



# *THE FLYFISHER NEWSLETTER*

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**May - 2018**

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## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **PRESIDENT'S END OF YEAR REPORT 2017**

Our club has now reached the “grand old age “ of 15 years and like many things in this increasingly busy world, the time seems to have “flown” by. The gentle art of fly fishing

remains one of the most enjoyable and therapeutic pastimes available to us in dealing with life's interminable pressures.

Club trips have, on the whole, been enjoyed by members but occasionally, organisers have struggled to get adequate numbers and it would seem that considerations of timing and/or cost have been influencing factors. Recognising these limitations, club member, Barrie Barnes and others, have identified a number of more local fishing destinations eg. The Waiuku lakes, which are within a relatively short drive of home and economically "feasible".

At the club's recent Lake Pupuke event, one of the principle factors influencing the small turnout and overall catch rate, was the strong westerly wind which restricted the number of suitable spots and made boating difficult and potentially, dangerous. It is my intention, together with the committee, to investigate the reasons preventing the use of electric motors on the lake and if possible, to convince the appropriate authority(ies), to remove that restriction.

I would like to thank all of our committee members for their excellent work undertaken over the past year and particularly Phil Gates who set up and maintains the club website. We are very fortunate to be able to call on Phil's considerable IT skills.

Each month, your committee seeks to find interesting speakers to make presentations at club nights but appropriate candidates are not always available at a suitable time. I would encourage club members to think about making presentations, possibly in a small group of 2 or 3, because no doubt, we all have stories to tell. Dennis Smith and Barry Schultz have already "taken the lead" so let's continue the momentum.

At the club AGM on 15th May, members attending will be asked to vote on four notices of motion to change some of the rules within the club's constitution and it is therefore highly desirable that as many as possible can be there. Nominations will also be called for committee membership so please give serious consideration to your availability.

Dave Symes - President.

## **FISHING REPORT**

### **Auckland / Waikato**

Well, what do you say when so many of the Auckland / Waikato area rivers that we would normally fish have been smashed by yet another huge flood. The Ohinemuri was up and over the main road in the Karangahake gorge, reducing it to one lane in places. All you can do is hope that some fish found a way to drift back into the huge slow pools and wait out the storm.

I have often found that about 4-5 days after a big flood event can provide some dynamic fishing in the Coromandel waterways as the Trout are feeding hard out on the massive amount of food that has been dislodged from under the rocks and is drifting down to them.

Although I like fishing the dry fly at this time of year I would probably now switch to tandem nymphs to take advantage of the situation.

### **Rotorua**

Lake Rotoiti has been fishing very well to the boat based anglers with jigging getting the best results. However, as of last week the lake edge fishing has been very hard. This is probably due to the warm Autumn we have been having. The first genuine cold snap we have in May will undoubtedly bring big numbers of fish back to the stream mouths and the liberation points around the various lakes.

For the rivers, well that is anybody's guess at the moment. The recent flooding will have literally torn the Ngongotaha apart, washed away all the Redds and their eggs, killed thousands of fry and washed huge numbers of fish back to the lake. That's not to mention the huge changes that will have taken place to the river itself. The good news is that things will have settled down by the time the Club Trip happens later this month so it will be a case of learning the whole river yet again.

### **Taupo Region**

I've found the fishing much better the last couple of days. But it's still very much a case of right place, right time. And it also helps if you're prepared to vary your tactics and approach, to mix things up a bit.

I fished with Grantly yesterday and we headed up the TRB above Red Hut with five rods between us all rigged slightly differently ... and it paid off.

The upper river always looks magnificent, especially on a crisp, clear late autumn morning. And because things haven't really kicked off yet, angling pressure is still minimal on the Tongariro. In fact the car park was empty when we set off and when we returned.

Nowadays the river seems to take longer to clear after rain. I don't really know why but I think it may have something to do with that orangey brown sludge that was brought down a few freshes ago. It's still visible along the margins and is extremely slippery underfoot. But as we made our way over the bridge the water clarity was better than when I last fished.

Even when the river's busy some of the less often used tracks become overgrown or blocked with fallen trees and it was just as well Grant had packed his Rambo machete because we had to hack a path through in a couple of places during the day.

Those of you that visit Creel will know how keen he is on Czech and tight line nyming and as I was landing a rainbow in our first port of call a glance further downriver revealed that Grant was obviously hooked up to something much better.

After a lengthy scrap on the 4wt "Rambo" landed a cracking, well marked brown which had a tail like a shovel. "First blood" of the day ... excuse the pun.

Like most anglers both of us have our favourite "little spots" and methods on different parts of the river and as we fished our way up we continued to catch a fish or two. Grant scored another slightly smaller brown followed by some good conditioned rainbows. And by the time we headed back in the afternoon it had turned out to be quite a good day for us.

In the sunny conditions small flashback nymphs accounted for over half the fish but Grant also did well with a "Simons Ugly" which a lot of people swear by as a bomb.

Having a selection of flies will improve your chances on the Tongariro, particularly when it's tough going. Remember you're not always fishing for gullible fresh run spawners and they soon learn what's on offer in the river. Just about all the rainbows we caught were what you'd call "residents" and had been in the river sometime.



There's no need to carry thousands of patterns either. A selection of tried and trusted favourites in different sizes will suffice ... it will pay off.

I almost forgot. Those of you that use the Blue Pool access track will have noticed this huge crack on the edge of the road about half way down towards the car park. It isn't a problem at present but it's been steadily

getting bigger for months and is worth keeping an eye on, particularly if we get really heavy rain.



In recent years the entire track from the entrance south of the Poutu Bridge to the Blue Pool car-park itself has been dogged with maintenance problems and this could turn out to be quite serious.

Tight lines guys – Mike 5/05/2018

[www.tongarirofishingguide.co.nz](http://www.tongarirofishingguide.co.nz)

**Fishy Tales** - If you do have a report, success story, or anecdote to share then just send it to [iconpromote@gmail.com](mailto:iconpromote@gmail.com) . Happy Fishing and Tight Lines – Freddy Da Fish.

*Leon with an absolute stunner of a snapper caught shore based fly fishing, 17pds of power. An epic fight anywhere but made even more so by taking place in shallow water. Photo courtesy of Leon Bathurst.*



## **QUOTABLE QUOTES**

*Never doubt the environmental knowledge of a consistently successful fisherman.  
Always doubt the motives of a consistently argumentative environmental bureaucrat.*

*Author: Jim Slinsky*

## **LAST CLUB NIGHT**

Last month we had Barry Schultz talking to us about fly fishing at Christmas Island. It was a very informative evening and thank you once again Barry.

## **NEXT CLUB NIGHT – MAY 15<sup>th</sup> 7.30PM**

This month we have our Club AGM. Following the AGM we will be having a mystery speaker...

It is sure to be an enjoyable night and we hope to see you all there.

## **THE RULES OF OUR CLUB**

North Shore Flyfishers is an Incorporated Society registered with the Companies Office, and bound by the requirements of the Incorporated Societies Act 1908. When the Club was established in 2004, the Rules under which the Club operates were based on those of the Auckland Freshwater Anglers' Club Inc, suitably adjusted for the new entity.

The Committee has been aware for some time that these Rules are not aligned in some respects with the way in which the Club operates, and that it is desirable to amend them. Following earlier discussion on the subject, the Committee in June 2016 delegated the task of reviewing the Rules to John Cuthbertson, Mark Norton and Dennis Smith. This sub-committee has completely rewritten the Rules using a template *Sample Set of Rules* which you can view on the Incorporated Societies section of the Companies Office website if you wish. It is a concise, "plain English" document which avoids the verbosity of the current Rules. The re-write was completed in late 2016. It addresses numerous anomalies that needed attention.

In February 2017, John Cuthbertson reported to the Committee that the Incorporated Societies Bill, intended as an eventual replacement for the 1908 Act, had been published. The Bill gives greater guidance on committee duties, the resolution of conflicts of interest and the resolution of disputes. (It also replaces the term “Rules” with the term “Constitution”.) In light of this development the Committee resolved not to take the next step of getting feedback from members until the Bill had been through the select committee process and had been enacted into law. We had hoped to put the changes in rules to the members at this year’s AGM; however with the change in government it is not clear when the Bill will finally become law. The Rule changes proposed by Barrie Barnes address several aspects that need attention and have the support of the Committee. We intend to finalise a new constitution based on the good work done as soon as the new legal requirements are clear.

In the interim there has been a change in government and it is not clear when the Bill will finally become law. The Rule changes proposed by Barrie Barnes address several aspects that need attention and have the support of the Committee.

### **WHY WE FISH**

*There don't have to be a thousand fish in a river; let me locate a good one and I'll get a thousand dreams out of him before I catch him--and if I catch him, I'll turn him loose.*

*Jim Deren*

### **CHOOSING THE RIGHT FLY ROD**

Our own resident webmaster Phil Gates, has put a couple of very helpful videos onto the Club Website, [www.nsff.org.nz](http://www.nsff.org.nz). They are both by Tim Rajeeff, a world champion fly caster. One is about ‘Choosing The Right Fly Rod’ and the other is about ‘Light Vs Heavy Weight Fly Rods’. These are excellent informative videos and both are under 3 minutes long, so they are short, and to the point. Check them out.

### **INFORMATION SHARING**

As well as having a guest speaker on Club Nights we would like to give an opportunity for some of our own Club Members to share knowledge on any fly fishing subjects.

## **Member Speakers**

Besides having a major Speaker on Club Nights we would like to have some of our own Club Members to speak on any fly fishing subject for 10 – 15 minutes or so.

Some subjects could be:

Local fishing spots.

National / Taupo fishing regulations.

Riparian rights, access.

Clothing and equipment ideas / tips.

Saltwater fishing, what rods / flies.

So, Members please get out there and do some research to enlighten us all.

## **FISHING BUDDIES SOUGHT**

The intention is to display a list of names of Club Members that are keen on finding a 'buddy' to go fishing with, either on a regular basis or just for a day. In essence it's a fly-fishing dating service...

<b>Name</b>	<b>Availability</b>	<b>Contact Details</b>
Ron Blair	Anytime, now has a brand new 14.4 Marco with 60hp etc Evenrude for serious fishing Salt or Fresh	home 09 834 8841 mobile 0275 006 336 <a href="mailto:ron.blair@xtra.co.nz">ron.blair@xtra.co.nz</a>
Les Rose	Retired and is happy to take another person fishing during the week. Has a small 2 person boat.	home 09 4183634
Graham Carter	Lives in Hamilton, keen on weekday / mid-week trips.	021 026 00437 07 855 1833
Lloyd Altham	Has 12' Pontoon boat /15 HP Honda. Available most time, but prefer weekdays.	Mob. 021 0295 9167 Home 09 420 3120 <a href="mailto:email-lloyd@skysupply.co.nz">email-lloyd@skysupply.co.nz</a>
Matt Meikle	Available both week days and Weekends	09 908 1909 027 285 7521
John Gausden	Time limited - weekends / arrange trips only. 5m aussie barra boat / 70 yamaha / minn kota - serious fishing manly lake / saltwater but keen to learn more on the rivers	021704373 <a href="mailto:john@st-classic.com">john@st-classic.com</a>
John Rust	Anytime. Keen to give it a crack.	021 648 991 <a href="mailto:joan10@live.com">joan10@live.com</a> 09 415 4919



So, if you are keen to find someone to share the cost and the fun of a fishing expedition with, then send in your details and we will get it all started. Send details to [iconp@ihug.co.nz](mailto:iconp@ihug.co.nz)

### **WEBSITE ARTICLES REQUEST**

As many of you will know, Barrie Barnes has started up his own online fly fishing store and he is keen for articles and pictures to put into his Blog section. What he is looking for is simple short little articles and a picture, ie: ‘Bob and I headed down to Turangi last weekend and ...’. So if you have something you would like to share please contact Barrie on [barrie@flyfishinginxs.kiwi](mailto:barrie@flyfishinginxs.kiwi)

### **“BROWN TROUT TROPHY”**

**The winner of this competition for 2017 – 2018 is Fikrit Chinassi with a 12pd Brownie. Congratulations Fikrit!**

Winning fish will be determined by weight.

Verification by partner where possible and/or by photograph.

Details to be provided to any committee member.

Competition period May 1st to April 30th. Prize awarded at AGM in May. Winner’s name and weight of fish to be published in June club newsletter.

### **NORTH SHORE FLY FISHERS CLUB SALT WATER FLY FISHING COMPETITION RULES**

**The winner of this competition for 2017 – 2018 is Warren Derrick. Congratulations Warren!**

**If you want to learn some tips about shore based salt water fly fishing then ask Warren at the next Club Night, he catches more than his share.**

The “essence” of the competition is to encourage club member participation and in the process, to award a winner’s trophy to the individual who catches the greatest number of salt water species. It will run from 1st May in one year to 31st April in the next year with the trophy awarded at the following AGM.

For the full rules please refer to the Club Website [www.nsff.org.nz](http://www.nsff.org.nz)

## CHANGES TO CONTACT DETAILS

Committee members organising club trips and similar events are finding that the phone and email information that we hold for some members has become out of date. If you have changed your address, landline number, mobile number or email address in the last year or so and have not passed the new details on to NSFF, could you please advise John Cuthbertson by email, his new email address is [john.cuthbe@gmail.com](mailto:john.cuthbe@gmail.com) .



*Another of  
Simon's back  
country crackers.  
He really did  
have fun, even if  
the weather  
didn't play ball.  
Photo courtesy  
of Simon Hoole.*

## **CLUB TRIPS 2018**

January – Mohaka River  
February – Ngongotaha River and Rotorua Lakes  
March – Whanganui River – Rodd and Gunn Trophy  
March – Lake Otamangakau  
May – Ngongotaha River and Rotorua Lakes  
August – Tongariro and Tauranga Taupo  
October – Kai Iwi Lakes – Rodd and Gunn Trophy  
November – Tuition weekend  
December – Lake Otamangakau

The NSF committee arrange various Club Trips over the year to different parts of the country. If you would like to be involved, or have an idea for a trip please let one of your committee know.

## **SALTWATER EXCURSIONS**

The possibility of Club Trips to the Meola Reef and to the Mangawhai Estuary has been raised earlier. With summer approaching, we would like to establish an Email Contact Group for those members interested in shore-based saltwater fishing to these or similar destinations. This sort of venture is tide and weather dependent and can only be organised at short notice. If you would like to be included in this group, please tell Dave Symes ([dssymes@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dssymes@xtra.co.nz)).

## **NGONGOTAHA / ROTORUA CLUB TRIP - MAY**

This year's May Trip to fish the Ngongotaha River and the Rotorua region is on the weekend of Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>, Friday 25<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup> of May. We will again be staying at the Paradise Valley Lodge. Costs will be \$105.00 each, which will cover 2 nights' accommodation in the lodge and a BBQ on Saturday evening. If you want to come down on the Thursday, as many of us do, then simply add \$45 to make it \$150.00.

The Club has had a policy of if you book a Trip then you need to pay up front and if you have to pull out late then you may or may not be refunded, but it has seldom been implemented on this Trip in the past. However from now on it will have to be. If the Club is not losing money on the Trip then a refund is not a problem, equally so if you / we can get someone to take your spot. But if the Club is going to lose money by your pulling out of the Trip then you may well get no refund.



If you are keen just let me know which nights you can make asap and then pay your money to the Club in any of the normal ways.

- internet banking to the Club's bank account: North Shore Flyfishers Incorporated ASB A/c #: 12-3209-0190179-00 (please include your name and the word Ngonga as a reference);
- by cheque made out to North Shore Flyfishers Inc and posted to the Club's mailing address (PO Box 31387 Milford, Auckland 0741); or

Duncan – 021 648 956 – [iconpromote@gmail.com](mailto:iconpromote@gmail.com)



*What lies in wait for you if you come on the Ngonga Trip. Dave Frew with a fine Rainbow Hen of 4pds.*

## CLUB TRIP TO TURANGI

This year's Turangi Club Trip is again being organized by Maurice Parlane and will take place on Friday 10<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> and return on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August. The Club has booked out five rooms at the Sportsman's Lodge, ([www.sportsmanslodge.co.nz](http://www.sportsmanslodge.co.nz)), each room holds two people, for the weekend and costs will be \$105 per person. This will include 2 nights accommodation on a twin share basis at the lodge and a slap up BBQ dinner on the Saturday night.

Also, there are two double-bed rooms available at \$90 per night if you prefer a bit more privacy.

If you are interested in going on this please contact Maurice ASAP as this is always a popular Trip. Maurice's contact details are as follows: mobile 021 650 692, or e-mail to: [maurice.p@newwayz.co.nz](mailto:maurice.p@newwayz.co.nz)

*Sportsmans Lodge new owners, Juliet & Matt Alexander, would love to meet you sometime soon.*

*"We will do our best to make your stay as enjoyable as possible and if you need a pointer in the right direction or something booked so you're ready to go when you get here please get in touch. We are here to help".*

*"Although we are still fairly new to the Sportsmans Lodge, we are not entirely new to the area as for many years we have been coming to the lake district for a bit of R&R at our Bach at Motuoapa, sailing, tramping/hiking and of course for the fishing."*

*"We look forward to meeting the members of the North Shore Fly Fishers Club in the near future."*





## **KNOT OF THE MONTH**

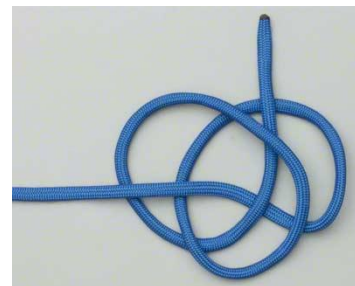
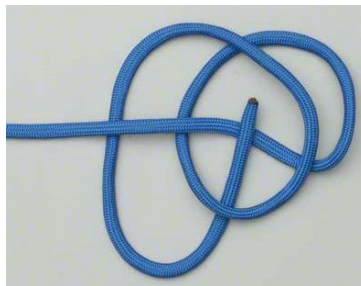
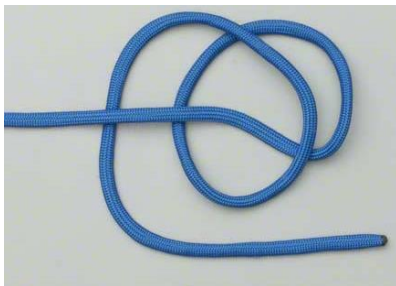
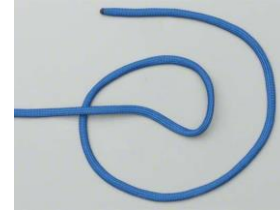
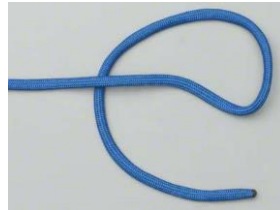
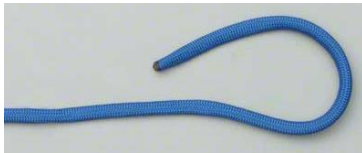
### **Perfection (Angler's) Loop Details**

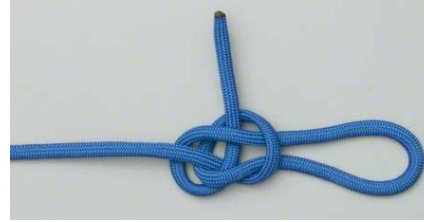
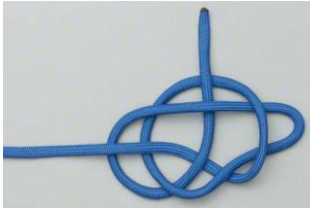
**Uses:** The Perfection Loop was described by Ashley as the Angler's Loop ([ABOK](#) # 1017, p 188.) It is the easiest way to make a small loop in the end of a leader or tippet that will lie perfectly in line with the standing end. It is commonly used to join a Perfection Loop in the end of a fly line to a Perfection loop in a Leader using a "Loop to Loop" connection.

**Tying it:** This knot is most easily tied in the hand. Hold the first loop between finger and thumb. Wrap the second turn round the finger and thumb and then between the two loops. Tuck the second turn through the first, checking that the loop crosses and traps the end.

**Alternative:** It can also be tied through a fly or lure by passing the free end along the path shown in Frame 7 of the animation.

**Advantages:** The Perfection loop creates a stable loop that lines up neatly with the standing end. Using a "Loop to Loop" connection the Perfection Knot allows for quick and convenient leader changes.





### **JOKE OF THE MONTH**

Those of us who spend much time in a doctor's office should appreciate this! Doesn't it seem more and more that physicians are running their practices like an assembly line? Here's what happened to Kevin:

Kevin walked into a doctor's office and the receptionist asked him what he had. Kevin said: 'Shingles.

So she wrote down his name, address, medical insurance number and told him to have a seat.

Fifteen minutes later a nurse's aide came out and asked Kevin what he had....Kevin said, 'Shingles.

' So she wrote down his height, weight, a complete medical history and told Kevin to wait in the examining room..

A half hour later a nurse came in and asked Kevin what he had. Kevin said, 'Shingles..

' So the nurse gave Kevin a blood test, a blood pressure test, an electrocardiogram, and told Kevin to take off all his clothes and wait for the doctor.

An hour later the doctor came in and found Kevin sitting patiently in the nude and asked Kevin what was his problem.

Kevin said, 'Shingles.'

The doctor asked, 'Where?'

Kevin said, 'Outside on the truck. Where do you want me to unload'em??'

## AUCKLAND/WAIKATO REEL LIFE APRIL 2018

### **Tench Explosion In Hamilton Lake**

University of Waikato staff recently electro-fished Hamilton Lake (Rotoroa) and found an “infestation of tench.”

*Right: Associate Professor Nicholas Ling holding a Hamilton Lake tench.*

Although the Hamilton Lake Domain shoreline was nearly devoid of tench, the Inness Common area was loaded with hundreds of them.

The vast difference in fish numbers between the two shorelines is likely to have been caused by a lack of habitat for fish on the Domain shoreline.

If you're into tench fishing, now's the time to get out there before the water gets cold.



*Hamilton Lake (Lake Rotoroa) - Inness Common is at the bottom left of the photo.*

## Brook Trout For Lake Pupuke!

Fish & Game staff managed to obtain some brook trout for Lake Pupuke.

Brook trout were released into the lake on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Previous brook trout releases in Lake Pupuke were popular with anglers as the fish were relatively easy to catch and didn't venture far from the shoreline.

If you're fishing the lake over the next couple of months, please report any brook trout caught to the Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game office (07) 849-1666.

*Brook char with its distinctive markings.*

Continued brook trout releases will depend on the success of the release, gauged on angler reports.



## Keep An Eye Out...

Staff have had multiple reports this year about the use of felt-soled waders or wader boots that can retain water.

There have been several aquatic invaders including new weeds and microscopic organisms detected in New Zealand during the last couple of years.

Most turn out to be benign but the next didymo is out there waiting to get in – so please be vigilant and remind anyone who might compromise our waterways of the rules.

If you spot anyone using felt waders, please note their rego and report it to Fish & Game (07) 849-1666.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

*I distrust experts in general and fishing experts in particular.*

*W.D. Wetherell*



## **EASTERN REEL LIFE APRIL 2018**



### **Go Chase 'Em - Trout Are In 'Top Shape'**

As mentioned last month, pre-spawning trout are in prime condition at this time of year.

Lake Tarawera fish have really come on over the last few weeks and both the catch rate and condition factor has been excellent since Easter weekend.

Anglers have also commented on the fine flesh quality of the fish currently, not just the Rotorua lakes but Waikaremoana too.

Rotoiti on the other hand continues to produce bigger fish but the fishing has been hard for whatever reason – sometimes there can be so much food available your offerings hardly get a look-in!

We did receive a nice pic of an 11lb Rotoiti fish taken jigging a couple of weeks back – we'll feature in a coming newsletter.

The deeper lakes have all but lost their thermoclines with consistent and comfortable trout temperatures now from surface to 25 metres-plus.

Fish can be caught successfully on the surface with smelting gear and at depth either jigging or using a downrigger.



Also try shallow trolling smelt flies or spinning or fly fishing from a drifting boat at this time of year.

## **Spawning Runs Begin**

Spawning fish too are on the move motivated by recent rain and anglers are catching fish at stream mouths and release points throughout the region.

You can find our hatchery liberation schedule and release locations at <https://fishandgame.org.nz/eastern/freshwater-fishing-in-new-zealand/fishing-resources/>

The best times are always morning and evening and wet weather is much better than a calm sunny day!

Expect the fish and fishing to continue to be good through May, keeping an eye on the forecast for favorable conditions – and remember ‘favorable’ conditions for catching trout aren’t always nice weather.

## **News Snippets**

- We’ve begun autumn fish releases of yearling (17cm) rainbows. So far a total of 11,500 have been released into Okataina, Tarawera and Rotoiti – mostly the latter.
- The duck season opens on the weekend of May 5 and 6. Anglers should expect hunters to be present on some waterways. The hunting season goes for several weeks but Opening Weekend is the busiest time by far.
- Lakes Okataina, Tarawera and Rotoiti close to all boat fishing from June 30 – it’s time to fit in a trip!
- A health warning has been lifted for lakes Ohakuri and Maraeai for blue-green algae.
- We’d love to receive photos of your Eastern region catch – please email them to [msherburn@fishandgame.org.nz](mailto:msherburn@fishandgame.org.nz)

## **Fishing Tip For May**

Orange and red are the colours of the month!

Debates about fly and lure selection have raged as long as fishing itself – and they’ll likely continue forever more!

One thing's for sure, and that's that spawning fish are responsive to colour, especially orange and red tones.

*Orange rabbit fools a rainbow.*

It's unclear why this is but theory has it that it's related to the colour of ova (roe) which is usually bright orange and a favorite food of spawning trout.



Another thought is that red triggers an aggressive reaction in male trout which themselves redden up during spawning to attract a mate and fight off other suitors.

Either way, adding a little orange or red to your flies or using a traditional pattern like a red setter pays dividends at this time of year!

### **Angling Rules To Change Next Season**

The Eastern Fish and Game Council at their April meeting made several changes to the angling rules that will come into force next season starting 1 October 2018.

1. The Ohau Channel downstream of Ramada Resort will be open to fly and spin methods. The upper 200m of the Ohau Channel (at the outflow of Lake Rotorua) will remain fly fishing only.
2. In an alteration to boat fishing rules, no licence holder may fish from an unanchored boat within 200m of a 'landmark' pole (black/yellow and white pole).
3. At Lake Tarawera, the Rangiuru Bay to Stoney Point 'no trolling' area has been removed, however the 'landmark' at Kariri point will be retained to protect shoreline anglers fishing the Rangiuru Bay shelf.
4. Also at Tarawera, the maximum size for wild trout (currently 620mm) has been removed.
5. And, also at Tarawera, the downstream limit of the Tarawera spawning sanctuary (top 150m of the Tarawera River) will be defined by the Tarawera walking track bridge.
6. Closed waters protection has been placed upon any waters in which sports fish are held in captivity for display, breeding, hatching, monitoring or other purposes.

There are still two further possible changes to be discussed at the June Council meeting.

These are:

Remove fly fishing only designation from some of the Rotorua lakes shoreline areas. Council is to rule on which areas allow spin angling from 1 October.

1. Whether a prohibition on multi point hooks (doubles / trebles) is brought into force within Eastern Region.

## **ONE MORE FISH A DAY - TEN THINGS THAT WILL EACH CATCH YOU AN EXTRA FISH**

### **10) CHANGE WHAT YOU ARE DOING**

This is the simplest and easiest of all the tips. If what you are doing isn't working then change it. The fly, the weight of the fly, the size of the fly, the type of water you are fishing, your fishing method etc. You would be shocked by how many people will persevere with the same flies all day even though they haven't caught a thing.

There you have it, ten tips that can each add one more fish a day to your creel. Before you know it you have ten fish in the net and are feeling a lot better about your day out.



*One of the great things about Rotorua is that even if the weather is atrocious, the wind is howling and all the rivers are flooded there is still somewhere out of the wind that you can go and still catch fish. In this case the shoreline at Lake Okataina. Photo courtesy of Barrie Barnes.*

## **HEFTY FINE FOR ‘WOEFULLY INADEQUATE’ EFFLUENT MANAGEMENT**

Press Release: Waikato Regional Council, 19/04/2018

A Te Kowhai dairy farmer has been convicted and fined \$35,625 in the Hamilton District Court for allowing large volumes of dairy effluent to overflow into the environment.

The contamination was identified during a routine inspection by Waikato Regional Council in March 2017 as part of its compliance monitoring programme.

The prosecution against Edward Smith, brought by the council, related to an overflowing effluent holding pond and a blocked effluent drainage pipe, each resulting in overland flows of dairy effluent.

In sentencing Mr. Smith, Judge Melanie Harland commented on the inadequacies of the effluent infrastructure on his farm, saying it was “barely adequate” and concluding that the management of the system was “woefully inadequate”.

The council’s investigations manager, Patrick Lynch, agreed with the judge that “investment in the effluent infrastructure, and the management of it, needs to be afforded a very high priority”.

“The judge’s comments reinforce the message that both the council and the industry itself have been promoting for years,” Lynch said. “It is very disappointing to find that some farms continue to operate with inadequate storage.

“This fine is yet another clear message from the court that people who do not take their environmental responsibilities seriously will be heavily penalised.”

## **CAMBRIDGE EARTHWORKS COMPANY FINED \$19,000**

Press Release: Waikato Regional Council, 18/04/2018

Waikato Regional Council is urging earthworks contracting companies to be vigilant with their environmental obligations after a Cambridge company was convicted and fined \$19,125 for sediment discharges into a Tamahere stream near Hamilton.

The prosecution of Cambridge Excavators Limited was brought by the council under the Resource Management Act. It involved two separate incidents that occurred in November 2016 when a large sediment retention pond used during development of the Tamahere Recreation Reserve was being decommissioned.

Sediment retention ponds are used to prevent environmental harm from soil and sediment run off to waterways.

“This was a situation where a contracting company had actually done a very good job through the course of the project to protect the environment and then, through a lack of vigilance, undid all of their good work,” said council investigations manager Patrick Lynch.

The first incident was brought to the council’s attention by a local resident who noticed sediment in the stream running through their property and tracked it back to the empty pond on the project site.

The council investigation found that the entire contents of the sediment retention pond had been pumped out into the storm water system over a three day period. The sediment laden water subsequently entered a tributary of the Mangaone Stream. Following the council’s attendance, a discharge of a smaller scale occurred.

A second company, which project managed the development and subcontracted Cambridge Excavators, also pleaded guilty to the environmental breaches but successfully sought a discharge without conviction from the court.

In addition, both companies will contribute a total of \$25,000 to community groups for restoration and conservation works at the Tamahere reserve and for Mangaone Stream.

### **POACHER PAYS ‘HIGH PRICE’ FOR TROUT FROM HATCHERY**

Media Release – Fish & Game NZ – 18/04/2018

Trout poached from Fish & Game’s Ngongotaha hatchery were “anything but a free feed” for a Rotorua teenager who has paid dearly for his catch.

Nineteen year-old Duncan Scowen pleaded guilty in the Rotorua District Court to charges of fishing in hatchery ponds without a licence and being on the grounds unlawfully.

He was fined a total of \$700, as well as prosecution and court costs.

Fish & Game says that action has also been taken against three other people.

The court heard that Scowen and his associates had entered the hatchery grounds after hours on four separate occasions in January this year, and “helped themselves” to fishing in the ponds, including one set aside for children’s ‘fish out’ days.

Fish & Game Regional Manager Andy Garrick says the offending was foolish in the extreme as the site is well protected by surveillance cameras which captured exactly what was happening.



“The group obviously believed they could get away with such blatantly cheeky poaching.”

As a result of the incidents, security on site has been increased even further to protect hatchery operations from this sort of invasion, Mr. Garrick says.

Meanwhile, an arrest warrant has been issued in the Wairoa District Court for a 49 year-old Auckland man facing charges of illegal gill netting at Hopuruahine at Lake Waikaremoana.

He also faced counts of taking rainbow and brown trout without a licence.

Fish & Game staff say the alleged poaching happened just after Christmas in an isolated part of Lake Waikaremona in Te Urewera.



*Above - brown trout in a gill net found at Lake Waikaremoana.*

The case was initially handed by Police who handed it on to Fish & Game who investigated and issued a summons.

Mr. Garrick says that while incidents of this nature are relatively uncommon, Fish & Game regards the use of gill nets to poach trout as serious offending.

“Nets are completely indiscriminate and can result in considerable damage not just to the trout fishery, but to other fish and bird species which may become tangled in a net.”

Mr. Garrick says that “nets also pose a hazard to other water users – a boat propeller for example tangled in a net can have serious consequences”.

### **GOVT GIVES \$1.5 MILLION TO IMPROVE THE MAURI OF LAKE TUTIRA**

Gisborne Herald – 17/04/2018

A \$1.5 million Government grant has kick-started a four-year project that will accelerate existing efforts to improve the mauri of Lake Tutira.

Project Te Waiu o Tutira (the milk of Tutira) aims to improve water quality and ecological habitat in Lakes Waikopiro and Tutira, forming part of a nationwide effort to clean up New Zealand's rivers and lakes.

The project has been formed out of a partnership between Maungaharuru-Tangitu Trust, Hawke's Bay Regional Council, Ministry for the Environment and Tutira local residents. The total cost of the project is expected to be \$3.5m over five years.

Outcomes include a community-driven Integrated Catchment Management Plan for Tutira, cultural monitoring programme, ongoing riparian planting, sediment traps, and Farm Environmental Management Plans, subsidy schemes and land management support for local landowners.

The Government grant came from the Ministry for the Environment's Freshwater Improvement Fund and with this additional support, it is full steam ahead for the Te Waiu o Tutira project.

The Freshwater Improvement Fund has committed \$100m over the next 10 years to improve the management of New Zealand's lakes, rivers, streams, groundwater and wetlands nationwide.

Hawke's Bay Regional Council chairman Rex Graham says confirmation of Government funding for the project was great news.

"Lake Tutira needs our help and this funding allows us to take practical steps to improve the mauri of the lake," said Mr. Graham.

Maungaharuru-Tangitu Trust general manager Shayne Walker said for too long the mauri (life force) of the taonga (treasure) had been ignored.

"This commitment from all is a sign that it is finally accepted the environment sustains us, not the other way around," Mr. Walker said.

## **QUOTABLE QUOTES**

*Fishing adds years to your life, and life to your years.*  
*Homer Circle*



*One of the tricks to successfully fishing small rivers is fishing as a team. Here John C. has snagged the bottom but rather than walk up to get his flies back, and scare all the fish in the pool, he has walked back down and over to one side of the stream. That way his line is at such an angle that it is out of the way and John D. is able to have a go at undisturbed fish. Meanwhile yours truly is up on the bank spotting whilst hiding behind a tree so as to not spook the pool.*

## **FISH & GAME DISMISSES 'NONSENSE' CLAIMS ABOUT IRRIGATION SCHEMES**

Media Release – Fish And Game NZ – 17/04/2018

Fish & Game has dismissed as “nonsense” Irrigation New Zealand’s claims that irrigation is good for the environment.

The claims have been made by Irrigation New Zealand head Andrew Curtis, who is critical of the recent Government decision to stop funding large scale irrigation schemes.

Mr. Curtis claims the move to stop funding big schemes will hurt the environment, not help it.

Fish & Game chief executive Martin Taylor says Mr. Curtis’s claims are ridiculous.

“This is just nonsense. The reality is that big irrigation schemes have contributed significantly to the water quality crisis the country is now facing,” Mr. Taylor says. “Irrigation has allowed intensive dairy farming to establish itself in unsuitable areas like Canterbury, where cow numbers have grown astronomically.”

Martin Taylor says this massive increase in intensive farming has had a huge negative impact on the environment. “Canterbury’s Selwyn District is increasingly polluted to the extent that the region’s health officials warn against giving babies water from some local supplies because aquifers are contaminated by nitrates.

“The scale of the problem is shown by the fact that Canterbury is now using two thirds of all New Zealand’s irrigation take. This means that over a year, a single big corporate farm can use the same amount of water as a town. For the irrigation lobby to claim that such excessive extraction of water from our rivers, lakes and aquifers is good for the environment ignores reality.”

Martin Taylor says the facts are there for all to see and questions the irrigation lobby’s new-found concern for the environment.

“Fish & Game has been fighting to protect water quality for decades. When we raised concerns about the impact of industrial dairying on our waterways in 2001, we were labelled eco-terrorists by farming organisations,” he says.

“Now the irrigation lobby claim they’re helping the environment by re-charging aquifers or some other such mitigation.

"They are obliged to portray themselves as trying to fix things because they broke it in the first place.”

## **FISH AND GAME FACES PROBLEM OF 'AGEING' MEMBERSHIP**

Matthew Littlewood – Timaru Herald – 22/04/18

One of the country's biggest recreational organisations is facing the prospect of declining revenue due to an ageing membership and lack of interest from younger people, and requires "active intervention", a major report says.

Fish and Game New Zealand, which represents all of the country's hunters and anglers, has received a report from analysts Doughty Consulting which raises concerns including reduced leisure time, and the changing values of the younger generation.

"There is currently a trend of reducing revenue from local licence sales and declining participation as a percentage of population in both fishing and hunting," the report says.

"This trend, unless corrected, will ultimately impact on Fish and Game NZ. No organisation can sustain reducing revenue with static or increasing costs."

The report also outlines the need for the group to take a more business-orientated approach.

"Critical to any organisation is knowing your customers ... a licence may be the actual item purchased, however, the product Fish and Game is selling is the experience, tradition and heritage of angling and bird hunting in New Zealand."

The report says the ageing of licence-holders is a significant threat.

"Low participation in the younger age group and a predominantly older group falling off as each year goes on points to a looming problem that cannot be ignored."

Fishing licence sales had not moved significantly in the last 20 years, averaging 74,000 licence equivalents per year with a peak of 80,000 in the 2014-15 financial year.

"As a percentage of the population, Fish and Game's participation is in decline," the report says. "It is likely this trend will continue unless active intervention occurs."

The report suggests a rebranding of the organisation, particularly its reputation for being elitist.

"There is a proliferation of imagery across all media in New Zealand of big fish, remote destinations and people with expensive fly-fishing gear dominating fresh water fishing. This tells a story of inaccessible fishing requiring elite skills, which is not the true picture and one that needs breaking down. Minimal skill should be the new mantra."

The report proposes rolling out a smartphone app or digital licence that could provide GPS-driven access of key fishing spots, how to fish, and regulatory information in order to make success and compliance easier.

It also suggests capitalising on its reputation of being champions of the environment by creating a "Friends of Fish and Game"-type organisation which would target people supportive of the organisation but not necessarily licence-holders.

However, there was also a call to focus on "recruitment, retention and reactivation" of current and past licence-holders.

"Changing any culture begins with the language ... campaigns are effective and can run alongside enduring messages that underpin the whole organisation."



Fish and Game New Zealand chief executive Martin Taylor said the findings did not surprise him. "I would like to see a focus on recruitment. We know that if we get young people fishing at a young age then they'll come back to it in later life," Taylor said. "We also need to understand why some licence-holders are leaving. We have got to protect the experience."

Taylor said Fish and Game NZ was not at crisis point, but there would be challenges in increasing membership. "We've got to make sure the experience we are selling is as enjoyable and as clean as possible," he said.

Taylor said there was a need to understand why there was "churn" in licence holders. It was assumed that many hunters and anglers were not getting the same experience from the high country due to environmental degradation.

The report would be sent to all Fish and Game councils in the country, and a strategy would be developed from there, he said



*Winter is all but here and with it are winter conditions. Cold frosty mornings and Trout running up the rivers to spawn, turning small streams and little pockets of water into major holding pools. There were 5 fish holding just behind the first rock.*

## **IN CONSIDERING A REBRAND, FISH AND GAME MUST ENSURE ITS STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL VOICE REMAINS**

Editorial – Timaru Herald – 24/04/2018

OPINION: The voice of Fish and Game New Zealand's chief executive, Martin Taylor, is speaking loudly into the debate about the country's environmental concerns at the moment. In the last week, Taylor spoke out first about the claims by Irrigation New Zealand boss Andrew Curtis that irrigation is good for the environment, after Curtis said the Government's move to stop funding big irrigation schemes, like the proposed Hunter Downs scheme on the Waitaki River, would hurt rather than help the environment.

Taylor was unequivocal in labelling the claims "nonsense", countering that irrigation had allowed "intensive dairy farming to establish itself in unsuitable areas like Canterbury, where cow numbers have grown astronomically", resulting in a major negative impact on the environment.

A day later the public was told that in its submission to the Walking Access Commission's report on South Island high country access, Fish and Game had said something needed to be done about uncontrolled high country tourism, which was affecting the right of all New Zealanders to enjoy the outdoors.

"We believe something needs to be done to reduce visitor numbers until the required infrastructure to cope with them is built," Taylor said.

In short, Fish and Game, through its chief executive and others, is a powerful voice in environmental advocacy in New Zealand.

And that throws a major new report into the statutory organisation, by analysts Doughty Consulting, which identifies "a trend of reducing revenue from local licence sales and declining participation as a percentage of population in both fishing and hunting", into sharp perspective.

If, as the report suggests it could, this trend ends up negatively affecting the sustainability of the organisation, it is thus likely not only to reduce Kiwis' future enjoyment of traditional experiences of the outdoors, but also, more importantly, to weaken a powerful voice for the environment, specifically on the state of our waterways and the sustainability of attractions like New Zealand's world-renowned trout fishing.

Taylor, who said the findings did not surprise him, is plainly concerned, though he said in a story published on Sunday the organisation was not at crisis point.

He certainly seems to be taking the findings seriously, as evidence his determination to drill down and "understand why some licence-holders are leaving".

And this: "We've got to make sure the experience we are selling is as enjoyable and as clean as possible." That tallies directly with the concerns voiced by the organisation in the last week, outlined above.

As the report is sent out to each of the country's Fish and Game councils, allowing them to have input into the development of a strategy, members will be mindful of its call for the organisation to take a more business-orientated approach.

In terms of ensuring its financial sustainability, which is key, that makes perfect sense. Making sure it knows who its customers are, pulling apart and reassembling the experiences it provides them in a way that addresses highlighted concerns, such as "low participation in the younger age group" and claims that it comes across as elitist or exclusive – none of this is rocket science.

The challenge for Fish and Game NZ will be to do this while all the while keeping a close eye on its environmental advocacy, ensuring the strong voice speaking into the environmental debate is not weakened. Fortunately, Taylor's comments in Sunday's story suggest he's well aware of that.

- The Timaru Herald

## **CREASY'S COLUMN - BY HUGH CREASY**



Now is the time for contemplation. Those flies and lures that took fish in summer-warmed waters are going to be put away – replaced by heavy nymphs and lures that will pull fish from the bottom. The urge to spawn has shortened fishy temperaments, and ill-tempered trout, journeying upstream, will snap at anything that crosses their path, or presents a threat. Jack fish will be highly territorial, and as their colour takes on a gaudy hue, their jaws change shape, their bellies darken and they are ready for battle. On the redds it will be survival of the fittest. Diligent hens search out the finest gravels and spend time housekeeping to clean away all detritus to make a fitting nest for their offspring. While they are doing it the males circle, seeking dominance for the right to spread their sperm as the eggs are laid.

It's all jolly exhausting and the losers gather at the bottom of riffles and runs, waiting for the dominant jacks to tire, giving the losers an opportunity to become winners when the next lot of hens arrive. On the sidelines, and well downstream, the angler studies a flybox full of lead-wrapped hare and coppers and bright orange egg imitations. The flies of

summer – those emergers and dries of tiny size and delicate hue, have been relegated to another pocket. They're not entirely rejected. There might be a hatch that maiden fish will react to, or fish that are not yet entirely slaves to their hormones.

So the canny angler searches the pools and runs for signs of insect movement – on boulders in fast water a collection of shed skins shows a recent hatch of stoneflies. When the morning breeze settles in they will be blown away. There are midge bodies in a backwater, and a glint of bloodworms in still water. A choice must be made. A midge if the fish are moving, or a stonefly if the fish are holding deep.

The heavily-weighted stonefly has the advantage of dredging the bottom and annoying the hell out of a fish intent on its spawning run, and yet it might take a maiden fish that has been feeding on these large insects. There are no visible fish, so the midge imitation is rejected. The stonefly wins.



Casting heavy nymphs is a challenge in itself. Keep the casting arm high, let the back cast run out to its full length, and if you can, use a double-haul to give power to the cast and keep the nymph high. A heavy, lead-wrapped nymph is a dangerous thing when it is shooting back and forth at head height.

In fast-water rapids there are always pockets of calm behind boulders or in deep guts. A long leader and the rod held high will drift a nymph through these fishy areas. The strike must be instant because the fish are as fast as the current they live in. A fly can be ejected in milliseconds. It is tiring work. Hundreds of casts may be made before a fish takes the fly. But spirits will be lifted by the number of fish you put down. Their sudden appearance is always a surprise. In water you think you have covered with multiple casts, there appears a fish rapidly swimming away from you. It may be lined, or the splash of the nymph has frightened it.

A long leader will enable you to place the fly well ahead of where you think the fish might be, and the fly will tumble down to the fish's lie, and it will be taken in a gulp and the battle begun. That's the theory. Practice will perfect it. Use a heavy tippet. This is not delicate work. A fast strike can break a light line, especially if it is in the jaw of a big fish, and if the fish takes off downstream in fast water you will need as much line strength as you can get.

The most sensitive areas of spawning waters will soon be closed to anglers, and autumn rains will discolour many waters. In those waters left open there is an opportunity for spin fishermen to out-do fly fishers in their success crate. Spinners can cover a lot of water but should be prepared to lose some gear if they fish the rapids. Another method is to use a

worm with a bubble float. A healthy compost heap is a great source of active wrigglers, and they are great killers when cast to white water at the heads of pools and runs. And it doesn't cost a fortune if you lose a few.



## **EDITORS NOTE**

*With apologies to the Rolling Stones...*

I saw her today at the reception  
A fly rod and reel in her hand  
I knew she would meet her connection  
At her feet was her footloose man

No, you can't always catch what you want  
You can't always catch what you want  
You can't always catch what you want  
But if you cast real well you find  
You catch what you need

I went down to the Chelsea fly store  
To get my fly order filled  
I was standing in line with Mr. Jimmy  
And man, did he look pretty ill  
We decided that we would buy some glo bugs  
My favourite colour, cherry red  
I showed my flies to Mr. Jimmy  
Yeah, and he said one word to me, and that was "dead"  
I said to him

No, you can't always catch what you want  
You can't always catch what you want  
You can't always catch what you want  
But if you cast real well you find  
You catch what you need  
You catch what you need, yeah, oh baby



I saw her today at the reception  
In her net was a bleeding man  
She was practiced at the art of deception  
Well you could tell by her blood-stained hands

No, you can't always catch what you want  
You can't always catch what you want  
You can't always catch what you want  
But if you cast real well you find  
You catch what you need  
You catch what you need

### **FISHING FUNNIES**



(Opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of North Shore Flyfishers Incorporated)

## **MEMBERS FEEDBACK**

We, your committee, are always trying to give you what you want.

## **But are we??**

In order for us to do our job properly we need to have your feedback, positive or negative. For example, have you been on a club fishing trip? Did you enjoy yourself? What would you change, if anything? Club nights – what would you like to see more of? Less of? In short, talk to us.

The contact details of all your committee members are listed at the end of every newsletter. So if you have something on your mind let us know.

Thank you - Your committee

## **NSFF CLUB MERCHANDISE**

Cap – \$15.00 Inclusive of GST

Green or Beige, one size fits all, with embroidered badge.

Embroidered Cloth Badge - \$7.50 Inclusive of GST

Brushed Brass Metal Pin Badge - \$12.50 Inclusive of GST

If anyone is interested in purchasing these products please either place an order at Club Nights or at Hunts Sports.

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**Meetings held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm:**  
Milford Cruising Club, 24 Craig Road, Milford, North Shore City

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## **NORTH SHORE FLYFISHERS EXECUTIVE**

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