



THE FLYFISHER NEWSLETTER

February 2026

IN THIS ISSUE

Page 1 -	Presidents Report
Page 3 -	Club Facebook Page
Page 3 -	Fishing Report
Page 6 -	What's Happening – Club Nights / Events
Page 9 -	Club Trips
Page 13-	Tips and Tricks
Page 15 -	Recipe Of The Month
Page 16 -	Club Day Trips, Fly-tying, And Casting Practice
Page 16 -	Reel Life January 2026 - Northland
Page 18 -	Reel Life January 2026 - Auckland Waikato
Page 21 -	Reel Life January 2026 – Eastern
Page 26 -	The Five Best NZ Fly Fishing Weather Sites
Page 30 -	General Club Information Plus Committee Members Contact Details

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Having survived the Christmas and New Year festivities, I am now in the process of planning yet another annual trip to Great Barrier Island. I first visited the island with a group of school mates in the Summer of 1968 and like many who get “captured” by the place, I have now been a reasonably regular visitor for over 50 years.

For the past 20 years or so, I have taken my saltwater fly rod, principally targeting snapper, kahawai and kingfish but more recently, I have been giving serious thought to other species

and particularly, the humble flounder. I have managed to catch a few Peacock flounder in the lagoon at Rarotonga using a small shrimp fly but I have yet to land one of our local ones from around the harbour edges. Club member, Leon Bathurst did manage to catch quite a large one on the fly at Herald Island last year and that rekindled my interest in the idea.

Over the years, I have seen the odd flat fish in some of the small estuarine streams on “the Barrier” and also trodden on a few when netting for piper close to the edge of the beach. Thinking back, it is quite apparent that there are a number of likely places worth a look and an exploratory cast. The inner (western) coastline of the island has some tidal, shallow bays which can be accessed in many cases from a road while on the seaward (eastern) side there are several small estuaries and streams. Two large ones are the Kaitoke stream near the Claris airport and the other is a larger body of water comprising the Whangapoua stream and associated tidal area in the North-east of the island.

Flounder are known to follow the rising tide to intercept prey, shrimps, crabs, etc as they re-emerge from their burrows, so it is possible to sight fish for them, particularly in the clean, clear, water coming in from the sea.

While I have a few “true” flies, ie. Incorporating at least some natural materials like feathers, most saltwater flies also contain such things as epoxy resin, foam and of course, various types of weights. Thinking along these lines, I looked around at available options and visiting “Hunting and Fishing”, I came across some tiny softbaits and their weighted hooks, specifically designed to catch flounder. The softbaits themselves are, for want of a better term, “generic crustaceans” with a segmented body and a highly mobile tail which looks a bit like a scorpion. The hooks have an offset eye which assists in keeping the point of the hook facing upwards and less likely to foul on the bottom.

Anyway, I am really looking forward to trying them out and hopefully, I will have a report of success on my return. I bought a couple of packets of baits and hooks and there are still some available at “Hunting and Fishing”, so if it interests you, have a go!

Dave Symes
President



Dave's new 'flies'.

JOHAN MAKES NZ TEAM FOR OCEANIA CHAMPS

Our own Johan Kok, new owner of I Love Fly Fishing, and ultra-keen fly angler, has been picked to represent New Zealand at the Oceania Fly Fishing Championships.

This is a major achievement, and the first person from our Club to represent NZ in a number of years. Congratulations Johan!!

SCAMS

With the plethora of ever more sophisticated Scams out there these days we felt it a good time to remind everyone that the **Club Will Never Send You An Invoice** for Subs or Club Trips. If you receive an invoice saying it is from the Club then it is a Scam. Do not open it, do not pay it.

CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE

Some of you will already know that the Club has a Facebook Page. It has been underutilized for a while and this is just a reminder to those who already know and information for those who didn't know until now. The link is below, and also on the Clubs Website

<https://nsff.org.nz/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/217979378948826/members>

Please do join the page and post away, it really is a case of every post will encourage others to post and before we know it the Club will have a thriving online presence.

FISHING REPORT

Auckland / Waikato



Andrew with a beautiful Waikato region Brownie taken last weekend. Just 1 of many that he and fishing co-conspirator Jaco landed. Photo courtesy of Andrew Todd.

The Coromandel is fishing well with plenty of Cicadas but surprisingly only a few fish taking the big tasty treats. Small (size 16) Pheasant Tail Nymphs and attractor pattern dry flies have been getting the takes.

In the Waikato region the Waipa tributaries are fishing well too, with good numbers of Trout coming to the fly. Once again they are starting to take the Cicada patterns but nymphing is still giving the better results overall. Flies that have been working, small Hare and Copper nymphs, Cicada and general rubber legged attractor dries.

Rotorua



A fat Ngongotaha Rainbow that took a summertime glo bug. Photo courtesy of Kerry Blank.

I looked at the Lake Rotorua monitoring buoy readings yesterday and the water temperature was hot! Ranging from 23 degrees in shallow water to 20 in the deep. This means one thing, if fishing the lake head to the river mouths.

The Rotorua Tributaries are in need of a small flush, just to bring more fish upstream from the Lake. Hopefully just in time for the Club Trip next weekend!

Taupo

It's a good time to be a Lake angling enthusiast with the smelt about, jigging, hitting the river mouths and stalking the edges of Lake Taupo has seen a good number of fish landed over the last few days.

A couple of Paddle Board anglers called into the Auckland store this morning to have a yarn about the weekend fishing and it sounds like there was some bloody good Cicada action going down lake edge too in between smelting sessions at different parts of the lake too with the paddle board crew exploring a few bays.

The wind has still been a nuisance at times as it has for a big part of the summer but that looks like it has eased nicely as we head through the week but we could see a smidge of rain back from Thursday onwards.

Tongariro River flow sits at around 25 cumecs and the Cicadas are buzzing but we also have a number of lace moth hitting the water now which has often seen the end of the Cicada action but we will keep you posted on how that is playing out. [From the Sporting Life Fishing Report](#).

Also, Brian Wilson, Turangi Guide, has been writing on the I Love Fly Fishing report that the dry fly action in the rivers is picking up during the day, so make sure you have some big bushy dry flies in your box.

Saltwater

No reports from the Salt this month.

Fishy Tales

- If you do have a report, success story, or anecdote to share then just send it to iconpromote@gmail.com . Happy Fishing and Tight Lines – Freddy Da Fish.

LAST CLUB NIGHT

Last month we had our Christmas function and it was a very enjoyable night. Thank you Dave for organising it all again.

NEXT CLUB NIGHT – 18th FEBRUARY 7.30 PM

This month we have our own Lewis Peart talking to us about Salt Water Fly Fishing. As many of you will know Lewis is mad keen on his salt water fly fishing and catches way more than his share. His knowledge of local water is exceptional.

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

WHY WE FISH

“Fish are, of course, indispensable to the angler. They give him an excuse for fishing and justify the fly rod without which he would be a mere vagrant.”

Sparse Grey Hackle

CLUB TROPHIES

Brown Trout Trophy – This is awarded to The Heaviest Brown Trout caught by a Club Member during the year – 1st April to 31st March. Current holder is **Fikrit Chinassi**.

Chain Snore Trophy – A fun award given immediately after any Club Trip to the person who has done the ‘funniest’ thing over the weekend. If nobody has had anything like this happen it may be awarded to the worst snorer. Current Holder is **Allen French!**

Ian Hunt Memorial Trophy – Heaviest Trout caught fly-fishing by a Club Member during the Pupuke Challenge Competition. A competition run every year to promote the Lake Pupuke fishery. This was not held this year. Current holder is **Lucas Bathurst**.

I Love Flyfishing Trophy – Awarded to the Club Member who has caught the most species of Saltwater fish fly-fishing over the year – 1st April to 31st March. Current holder is **Russell Nelson**.

Rodd And Gunn Trophy – This is the Club Competition which takes place over two days. One day on a Lake and one day on a River. The Winner this year is **Duncan Frew**.

The Lake part of the competition has its own Trophy, the **I Love Flyfishing Stillwater Trophy**. The winner of this year's event is **Duncan Frew**.

The winner of this year's River section is **Johan Kok**.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Something to think about: If you fish the wrong fly long and hard enough, it will sooner or later become the right fly."

John Gierach

NORTH SHORE FLYFISHERS DVD LIBRARY

Over the years the Club has purchased some videos and been very fortunate in having a number more donated for Club Members use. There is almost certainly something there that will appeal to you. So if you would like to borrow one just let any Committee Member know (contact details are on the back page of this Newsletter).

Club Videos

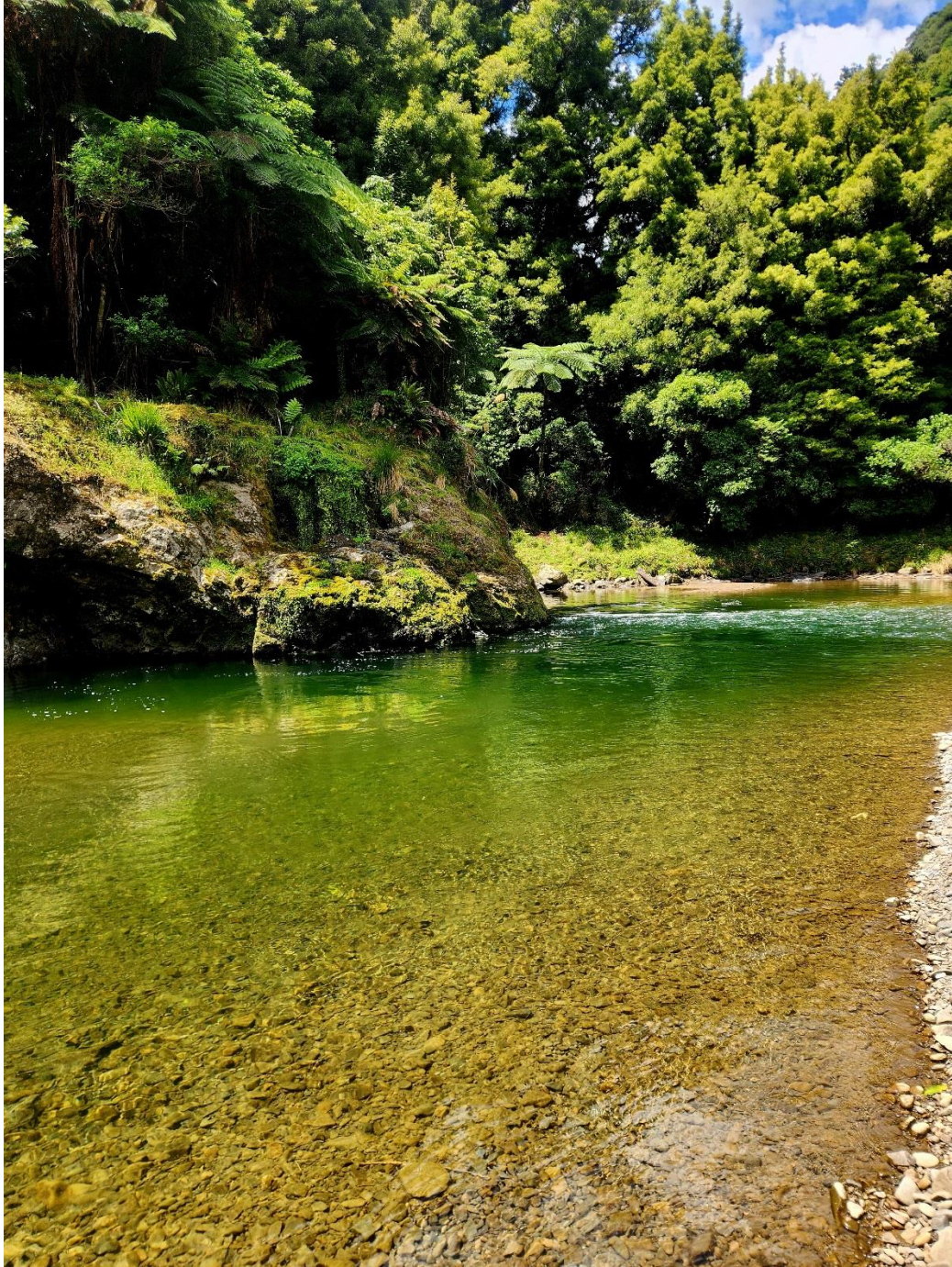
Flyfishing with Dave McLellan June 2015 (15 DVD's)
New Zealand FlyTying (with John Giacon) A Tight Lines Ltd Presentation (2 DVD's)
Tie A Fly with John Morton The Master Fly Tier
Blue Water Fishing Techniques (ITM Fishing Show) Matt Watson
New Zealand Trophy Waters (Volume 6) Bruce Masson A Deep Stream Production
New Zealand Trophy Waters (Volume 7) Bruce Masson A Deep Stream Production
Running Down The Man A Felt Soul Media Production
Advanced Fly Casting Doug Swisher Essence of Fly Casting
Chasing Silver (Tarpon fishing in Florida) Howard Films. Com
How to Succeed on Reservoirs Part 1 Boat Tackle, Tactics and Flies
How to Succeed on Reservoirs Part 2 Boat Tackle, Tactics and Flies
How to Succeed on Small Stillwaters Part 2 Stalking Patterns and Techniques
NZ Fly Fishing Adventures Going Remote Mike Kirkpatrick
NZ Fly Fishing Adventures Going Remote Volume I Nelson District-Mike Kirkpatrick
NZ Fly Fishing Adventures Going Remote Volume 2 West Coast-Mike Kirkpatrick
NZ Fly Fishing Adventures The Distant Browns of Emerald-Mike Kirkpatrick
The Manic Guide to Fly Casting Rene Vaz

Fly Fishing in NZ
Stealth with a Fly-NZ Wilderness waters Dean Bell Fly Fishing
SoulFish 2 Global fly fishing Adventures with April Vokey and others
Gulf Harbour Outdoors with Geoff Thomas NZ fly fishing for Trout and Salmon
Salt Water Fly Fishing Game Fishing
Bugs of the Underworld Lisa Cutter
NZ Fly Fishing MP4s Youtube Video's (4 discs)
Snapper Secrets (vol 2)
Fly Fishing in NZ (fishing Clips from Mobil Sport on TV3)
How to Fish Rapala Lures
Essential Patterns with Oliver Edwards Vol 1
Fly Fishing For Reservoir Trout (at Pitsford) Bob Church
Trout Secrets with Geoff Thomas
Fishing in Fiordland
Wee Wets and Small Dries

CLUB TRIPS 2025 - 2026

February –Ngongotaha River and Rotorua Lakes –FEB 19th 20th 21st 2026
March – Lake Otamangakau – MAR 26th 27th 28th 2026
May – Ngongotaha River and Rotorua Lakes –MAY 21st 22nd 23rd 2026
July – Tongariro and Tauranga Taupo – JUL 2026
August – Tongariro – Club River Fishing Competition – AUG 2026
September – Tauranga Taupo – SEP 2026
December / January – Tuition weekend (Held if enough 'novice' anglers are interested)
December – Lake Otamangakau – DEC 2026

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.



Why do we go fishing ...this is why. Photo courtesy of Mitchell Blackburn.

FEBRUARY CLUB TRIP TO NGONGOTAHA AND ROTORUA AREA

This February Trip to fish the Ngongotaha River and the Rotorua region is on the weekend of Friday 20th, Saturday 21st, Sunday 22nd February. We will again be staying at the Paradise Valley Lodge. Costs will be \$125.00 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 \$55 to make it \$180.00.

Also, a variety of private rooms are available as well.

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);
- Or by Cash on the December or February Club Nights

This Trip is now completely full, however, if you would like to go on a wait list in case anybody has to pull out then please let me know.

Duncan – 021 648 956 – iconpromote@gmail.com



Faith with a lovely 'Ngonga' Club Trip Rainbow. Photo courtesy of Faith Moon.

MARCH CLUB TRIP TO LAKE OTAMANGAKAU

I am proposing the weekend of 27th 28th 29th March (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) with a number of us arriving on Thursday the 26th.

While it is predominately a boat fishery, the Te Whaiu (inlet) canal which can be fished from the shore, and particularly the “holding” area immediately above the road bridge, offers a big range of casting positions. Just be aware that with an altitude of some 2,000 feet above sea level, the conditions can go from warm and pleasant to bleak very quickly!

By March, the Trout are BIG, fat and in prime condition, with lots of insect activity, providing some fantastic fishing activity. Costs will be \$55 per person per night.

The Accommodation is your own little room with 2 beds, 1 for sleeping and the other for your gear.

There are shared cooking facilities.

I have “penciled in” 8 cabins at Tongariro Holiday Park so if anyone is interested, please let me know ASAP.

Dave Symes - Ph: 09 486-6257 - Email: dssymes@xtra.co.nz



Jimmy T. with a great example of what the Big O Club Trip can provide.

JOKE OF THE MONTH

A cardiologist died and was given an elaborate funeral. A huge heart, covered in flowers, stood behind the casket during the service.

Following the eulogy, the heart opened, and the casket rolled inside. The beautiful heart then closed, sealing the doctor inside, forever.

At that point, one of the mourners burst into laughter. When all eyes stared at him, he said, "I'm sorry. I was just thinking of my own funeral... I'm a gynecologist."

The proctologist fainted.

TIPS AND TRICKS

At an earlier Club Meeting we had a session all about Tips and Tricks that we might choose to use with our fishing. With that in mind we will use this section for any helpful little Tips that anyone may have that can benefit us all. So, if you have a quick Tip that you are happy to share just let me know on iconpromote@gmail.com .

Casting To Wary Trout On A Small Stream

One of the risks with casting to wary Trout is that they can see, and be spooked by, your fly line as you make your false casts. Well, rather than make a false cast above the fish why not make a roll cast down stream, away from the fish, and let your line drift downstream with the current. Do this until you have got the line laid out on the water below you equal to the distance you want to cast upstream. Then it is simply a matter of making a water loaded cast back upstream to the Trout. The drag of your fly line on the water should be

enough to load your rod, just like a normal back cast, and enable you to put your flies in front of the fish with the minimum chance of spooking it.

Try it one day, it works.



Ryan setting up for a water load cast on the Ngongotaha. Photo courtesy of Peter Schirehout.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

I was thinking it would be nice to have some Trout recipes in the Newsletter again so I have gone all the way back to recipes we had in the Newsletter over 16 years ago. Hopefully they are helpful and will encourage some 'adventurous' cooking.

This recipe was courtesy of Shane French when he ran the Waitahanui Lodge, and looks very tempting.

Pistachio-Crusted Trout Fillets

1/2 cup unsalted shelled Pistachios

1/3 cup fresh breadcrumbs

2Tbsp grated Parmesan Cheese

1/2 tsp Rock salt

1/2 Tsp Ground Black pepper

2Tbsp Olive oil

Trout Fillets to coat

2 Tbsp Dijon Mustard

Chop the Pistachios into medium fine pieces. Combine the nuts, breadcrumbs, Parmesan, salt and pepper in a shallow bowl. Drizzle with the olive oil and toss with a fork until the mixture is evenly moistened. Spread the top of each Trout fillet evenly with the mustard, press the mustard-coated side into the crumb mixture to coat the fish. Place the fillets onto a hot fry pan and cook for 3 to 5 minutes, remove and place into a pre-heated oven to bake until cooked and topping is crisp and lightly browned. Oven should be at 180 C. This is Yummy!!!



Bon Appetite! If you have a recipe you would like to share please send it in.

CLUB DAY TRIPS, FLYTYING, AND CASTING PACTICE

We have set up 4 Whats Ap Groups for Freshwater Day Trips / Salt Water Day Trips / Casting Practice / and Flytying. We have had several Day Trips, Fly Casting sessions and Flytying sessions already.

If you are keen to join these groups just let us know.

Contact Mike secretary@nsff.org.nz or Duncan iconpromote@gmail.com

REEL LIFE JANUARY 2026 - NORTHLAND



Image above: A trout caught drifting a big cicada fly amongst the boulder pockets on the Mangatu stream in February last year

River And Stream Conditions

At the time of writing Northland has just received a phenomenal amount of rainfall, particularly around the east coast. There is widespread flooding in many catchments. The Wairua and its tributaries will be unfishable for several days at least as the headwaters of this catchment took some of the worst of the rainfall. If looking for fishable water the west coast Kaihu catchment will be the place to start as it took the least of the rain and it clears

fairly quickly due to its bouldery nature. When the waters in the Wairua catchment come down from flood level and clear up the headwaters will be the place to look for fish as they will be seeking the cooler, shaded headwaters as the exposed main stem gets too warm.

Whilst the rainfall and flooding will impact the fishability of the rivers for days to come, it is a welcome respite for the reservoirs which will now be full again after being drawn down during the dry spell, putting pressure on the fish to find refuge in the deeper water.

All methods can work at this time of year, especially when the water still has some colour in it after the flush out. Once the waters are back to low and clear a more delicate presentation will be required, using well placed flies or a smaller spinner or softbait. Now is a great time of year to fish big dry flies. Tie a nymph dropper on 40-50cm of leader off the gape of the dry fly hook to add to the effectiveness. This is a very versatile rig to fish, it gives the trout a second option if they are shy of the dry fly, and the dry fly holds the nymph up to prevent it dropping down amongst the snags that are prevalent in Northlands streams.



Don't be afraid to try big dry flies. Shown are some patterns that are good for the dry fly and nymph dropper combo

Regulation Changes

No changes to the regulations this season. All our waters are open year-round to all permitted methods.

All river and streams, methods - FSB, Limit - 2 fish

Stocked reservoirs, methods - FSB, Limit - 3 fish

We Need Your Help!!

If you catch a trout in Northland can you please weigh and measure the fish. Then email that information along with the location and fin clips (if any) to northland@fishandgame.org.nz This will give us useful information on the health of the fishery. Don't worry we will keep your prized spot secret. Any fish catch data submitted will go into the draw for a whole season licence for the 2026-2027 season.

Take The Family Fishing

The new season commenced on Saturday 1st October 2025. The family licence is by far the best value for money licence on offer. A family licence can be made up of two parents or grandparents and up to four of their children or grandchildren under the age of 18. This licence can also be used anywhere in NZ, except the Lake Taupo fishery.

For more information about the new seasons licences check out our website: www.fishandgame.org.nz

REEL LIFE JANUARY 2026 - AUCKLAND WAIKATO



Left: Staff drift diving on the Mangatutu Stream.

The Crowds Are Gone And The Fishing Is Good

Reports from our Waikato and King Country streams have been excellent over the holidays. Staff were recently on the Waihou and saw dozens of fish from the walkway. If you are one of the lucky ones that did not use all your vacation during the holidays now is the time to get out for a fish. School will be starting in the couple weeks, and our rivers are in great shape for the summer season.

Drift Dive Season

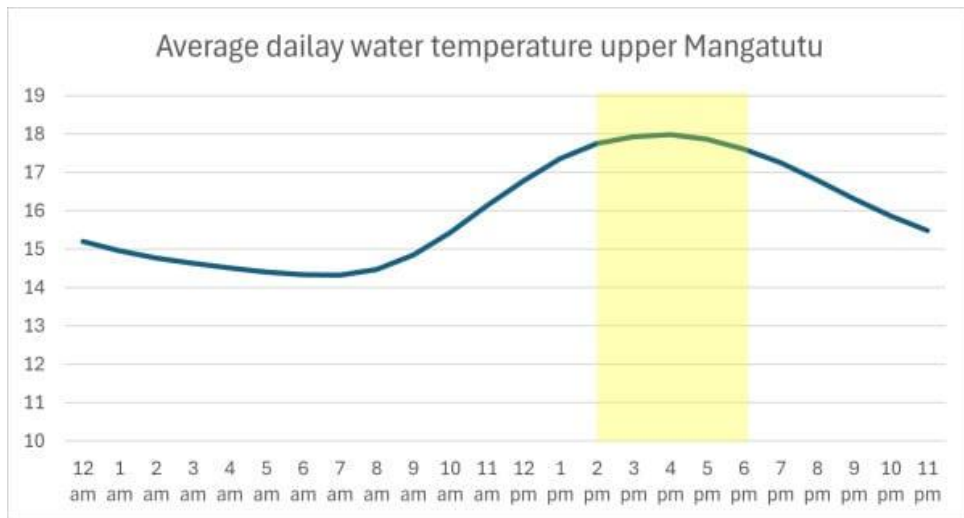
The Conservation Act requires Fish & Game to monitor sports fish and game populations. In the Auckland/Waikato Region we fulfil our monitoring requirement for trout by conducting annual drift dives of representative streams around the region in January and February when fish are forced into headwater streams by the summer heat. Staff will be conducting drift dives over the next month on the streams listed below and don't want to interrupt your fishing.

- Upper Waihou (Blue Springs walkway)
- Awakino (Gibbon Road)
- Whakapapa (Owhango)
- Waione (Amos Road)
- Mangatutu (Wharepuhunga Road)
- Puniu (upper)

We will post updates of our drift dives on our [Facebook page](#) but if you are planning a mid-week trip feel free to check in with our staff to make sure you don't show up to find someone swimming through your favourite pool (adaniel@fishandgame.org.nz).

It's Time To Start Knocking Off Early... To Protect Trout.

Temperatures in the Waikato have reached the point where there is an elevated risk of poor outcomes for released trout. Water temperatures will fluctuate throughout the summers so we would like anglers to be aware of the water temperature by carrying a thermometer or keeping an eye on the [Waikato Regional Council website](#). Peak temperatures on the council website are generally a couple of degrees hotter than our upriver fisheries, for example when the Mangatutu Stream gauge on the [Waikato Regional Council site](#) is reading 20°C the water temperature at the Wharepuhunga Road is about 18°C . The critical temperature for trout is about 19°C but all small streams will fluctuate by about 4°C during a sunny day. So, even if afternoon temperatures are peaking at 20°C smaller streams may only be 16°C in the morning. If the afternoon temperatures are hot, consider starting early or knocking off early to protect the trout you release from lethal afternoon temperatures.



Hourly temperature on the Mangatutu stream

REEL LIFE JANUARY 2026 – EASTERN



Image above: Fishing success at the lower Waiteti

Classic Summer Action, with a Hint of Spring!

After a scorching start to December, the weather has shifted to something more like spring, bringing combinations of warmth, rain and the odd blustery spell.

Fortunately, this has mostly been conducive to good trout fishing, perhaps with the exception of some very heavy and localised downpours and somewhat prohibitive winds for boat anglers.

The famous Rotorua edge fishery is firing, although not yet with quite the consistency we would expect later in the summer season. Fishing at the Waiteti mouth has at times been slow, only to come on a couple of hours later with a bang. A selection of nymphs such as Pheasant tails, Hare and Copper and 101's in sizes 12 and 14, slung about 1m under an indicator, have all worked really well here. The Awahou has fished consistently both to the nymph and wet fly with Wolly buggers and smaller smelt flies all taking fish.

The Ngongotaha mouth tends to be quieter but still provides excellent fishing. The change of light, morning or evening, are by far the best time with a real chance of a big brown after dark. The mouth remains shallow and flowing straight out toward Mokoia, so take a note of the wind direction as the wave action will affect the movement of the cold-water plume. Wet flies on a floating line are the go-to here, changing to bigger bully-type patterns after dark for a brown trout. Try a Rabbit fly in white or orange, Jack's Sprat, Green Orbit or Grey Ghost, or a paddle tail style softbait such as a 3" Z-Man Slim SwimZ in a natural colour.

Hamurana has fished well when the wind isn't from the south. In fact, the fish are still there in a southerly, but casting a fly can be difficult! While the main flow will produce rainbows, don't forget both sides of the smoother, cold water plume as browns will be lurking on a slow-motion cruise looking to ambush a bully, or sip a damsel fly nymph.

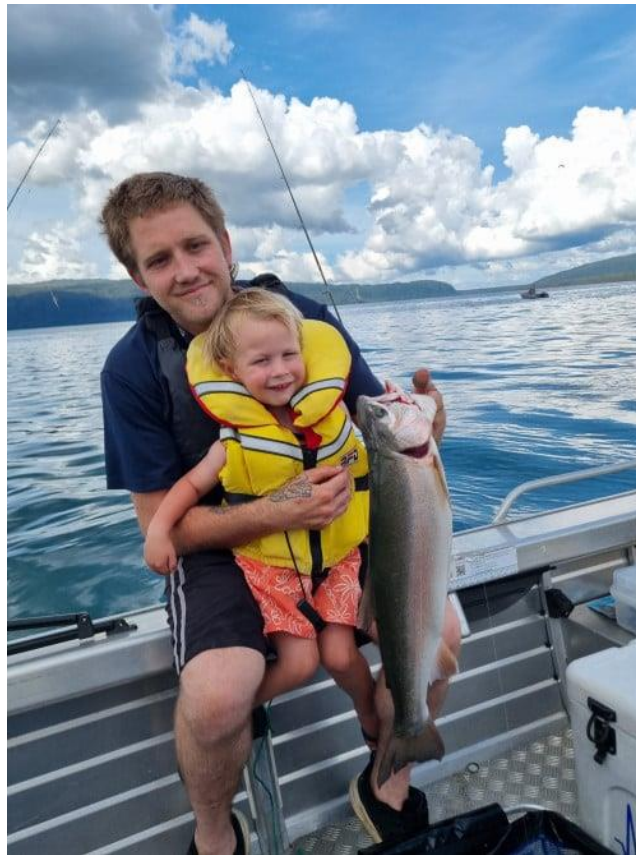
As we write this, news of flooding in the Waioeka is just breaking. Over 320mm of rain fell in 48 hours, resulting in around 40 slips and a road closure of the gorge (SH2) that is likely to last for many months. It's heart breaking looking at the video, but fisheries are robust, and trout have evolved to withstand flood conditions. It's going to take time, so remain patient!



It looks like we are in for a bumper cicada summer around the Rotorua area. The hatch has been slow to get going, but has suddenly hit and become almost plague-like. Cicada hatches

are cyclic and affected by seasonal conditions, so make the most of this exciting time as it won't last forever.

Rotorua's deep lakes continue to fish well to jigging and vertically fished soft baits and deep trolling methods such as downrigging. Rotoiti, Tarawera and Okataina have an accumulation of clutter about the thermocline and good numbers of fish can be seen below this hunting smelt. Good fish, up to 4kg are also cruising the bottom and large bully or koura patterns or paddle tail softbaits are working well.



Fishing deep on the Rotorua lakes remains wonderful family fun!

Boat Fishing How-To

Eastern Fish & Game held a successful Boat Fishing How-To at their offices in January. Attended by sixty keen boat fishers, it covered all the basics on how to catch trout in lakes from boats. A big thanks to [Kilwell](#) for providing us with a few [Tassie Devil lures](#) as spot prizes.

Take a look at this article on jigging and soft baiting tips.

<https://782c075b.flowpaper.com/FGIssue57Web/#page=24>



Fishing Rules – Have Your Say.

The fishing regulations for the upcoming 2026-27 angling season are currently under review. The ‘angling rules’ are fully examined every second season by the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council. This process allows licence holders to comment on any changes they think should be made to the current angling regulations and brought into ‘law’ for the upcoming season. Any suggestions made to alter the current regulations are presented to the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council made up of elected licence holders. A final decision on the regulations will be made at their Council meeting on 28th May. This is your opportunity to comment. If you have suggestions, please email them along with an explanation of why the changes should be made; with your contact details to: mosborne@fishandgame.org.nz. All correspondence should be received by 20th February 2026.

New Access Mapping System

A new online mapping system has just been adopted by the Eastern Fish & Game Region (and several other regions). It is still in development, but is already a useful tool for finding fishing locations and the regulations that apply to that spot. The filter tool (top right of screen) enables users to focus on the access or fishing style they are interested in. [Select here to view](#)

Don't Forget To CCD!

The new season is a good time to remind everyone of our need to Check, Clean and Dry gear between waterways. Pest organisms are sadly on the increase and the precious resource we all love is at risk. Please remember to CCD between your fishing trips, follow the instructions of the Regional Councils and MPI.

Datawatch Tagged Trout

Tagged trout can now be entered online. Entries go into the draw to win one of 10 free whole-season fishing licences: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QCH5ZR6>

Eastern Region Fishing Diaries – All Lakes And Streams

Fill in your fishing diaries here to help us manage the Eastern Fish & Game region. Participants go in the draw to win a \$100 voucher from Kilwell: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QRSD7D3>

Disclaimer:

The information presented in these news items is based on the context and regulations in place at the time of publication. Please note that some articles may include reference to laws and regulatory standards that have since changed. For the most current and accurate information please check our [Fishing Licences & Regulations pages](#) or our [Hunting Licences & Regulations pages](#).

THE FIVE BEST NZ FLY FISHING WEATHER SITES

The following article is by Fishing Guide Chris Dore and is from the <https://www.manictackleproject.com/> website.

If there's one thing I'm obsessed with when it comes to planning trips, it's the weather. At a minimum of two weeks out I'll be looking at long range forecasts trying to predict what's going to happen over the upcoming days but looking that far out (short of a cyclone) nothing is certain no matter which way it's going. Let me tell you it's an unnecessary rollercoaster of emotions because you can't change the weather, and the weather always changes.

But that shouldn't stop you checking things out well ahead of time because planning trips is fun and the weather does have a substantial impact on what we do. If it's looking like the area you are heading to is going to cop it then you'll want to start looking at a plan B, C and D...and potentially back to plan A again. This couldn't be any more relevant than this year with all the crazy weather about!

The weather will dictate what gear you're taking, will you really need to go [waders](#) and a [jacket](#) (always take a jacket though!) or can you wet wade? Hut, tent or fly only? Where is the wind coming from and how strong? And it still might get cold overnight, so hang onto those gloves and beanies.

However, this is New Zealand. How often have we had forecasts of weather bombs that never eventuated or supposed fine weekends that ended up being constantly peppered with downpours and hail? My ethos is plan for the worst based on the information at hand, then go outside, look up and get into it.

So over the years I've dialled my resource of weather sites down to a handy five links. They all offer something different and by using a few different sources you can quickly establish a trend of what to expect. But this year, expect a bit of everything!

FIVE WEATHER RESOURCES FOR FLY FISHING IN NZ

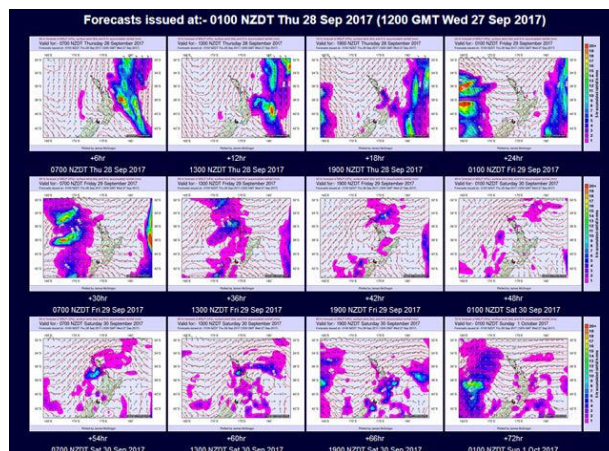
#1 - METSERVICE

This is the go to top line weather site for me. If you want to get a quick idea as to what's looking to happen ten days out then go here. It's low on detail but if it's showing ten straight sunny days then that's a pretty good sign that there's a huge anti cyclone sitting right above where you want to be, happy days. If it's showing lots of the blue and grey stuff then keep digging.



#2 - [METVUW](#)

So MetService hasn't given you the forecast you want? (no surprises there) Head here for some easy to read long forecast maps that illustrate how weather patterns are moving and what they think will happen with precipitation and winds. It pays to have a basic understanding of how to read a weather map, which can also be a curse as it can bring out the amateur professional weather forecaster in all of us. Definitely my main go to site though and well worth playing around with different regions to get a bigger picture of what's going on



#3 - [YR](#)

This site offers a more localised drilled down forecasting based off local stations. If the area you're looking to fish is known for its micro climate then this is a cool place to look. A lot of people swear by this one and I've found it very handy when trying to plan details into a day.

Weather forecast for **Queenstown, Otago (New Zealand)**

Updated at 20:38. Next update around 9:00.

Add to My places | Forecast as PDF

Overview

- Hour by hour
- Long term
- Statistics
- Maps

RELEVANT PLACES

Queenstown

To the main menu at the page bottom

Today, Thursday 28/09/2017

Time	Forecast	Temp.	Precipitation	Wind
09:00-12:00		5°	0 mm	○ Calm, 0 m/s
12:00-18:00		10°	0 mm	↘ Light air, 1 m/s from north-northwest
18:00-00:00		10°	0 mm	↓ Light breeze, 2 m/s from north

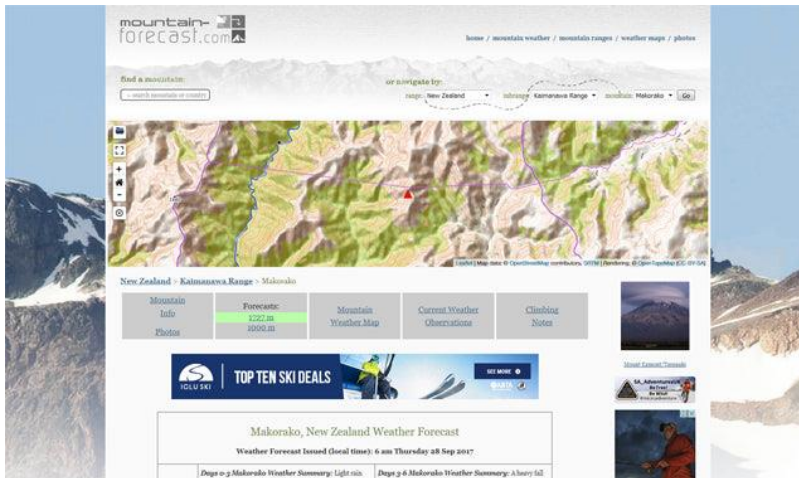
Tomorrow, Friday 29/09/2017

Time	Forecast	Temp.	Precipitation	Wind
00:00-06:00		7°	2.1 mm	↙ Light air, 1 m/s from east-northeast
06:00-12:00		4°	0 mm	↙ Light air, 1 m/s from east-northeast
12:00-18:00		10°	2.4 mm	↘ Light air, 1 m/s from south-southwest
18:00-00:00		11°	0 mm	↙ Light breeze, 2 m/s from west



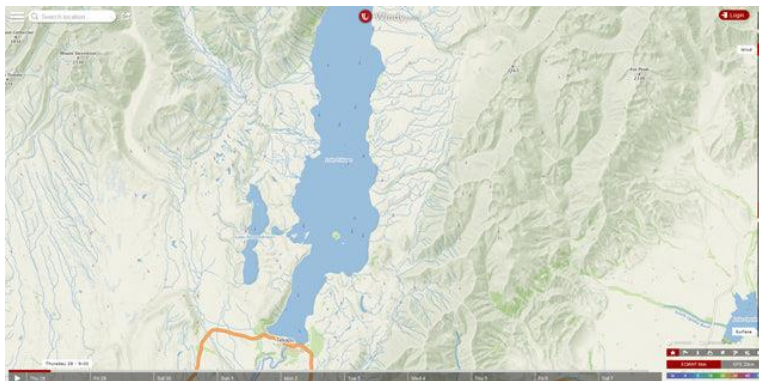
#4 - [MOUNTAIN-FORECAST](#)

Thinking about heading into the high country, headwaters or having to hit a high mountain pass / tops to access your spot? Then this is a great resource for telling you what might be going on up high. Don't make the mistake of looking at the weather forecast for, say, the Ruahine foothills that might forecast 20kt winds because when you hit the bushline and stick your nose over the ridge you'll get blown back off the hill. Very recently people have died because they didn't account for the wind chill and general conditions to be vastly different once they had gained a few hundred metres elevation, and even if you're not planning on spending any real amount of time at that height you do need to be suitably prepared if you get stuck for whatever reason.



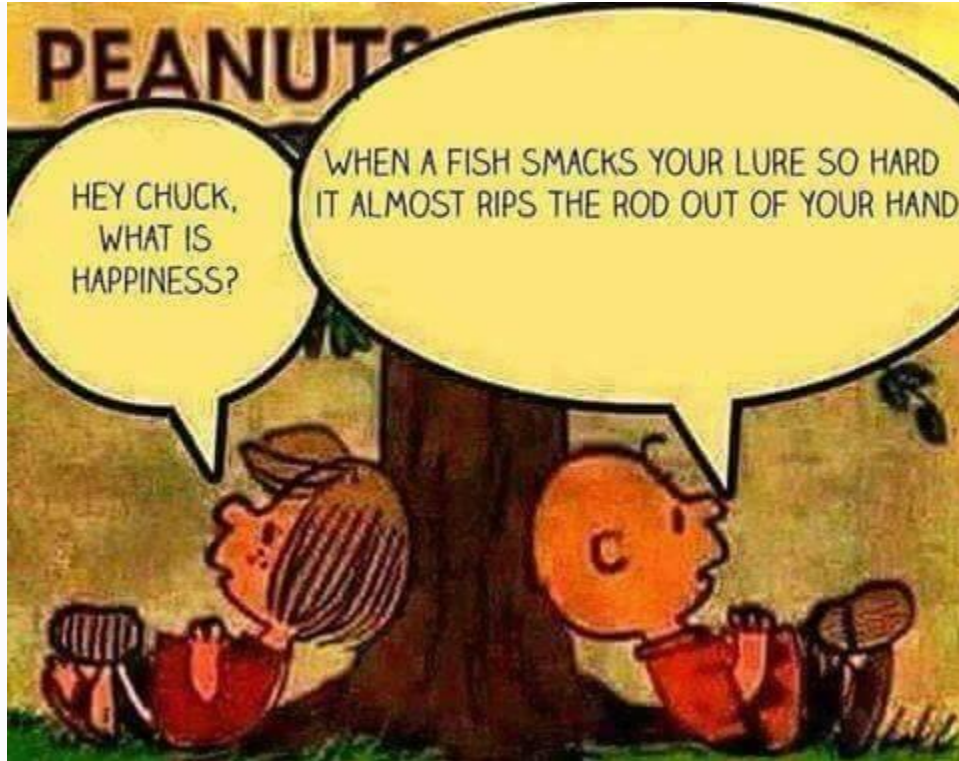
#5 - WINDY

This is more of a fun one (as fun as meteorology gets) that has really nice graphic and topo maps that can show various weather conditions over the day in a drilled down zone just by using the slider to change the time of day. I use it primarily to try and see wind switches over the day or week. There is probably some additional functionality of benefit but usually by the time I've made it to this site I've got a fair idea of what I *think* might be going on and it's more to try and see how that wind might hit a certain watershed over a few days.



So that's that quick version. There will be plenty of other places to find the same sort of information out there, but hopefully this helps you get a head start if you haven't done much back country or even car camping planning before. Good luck with the weather and have a ripping season!

FISHING FUNNIES



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 Barrie Barnes by email, his email address is barrie@flyfishinginxs.kiwi .

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...

Name	Availability	Contact Details
Ron Blair	Anytime, has a 14.4 Marco with 60hp etc Evenrude for serious fishing Salt or Fresh	home 09 834 8841 mobile 0275 006 336 ron.blair@xtra.co.nz
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 email-lloyd@skysupply.co.nz
Gary Bolstad	Keen to get out Stream, Lake or even Saltwater fly-fishing. Has both Fish & Game and Taupo season licences so keen to go almost anywhere. Retired so free to go most of the time.	Mobile 022 379 3070 gd.bolstad@gmail.com
Derek Robinson	Retired available most times keen to do Waikato streams and most other things.	Ph 4437311 Mob: 0212 595 371 pamanddek@outlook.com

BROWN TROUT TROPHY” COMPETITION RULES

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 April 1st to March 31st . Prize awarded at AGM in April.
 Winner’s name and weight of fish to be published in May club newsletter.

NSFF CLUB SALT WATER FLY FISHING COMPETITION RULES

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 April in one year to 31st March 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

(Opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not necessarillary 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 place an order at Club Nights.

Meetings held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm:
Birkenhead RSA, Recreation Drive, Birkenhead, North Shore City

NORTH SHORE FLYFISHERS EXECUTIVE

Club Patron – Dave McLellan

President - Dave Symes 486-6257 Takapuna

president@nsff.org.nz

Secretary - Mike Martindale 020 445 4337 Takapuna

secretary@nsff.org.nz

Treasurer - Barrie Barnes 021 925 006 Glenfield

treasurer@nsff.org.nz

Magazine - Duncan Frew 021 648 956 Torbay

iconpromote@gmail.com

Committee – Allen French 021 1018 838 Birkdale

a_bfrench@hotmail.com

Members Maurice Parlane 021 650 692 Northcote

maurice.p@newwayz.co.nz

Neil Smit 021 274 5625 West Harbour

neil.smit@sew-eurodrive.co.nz

Andrew Todd – 021 124 8004 Takapuna

andrewbtodd@hotmail.com

North Shore Flyfishers Incorporated