



September 2021



The perfect way to round out a day's hunting

Identify your target beyond ALL doubt

www.tvda.co.nz

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	Ashleigh Dewar #	020 40070067
Treasurer	Clemency Dent #	022 3482843
Committee:	Keven Caddy	027 4881207
	Kelby Stewart*	021 395400
	Tony Coleman	027 9271848
	John Senk #	027 4660549
	Dennis Hayfield*	027 2211892
	Henry Cummings*	021 1532759
	Alton Whibley*	021 1825403
	Andrew Austen	027 7269457
	Karen Austen #	027 3186259
	Lee Kelly	027 3794201
Newsletter	Maureen Coleman & Ashleigh Dewar	a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz or ashleigh_d007@hotmail.com
Archery Contact	Dennis Hayfield	027 2211892
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
Kauritatahi Hut Contact	???	
Club Trip organiser	Brian Neilson	027 8910958
Bar Manager	Keven Caddy	027 4881207
Bar Assistants	As shown above (#) and Michael Wade 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

September		
Sunday	26	2 nd Round of Running Boar*
Monday	27	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	28	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	29	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	29	Club Night
Thursday	30	Private use – Range available after 3pm

October		
Friday	1	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Saturday	2	RANGE CLOSED FOR HUNTS RANGE TRAINING (TILL 5pm)
Monday	4	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	5	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	6	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Sunday	10	Bowhunters Club Day & Interclub Combined
Monday	11	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	12	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	13	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	13	Committee Meeting
Saturday	16	Firearms Licence Training - <i>the Range is still available</i>
Monday	18	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	19	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	20	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	26	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	27	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	27	Club Night
Friday	29	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Sunday	31	Working Bee for Sporting Shoot

November		
Monday	1	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	2	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Thursday	4	TWILIGHT CLAY TARGETS AND ARCHERY BEGINS – 5.30 pm onwards
Saturday	6	Working Bee for Sporting Shoot
Sunday	7	TVDA Anniversary 100 sporting clays shoot
Wednesday	10	Committee Meeting
Friday	12	Start of HUNTS Course Mentored hunting trip to Orangihikoia
Saturday	13	NZDA Regional Meeting – Taupo Branch
Sunday	14	Bowhunters Club day
Wednesday	17	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Thursday	18	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Saturday	20	Sika Show – Mystery Creek*
Sunday	21	Sika Show – Mystery Creek*
Monday	22	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	23	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	24	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	24	Club Night
Monday	29	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	30	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Sunday	28	Rimfire – Centrefire – Patrons Cup Shoots

December		
Wednesday	1	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Thursday	2	Start of Club Flyin trip – travel to Murupara Thurs night
Friday	3	Flying into Te Urewera for Club hunting trip
Monday	6	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	7	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	8	Committee Meeting
Monday	13	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	14	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	15	Private use – Range available after 3pm

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

Presidents Report

First and foremost everyone, I hope this note and newsletter finds you all safe; fit and well given what Covid has thrown at us all in recent weeks.

On the Covid front, now that we are down to Level 2 and prospects are looking good for it decreasing further, access to the range is now open to members.

Unfortunately, at this present point in time; those members living in Levels 3 or 4, you will not be able to use the range or facilities until you also drop down to Level 2. I have to say a very special thank you to our Auckland members for your dedication and understanding in helping us all to get on top of this latest Covid outbreak.

Since the last newsletter we have activated, special thanks to Ashleigh for setting up our new online range calendar. This is able to be updated 'in the moment' to reflect any bookings that have taken place since the newsletter was published. When you click on the Calendar tab, you will see the current month come up and any bookings will show up on the relevant day. If there is a booking, click on it and it will also give the times that this booking relates to. **For those who are not online, please feel free to give me a call or text as in the past to check and see if there have been any additional bookings made.**

On the club activities front, Covid has really put a spanner in the works creating the need for us to cancel the planned Rusa flyin trip (that was due the day after lock down kicked in), the deferment of the HUNTS Course for a few weeks, club night was cancelled in August and the Bowhunters Interclub has now been rescheduled to Sunday 10th October (pending the Levels in Auckland). Thank you all so much for your understanding on this various fronts - it will need some more juggling yet to get things back on track and these things will be covered further through this newsletter.

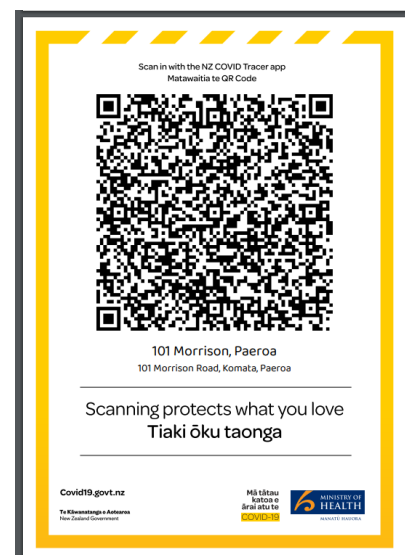
You will also see that this newsletter looks quite different and that is due to me having a play with a new format and hopefully this refreshed layout and options will be met with your approval.

This has come about as a large number of people say 'Oh I never read the newsletter' so hopefully this new format will help turn that around or better still, if people have ideas for improvements or what you really want to see and read, then please let me know.

The newsletters and the website are key areas for us as a branch to reach you the members, so I really would encourage you to read this and also contribute to it in the future. The more input – the better the output.

QR Code Posters are located as follows at the clubrooms and on the property so please make sure you use ONE of them each time you come up to the property:

- Inside the window of the clubrooms by the rubbish bins
- On the noticeboard outside the clubrooms
 - *Beside the notice board is a timber leaner and this has a copy of the Attendance Page for those who do not have the Covid App on their phone*
- On the inside of the entrance door of the clubrooms (if the clubrooms are open)
- On the noticeboard beside the roller door at the containers (for those at a working bee)
- On the benchrest table at the 100m range.



Take care when out there in the hills or on the water and make sure everyone comes home safely.

Cheers..... **Maureen**

September Club night

Wednesday 29th September

This will be a bit like the cheese adverts – ***the wait will be well worth it.*** This was originally booked in for the August clubnight which had to be cancelled due to Covid lockdown

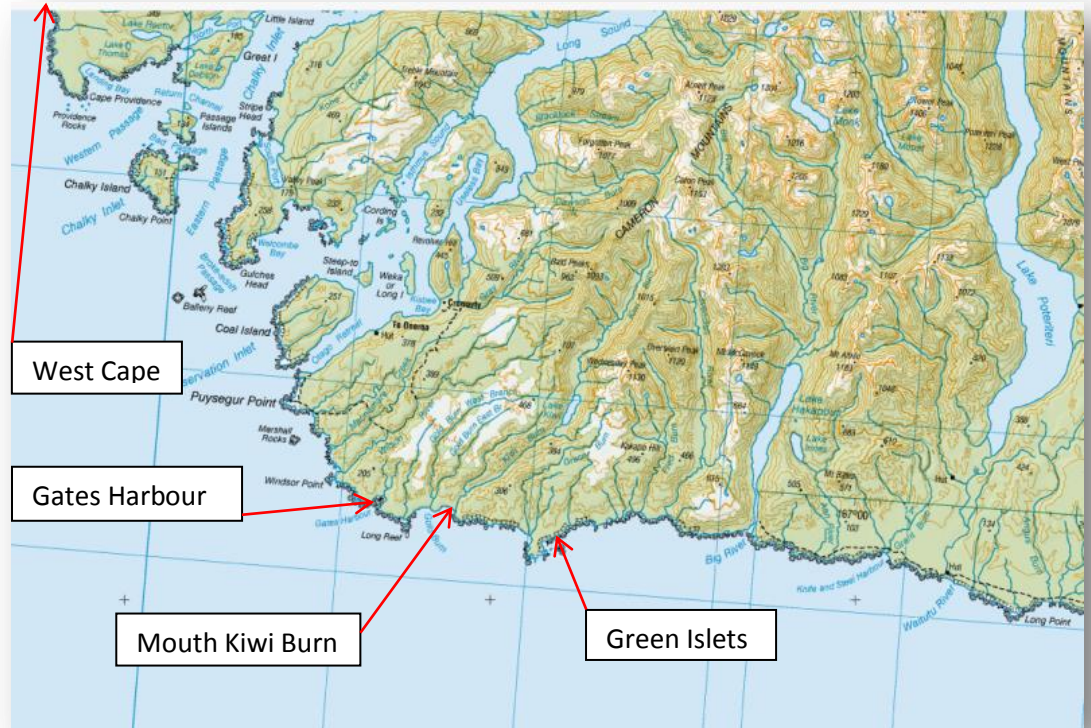
The hunting, fishing, diving, whaling, sealing and gold history combined with the magic of these amazing areas will all be there for you to enjoy on Club night.

South Westland.

Mike Curtis has very kindly offered to share some really interesting insights on his many trips into this far flung corner of NZ.

Places such as Green Islets, Mouth of the Kiwi Burn, Gates Harbour, West Cape, Cape Preservation..... are located at the very bottom of South Westland and lower Fiordland areas.

Like many of us – we will have heard about Dusky Sound, Preservation Inlet and Resolution Island but Im sure many of us will have never heard of these places that Mike will be talking about. There will also be plenty of photos on the night that highlight these awesome spots and Im sure many of you will be itching to get down there by the end of the night.



Everyone is most welcome to join in on the night – this is a top night out for all the family; bring friends or hunting mates along too.

Supper afterwards as always – we look forward to seeing a really top turnout. See you there..

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Design and concepts



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2nd Round of the Running Boar

Sunday 26th September

The 26th is this weekend

(start time 9.30am)

It's a good fun day that anyone can participate in. .

22's only and 25 rounds of ammo

Range Fee \$5.00 p/p or \$10.00 per family

Gold coin donation for lunch



Docking at Panekiri IS **CANCELLED**

Message from Ian and Kylie

Abridged: Due to Covid levels our team has expressed concern about your group coming down and have decided to now do the docking ourselves.

Sorry for the short notice but our teams concerns and health are of the utmost importance to us.

Note from Maureen:

Thank you so much to all those people who have so willingly offered to help with the docking this year and to others who have done preparation work – ie provided baking, helped out with looking after various jobs back at home here while others were away docking. It is this kind of Team Spirit that is so hugely appreciated all round.

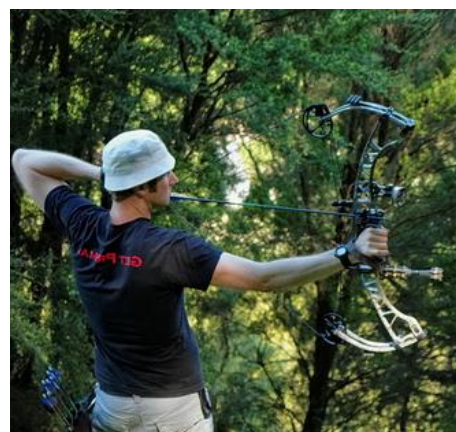
Next year is another year and Ian and Kylie 'are looking forward to next year being back to normal'.



TVDA

Twilight
Clay Targets
& Archery

Starting
Thursday 4th
November



Running Boar
Results from the *previous* event
27 June 2021

Mens	Slow	Fast	Total
Peter Thompson	59	63	122
Mike Cook	58	39	97
Stefan Atrill	20	19	39
Brian Neilson	20	17	37
Len Cubitt	17	20	37
<u>Ladies</u>			
Maureen Coleman	23	26	49
Lizzy Millington	18	9	27
Trish	18	1	19
<u>Juniors</u>			
Amelia Sanson	7	3	10
<u>Visitor</u>			
Craig Oates (Te Awamutu Branch)	53	39	92
Jess	30	9	39
Jai	16	23	39



TVDA HUNTS Course

This had been put on 'hold' due to Covid lockdown restrictions but it is now up and running with us being down to Level 2. Twelve members have signed up and the course has started which is great. The first night was on Monday this week, it will have various night time sessions, a goat shooting weekend, river crossing training and finish off with a mentored hunting weekend in November.

Special thanks to all the participants and those involved in bringing this course together and for your understanding of the changes that have had to be made.

NZDA Discount App Is here...



The NZDA Membership and Discounts App is now up and running and ready for you to download and use.

Go to Google play or the Apple store and search for NZ Deerstalkers. Selection Install or GET.

Once you have installed either of the above, open via the app or click open.

When in the app, you will need to register with your membership details and this will then enable you to access the app and make the most of your membership discounts.

This does not replace the benefits that you can still get by presenting your membership card when shopping at the various sponsor outlets – it is another means of getting your discounts. You can still produce your card or add your membership number and get the benefits that you are entitled to as part of your NZDA Membership.



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

- Membership card with discounts at major retailers, including:
 - 15% off at Beaurepaires
 - 5%-30% off at Big Save Furniture
 - 15% at Carters
 - Up to 30% at Mico Plumbing
 - 20% off rooms at Millennium Hotels and Resorts
 - Office Max
 - PlaceMakers
 - 10% off at Repco
- Exclusive NZDA discounts:
 - Interisland Ferry group booking discount (contact us for the code)
 - Go Native outdoor meals and snacks, 25% discount
 - Napier of London shooting and hunting goods, 15% discount
 - AJ Productions - electronic game caller and trail cameras, 15% discount
 - Kilwell Sports hunting supplies, 15% discounts on website orders
 - Hunting with Huntahr Guiding, 10% discount
 - Heli Sika, 10% discount on helicopter flights to hunting blocks
 - Murchison Heli Tours, 10% off your flights
 - NZ Taxidermy Ltd, 10% discount on mounts
 - Bullivant Taxidermy, 10% discount on mounts
 - Ruahine Tanning & Taxidermy, 10% discount on mounts
 - 10% discount of Department of Conservation annual Backcountry Hut Pass or 'Hut Pass'. See the DoC website for more details
 - 10% discount at all good sporting, shooting and hunter retailers on request



Keen young TVDA hunter Elliott taking it easy in the Historic Clark Hut – Borland; South Westland.

Photo by: Wayne Stachurski

Te Urewera Spring Hunt Flyin Trip....

To Right Branch, Takarua, Ngahiramai + other huts

Thursday evg 2th – Sunday 5nd December

Approx \$285.00 p/p for flights

IF THIS



= You

Please contact Brian Neilson asap to book in

Brianneilson@xtra.co.nz or 027 8910958

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NZDA Regional Meeting Update/Summary



Just a couple of days before Delta Lockdown kicked in back in August; Rotorua Branch hosted the Upper North Island Regional Meeting. The branches that had attendees there were: hosts Rotorua, Taupo, Central King Country, Bay of Plenty, South Auckland, Auckland, North Auckland, Northland, Te Awamutu, Waikato and TVDA.

Four members attended from TVDA and it was a really productive meeting. It was a great chance to catch up on what is happening out there amongst the other branches, an opportunity to help each other, learn lots and ultimately to be able to offer more to you our members in the long run.

Of particular interest was having Peter Miles there as a guest speaker where he gave us all an insight into what is on the radar with regards to getting our ranges Registered and Certified under the new Firearms Legislation that comes into force in 2022. Peter has a wealth of knowledge and is also a huge advocate for NZDA and the retention of ranges so we are extremely fortunate that the Police have engaged with Peter as they move towards implementing the new rules and policies.

We are extremely fortunate here at TVDA in that a lot of the new processes and requirements that are to be implemented in 2022, are already in place. This is due to the foresight and wisdom of our members back in 2000 when we purchased the land, designed our ranges with the 'long term' in mind and made sure that we have been on top of our game ever since. Our ranges and the cone of fire is totally contained on our own property, our Range Standing Orders cover the full complement of information, we have qualified Range Officers and ultimately having the Police as regular trainers at our venue, has already required us to have these 'new' details captured and in place.

This does not mean that we have 'nothing to do' but we certainly do not have to climb Mt Everest. This is also where you can all play your part so keep this in mind as I will cover further through this newsletter.

The other speaker that we had was Andy Glaser who works for DOC but is also the Project Manager for the Whio Programme which has been getting awesome results throughout the country.

Andy's work is based on getting trapping lines out there in the key Whio areas, working with various groups to assist in these programmes and making sure that funding and results are being aligned nationwide. On the day, Andy brought along some traps and a powerpoint presentation that really highlighted the fantastic results that are achieved from the trapping regimes. Further to this, I have already booked us as a branch in to look after at least one line in the Okahu area. This is an excellent hunting area; the trap lines are long the streams which are perfect places to hunt at the same time so watch this space for more details.

In addition to these two excellent speakers, there was a good chance for branches to discuss topics that were of interest or concern to them 'locally' or to us all on the wider NZDA front.

Having a central point created for documents and template to assist all branch committees was discussed and called for; HUNTS was discussed and the information was shared re the information that has been sent out regarding the issue that is being faced with Sheep Measles. More on this further through this newsletter.

Special thanks to Rotorua branch for your awesome hospitality & superb lunch, it was fantastic.

***The next Regional Meeting will be at Taupo on
Saturday 13 November.***

MORE Hunts and Events.....

Please pencil these dates in and make sure you keep an eye on the next newsletter for more details

TBC

Kids Goat Hunting Weekend

We are currently making plans for a Kids Goat Hunting weekend similar to what we did last year so if you are keen to come along kids, or you think your kids may be keen, please let them know about this so that they can be included. The date is yet to be confirmed for this.

Numbers will be limited so make contact now pls.

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

Auckland Anniversary Weekend Club Hunt Okahu Valley in the Whirinaki

This is a club trip for all the family, and it's got plenty of places and area to hunt, there is the creek to swim in for those that have the need, there are tracks to walk, traps can be checked, a ton of space at the camp to spread out and bring the mountain bikes too if you want. *Everyone is most welcome.*

More info in the next newsletter

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

28 – 31 January
2022

4 – 6 March
2022

Ladies Hunting Weekend - Whirinaki

TVDA will be holding another Ladies Hunting Weekend in the New Year so it will be awesome to see a great turnout again in 2022.

This will be open to members of our branch and also ladies from other branches and those in our communities to help introduce more ladies to hunting.

There are no age barriers on who can attend – ALL ladies are welcome and you do not need to have any prior experience. *The only way we all got started, was by going out for the first time.*

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

KIDS



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Little 3 Competition &



Heaviest Rabbit	
Jack Strange	1.780 kgs
Zeb Strange	1.688 kgs
Wilson Slavic	1.606 kgs

Heaviest Possum	
Jayden Good	4.321 kgs
Zeb Strange	3.782 kgs
Rhys Baxter	3.740 kgs

Heaviest Eel	
Liam Rogers	6.523 kgs
Zeb Strange	6.290 kgs
Wilson Slavic	4.975 kgs

Little 3	
Jack & Zeb Strange	11.852 kgs
Wilson Slavic	10.150 kgs
Kiri, Liam and & Lila Rogers	6.523 kgs

Most Possums	
Jack Strange	11
Wilson Slavic	4
Rhys Baxter	3

Most Hares	
Zeb Strange	1



New Zealand Firearms Licence *Application Form*

Firearms Licence RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

'please make sure you all check your firearms licence expiry date and make sure that you get your RENEWAL APPLICATIONS lodged at least 9 months in advance of it expiring'.

Due to the new Firearms Licence laws, if your firearms licence expires BEFORE you get your NEW LICENCE issued to you, you will have to surrender your firearms until such time as the new licence is processed and in your hands.

Another aspect that will help to speed up the process, is that when naming your referees, if and where possible, please endeavour to have them all in the one Police District – ie Waikato,

Auckland, BOP region. This way it means that the files are not being sent from one Region to another and the one Arms Officer is then overseeing the process in the same office.

The need to surrender your firearms causes a huge amount of undue stress and issues on a number of fronts so please make sure that you all keep this in mind.

RANGE USE

As a general 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.....Special thanks to Brian and Jerry for refurbishing the 50m range over the weekend. It's great having this work done to replace the coreflute – it really is most appreciated by all those who use the venue and the range in general.

WANTED

There will be various working bees coming up over the next few months to help prepare for events etc so please keep an eye on the calendar and if you are able to help out with any of these that would be most appreciated - please come along and help out in any way you can.

Some of these days/working bees will be just flicked out as a quick email or text when we can see that there is a good window of weather or gear is available as well. Some of these working bees may also just be for a couple of hours after work now that Daylight Saving is here.

Help is also needed to get weed spraying done before the Spring kicks in too much more.

The spray and backpacks are at the clubrooms or if you want to work in with another committee member, there is the quad with the C-Dax unit on it so no need to carry the backpack!!! If this sounds like something you can help with, please call Maureen or Wayne.

And.....

Names are needed for the various Club Hunting trips etc that are on the radar so please make sure that you get your name in asap.

Spring Flyin Club Trip to Te Urewera

Kids Goat Hunting Trip

Club Hunting Trip - Auckland Anniversary weekend - Whirinaki

Ladies Hunting Trip to Whirinaki

Trap Line Updates and catch results



Trap line checkers to monitor the Terry Line rat traps that are located up the Kauaeranga Valley.

If you and a couple of mates or even if you are on your own but keen to be part of a team to share this role then it would be great to hear from you and for us to also be able to continue the awesome work that Mike Deane and Peter Flynn did for several years.

If we were able to bring together a small group then this job may only take up 4-5 days/trapline check a year or perhaps if there was just a couple of you, then one day a month would be amazing. If this sounds a bit like you and you are keen to get some extra exercise and help the conservation cause at the same time, please phone

Dennis Hayfield on 027 2211892 or Brian Neilson on 027 8910958

Further to this work in the local area here, we have also put our hand up to monitor a trap line in Whio Country (Whirinaki) and this will also be tied in with deerstalking trips and it's also a great area to help introduce new hunters to the back country, there is a hut there to make it an 'over nighter' or a weekend away and do a whip around the traps at the same time. This Whirinaki work will begin in a few months' time.

Trap Catch details the Coromandel Traps Line .

In total since Dennis and Bill began trapping on the K2K line in May 2017 the catch tallies are as follows:

- 139 Stoats
- 104 Rats
- 97 Hedgehogs
- 3 Ferret
- 3 Mice
- 2 Birds.



The Kauaeranga River Trap is now being monitored by Brian (since April 2021) and the totals to date are:

- 3 Stoat
- 7 Weasel
- 55 Rats



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Tahr Hunting for Women - By Rebecca O'Neale

Upper Clutha Branch

Special thanks to Rebecca for so kindly giving me approval to publish her article in our Newsletter

The smell of avgas and coffee – there actually isn't a better way to start a Friday morning! It's a beautiful day in Queenstown, picture perfect with a nip in the air and a light dusting of snow on the surrounding mountains that looks like icing sugar on a cake.

Longtime friend Rohan and I are currently hanging out at the Air Milford hanger. We flew down yesterday to meet up with the other two group members, Aaron and Matt, before we head out to Dobson Valley block this morning.

Roh and I are flying in, a bit of a reccy for advertising purposes and an exciting opportunity to see new country from the air, while the other guys drive in - probably a good thing as the wagon is loaded to the gunnels with food, gear and the obligatory post hunt beverages.



I don't think the poor little Cessna would have coped with that load!

It's finally time to load up, one last check via the inReach to our guide Croc Adams confirms that it's perfect weather for flying into the valley. We're good to go. The 3 hour drive is reduced to a 35 minute flight over beautiful lakes, mountains and high country stations. The snowline is high, a welcome sight for myself. A self-confessed snow hater, I love a challenge but utterly detest the cold wet stuff that others seem to seek out. Needs must though, that's where the tahr live so I'm putting on my big girl panties (thermal, obviously) and preparing to get on

with it.

Following the road up the valley, we spot the Cruiser with Aaron and Matt heading in. Good timing! Ants, our pilot, gives them a bit of a wing wiggle before we carry on to the landing strip. Croc's Hilux is waiting at the top, watching us circle and come in for a smooth landing.

After the necessary photos and introductions are completed, it's time to unload the gear and wave goodbye to Ants before making tracks to the hut.

Now, 'hut' is probably an understatement.

Our home for the next few days is lush – warm, dry and full of interesting collectables with double glazed picture windows and comfy beds. There's even a shower and flushing toilet!

Shortly after we arrive, the other wagons pull in and I'm first outside to give Bre (our second guide) a big cuddle. This girl is just awesome. We hit it off on my first trip down here and have been firm friends ever since so it's great to see her again.





As the only female hunter and chief organiser of this trip, I quickly dibs the double bedroom and didn't even give the boys a look in. Not that they are worried, they're too busy picking their jaws up off the ground at the stunning scenery and soaking it all in.

After settling in, a brew and a tasty stew for lunch (I will admit I picked the kidneys out – there are few things I won't eat but kidneys are definitely one of them), we decide it's best to take advantage of the clear, still weather and get out for an afternoon spot.

Rohan and I head off with Croc, while Aaron and Matt jump in with Bre to head further up the valley.



After driving a wee way up the main track it's time to head offroad and up the hill. Parking at a convenient spot, we grab our gear and prepare to head up on foot – oh bugger!

It's at this point that I realise that my rifle is still padlocked and the keys are back at the hut, safely stashed in my pack.

Amid cries of "That's a shout!", it's obvious that Roh gets first shot if we get onto something. Ah well, at least I don't have to carry a rifle round the side of a mountain and can play chief photographer instead.

After battling up, up, up and learning (the hard way) about speargrass, we spot a likely looking bull above and proceed to slowly stalk in on him. The non-existent wind and evening light played right into our hands, resulting in Rohan dropping his first bull tahr only a few hours after we've arrived.

A good sized, mature bull with an impressive cape and 11.5" horns.

Roh's smile was almost as big and he was rapt with his trophy.

It's amazing how time flies when you're having fun and slogging your guts out.

We arrived back to the hut just on dark and stoked the fire while waiting for the boys and Bre to get back. Turns out they had seen plenty, with both boys taking a shot and missing.

Might be a good idea to check the rifles tomorrow.

Straight away "Camp Mum" Bre swings into action, ensuring that we're all comfortable and hydrated before making a start on dinner.

Told you she was good!

A few bevvies and a kai later, we've all signed the (now empty) bottle of "F*ck 2020" gin that I've been saving for this moment and it's time for bed.

Becs



Part 2 of Becs' Tahr Hunt follows in the October Hind Sight

.....thanks to Bec's, I will share that with you as well in our next newsletter.



A very special welcome to the New members who have joined TVDA over the last couple of months 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:



- Jason McVeigh
- Caleb Watkins
- John Henwood
- Rhys Baxter
- Steve Moore
- Alec Hughes
- Thierry Meier
- James Cole
- Leon DuToit
- Dave Fordyce
- Ammon Kiwa and family
- Brian Robinson and family
- Aisha van Leeuwen
- Graeme Priest and family
- Craig Boyt and family
- Stefan Atrill and family
- Joseph Savage and family
- Wilson Slavic
- Owen Spice
- Emilie Servais
- Jason Kennerley
- Brett Harvey
- Clinton Bowerman
- Bernard Caie
- Mark Prince
- Steve Turner and family
- Peter Hamblyn
- Tasman O'Dey and family



TAUPO 2021 PRIZE SHOOT

Save the Date and Register Now!

Date: Saturday, 6th November 2021

Shooting commences at 9.30am

All experience levels welcome. Bring the family!

REGISTRATIONS:

Pre-register online on nzdataupo.org.nz/Events or do it on the day from 8.30am until the last detail is on the mound. Shooting begins at 9.30am.

There is a form on the website you can use to register or you can email secretary@nzdataupo.org.nz with your details to let us know which category you would like to enter. You can enter one category or both.

Make your payment online, account number: 03 04300 249818 00.

Please use your surname as a reference and include Prize Shoot as the code. Pre-registration closes on 1st November 2021.

ENTRY FEES (per event)

MEMBERS - Senior \$35

NON-MEMBERS - Senior \$45

Junior (under 18) FREE

NEW ZEALAND
Ammunition
COMPANY LIMITED

Major Spot Prize Sponsored by GPO & NZ Ammunition

GPO 4-16 x 50 Riflescope – RRP \$1200

The GPO Scope will be won by one lucky competitor on the day! *

*The winner needs to be at prize giving to qualify for the draw.
If not present, a re-draw will take place until a winner is found.



TVDA Anniversary Cup
100 Sporting Targets
Thames Valley District Championships

Sunday 7th November 2021

8.30am start

Thames Valley Deerstalkers Range, Morrison Road, Paeroa (1.5kms past Racecourse)

10.30am Cutoff for entries

Welcome one and all – great targets for everyone

Excellent targets shot on two fields of 50

****Transport for all shooters to the start of each field****

Superb Prize Table & Friendly atmosphere

Wonderful Food & Hospitality

Ammo available

Eftpos is available on site

Holten Collegiate Trophy – (any shooter who is still at school is eligible)

Excellent Drawn Prizes – must be there to take these prizes

Grades: AA, A, B, C, UnReg \$70.00

Categories: Vet's, S/Vet's, Masters, Ladies, Juniors, TVDA \$60.00

****PLUS we are providing a "CUBS" section this year – 12 years and under on the shoot day can enter for \$40.00** (proof of age is required for the cub's section)**



No Dogs at the event please at the specific request of neighbouring landowners



Enquiries – Maureen Coleman 027 3337786 or a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz

Sika Show & Competition 2021 – Hamilton, New Zealand *(New date, new locations, new ideas)*

The annual Sika Show & Competition is the largest outdoor trade show of its kind in New Zealand. In previous years, more than 6000 people have been visiting the show each year in September at the Great Lake Centre in Taupo.

As of 2021, the Sika Show went under new management and the show will take place in Mystery Creek Events Centre. I am told that the Antler Horn and Tusk competition side of this will comprise of trophy heads taken over the last two years seeing as it was cancelled last year so there will certainly be a great number of these to be seen. Several TVDA members will be helping with the Douglas Scoring at this event. Great work guys

An important element of the Show has been the collection of jaws. The jaw collection data provides valuable information on the population, demography, and condition of Sika deer in New Zealand. The wealth of information obtained from the jaw aging and details is a huge bonus for the management of the various deer species and the habitat that they live in.

Start Date: Saturday, 20 November 2021

End Date: Sunday, 21 November 2021

Event Location: Mystery Creek Events Centre:
Gate 2, 125 Mystery Creek Road
Ohaupo, Hamilton

Contact : Email: info@sikashow.co.nz



Sika Show
NZ Hunting & Outdoor Expo
And 27th Annual Hunting Competition

Mystery Creek Events Centre
Hamilton
20th & 21st November 2021

Enter your trophy head into the Sika Show Hunting Competition 2021 and go in the draw to win this amazing pair of Swarovski EL 10x42 Rangefinding Binoculars valued at \$4990.00!!

 
SWAROVSKI
OPTIK

All categories eligible for entry into the random prize draw which will be drawn on Sunday 21st November 2021.
Each head entered will give 1 x entry into the draw.



Swamp Comp 2022

Now's the time when these pesky little killers are really foraging around for food and then it will be into the spring months when they really crank up to feed their young over the breeding season.

The Swamp Comp is an awesome way to reward

people for setting traps, nabbing these mustelids and helping to increase all bird populations – particularly those of our native species and ground nesting birds – ie ducks and pheasants etc.

All you have to do is cut off the tail, put it in the freezer in a zip lock bag and then hand them into Hunting and Fishing in November.

Tails that are eligible for the competition are: weasel, stoat and ferret tails.

Any other pests that you catch and remove from the ecosystem are a bonus....

A bit more info about these little buggars.....

Some very quick bullet points and stats on mustelids in general here in NZ:

- They can and often do breed throughout the year and females often have two litters per year
- Each litter averages about 6-8 kits per litter
- Female kits are impregnated at approx. 10 days old (normally by their own father) while still in the nest, blind and suckling their mother
- Once these females reach approx. 3 months of age the pregnancy start to progress
- Gestation period is often as short as 5-6 weeks for mature females
- Kits are weaned at approx. 5 weeks and they hunt as a family for the new month
- Kits are then full time killing machines on their own from 8-10 weeks of age
- Kits will breed within their first year (approx. 6 months of age) and have full sized litters
- Mustelids usually consume about 25% of their own body weight in food per day
 - Weasels (the smallest of the mustelids) - this equates to a minimum of 1 small birds per day or a small rat per day
 - Stoats (the most common of the mustelids) – this equates to a minimum of 2-3 small birds per day or at least 1 full grown rat
 - Ferrets (the largest of the NZ mustelids) – they can weigh up to 1kg so this is a lot of birds.....and they will happily kill chooks, ducks, kiwi and anything else that they can catch on the ground or up in trees. These guys are absolute killing machines.
 - Females of all 3 species when close to giving birth will kill well in excess of her own body weight per day



Bowhunters Corner



Next club day is Sunday 10th of October 2021

AND

May also be a round of the Interclub comp – Covid Levels dependant

Bow Hunters Club Days are always the 2nd Sunday of the Month:

Club days start between 8.30 – 9am

so if you are keen to have a go at archery / bowhunters, then contact one of TVDA committee members (shown in the front of the newsletter with an * beside their name) or contact

Shelley Moxsom on 027 3339309 or rsomoxsom@xtra.co.nz for more details

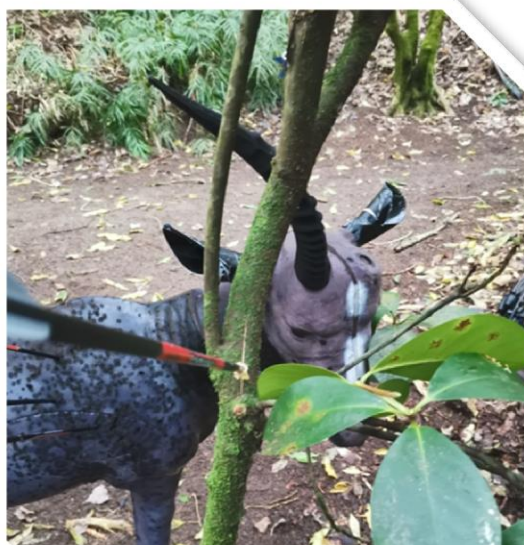
Hi all, the last 3 club days and we have had over 25 archers on the grounds each time, these are great turnouts for us and lots of juniors which is fantastic.

We tried out our setups for Interclub on the 10th of October, all going well, this will happen if Auckland is down to Level 2 by then, but if not we will carry on as a club day like normal. November club day will be Sunday the 14th and Sunday 28th November will be Interclub at Frankton Archers.

If you have ever thought 'what is this archery stuff', come along and have a go. We have hire equipment and great club members to make you welcome a bit of training and your off.

Finally a big shout out from me – Special Thanks to Garry for the work done cutting steps & weed whacking in prep for our Interclub and as always a big shout-out to the archery crew each club day for setting out and brining in the targets. Hard work but it really is highly appreciated by us all.

By Alton Whibley



Oooooops...not quite where I planned for the arrow to go!!!!

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If you have ever thought 'what is this archery stuff', come along and have a go. We have hire equipment and great club members to make you welcome a bit

of training and your off.



Ready to release....



Venison Ragout

Prep time: 20 mins

Cooking time – 5 hours

Serves 6 -8 people

- 750 – 1 kg diced venison
- 3 cans of tomatoes
- 3tblsp olive oil
- 2 medium - large brown onions
- 2 large carrots (diced)
- 4 cloves garlic
- 1 stick of diced celery
- 2 tblsp tomato paste
- 2-3 cups of beef stock
- 250mls red wine
- 300mls milk
- 3-4 bay leaves (optional)
- Fresh Rosemary, Parsley and Thyme
- 1 tsp chilli flakes (more or less dependent on your preference)
- Salt and Pepper to taste



Method:

Heat up your frying pan/camp oven on the stove/gas ring with the olive oil on a medium heat and fry your diced venison.

Remove the meat and put aside and then add the diced onions, carrots and celery to the pan/camp oven and fry this off as well. Once this has started to colour and get tender, add the chopped up herbs, tomato paste and chilli flakes.

Mix this in and then add 2 of the cans of tomatoes, beef stock, red wine and then add the fried venison to this as well.

Combine well and add to a casserole dish or put the lid on your camp oven if this is what you are using and put in the oven at 140°C for 5 hours. ***The meat just pulls apart.***

Remove from the oven, add the milk and the last can of tomatoes and stir through over a low heat and then serve.

Delicious served on top of rice; with pasta or perhaps with mashed potatoes; or served on its own with focaccia bread (fresh or toasted). ***Bon Appetite***

Protecting native taonga species with predator control in the Matemateaonga and Waitōtara area



The Department of Conservation's Whanganui Office plans to reduce possum, rat and stoat numbers over 52,000 ha of the Whanganui National Park and Waitōtara Conservation Area (see map).

Why we are controlling possums, rats and stoats

This extensively dissected lowland forest is a stronghold for the Western brown kiwi and the nationally endangered whio (blue duck). Possum browse causes severe dieback of kāmahī and northern rātā. Controlling possum numbers allows the forest to regenerate and thereby provides food for native birds, lizards, and invertebrates.

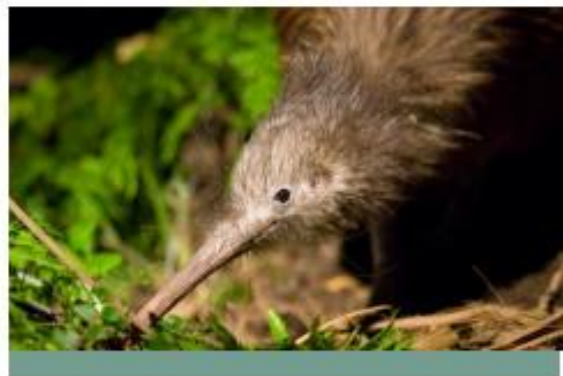
Egg and chick predation from nests by possums, rats and stoats severely affect these taonga species. Controlling these predators allows our native species to breed and reach adulthood.

Research shows that stoats are on average responsible for the deaths of 60% of kiwi chicks in unprotected areas. The annual decline of the kiwi population in the Park without control is likely to be between 3 – 5%.

Stoat control is proven to improve kiwi juvenile survival rates, vital for the long-term viability of kiwi.

How it is happening

This operation conducted by our contractor EcoFX will use cereal pellet baits containing biodegradable 1080. The baits will be aerially strip sown at 500g per hectare throughout the block (approximately 4-6 pellets per area the size of a tennis court). Pre-feed non-toxic cereal pellets will be applied to the area prior to the toxic application to prime the predators.



Timeframe

The operation is scheduled to begin sometime between August and November 2021. Exact timing of the operation is reliant on weather conditions.

Pre-feed non-toxic baits will be distributed over the entire block at least one week before the toxic application.

The Department of Conservation (DOC) will contact all neighbours and place warning signs immediately prior to the operation starting.

Why we are using this method

We have found using biodegradable 1080 is a highly effective form of possum and rat control over large landscapes and rugged areas. Stoats are also controlled as they eat poisoned animals.

To lower possum, rat and stoat numbers to a level that increases native bird productivity over a block this size using bait stations is unfeasible. A minimum 30,000 bait stations would be required, and an extensive track network would have to be developed to service them at least 4 times over an 8-week period.

Steep terrain makes it impossible to place bait stations in reach of all individual pests. Trapping the operational area would require different traps for each target species, further increasing labour required.

1080 is the only toxin currently available for aerial use for controlling possums, rats and stoats.

Aerial sowing of baits by helicopter uses modern GPS technology. This means that we can get an even coverage of bait to all possum, rat and stoat habitats which is critical to successful pest control operations. This technology also allows the pilot to be sure of the boundaries and to exclude sensitive areas from being sown with baits.

Operational planning

We consulted with iwi and people most affected by this operation prior to finalising the operation detail and area to be controlled. This involved considering their concerns and needs regarding the operational details and timing. The Department has considered all concerns identified and altered its operational area as required.

DOC will notify other people using this fact sheet.

The use of 1080 requires permission from the local Public Health Unit.

DOC assesses and approves all pesticide operations on public conservation land on behalf of and following procedures approved by the Environmental Protection (EPA). DOC approving managers apply conditions to ensure that all legal and policy requirements are met, and that any potential risks of the operation are managed.

After the operation, DOC will contact all affected parties to inform them the operation has been completed. It will also provide post operational predator control results, and whenever possible, provide updates on the benefits to native species in the area.

Important information

1080 is a manufactured biodegradable toxin. Its salt fluoroacetate occurs naturally in poisonous plants in Australia, Africa, and Brazil – and in very low concentrations in New Zealand's native pūhā.

Toxic cereal bait pellets contain 0.15% 1080. They are cylindrical about 2 cm in diameter and dyed green.

Non-toxic cereal bait pellets are cylindrical about 2 cm in diameter and sandy coloured (not dyed).

1080 is poisonous to humans and domestic animals. Dogs are highly susceptible. Poisoning can occur through eating baits or poisoned animals. The risk to dogs will remain until carcasses have rotted, which can be for more than six months.

These risks can be eliminated by following these rules:

- **DO NOT** touch or eat bait pellets
- **WATCH children** at all times
- **DO NOT EAT** animals from this area or from within the "buffer zone" outside the treatment area boundary. The buffer zone is 200m for rabbits, 1km for hares, tahr, wallabies and possums, and 2 km for deer, pigs and any other animals.
- Remember, poison baits or carcasses are **DEADLY to DOGS**

Further information will be available on the Pesticide Summaries: <https://www.doc.govt.nz/nature/pests-and-threats/pesticide-summaries/>

Observe these rules whenever you see warning signs about toxins. Warning signs indicate that toxin residues may still be present in baits or carcasses. When signs are removed, this means that you that you can resume normal activities in the area. Please report suspected vandalism or unauthorised removal of signs. If in doubt, check with DOC.

If you suspect poisoning

Always contact:

- **Your local doctor;** or
- **Local hospital;** or
- **National Poisons Centre:** 0800 764 766 (urgent calls) or 03 479 7248 or dial 111.

For more information

Please get in touch if you want to be notified again prior to the operation.

Department of Conservation

34-36 Taupo Quay, Whanganui.

Email: Whanganui@doc.govt.nz

Phone: +64 6 349 2100

Or

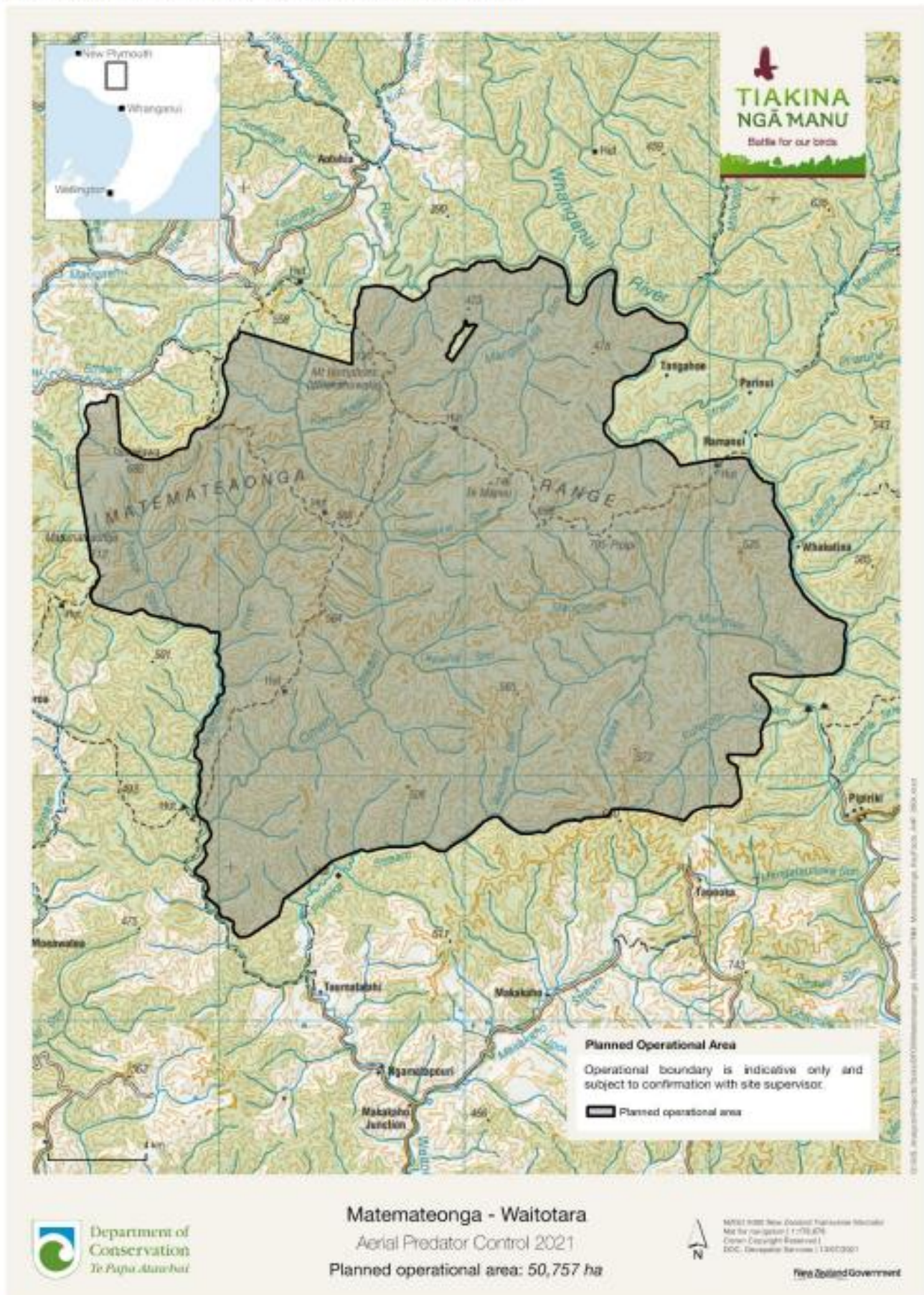
EcoFX Limited

Email: admin@ecofx.co.nz

Phone: 07 873 8130

www.doc.govt.nz/tiakina-nga-manu

Map of area where predator control will take place in the Whanganui National Park and Waitōtara Conservation Area (52,000 ha).





Taumarunui Gun Club



Welcomes everyone to our

100 Compak Sporting Shoot

Saturday 2nd October 2021

9.30am start - Closeoff 11.00am

(Taumarunui Gun Club, Ecolands, Manunui –
3 kms south of Taumarunui)



**Four rounds of
25 Compak Sporting Clay targets**



Great Targets, Food and Hospitality and a Fantastic day out for all shooters. This is an awesome chance to have a wintertime sporting shoot, introduce new people or mates to the sport so come along and have a blast – you are all most welcome.....

Place getter prizes and HEAPS of drawn prizes at the conclusion of the day's shooting. You need to be there to collect the drawn prizes

\$80.00 per shooter

Includes targets, ground fees and levies as well as tea, coffee and biscuits – excludes ammo and lunch however both of these can be purchased at the club on the day.

Cash only please – NO EFTPOS and NO CHEQUES

Enquiries – Bill Merhtens 027 8354030 or bill261153@gmail.com

*Dogs – if dogs are on the grounds, they **MUST** be tied up or on leads at all times – absolutely no exceptions*