final day brought rain and 4 people thinking they might need to walk out. We packed up with less but more (more meat less food). Most covered up the tops of the surrounding hills and rain wet the damp ground in which the chopper was to land. 12 o'clock was the hour Derek and his Hughes 500 were to turn up. 12.45pm we heard the blades slinging the air, shopping the rain.

The ride home was rough with the wind blowing up the gullies, attacking the light machine. Meeting the other groups brought the tall stories into full swing.

Wayne Bennett managed to shoot a stag – it was sleeping so he says. It doesn't pay to sleep when Wayne's out and about.

Bruce Mudford went home with a piglet which he hoped would grow big enough to make a decent pork sandwich. 3 deer, 1 eel, were shot and one of those deer was the one that I shot.



TVDA Clothing is now available so please come along to club night and place your orders.....

These prices are a special kick start price for the initial orders of hats and clothing so make sure you get your orders in pretty quick please.

PS....No money – no gear!!!



\$20.00



\$20.00

Hoodie sweatshirt too.....

This is in black the same top tee shirt and has the white logo (no white trim). It is an excellent heavy weight sweatshirt (but apols for no photo....it didn't come out too good so best to just let you see them at the clubrooms)

\$65.00



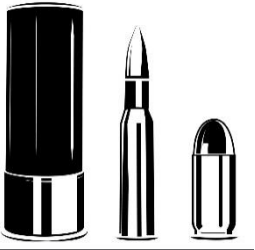
Breathable polyester fabric \$40.00



Poly Cotton Fabric \$50.00

RANGE SHOOTING EVENTS

@ TVDA



Now that our ranges and upgrade work are mostly complete, it is time to start having a look at doing a complete reboot

on our shooting programme.

This is a long overdue process and one that as a committee we will be addressing at the next meeting and making final decisions on what the new shoot dates will be for our various club events – ie running boar, rimfire, centrefire, patrons cup shoots etc.

We will also be looking at getting some past events up and running again – such as the 4 Season's shoot and the Arundel shoots.



Keep an eye on the next newsletter for more details and let the shooting fun begin....



Membership Renewals...

These have all been emailed out at the start of March to those who have email addresses and the paper invoice ones should have also reached you by now.

If any issues arise or you have not received your renewal invoice, please contact Alex at the NZDA National Office.

Alex and the team will certainly be able to sort out the problem. NZDA Office 04 4996163

You are welcome to also contact Maureen if you need to or have any other questions or queries.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This IS BEING HELD AT THE CLUBROOMS ON WEDNESDAY 15TH MAY

This is your club, and we could certainly do with some more committee members or those who are keen to go on sub committees.

See you there on the 15th please.

NO PHOTO ENTRIES have been received YET.....

Please make sure you get them in by Wed 8 May!!!

See all details and various categories further through this newsletter and let's see heaps of awesome photos to showcase what we have all been up to as members of TVDA and our time in the hills and beyond....

P.S. PLASTERING
Paul Sutherland
T: 027 301 9024
E: paulsutho73@gmail.com
Free Quotes and Advice
Quality Workmanship-20 years Experience
Gib Stopping Skim Coating Coving
Solid Plastering Foundations Landings Steps
New Homes Additions Renovations

2 New Storage Containers are due to go in place this week.....



At the recent working bee day, the pad for the new containers was also levelled out as these are arriving next week.

Massive thumbs up to Tony Coleman and Peter Flexman who were up at the range on Friday digging the holes and concreting in the piles for the new containers to sit on.

Tony, Bill and Dennis were then back on site on Sunday to shoot the levels, trim the piles down to the right height and now it just needs the deliver to happen.

Thank you so much guys for this and once again; a huge thankyou to Brian, Lance, Wayne B, Mike D, Gene and Lesley, John H, Tony, Nigel, James, Bill, Dennis, Danny (*and if I have forgotten someone please accept my sincere apologies*) who were the working bee team that got so much done with the reinstatement and range work.

Make sure you've got ya Ducks in a Row.....for Saturday 4th May!!!

This is a reminder to you all to have your F&G permits if they are needed where you will be shooting and have a great time out there in the maimai, on the river or walk up shooting – it's all about camaraderie, food for the table and being part of what is on offer here as a NZér. This is also a reminder to make sure that you adhere to all the rules and particularly if you are taking young or new shooters out for the first time. If this is the case you are introducing them to a sport, all that goes with this and you are being a key role model for them as well – and it needs to be a Good Role Model for the future of our various firearms related sports. **GOOD LUCK, SAFE SHOOTING** and I look forward to hearing how opening weekend goes. *Cheers Maureen*



Everyone & Anyone Is Welcome & Able To Take Part In The Bowhunter Nationals At TVDA

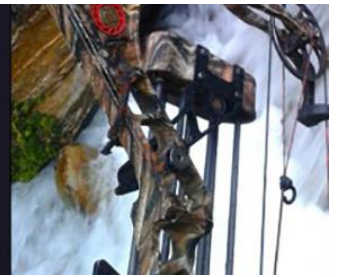
This note here is about (and a reinforcement of the details re) the next article in the newsletter – the Attitude Archery Bowhunters National Tournament.....so keep reading please. **This event IS OPEN TO ANYONE and EVERYONE (NOT JUST MEMBERS OF NZ BOWHUTNERS OR EVEN TVDA MEMBERS) - so spread the word and get a group of mates, fill out your entry forms before the cutoff date and come along.**

All you need to do is put a ring around this weekend on your calendar, go to the Bowhunters website and fill in the form (or use the one in this newsletter and post it in before the cutoff date) - it's as simple as that.

Don't miss the boat folks – TVDA has an excellent reputation for putting on top quality events so if you snooze on this one you will miss out – plain and simple.



NEW ZEALAND BOWHUNTERS SOCIETY



NZBS TOURNAMENT 2024

INFORMATION SHEET

This Tournament will be held in Paeroa over King's Birthday weekend 1st , 2nd & 3rd June 2024.

It is open to NZBS members and to non-members. The field course is situated at TVDA, 101 Morrison Road, Paeroa. Other events will be held at the Paeroa Racecourse Lounge off Thames Road, Paeroa. There is free parking for self contained motor homes and caravans on the tar seal outside the lounge at the Racecourse.

See NZBS Rules and Constitution at www.nzbowhunters.co.nz for more details.

Closing Dates

- Remits and Nominations: Closing date is 26th April 2024.
- Tournament Entries: Entries close on the 17th May 2024. Entry form available on-line from March
- Game Claims: The closing date for game claims is 17th May 2024.
- Photographic Entries: Entries close on the 17th May 2024 and photos must be received by the NZBS Administrator by that date. Prints up to 205mm by 150mm (8" by 6") in size are eligible, to be judged by members at AGM. Only two entries per division

Tournament Programme

Friday 31st May 2024 - from 5:00 pm Meet and greet at the Paeroa Racecourse Lounge.

- Refreshments and food will be available.
- Antlers, horns and tusks etc can be handed in and will be stored securely for measuring and display on the Saturday. Annual trophies will also be collected.

Saturday 1st June 2024 - 8.30 am Registration and equipment inspection

- 9.30 am Welcome, briefing and target allocation
- 10:00 am 28 target round including 4 specialties
- Afternoon Roaring competition.
- Novelty Shoot
- **7.30 pm AGM at Paeroa Racecourse Lounge and display of**
 - game trophies taken during the year, bar open afterwards.

Sunday 2nd June 2024 - 9.30 am Briefing and target allocation

- 9:45 am 28 target round including 4 specialties
- Afternoon Novelty Shoot
- 6:00 pm Awards Dinner at Paeroa Racecourse Lounge
- Presentation of Tournament and Annual Game trophies
 - Formal attire, dinner provided

Food & Drink: Drink Hot food and cold drinks will be available after the shoot on both Saturday and Sunday

Equipment Information

- No binoculars or rangefinders allowed on course except for entrants in the Open division.
- The host club has requested that bow weights be limited to a maximum of 70 pounds for the 3D targets.

Hunting bow:

- No clickers. No ranged sights but peep sights, moveable sights and fixed sights allowed; unlimited number of fixed pins not to protrude more than 150mm from front of bow, hunting stabilizer allowed up to 300mm long, release aids allowed.

Simulated hunting arrows:

- Arrow head to be a removable field pile, any weight.

Bowhunter Divisions:

- This refers to all entrants in the Senior, Compound, Recurve and Longbow divisions using a hunting bow and simulated hunting arrows, and all entrants in the Ladies or Juniors divisions using a hunting bow with any arrows.

Longbow Division:

- Longbow with string only touching bow at tips. No sights, stabilisers etc. Simulated hunting arrows

Cubs Division:

- For juniors aged 8 – 13 years who shoot from the cubs peg using any equipment except ranged sights, binoculars or rangefinders. However they are not eligible for the junior or other trophies unless they adhere to the relevant conditions and shoot from the regular pegs.

Open Division:

- Unrestricted – this is the only division where binoculars, rangefinders and ranged sights may be used. Entrants in this division are asked not to discuss target distances etc with other competitors.

Tournament & Game Trophies:

- To those recipients of last year, it is your responsibility to ensure your trophies are clean, engraved and taken to the tournament. Alternatively they may be delivered to the President at least one week prior -- Graeme Warrender: 76 Echo Valley Way, Tauriko, Tauranga 3110 Ph 027 676-6374
-

Antlers, Horns and Tusks:

- Please have these officially measured before the tournament and send the Douglas score sheet to the Game Recording Officer. If you cannot have them measured beforehand then this will be done at the tournament. Remember potential record book entries must be on display at the tournament to be eligible.

Measuring Day:

- at Allan and Dawn Metcalfe's, 222 Lund Road, Katikati on Saturday 18 th May 2024 from 10 am. All heads taken to the measuring day will be officially scored and if required can be taken to the tournament on your behalf.

Access this Bowhunter Tournament Entry form from:

NZ Bowhunters Website:

www.nzbowhunters.co.nz or contact/email archery@xtra.co.nz

Attitude Archery
66th Annual NZBS Tournament Entry Form

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Refer Tournament information sheet for guidelines to the type of equipment which can be used in each division

DIVISIONS		Please tick box	
Ladies unsighted (unsighted hunting bow, any arrows)			
Ladies sighted (hunting bow, any arrows)			
Junior age 14 – 16 years (hunting bow, any arrows)			
Cubs age 8 – 13 years (any bow or arrows, shoot from Cubs pegs)			
Longbow (longbow, simulated hunting arrows)			
Recurve (recurve hunting bow, simulated hunting arrows)			
Compound 1 (unsighted hunting bow, simulated hunting arrows)			
Compound 2 (hunting bow, simulated hunting arrows)			
Senior - 60 years and over (hunting bow, simulated hunting arrows)			
Open (no restrictions – binoculars, rangefinders, ranged sights allowed)			
Closing Date for entries and payment is the 17 May 2024.			Payment
Tournament Fee	Adults	\$60.00	
	Juniors/Cubs	\$50.00	
Awards Dinner (Note: ticket sales MUST be confirmed 7 days prior to event)	Per head	\$50.00	
	Juniors	\$40.00	
Annual Subscription if unfinancial (Note - tournament is open to non-members)		\$90.00	
If paying by bank deposit, please enter your name in the Reference field	NZBS A/c No: 02 0454 0051726 00		Total \$

On-line entry available, see NZBS website at www.nzbowhunters.co.nz

Please read and sign Disclaimer on back of this entry form and return to:
NZBS Administrator, Diane Street, PO Box 1363 Pukekohe 2340
email archery@xtra.co.nz



****ADVOCACY UPDATE****

This has been sent through today (19.4.2024) from NZDA

Dear Maureen

Attention. A critical issue is facing the wapiti in Fiordland National Park. Forest and Bird have lodged legal action against the Department of Conservation and our friends at the Fiordland Wapiti Foundation. F&B's goal is to void the hunter led conservation efforts and seek to force the government to eradicate wapiti.

Our worst fears are true, because it is a significant legal challenge that threatens not only the wapiti herd but also conservation efforts in the region. What does this mean? Two things, firstly, FWF need to raise a large amount of money to pay for legal costs and expenses; secondly, if Forest and Bird win this means all valued game animals living in a National Park must be eradicated by the government because it sets a precedent.

NZDA members are getting this advocacy update but please share it with your contacts who may be interested in the future of hunting in New Zealand.

What can you do now?

Easy, like NZDA, share this news by forwarding this email.

Then follow the link to the FWF fundraising page and make a donation. Every dollar counts and even a small donation can make a huge difference.

Make a donation: <https://fwf.net.nz/> there is a donation button on the homepage.

If You would like to do more, contact your local MP with your concerns and raise awareness of this critical issue.



PRESS RELEASE: FIORDLAND WAPITI FOUNDATION

“NOT FOR THE FAINT HEARTED” - WAPITI HUNTERS BRIEFED FOR FIORDLAND ADVENTURE

Around 150 hunters are gathering in Te Anau on Thursday (eds: 18 April) for a compulsory briefing before beginning what many describe as the hunt of a lifetime – stalking wild Wapiti deer in the remote Fiordland National Park.

The event is the fourth and final briefing of this year's Wapiti hunting season. All briefings are run by the not-for-profit Wapiti Foundation and around 450 hunters have already attended the three previous briefings over recent weeks.

Foundation spoke person Roy Sloan says the briefing is compulsory for all hunters.

“We want hunters to get the very best from their Fiordland experience so the briefing covers their responsibilities to themselves, the environment, other hunting parties and the wapiti herd,” he said.



Department of Conservation
 Fiordland Wapiti Ballot Blocks
 Date: 12/11/2012
 Created by: bwlboe
 NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator
 Projection: Transverse Mercator
 Datum: NZGD 2000
 Crown Copyright Reserved

This year's wapiti hunt is overshadowed by the Forest & Bird Society's decision to ask for a judicial review of whether wapiti should be in Fiordland National Park and the agreement allowing the Wapiti Foundation to control deer numbers there.

Roy Sloan says the legal action is disappointing as it will divert much needed money away from conservation work.

"The Wapiti Foundation is a

conservation organisation, not a hunting group, and our work is a great example of hunters giving back to conservation and the wider community.

"What we do has proved the most effective way of reducing deer numbers, as well as trapping predators and maintaining tracks and huts used by visitors.

"This is saving DoC significant amounts of money, which is important when the department is facing hefty budget cuts and hundreds of job cuts."

Roy Sloan says there is huge demand for the Wapiti hunts.

"For many hunters, this is a once in a lifetime dream and we get thousands of applications to hunt Wapiti every year, so many that we have to hold a ballot to limit numbers," Mr Sloan said.

The Fiordland Wapiti herd is the only one in the southern hemisphere and is descended from animals donated to New Zealand by then United States President Teddy Roosevelt more than 120 years ago.

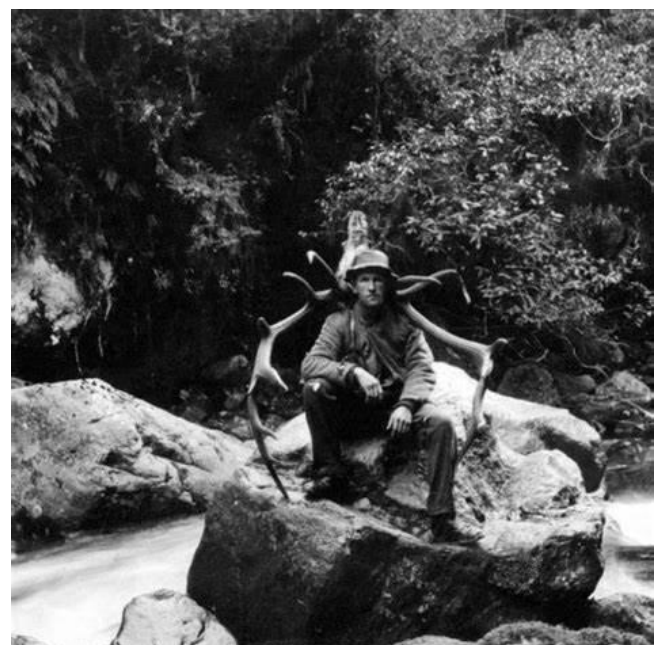
Autumn is the only time when wapiti can be hunted and coincides with the Wapiti mating season, known as the "bugle" after the species' distinctive high pitched mating call.

Roy Sloan says hunting Fiordland is challenging.

"The very things that make Fiordland such a magnificent place – its remoteness, rugged mountains, inhospitable climate and spectacular scenery – also make it tough to hunt.

"Much of the region is without huts or tracks and only accessible by foot so hunters have to carry everything on their backs to survive for ten days in the wilderness.

"It is not for the fainthearted but it makes a Fiordland Wapiti hunt a lifetime memory and highlights what a privilege it is to hunt such magnificent animals in one of the jewels of the New Zealand conservation estate."



Want to know more? Check our website: <https://fwf.net.nz/>

March Club night update.



This photo is the epitome of a club night at TVDA – totally relaxed.... Nigel sharing his tips on hunting in the roar....

Tips were shared, laughs were had and questions were asked....and results were got the following weekend – what more could you have asked for.

The March club night was all about sharing tips for hunting in the roar and thanks to Nigel, Brian, Murray, Bill and Wayne there were some real gems of info shared which was great and so appreciated. Thanks so much for this guys.

Some of the tips on the night:

- First of all, 'you've gotta get ya arse out of the sleeping bag as they generally don't come to you'....
- Hunting in pairs is really helpful as one can stay back and roar and the one with the rifle goes in for a look.
- When hunting in pairs, only take one rifle between you.

- Get to know the person you are hunting with and have a totally fail proof agreement that if one is going in for an animal, the other person does NOT shoot under any circumstances. This is not always as simple as it sounds in reality but if you have a mate that you hunt with and this is a comfortable agreement between you both – keep it up and there will be many successful hunts in the future.
- When tracking a wounded animal, use small bits of toilet paper to stick on the blood spots especially if there is not a lot of blood or it's starting to rain or there is not a lot of good light.
- Get fit – it really makes such a difference as there can be some long days out in the hills at this time of the year.
- When roaring fallow bucks, if they are croaking really well, then it's most likely that they will not leave their pad so just go into them. Quite often you will find that you can just about walk right in – they will be there standing their ground waiting to take on the 'intruder'....so be ready.
- Don't always assume that the animals that are roaring are as far away as they sometimes sound. Depending on the direction they are looking when they roar, they can often sound like they are 100's of metres further away.
- Have a great roar everyone and GOOD LUCK – and enjoy your time in the hills.



Upcoming Club Hunts and events....**BOOKINGS NEEDED** **PLEASE**

Sika Lodge & Clements Road

The dates for this will be Matariki Weekend –

Thursday 27th June (arriving that evening) through to Sunday 30th June 2024.

Location – Sika Lodge, Kaimanawas

Accommodation

- Adults - \$35.00 per person per night
- Juniors \$25.00 per night
- Very warm and comfy rooms
- A Kent fire that pumps out the heat
- Hot showers
- Great location

Food – this will all be organised once everyone is booked in. The food will all be arranged and taken down and the overall costs will be split between the attendees. It is my guess that the full price for food for the weekend will be approx \$35 per person.

Everyone is most welcome

Travel: Carpooling can be arranged as required

To book in, please email or phone:

Maureen a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz and title the email **SIKA LODGE TRIP – Matariki Weekend**



An Excellent time for hunting after the Sika Roar and a good time to get onto animals; and



- The perfect place to stay – no worries about the winter chills as the fire at the lodge is a gem, the hot showers are a delight and the warm beds in the bunkrooms are a no brainer in the winter.

This is also a great time of the year to pick up some of those wily old stags that have outwitted many a hunter during the roar.

By now they have let their guard down, the mind is now set firmly on eating up with gusto to put on weight to get through the cold winter period in front of them. They are certainly quite a different animal to hunt at this time of the year than over the last few months. Similarly the hinds too are often found close to the road as they make the most of the food that is left before they really hunker down for the winter.

These trips are a great chance all round to:

- visit places that you know well,
- be part of your first hunting trip as a member of TVDA
- find a new place to hunt and get the benefit of knowledge and information from those that have been there before
- just come away and enjoy a weekend with friends and other members even if you are not able to get out in the hills for some reason – it's a great social atmosphere and everyone is most welcome.

All you need to bring for this is your hunting gear, sleeping bag, towel and change of clothes for after hunting.

Membership with the NZDA / TVDA comes with a number of benefits:

- *Excellent range of benefits for NZDA Members – all you need is your Membership card to get discounts at the following outlets (discounts and benefits vary so I have not specified them):*



NZDA
New Zealand Deerstalkers Association

- Torpedo 7
- AJ Productions
- Bush Life NZ
- Camerone Harriss Butchery
- DOC – Back Country Hu Pass
- Go Native
- Heli Sika
- Interislander
- Kilwell
- Murchison Heli Tours
- NZ Taxidermy
- Parachute Fist Aid
- Ridgeline
- Swazi Pro Deal
- Twin Needle
- Advantage Tyres
- Apparel by Design
- Armstrong Smarter Security
- AwaytoGo
- BillSimple
- Bunnings
- Carters
- Chuffed
- The Coffee Club
- Common Good Coffee
- Create Design Studio
- Dope Skin
- Dulux
- Elite Energy Solutions
- Ezi Car Rentals
- First Credit Union
- First Rescue
- Freight Plus
- Give Plants
- Go Generosity
- Gruzo Tyres Online
- Guthrie Bowron
- Habit Health
- Hertz
- Hirepool
- Ideal Electrical
- Insolita
- JB Hifi
- Kiwi Fuelcards
- Mico Plumbing
- Millenium and Copthorne Hotels
- Molemap
- Ninefivenine
- Noel Leeming
- Office Max
- Pathfinder
- Pinnacle Life
- Pita Pit
- Pit Stop
- Placemakers
- Podium Supply Co
- Repco
- Rocketspark
- Scenic Group
- Simply Wills
- Specsavers
- Tower Insurance
- Turfreys
- Urbantics
- Vivo
- Warehouse Stationery
- Workplace Wellbeing



0800 Mighty Mix (0800 644 489)
www.mightymix.co.nz

Mark and Vanessa Walker (from Big Game Artistry) are also the local distributors for Mighty Mix Dog Food for the Eastern Waikato, Thames Valley and Coromandel Regions.

They are running this business alongside their amazing taxidermy work (Big Game Artistry). Mark and Vanessa provide an amazing service to the owners of dogs' right across their area. They do monthly delivering to your door with this fantastic product – ***the service is 2nd to none.***

- ✓ 100% natural products
- ✓ No Preservatives
- ✓ Free deliver to your door once a month
- ✓ Kiwi made.
- ✓ Biscuits, dog rolls and frozen products
- ✓ Tonics and Treat as well
- ✓ Let your dog's try it – you won't be disappointed!!!

Give Mark and Vanessa a call today on
027 273 6952 or email them on
mightymix@biggameartistry.co.nz

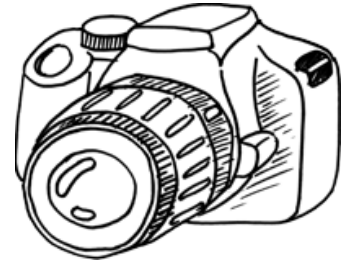
Combining these
awesome products with
excellent service is our
mission.



Photographic Competitions – Photo competitions

Entries MUST be in to Maureen Coleman by Wednesday 8th May at the LATEST

The following is a summary of all of the photos for the competitions that are on offer at TVDA. In essence all photos have to be a maximum of 7 x 5 to qualify for the various competitions EXCEPT for the Holten Trophy which is designed especially for enlarged/frames photos. The general competition photos can be smaller but must not exceed this 7 x 5 size to be eligible.



The reason this in the newsletter now is so that you have a good idea of what options are available while you are out there in the hills and have some time to snap some awesome photos.

Full details on entry dates etc will be in an upcoming newsletter but if you at least get some photos sorted now, it will take the pressure off later on. These photos will all be on display at Measuring night so get clicking and sorting now folks.

The entrant must have been a financial member of TVDA at the time they took the photo.

Entries are not to be taken from any form of vehicle – be that boat, plane, car etc. Similarly, photos of game animals taken behind the wire are also not allowed. Wild animals that have no barrier (ie deer fence) restricting them to where the photo is taken are fine.

All photos must be taken in NZ with the exception of the Flynn Trophy which is open to any topic that has a ‘hunting or wildlife flavour’ and can be taken anywhere in the world. The ‘human interest’ title for this does NOT mean that it has to have a person in the photo.

Best Colour Print

As it states – best colour print. This can be of any topic that is hunting related – ie a scenic photo while out hunting or in the back country, a sunset, animals, plants, huts etc.

Stalking Interest Cup

This photo can be colour or black and white and is to be taken while on a hunt however it does not have to have animals in it. Stalking interest can have shot animals in it, but it is recommended that photos avoid too much blood and show the animal in a respectful manner. This section can also have photos of hunting mates in it, places you have been or things that you come across when out on the hunt. It does not have to be in the bush.

Wildlife Cup

This section can also be colour or black and white and must show Wildlife of some manner – and preferably when out in the wild. It can be game animals, insects, mammals, birds etc – so long as they are alive and in their natural state.

Best Black and White Print

As it states – photos must be black and white – not sepia or any other colour in them. This can be of any topic that is hunting related – ie a scenic photo while out hunting or in the back country, animals, plants, huts, silhouettes, relics etc.

Human Interest (Flynn Trophy)

Pretty much ‘anything goes’ but the photos must still be no more than 7 x 5 and it can be taken overseas, taken from a vehicle, have people in it OR NOT (remember just because it says Human Interest, it does NOT have to have people in it). Juniors can also enter this competition but if the photos are taken outside of NZ or the NZDA criteria, the photo can only apply to this section and not the Junior section.

Monarch of the Glen (Group of 3 photos)

This category can have any range of photos that come under the above topics, but it is good to have them related in some manner – ie all animals, three different stages of the trip, scenic photos, trophies etc- the options are endless really BUT AT LEAST ONE PHOTO MUST HAVE BEEN TAKEN IN THE NORTH ISLAND

Holten Trophy (Framed Photo – any size)

This photo section was designed to encourage people to get those special photos enlarged and framed (or printed on a block or corrugated iron etc) and be put on the wall as an ongoing reminder of that special trip, a beautiful view, a group of mates or just simply a shot that really captured the moment.

Best Junior Photo

Any of the categories above (except the Flynn Trophy because it falls outside the NZDA photo rules) are applicable and so long as the person taking the photo is a Junior and a member at the time the photo is taken, it is eligible. Get clicking guys – you really have got so many options here.

Merit Trophy

This category is for the best photo taken by someone who is a first-time entrant (and not won anything else in this year’s competition) or a previous entrant but has not been a section winner in any TVDA photo competitions for the last 5 years.



Gallipoli 1915



From the first day of landing at Gallipoli, the making of History and the life changing events are still with us to this day – and rightly so.

These gallant and brave young servicemen from all corners of NZ and further afield gave it their all for our freedom, so many of them making the ultimate sacrifice and many of them also never returning to home shores as their final resting place.

Over the course of two World Wars, cemeteries are located in so many countries far away from NZ – such is the fortune that we had to never

actually have battles of this nature on our shores.

Right: Bourail Cemetery (New Caledonia) For NZ & Pacific Servicemen – WWII

After having visited this most 'local' of dedicated War Cemeteries to us in New Caledonia for the first time in 2012, my heart was filled with so much gratitude at the ongoing amount of volunteer work and unconditional love and respect that the people of Bourail put into this beautiful resting place for our New Zealand servicemen who did not come home from the South Pacific campaign of WWII.



Having a family member included here as noted on the wall of remembrance made this all the more poignant for me. Sadly, he was not so fortunate to be laid to rest here in Bourail.

Now...as many of you will be aware there is a Remembrance Army here in NZ who are actively maintaining the graves of service men and women all around NZ who did come home, those who died whilst in training camps for the war or who died in hospital after the war.

By helping out on albeit a small scale with this project locally, it will give these brave NZers continued dignity as well as it being such a lovely and special way for us to continue showing our respect and gratitude for what they gave, and what we have today. **The NZ Remembrance Army coordinators are keen to set up a team in the wider Thames area as there are War Graves here that need attention.**

If you are keen to be part of this, please contact Maureen and we will liaise with the NZ Remembrance Army Team and join the team to help out. a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz or 027 3337786

KEEP OUR SHEEP SWEET
DOSE DOGS WITH PRAZIQUANTEL
MONTHLY IF RESIDING NEAR SHEEP
 or at least 48 hours before taking your dog near sheep

OVIS
 MANAGEMENT
 PROMOTE PROTECT PARTICIPATE

0800 222 011
www.sheepmeasles.co.nz
 @sheepmeasles
 @sheepmeaslesnz

Duck hunting is the ideal opportunity for spreading sheep measles.

A tapeworm infected duck dog could be a sheep farmers worst nightmare. Once an infected dog has been and gone, it could have spread thousands of tapeworm eggs all over the pasture, where sheep graze.

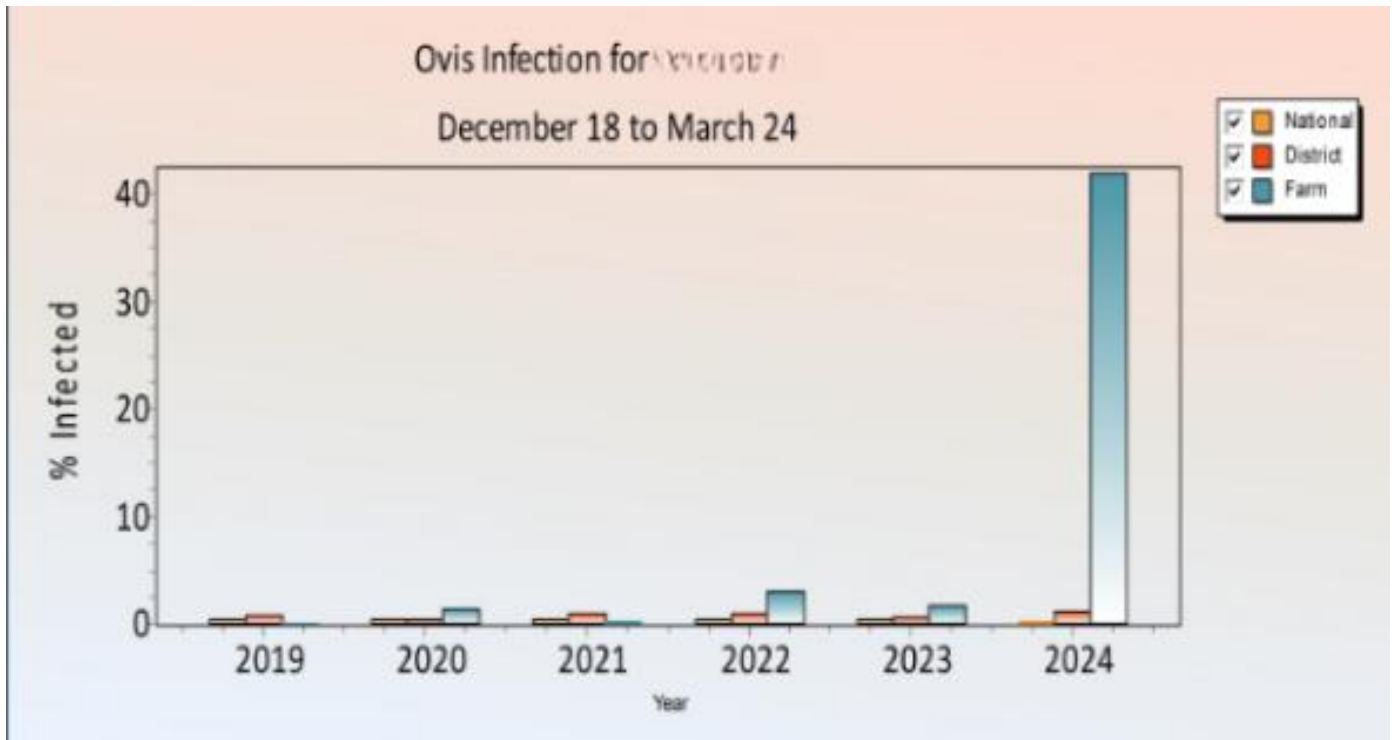
Please ask your visitors, who are bringing four-legged companions, to dose their dog(s) with Praziquantel at least 48 hours before arriving (and less than one month).

KEEP OUR SHEEP SWEET THIS DUCK HUNTING SEASON.

OVIS
 MANAGEMENT
 PROMOTE PROTECT PARTICIPATE

Dose all dogs before visiting the Maimai.

AN OVIS STORM!



For the past few months, we have been working with a farmer who got in touch with us as he noticed an increase in Ovis on his kill sheets. Asurequality meat inspectors from the processing plant also notified us.

Prior to September 2023, their Ovis prevalence was 0.5%. 1,685 lambs were processed between October 2023 and March 2024. Of these lambs, 20 were condemned at the plant and 546 were found to have Ovis infections. This represents a 32% prevalence rate.

The farmer had a handful of lambs that had remained on farm from a mob of 602 that had been processed in September 2023. None of these processed lambs had Ovis reported. One of the remaining lambs was sacrificed for further inspection. Ovis cysts were found in the heart muscle and diaphragm during post-mortem. This led us to conclude that the source of infection was likely to be from contaminated pasture on the farm.

An "Ovis Storm" is when sheep that have not been exposed to infection come into contact with contaminated pastures. This exposure causes a sudden and rapid immune response resulting in heavy infection. As eggs can survive on the pasture for up to 300 days, the contaminated pasture needs to be quarantined from sheep.

The farmer was upfront about not dosing his dogs regularly. His dogs travel around different farms, which increases the risk of access to infected sheep meat. He is currently using satellite yards to limit the number of sheep near the woolshed and collaborating with his vet to establish a regular

HAURAKI FENCING

Paddy Maru 027 3932172
haurakifencing@gmail.com

dosing program. We will continue to watch, and we think that taking these precautions will lower the chance of further infections.



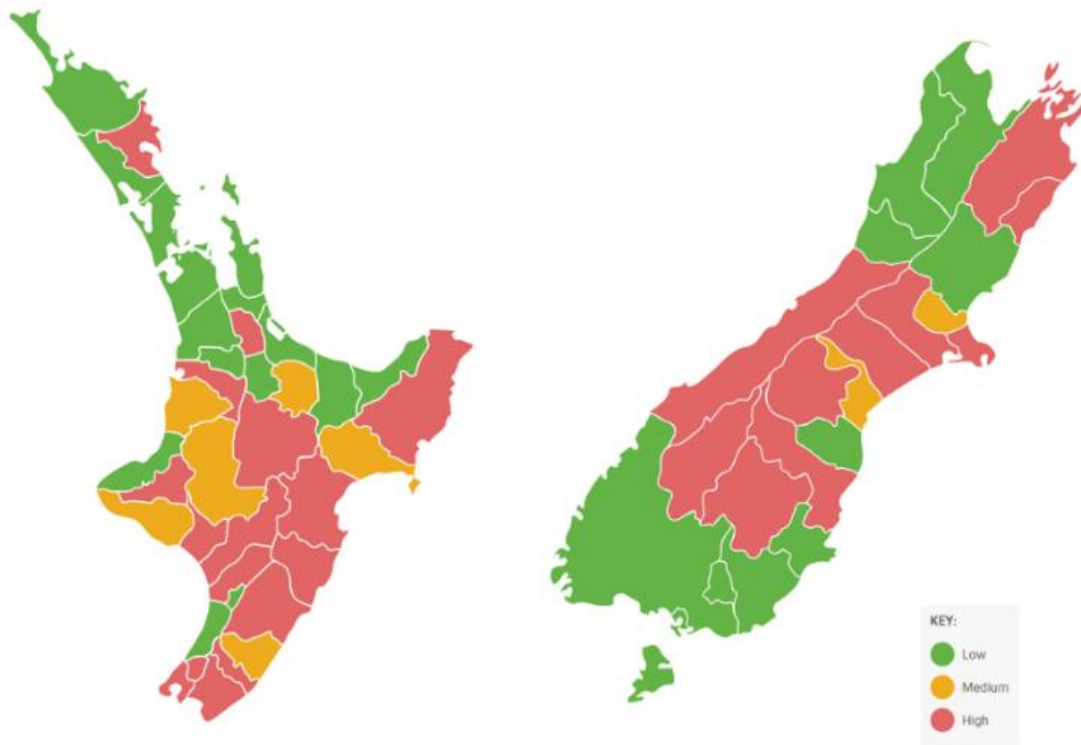
EDITORS NOTE:

This is absolutely a topic that we cannot ignore or pretend it will go away.

Some of us were brought up with regular dog dosing as hydatids was being eradicated in NZ. By default almost, and as a part of this hydatids work, Sheep Measles was controlled as well. Since the days of regular dog dosing, things have become lax and we are now seeing the problems arising again. Dogs did not roam freely, they didn't go from one property to another and they were dosed regularly.

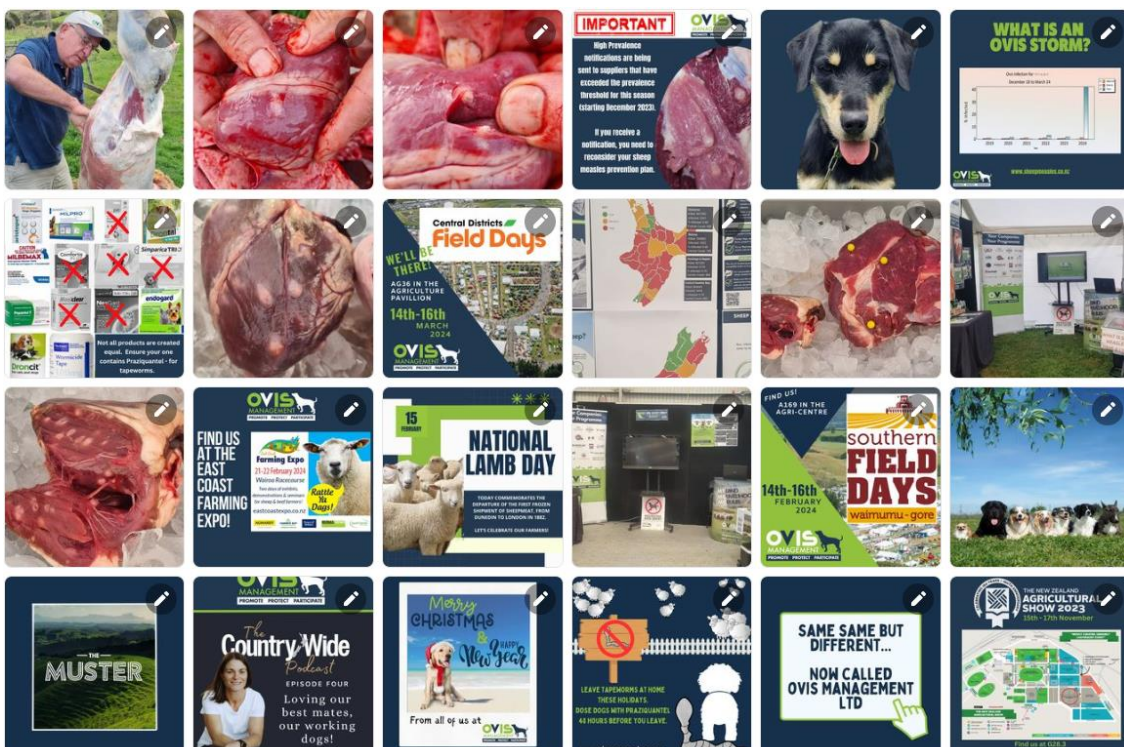
We all need to take responsibility for this and help our farming community and general economy to keep on top of what is going to be a massive financial and export issue if we do not all do our bit.....and that is very much us as hunters as well.

National lamb sheep measles prevalence for the period 1 October 2023 to 1 March 2024



[Prevalence Map - Click here](#)

FIND US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM



OUR PARTNERS



Michelle Simpson B.Bus., Dip.Agri.Bus
Project Manager

-  +64 27 355 9751 | 0800 222 011
-  michelle.simpson@mia.co.nz
-  sheepmeasles.co.nz
-  @sheepmeasles
-  @sheepmeaslesnz



MORE Hunts and Events.....

Mark these dates on the calendar and make sure you keep an eye on the next newsletter for more details

Saturday 1 –
Monday 3rd June
2024

King's Birthday Weekend Attitude Archery NZ Bowhunters National Tournament 2024

See more details through this newsletter about this upcoming event that is being held at TVDA this year.

This event is OPEN TO ANYONE who bow hunts or does field archery so come along and don't miss out on this excellent opportunity. You do NOT need to be a NZ Bowhunter Society Member to take part.

Contact: Bill Olsen on 027 656 6058 if you have any queries

Matariki Weekend Club Hunt Clements Road – Sika Lodge

This club trip is open to the first 25 people that book in. Accommodation is at Sika lodge so no issues about bad weather and leaking tents!!! Accom Prices as per those set out earlier in the newsletter article.

Everyone is most welcome.

Contact: Maureen Coleman a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz or
text 027 3337786

Thurs night 27-
Sunday 30 June
2024

Saturday 20th
July 2024

TVDA Annual Dinner

These nights are always the culmination of the year's activities and a way to celebrate and acknowledge the many achievements over the preceding 12 months.

The food is always superb; there will be a guest speaker as always and trophies a plenty to be given out to very deserving recipients.

Make sure you keep an eye out for when the tickets are available but in the meantime; please mark this on your calendar.

Trap Line Updates and catch results



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Hunters and Conservation working in Tandem

Trap Catch details from the trap lines that we monitor



Name of the trap line	Start date	Mustelids	Rats	Hedgehogs	Mice
Piropoa to Miranda *	Apr '17	163	113	119	
Firth of Thames Line	Jan '21	65	135	7	37
Kauaeranga River Trapline	Apr '21	23	290	2	
Terry Line ** (part of the Pinnacles track)	Jan '22	20	270	0	
Waikino HRT Line	June '22	32	159	3	
TVDA Club Property Trapline	Dec '23	8	13	2	9
Between Hubbard to Ferry Roads (HRT)	Mar '24			2	1



* Note: this trap line has been out of 'action' for several months due to EW raising the stop banks and working on the area where the traps were placed. They are due to go back into service again in the near future.

** This trapline has in fact been operating and being monitored by TVDA members since 2012 but tallies were not kept during that time (even though it is estimated that well over 1000 rats and a few stoats were caught

during that 10 year period).



WANTED / NEEDED please....

People are needed please to help out with monitoring some of trap lines that are due to go out, so if you can help, please contact Brian Neilson 027 8910958 or Brianneilson@xtra.co.nz

We have a great team of volunteers at present who have been undertaking this work for several years however they can't do all the trap lines and we have at least another 100 trap boxes to go out on the Hauraki Rail Trail so they are nice and easy to get to.

A 'line' will be worked in to suit the person who is doing it – it may be a short section of only 15-20 traps or it could be double this size....or more,

depending on what works for you.

Traps are normally checked 2-3 weekly

WOODHILL is happening again in 2024!!!

For the 2024 season, there will be a ballot application fee of \$25; and upon a successful ballot, a block fee at \$190 for the Ballot Holder and up to 2 companions for hunting on the block for the day.

The same rules will apply as in previous years, that is, you will be issued a permit to shoot 1 antlered buck or in some cases a doe (special permit required).
application link below.

<http://fallowdeer.co.nz/ballotappl.php>

All applications must be done online so if you do not have a computer or access to one, please contact Maureen and an application will be lodged on your behalf.

Huge thanks to all the team at WFMC for their tireless work to make this possible for hunters from near and far.



CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 5.00pm on 25th April 2024



HUNTS 2024

Names are now being sought for this years HUNTS course.

- It will commence at the end of July so make sure you get your name down on the list if you are keen to be part of this awesome course – dates are already in the club's calendar of the website.
- Approx 7 evening sessions and 3 weekends (2 of these will be hunting trip)
- The whole spectrum of HUNTER Training is included in this course – Navigation, Bush Craft, Hunting Techniques and Hunting Skill, River Crossing, Outdoor 1st Aid, Butchery, Hunting Ethics, Gear and Equipment, Weather, General Survival and we finish it off with a one on one Mentored Hunting Trip to Te Urewera.
- We also then have a club flyin hunting trip a few weeks after the conclusion of the main HUNTS course that your fees include. **Costs 625.00 which includes a chopper fly in trip* as well (*optional).**
HUNTS course \$300.00 and the chopper trip is \$325.00 pp
- Minimum Age – 16 years but no upper limit. *Numbers are limited*
- This is a course that everyone can benefit from immensely.

To get your name on the list, please phone or email Brian Neilson

brianneilson@xtra.co.nz or 027 8910958.



A very special welcome to the New members who have joined TVDA since the last newsletter and we look forward to seeing you at upcoming events and joining in with the many and varied activities that are held at your club.

FOR SALE

Remington 11-87 Premier.
Left Hand 12g - 2-3/4" - 3"
4 Chokes - Skeet.
- Imp Cyl
- Mod.
- Full.

Contact Maureen for more details on who to contact about this. 027 3337786



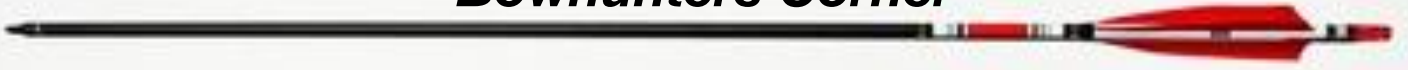
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Bowhunters Corner



Next club day is Sunday 12th of May 2024

There's never a dull moment and never more so with what we have coming up in just 5 weeks' time.



At the April club day we made the most of having sorted out the Field for day one of the Nationals so we put out the designated targets, pegs were put in place and those that attended got some inside oil so to speak on what the targets for the upcoming Nationals will be like. It was great to have a 'trial run' like this with time up our sleeves.



The 2nd field (the field for day 2 of the Nationals) will be planned and mapped this week and then on **Sunday 5th of May we will have another working bee** to give this area the needed trim and tidy up and it will be all sorted as well. If this day all goes to plan, you will be able to shoot the 2nd field at the May club day. Watch out for more details from Shelley and Bill in their upcoming email to you all about this.



There are also more bales to be made up but this is now much easier with the bale press in full swing and the new filling that we have been able to source. It's light weight, it's so easy to handle and it makes for excellent bales that are still nice and moveable once they are wet.



Special thanks to Tony, Peter and Brian for their work in getting everything lined up and in place for the new containers to arrive later on this week. This will be such a wonderful asset for our gear and targets. So appreciate all your help guys.



The new targets and inserts that this excellent funding outcome below has enabled us to buy were ordered as soon as we found out about the funding. It will be great to have these on site and even better still, having new and additional storage space is all part of what has been happening at TVDA.

**Thank you very
much**

nzct
COMMUNITY TRUST

For their very generous sponsorship towards the purchase of more 3D archery targets and inserts to go in the existing targets that we have. This will be a massive help with the upcoming Attitude Archery National Bowhunter National Tournament but also to each and every person who comes up to TVDA and shoots Bowhunter targets – be that on club days, interclub tournaments or major events.

DOC NEWS & Updates

From: Sara Treadgold <streadgold@doc.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 3:28 PM

Subject: FW: Notification of thermal assisted aerial surveillance and control work of goats - Tongariro National Park

Kia ora

Re: Notification of an aerial survey (and control) for goats within the Tongariro National Park, 1 May to 15 June 2024.

The Department of Conservation is due to carry out an aerial survey and control operation for goats in the Tongariro National Park. This is the first time that a formal survey of the National Park has been carried out in this way to confirm if the goat-free status of the Park has been achieved.

The purpose of the operation is to confirm if the control efforts in Tongariro and Erua Conservation Areas have successfully contained goat dispersal and that the Park is free of goats. The operation is proposed for **late April to mid-June**, depending on availability and weather. This operation would be carried out by an experienced contractor for this type of work and supervised by Department of Conservation staff from the Tongariro district. The method to be used is using a high-resolution thermal camera from a helicopter to search the Tongariro National Park, through gullies, ridges and semi-covered scrub or open alpine areas for goats. Priority areas will include the western side of the mountain, from SH46 in the north, along and eastern side of SH47 to the southern boundary of Erua Conservation Area, and up to the tree line on the slopes of the mountain. Part of the alpine zone on the low-mid attitudes may also be surveyed. If time allows, the northeastern side of the mountain will be surveyed west of SH1, north of the Rangipo desert (please see maps attached).

This will primarily search for goats and if any goats seen will be controlled at the time of sighting by a certified aerial hunter if safe to do so. Deer and pigs will not be targeted. These operations will mainly occur in the early morning hours when temperatures are cooler and animal heat signatures are more easily picked up. This could be from first light, for 4-6 hours. The alpine zone may be able to be surveyed later in the morning. All popular and access areas may be surveyed, but no control will occur.

If you have any concerns or wish to find out more information about this operation, please contact the Tongariro district office.

Ngā mihi

Sara Treadgold
Department of Conservation
Tongariro

Date Printed: 13 March 2024

Proposed Thermal Surveillance and Control Area Tongariro National Park



Legend



SCALE 1:144,418

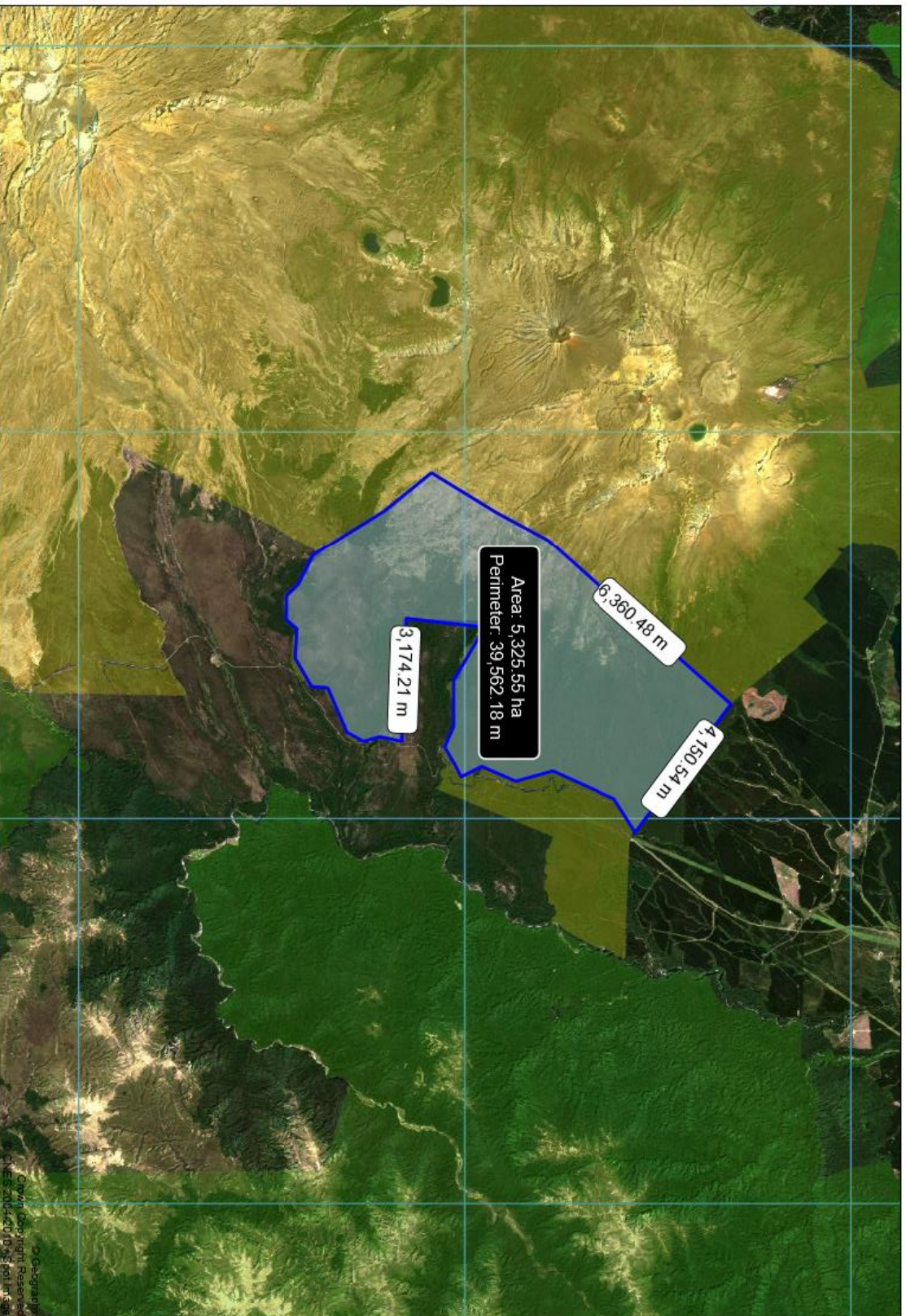


Projection: NZGD_2000_New_Zealand_Transverse_Mercator

This map is a user-generated static output from an internet mapping site and is for reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable.
THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION



Additional Thermal Surveillance and Control Area Tongariro National Park



7.3

SCALE 1: 144,448

7.3 Kilometers

Projection: NZGD_2000_New_Zealand_Transverse_Mercator

This map is a user-generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable.

THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

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GNS 2014/01/15 48 rd in site

Legend



- Public Conservation Land
 - National Park
 - Conservation Park
 - Specialty Protected Area
- Reserve
- Stewardship Area
- Marginal Strip
- Wildlife Management Area
- Waikeangī Endowment Forest



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Ataturangi

Info received by email on 15.4.2024



ANIMAL PEST CONTROL OPERATION

Epro Limited has been contracted by Timberlands, Manulife and Wairakei Pastoral to undertake possum, rabbit, hare and rodent control programme over the Kaingaroa, Matahina and Wairakei Forests. .

In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2017, Epro wishes to notify you of our intention to apply sodium fluoroacetate (1080), Feratox (cyanide) and pindone.

This operation will be carried out in two phases. In relation to the 1080 operation initially non-toxin prefeed bait will be applied. This will be followed five to ten days later by an application of toxic bait. For the pindone application this involves two toxin applications of pindone carrot. Both treatments, the bait will be in the form of either cereal or carrot pellets and will be dyed green.

This operation will commence prior to the beginning of the annual new plantation establishment programme in May 2024, then be worked progressively through the year until about September 2024, as weather and operational constraints allow.

Epro staff are working with affected landowners surrounding the forest to discuss the operation and confirm specific timings.

We will keep landowners updated throughout this process, and additionally there will be further notifications prior to each aerial 1080 application.

OPERATION DETAIL

Toxin warning signs will be placed at all normal points of entry to the operation prior to toxic bait being applied. The carcasses of 1080 poisoned animals pose a significant risk to dogs for several months after the operation, note the blues areas only on the attached map. Toxin warning signs will remain in place until this risk has passed.

This information has been provided to you as an identified landowner, land occupier, stakeholder, affected party or user of the affected land. Please inform any associates, members or staff who may also use this area. The intention of this notice is also to protect young children who may be unable to understand warning notices and risk contact with controlled pesticides.

Should you require further information or require clarity on specific parts of this annual programme, please use the contact details below.

Further Information

Epro
283 Broadlands Road, Taupo
Phone: 0800 ASK EPRO
Email: control@epro.co.nz

www.epro.co.nz

AERIAL PREDATOR CONTROL 1080 NOTIFICATION



RAUKŪMARA PAE MAUNGA (BLOCK 2C)

This notice advises of a pending aerial pellet 1080 application due to be undertaken on Monday 22 April through Wednesday 24 April 2024, dependent on weather and operational constraints. This application is scheduled to take between two and three days.

Please feel free to pass this information on to all relevant parties that may be directly involved within or around this operation.

Operation Detail

Epro Limited has been contracted by Department of Conservation to undertake an aerial predator control operation in the Raukūmara area. Further details on the Raukūmara Pae Maunga project is within the attached Fact Sheet.

This notification relates to Block 2C only (see below map), which is located in the headwaters of the Maungatutara, Waingakia and Oronui Rivers, to the east is the Mangaoparo River and to the south are Whanokao and Hikurangi Maunga.

Block 3 is planned for delivery from May 2024.

Control Method

Aerial application of cereal bait pellets containing 1080 is the most effective method of controlling possums, rats and stoats over large areas. It is currently the only viable tool in remote, rugged terrain such as the Raukūmara. Ground based trapping and bait stations are effective in more accessible areas however the number of predators can overwhelm trapping networks.

Helicopters will safely and precisely distribute bait across the operational area along pre-determined and monitored flight paths.

The toxic cereal bait pellets contain 0.15 per cent of 1080, are cylindrical and approximately two centimetres in diameter. They are dyed green and contain a cinnamon lure to attract rodents.

Keeping Safe

1080 is poisonous to humans, domestic and game animals. In areas where the toxin has been applied, dogs are highly at risk until poisoned carcasses have disintegrated. This takes four-to-eight months or longer.

There will be warning signs placed at entrances to the operational area immediately prior to the operation.

Always Remember

- Do not touch or eat the bait.
- Watch children at all times.
- Do not eat animals from this area.
- Toxic baits and carcasses are deadly to dogs.

Observe these rules whenever you see warning signs placed at the public access ways in the above areas. Warning signs indicate that pesticide residues may remain in baits and carcasses.

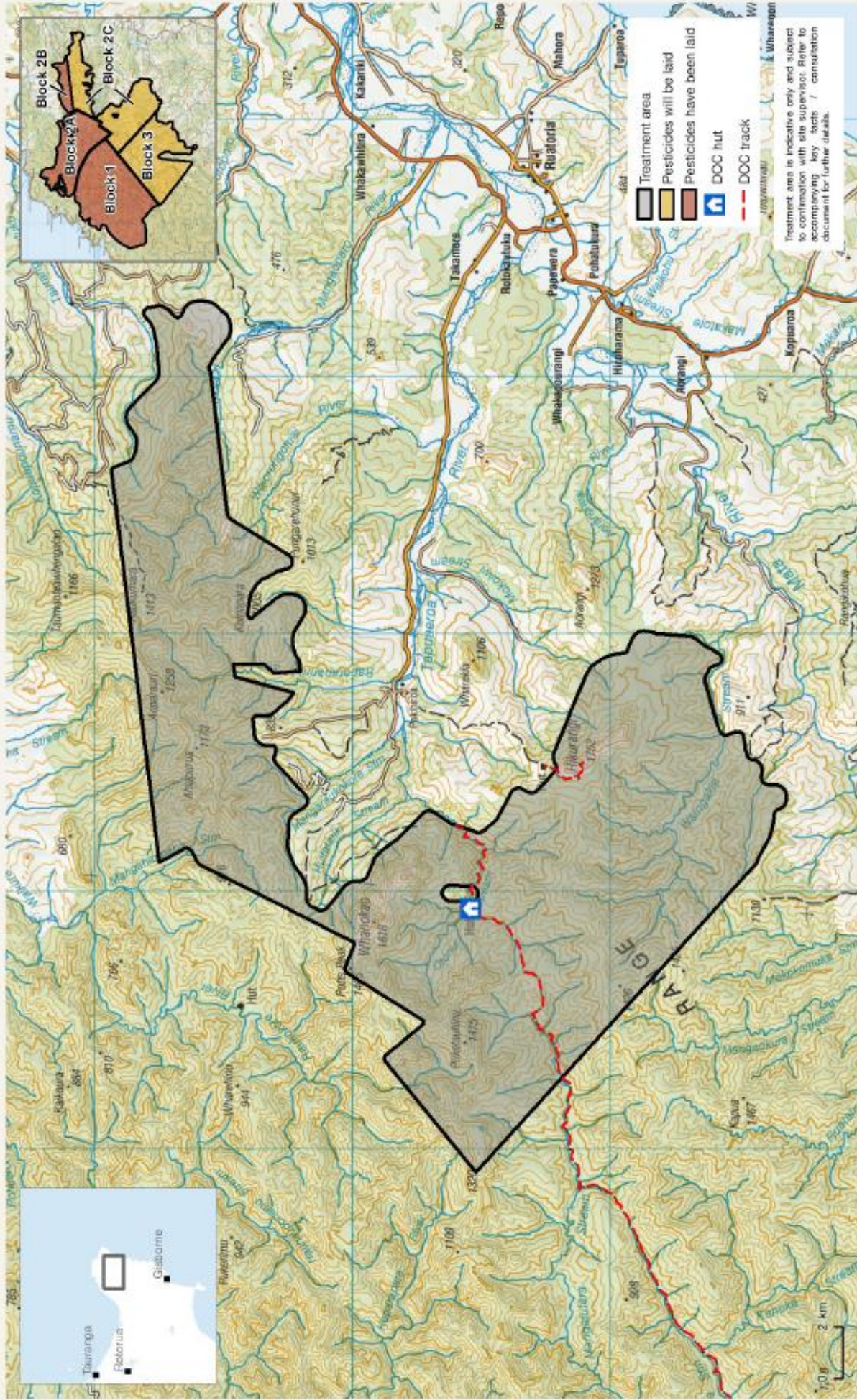
If you suspect poisoning, please contact either:

- Your local doctor or hospital
- The National Poisons Centre: 0800 764 766 (urgent calls) or 03 479 7248
- Dial 111
- Seek veterinary advice for suspected poisoning of domestic animals.

Should you require further information or require clarity on any points please use the contact details below.

EPRO
283 BROADLANDS ROAD, TAUPO
PHONE: 0800 ASK EPRO
EMAIL: CONTROL@EPRO.CO.NZ

Te Papa Atawhai, Department of Conservation
Whakatane
Email: easternbop@doc.govt.nz



Raukūmara Pae Maunga - Block 2C

Aerial Predator Control 2024

Treatment area: 28,102 ha

Part of the 118,133 ha Raukūmara treatment area



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Ataturangi



NZS010/90 New Zealand Topographic Mapper
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Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government



Marinade for Game Meat

Particularly good if you have an older animal or billy goat meat that needs a bit of extra TLC.....

By Sharon Johansen

- 1 Cup apple cider vinegar – or lemon juice – or dry white wine – OR a mixture of Lemon juice, spiced vinegar & brown vinegar / Apple cider
- ½ cup salad oil
- 3 cloves crushed garlic
- ½ teaspoon each of dried basil, oregano, majoram
- 2 finely chopped onion
- 2 crushed bay leaves
- ½ teaspoon each of paprika, salt, pepper
- Good handful of chopped parsley.



Method:

Mix all together.

A good idea to keep things tidy is to put the marinade into a zip lock bag, add the meat to it and then place the bag and contents into a meat dish in the fridge (catches and drips or slurps).

Turn the bag and meat regularly (3-4 times a day) for up to 4 days and then drain and casserole.

Results are amazing!!!



Sender:
P.O.Box 206
Paeroa 3640