



The New Zealand Deerstalkers Assoc. Inc.

April and May Issue 2013:

*Party hunt at Hot Water Beach, Lake Tarawera –
25th and 26th May*



“The Tines” Rotorua Branch Newsletter May 2013



Rotorua N.Z.D.A. Branch Calendar

Ring coordinators for more information.
Phone numbers listed on inner back page.

Calendar of the Club's regular monthly events:

Committee Meeting	Last Monday of each month
Range Shoots*	3rd Sunday of each month
Socials	4th Wednesday of each month
Party Hunts**	4th Weekend of each month

** Regular Club Hunting & Trophy Shoots. For extra range shoots and 300 metre shoots please refer to Yearly Range Calendar.*

***Some Party Hunts may be on different dates, see programme.*

Our programme for this month:

Party Hunts	Hot Water Beach, Tarawera (25th and 26th May). More info to be emailed before the day.
Socials	Next social, Wednesday 22nd May 2013 @ 7:30pm, Neil Hunt Park Clubrooms.
Range Shoot	Range itinerary for 2013 in this issue: Contact Malcolm Perry.

Cover Photo: The NZDA Team having completed the Okui Hut upgrade. See story later in this edition.

If you have a photograph that would be suitable for the cover please contact the Newsletter editor, Elvis Bowring on 350 3230 or nzdarotorua@gmail.com.

Thanks to: Konica Minolta (1190 Pukaki Street, Rotorua) for printing our newsletter. The best address for quality and affordable copying and document solutions!

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Presidents Report

Hi All

Well I been somewhat busy and have neglected my post and have not written up a presidents report from last month, but with the new job in Whakatane, taking Mitch around the country clay shooting – time has been short. Also Dennis and I have backed off a bit after the organizing the new access so things have slipped a tad.

So, what's new? Well the committee has not changed a great deal. All the lads have stayed on. We have some new fresh faces though. Mark Slade has stepped up to assist Ralph with the Treasures role and will take over the position as Ralph has stated he wants to step away from the role - which is fair enough and great that we have somebody in the caliber of Mark to take on the treasures role. Also new to the committee is Graham Allen. Graham was on the hunts course and it's great to see guys progressing on in the Branch. An old name some may recall who has come back into the fold is Pete Graham.

The branch also honoured Dennis Price with life membership; Dennis has been outstanding in his commitment to the Rotorua Branch. He has also been a mentor for me having spent some time as President some years ago and also a wise ear when we were negotiating the road with the Black Powder Club, well done mate.

Well from what I hear, the hut reconstruction went well and the lads had a good time working with Regan Barkla from DOC. It was sad news that I learnt that Regan's mum passed away from cancer not long ago. As I new her Dad, Greg well so went along to the funeral. I did not get to meet Regan as it was understandably a large gathering, but I will endeavour to catch up with her and pass on our condolences and also thank her for organizing the free copter trip for the hut crew.

Those that could took up the opportunity of the trip and all had great time with Lance being the one to bag some meet. I hear Scotty may require a bit of practice at off-hand shooting as he had a small war going down and it was the stag that won that shoot out!!

On the lease front had a yarn to John and things are happening but it will take time so I will inform you on the progress.

The next working bee will be organized by Cliffy as he has a contact with a heap of flaxes and other tree/shrubs etc. Cliff now's the time to plant out the new berm like you said you would - good on ya mate!

Don't worry folks I have re informed a certain gun smith who has been over to Alaska on a bear hunt that we are still waiting for that presentation on the trip.

Well that's all for now

Cheers
Colin

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THE ADVENTURE WAS GREAT

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NZDA SOCIALS AND PARTY HUNT

Social

At Rotorua Deerstalkers Club Rooms

Neil Hunt Park, 22nd May 2013 7.30pm

All welcome. Cheap (\$4) drinks available.

Party Hunt

Hot Water Beach, Tarawera

Meet that the clubrooms, Neil Hunt Park, 25-26th May 2013

Hot pools, swimming, fishing, hunting and camping. Details will be emailed closer to the date.

Suitable for the whole family.

NZDA ROTORUA WEBSITE IS ONLINE:

CHECK OUT WWW.NZDAROTORUA.ORG.NZ

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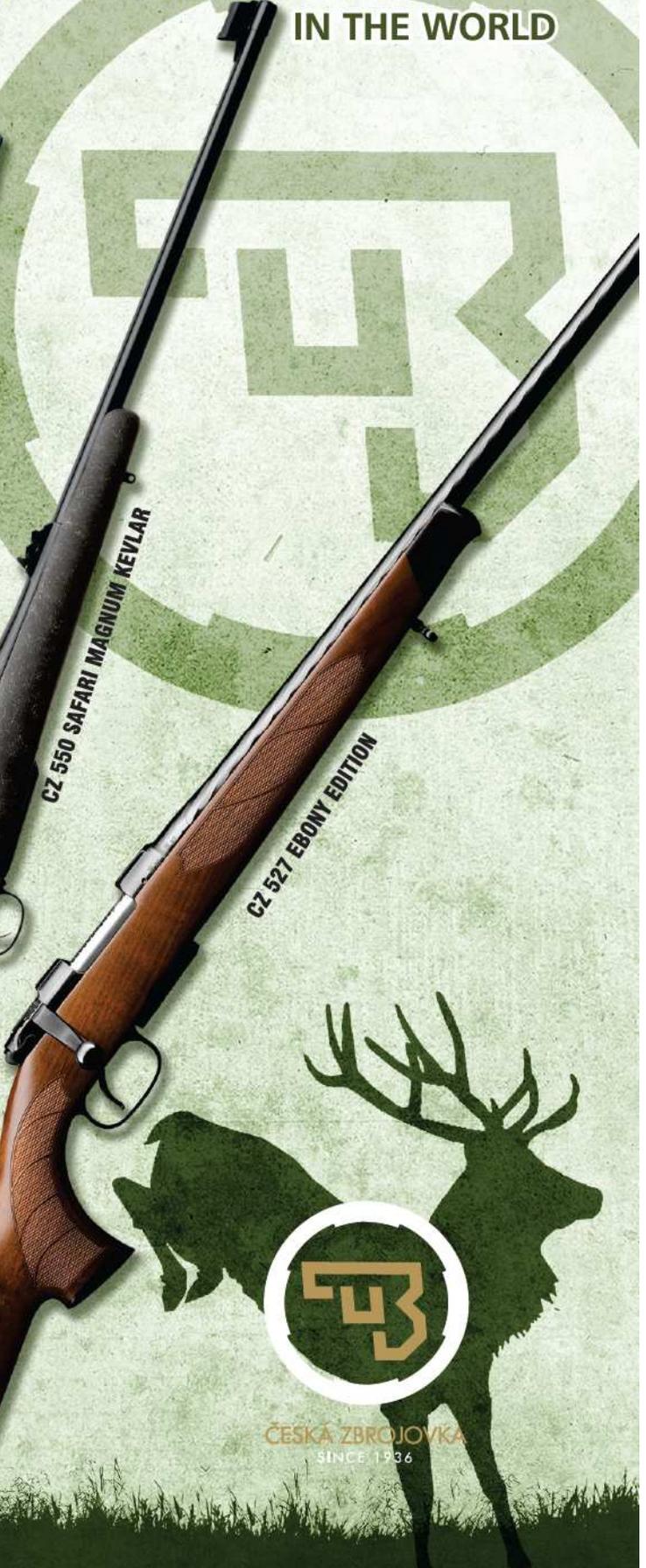
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Giving something back, (and having a lot of fun doing it) by Graham Allen.

With a number of other new members, I joined Rotorua NZDA to take the Hunts course last October, (the best value \$200 anyone can spend!), and now have really got the bug for hunting, and getting more involved with the Club.

Talking with Murray Robson (our DOC Liaison Officer), I learned about the DOC hut restoration programme, and threw my hat in the ring for the 'next one'. This is how I found myself at the Okui Hut in the Ureweras at the end of March, along with Murray Robson, Richard and George Hermans, Ralph Price, Neal Fawcett, Scott Russell, Lance Price and Elvis Bowring.

It was an 'interesting' drive in along a 4km track with steep muddy slopes, river crossings and trees to navigate, as well as the 3m high blackberry car wash all the way in; I'm not sure if any of the utes have any paint left on them, especially going through it all again on the way back out.

When we first got there I didn't think the hut looked too bad, but on closer inspection it was pretty grim; with its dark green interior it was more like walking into a cave! DOC had provided most of the tools, materials and equipment to carry out all of the improvements and decoration, (and a chilly bin of meat) so we got stuck in straight away.

There was one rather nasty incident during the improvements to the toilet, where, if you can believe it, an adjustable spanner was lost into the long drop.....and recovered. I'm not sure I would have wanted it back!

The best thing though with these projects, is that if enough of you are there to get the work done, there is time for everyone to get a few hunts in as well, so the pattern was set for hunting early and late, and hut restoration during the day, with quite a lot of leg pulling and general banter thrown in.

Murray was kind enough to take me out for a 'walk' with him one afternoon, we found a good fresh pad with quite a lot of recent sign, but no animals were sighted. Quite a sweaty walk for me, trying to keep up with Murray on that steep ground! One thing did make us laugh and jump! As we were cutting down a very steep ridge we disturbed a possum, which just launched itself out of the tree, it jumped right over Murray's shoulder, like a great big black crow in mid air. Flying bloody possums no less!

A good time was had by all over the weekend, despite the lack of deer sightings or shootings, and if you take a look at the photos, I think that we made the hut a better place to stay for future visitors as well.

A few days after getting back home after our weekend away, I was delighted to get a call from Murray saying that DOC had generously donated some helicopter time to the club for the participants in the Okui 'do-up', as a thank you.

Mangakahika Hut in the Urewera's was decided upon for our weekend hunt, as we understood that it had not come under much hunting pressure so far in this 'roar', as it is about a 20k walk in from the road head. A beautiful fly in followed skimming over the bush tops, with the pilot dropping Neal, Lance, Scott (plus dog), Ralph and I, a couple of yards from the front door of the hut! Wow, this is definitely the way to do it if you can! Even Scott's dog seemed to enjoy the flight!

The hut was in good order; Rotorua NZDA had done up this one quite some time ago, and we were pleased to note that the blank mains power socket that Murray had fitted to the wall was still there. I wonder how many people it catches out? I bet it gives all visitors a good laugh; perhaps we should make it a signature fitting of the Club!

To start with the hunting was pretty quiet with few sightings, and no roaring coming from the stags, only the hunters. But it then picked up with multiple sightings. I think Neal saw five or six animals during the weekend.

Neal was kind enough to let me tag along with him a few times, and whilst I was glad to have had a witness, I was disappointed to also have let the side down on the second day:

Late in the morning walking along the path, which meanders through the valley, we heard the crack of a twig breaking behind a thick clump of bush. We both froze. Neal looked in and saw a good six or eight pointer with a young hind.

I went forward in anticipation of them coming around the bush and along the slope, which they duly did. Now: this being my first encounter with a good animal in the bush, I really didn't want to stuff it up; I got into a good position and took a sight, just as the stag popped onto the path 20m from me and stopped, looking straight at us. With him perfectly in my cross hairs, I concentrated hard on my breathing and not jerking at the trigger. So, so, slowly, I squeezed, and..... nothing. Damn. Rifle was still on half cock, so I closed the bolt and squeezed again and.....again, nothing!

It was about this time that 1)the stag got bored and trotted off, and 2) I learned that my rifle de-cocks itself if you squeeze the trigger whilst on half cock!

I'll never have an easier shot, but at least I gave everyone a good laugh! The moment continues to haunt me as I go though the whole sequence in my head night after night!! Aha, yet another 'one that got away' story I hear you say.

Another exciting day followed with Lance maintaining the honour of the club and bagging a nice young roaring stag that he stalked in on. The weather throughout the weekend was hot and dry, and you could see that he had 'earned' his kill, the exertion of bringing it back to the hut showing in his sweat soaked shirt.

That afternoon, Ralph also came across a really good head (on the complete skeleton!) of a good stag. Neal had a great afternoon, roaring up the stags for about three hours. At one time he had three of them responding to him, and managed to get one of them to come down the cliff opposite to cross the river up to us, before the wind changed and it went quiet again. I wont forget the sight of that big animal bounding down the cliff in a hurry.

Scott came upon a good stag the following morning, but it too got away from him, both parties surviving the encounter intact!

So despite the frustrations of a couple of us, a great weekend in the bush for all.

I guess that's hunting. And I love it.

Graham Allen



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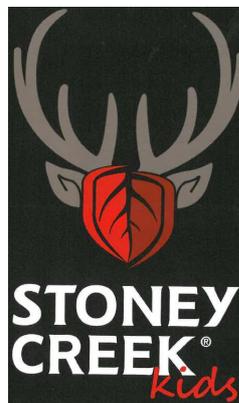
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Volunteers/NZDA Rotorua Projects Updates

Whirinaki/Urewera Hut restoration

Okui hut has been completed. See story in this edition.

We will be doing one or two huts every year. Although we are working, there is ample time to get in some hunting as well. Please talk to a committee member if you would like to volunteer.

Classifieds

For sale

*Cartridge Brass, mostly once fired as follows; 7mm – 08 federal, 40 rounds; 7mm-08 R.P. 50 rounds; 7mm-08 P.M.C. 50 rounds; 308 Hornady 40 rounds; 308 Winchester 100 rounds; 308 Norma 50 rounds; 308 Federal 210 rounds; 308 P.M.C. 50 rounds; .222 P.M.C. 400 rounds. All \$5-00 for 20. Also 3 different brands of 30 cal bullets 50 – 100 of each @ \$30-00 per 100. The names after the .308 refer to case brands, they are of course .308 win cal.
Contact Malcolm, 027 625 9608.*

*4x Kahles Scope
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Contact Cliff Graham on 345 9333 work, 027 211 489 mobile*

*Beretta Single-semi 22.
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Contact Cliff Graham on 345 9333 work, 027 211 489 mobile*

*Crossman Conquest 22 cal air rifle
Scope. \$300
Contact Cliff Graham on 345 9333 work, 027 211 489 mobile*

Wanted to buy

Wanting to swap excellent condition 22-250 (Model 700) for excellent condition 223. Call Elvis on 021 066 7868.

Range report April 2013

Sunday 7th 300M shoot. Three of our branch members, who are not target shooters, let alone 300M shooters turned up to try their hand at this shoot. To make it just a bit more difficult we use our normal 200M targets which are two thirds the size of a 300M target. Also Dennis did not want me to stay in the butts marking the individual shots as fired, as is normal. So they were setting themselves a fairly tough task, the only benefit they had was shooting off a bipod. Add to that the young niece of Dennis' had little if any experience shooting a .243.

Results, didn't they do well; Two lots of 5 shots;

Sharon Price, 37 & 43 = 77; Sapphire, 30 & 8 = 38; Dennis Price, 35 & 20 = 55.

So those of you who have not tried it may surprise your selves if you have a try.

Sunday 21st; Deer silhouette shoot, four of us turned up and the weather was kind to us till the organized shoot was over. All of us would have been bringing deer home if it had been for real, though maybe not all the deer shot at.

COMING EVENTS:

MAY;

Sunday 5th, 300M shoot. (Yeah I know, Duck shooting.)

Sunday 19th .22 metalic silhouette, a good one for the Juniors as we have been known to bend the rules for them so they have fun. A more serious .22 paper shoot can be held after lunch for the juniors keen to practise for the junior trophy shoot later in the year.

JUNE:

Sunday 2nd,, is Queen's Birthday weekend, so will give 300M shoot a bye, I will be otherwise involved anyway.

Sunday 16th , Deer silhouette shoot, 300, 200, 100, 50M.

JULY:

Sunday 7th, 300M shoot.

Sunday 21st, .22 metalic silhouette.

DEVELOPMENT WORK:

The certification process is finally in motion, and as a result there will be sometimes major work underway on the range. We will try to keep you aware of when the range may be closed because of this but timing sometimes is tight, so I would recommend members who are able check the website as this is the best method of communication at short notice.

In carrying out some of the work required there may be painted pegs placed at various points please do not use them as targets, Also there will be permanent

small painted posts positioned to mark the actual range areas, where to place targets etc. these will be explained as they are developed. At this point it is anticipated there will be significant changes to the bullet stop at 200M & 50M. The final requirements are still to come to hand, so can not make hard and fast statements at this time.

A member at the range recently made known his interest in working bees if there were to be any, some of the work may just involve hand labour so working bees are sure to eventuate, will try to give plenty of notice for those.

Time to reload,

Malcolm.

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NEWSLETTER TO BRANCHES AND MEMBERS - April 9 2013

Although we are quarter the way through the year this is the first newsletter/update from the National Office for 2013.

Trevor Dyke has retired and is no longer employed by NZDA but still maintains strong links by way of the Heritage Trust, Mountain Safety Council, etc.

PRESS RELEASE March 20 2013 'We don't want any hunting deaths this roar'.

This is the sincerest hope of Bill O'Leary, Vice President of New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association (NZDA) and national coordinator of the association's hunter training scheme HUNTS.

The recent release of the coroner's report on the accidental shooting of a Rotorua hunter last year is an unwelcome but timely reminder to hunters that a wrong decision can have deadly consequences. The extensive media coverage of the report has given cause to deerstalkers to take care especially over the next month as the roar takes a large part of the country's hunters into the bush in pursuit of stags.

Deerstalkers feel gutted whenever there is a fatality according to O'Leary and his organisation urges hunters to be pro active in taking steps to make this roar fatality free.

Read and understand the seven basic rules of firearm safety and commit to observing them faithfully. They are simple but comprehensive and have stood the test of time.

Follow the NZDA hunting guideline to wear clothing that contrasts with the environment and the animals. If you don't want to wear hunter orange (hi viz) then try the alternative blaze blue that has recently become available.

"If you hunt with a mate and loose sight of each other please, please, please stop hunting until sight contact is reestablished." Bill O'Leary emphasises that continuing to hunt without sight of one's mate is like playing Russian Roulette.

Positively identify the target by seeing the head, neck and shoulder of the deer clearly and use both eyes to do this. O'Leary is uncompromising, "Don't use the telescopic sight; this narrows the field of view to a restricted tunnel and psychologically once the rifle is at the shoulder you are semi committed to pull the trigger."

And consider the firing zone. A bullet goes a long way and in the bush can go well beyond one's field of view. Know your hunting territory and know the direction of tracks and camping sites huts and houses.

Deerstalkers should have two mantras says O'Leary, The seven basic rules and the old forestry safety message 'No meat is better than no mate'. For further information contact: Bill O'Leary 0274 305 008

ADVOCACY UPDATES

1. WILD ANIMAL RECOVERY OPERATION PERMITS (WARO)

This is an email date January 18 2013 from Kingsley Timpson:

Wild Animal Recovery Operations St James Public Conservation Area. In recognition of hunters planning to hunt during the roar this year within the St James public conservation lands, the two recently approved concessions for wild animal recovery operations (WARO) will have an extended closure period from 23 March until 20 April 2013. The department is open to considering the St James or parts of this area to exclude WARO in view of the role recreational hunters play in fulfilling the purposes of the WAC Act, as well as the local points of view about the special hunting opportunities in

the St James (due to accessible wild animals, freedom of access and the range of habitats). To achieve this, it is recommended that the following options are considered:

1. The status quo, where hunters compete with helicopter venison recovery (Wild Animal Recovery Operations / WARO) on a case by case basis when helicopter operators apply for permits to include the St James. Currently two operators have been approved to commence on 1 February this year and if no change occurs the St James will become part of the national WARO permit that is due for renewal in November 2014.
2. Promote the area as an addition to the Lake Sumner Recreational Hunting Area. No commercial hunting is permitted within RHA's without special authorisation. This option requires a specific management plan to be developed, which would be time consuming and difficult to establish and maintain.
3. Promote the area as a special area for recreational hunters or a combination of recreational and commercial hunting via section 8 (4) of the Wild Animal Control Act. This process is less problematic to establish and maintain.

To guide management decisions on this matter it would be useful if the above options were raised and discussed within interest groups.

Views can be expressed by writing to me or the Canterbury Conservator or through the public process (proposed for March / April) as the Canterbury Conservation Management Strategy (CCMS) is reviewed. The CMS sets policy for how public conservation lands are managed for the next 10 years in Canterbury. For more information see: <http://www.doc.govt.nz/getting-involved/consultations/current/canterbury-cms/get-involved/>

When NZDA was made aware that grants had been made, without public consultation of WARO permits in the St James Conservation Area, Canterbury Conservancy. NZDA wrote letters to the Minister of Conservation asking for intervention and revocation of these permits which NZDA felt appear to lack legislative justification and contravened DOC's own policy.

Hard copy in the mail to the branches. Also available on the website and electronically on request to the National Office:

- **LETTER JANUARY 28th 2013**
- **LETTER JANUARY 29th 2013**
- **LETTER FEBRUARY 1 2013.** This final letter contained further information on
 1. Acts and omission of DOC staff
 2. St James Conservation Operational Plan
 3. Public interest and notification
 4. The WARO determination report
 5. Special conditions

2. **DRAFT WESTLAND TAI POUTINI NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN (NPMP)**

Hard copy in the mail to the branches. Available on the website and electronically on request to the National Office:

- **NZDA'S SUBMISSION WESTLAND NPMP**, February 20 2013, which includes
 1. Executive summary
 2. Background and general comments
 3. Status and present plan
 4. Use of the ad hoc policy change
 5. Wording of the proposed changes to the plan
 6. DOC's responses to glacial changes
 7. Direct impacts of the proposed changes on recreational hunting
 8. Details of comments
 9. The decisions NZDA seeks

3. CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY SUBMISIONS (CMSs)

Hard copy in the mail to the branches. Available on the website and electronically on request to the National Office:

- **WAIKATO CMS**, March 14 2013, which includes:
 1. Introduction and terminology
 2. General comments
 3. General issues relating to hunting and access
 4. The place of hunting in the Waikato Conservancy
 5. Pureora Forest Park
 6. Place of the Game Animal Council (GAC) with regard to this CMS
- **AUCKLAND CMS**, March 15 2013, which includes:
 1. Introduction and terminology
 2. General comments
 3. General issues relating to hunting and access
 4. Woodhill Forest
 5. Unfounded statements about farm escapes and establishments and effects of new game herds
 6. Place of the Game Animal Council (GAC) with regard to this CMS
- **NORTHLAND CMS**, March 15 2013, which includes:
 1. Executive summary
 2. General comments
 3. issues relating to hunting and access
 4. Place of the Game Animal Council (GAC) with regard to this CMS

MINUTES - a way to keep up with what has been happening within the Association

- **NZDA NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING DECEMBER 2012**

Hard copy in the mail to the branches. Also available electronically on request to the National Office.

These minutes contain updates on the likes of to name a few items:

- a. National Shooting Development Committee report/recommendations
- b. Wapiti updates
- c. Heli-hunting
- d. Recreational Hunting areas
- e. ERMA report on the aerial use of 1080
- f. Poisoning operations
- g. Tahr matters
- h. DOC/NGO meetings
- i. Te Urewera National Park
- j. National Park on Stewart Island predator free status
- k. CMSs
- l. Webmaster updates
- m. Meetings with ministers
- n. NZDA HUNTS updates

SHOOTING RESULTS

- **NORTH ISALDN BECNHREST CHAMPIONSHIPS 2013**

Hard copy in the mail to the branches, and available in electronic format on request to the National Office or on the NZDA website.

HIMALAYAN TAHR

- **CONTROL PLAN 1 JULY 2011 to 30 JUNE 2012**

Hard copy in the mail to the branches, and available in electronic format on request to the National Office or on the DOC website. The report contains the following:

- a. Highlights
- b. Assessment and control of tahr
- c. Reported tahr killed 2011-2012
- d. Status of management units

- e. Liaison with contributors to the plan
- f. Research updates
- g. Operational plan for 2012-2013
- h. Operational specifications
- i. Planned tahr control for 2012-2013 year

• **DOC OFFERS TAHR BALLOT PRIZES - hunting diary prize for the upcoming tahr ballot in Hooker/Landsborough and Adams Wilderness Areas.**

DOC media release April 2013: Hunters who fly into Westland's most remote backcountry areas after being awarded a helicopter landing site in the annual tahr ballot have a great opportunity to provide valuable conservation information and could now win a prize for their efforts.

The Hooker-Landsborough and Adams Wilderness Areas are opened to controlled aerial access for a limited period over the winter months so that recreational hunters can get into the otherwise inaccessible places to hunt tahr. This year 6 more campsites in the Adams Wilderness Area have been added to the tahr ballot to give more hunters an opportunity to access such a remote area. At the end of their trip, hunting parties are asked to return their hunting diary to DOC's Haast office so that a clear picture can be gained of the impact the ballot process is having on tahr numbers.

"These diaries allow us to estimate how many tahr are around, and the kind of impact they're having on the alpine environment," says DOC's West Coast Monitoring Manager Terry Farrell. "We also want to get an idea of whether the tahr ballot is helping us control the population."

The annual ballots for hunting blocks within the Hooker-Landsborough and Adams Wilderness Areas are drawn each year in February. This year, the season opens on 20 April and ends on 28 June. DOC's Haast field centre manager Carl Baker says, "Wilderness areas are usually completely off-limits to helicopter access, so the ballot is a real privilege. If it's not having any benefit we might not be able to run the ballot in future, so hunters really need to show us the effect they're having by sending us their hunting diaries". To encourage hunters to return their diaries, this year there will be a prize draw for every ground based hunting party that sends in their returns. Prizes have been generously sponsored by Swazi and Macpac. Swazi has provided one of their new Tahr XP anoraks and Macpac have donated one of their versatile Torlesse 50 backpacks. **Hunting diaries must be received by 12 July 2013 to be eligible for the prize draw.** Contact: Cornelia Vervoorn, Programme Manager Community Relations, Franz Josef Waiau Area Office, cvervoorn@doc.govt.nz Check out the DOC website doc.govt.nz for further details

SIKA JAW REQUEST

The Sika are roaring in the bush behind Lochinver Station last week 18/3/13. I heard several stags on the Hee Haw call, which seems a bit early in the year. Let hope it's an omen for an exciting roar this year.

I am trying to use the jaw collection work done thru the Hunters&Habitats and the Sika Show to gain an understanding of the affects of the 1080 on the Sika Herd last winter in the Kaimanawa Forest. In June 2012 the AHB dropped 1080 on public land in the Kaimanawa Forest. The drop covered an approx 7km wide band of native Forest, forest from Clements Road to Turangi. The poison drop covered approximately 13,000 ha. Baits were applied at 3kg to the ha with deer repellent.

This is just the beginning of a lengthy campaign to get TB out of the wildlife [primarily possums] in the Kaimanawa and Kawekas. Judging from the Pureora experience it could take decades.

The suspicion is that Sika being smaller and more efficient foragers suffer a higher death rate than Red deer during a 1080 drop even with repellent used. We need some real figures on numbers and age structure for the mortality rate for Sika to make credible arguments to protect the Sika herd.

During this Roar hunters will spend 1000s of man hours searching the Kaimanawa Forest. Please if you find a deer skeleton that is reasonable fresh get the jaw. One Half is enough, throw the other half away so we don't get double ups. It won't stink your pack out. We need the sex and where the animal was found and contact details so I can let you know the animals' details.

An animal we found was 7 years old and had a 205mm jaw. GPS 1870064.5679912 This makes her a very well grown mature hind for a bush deer. We need at least 100 jaws. Unfortunately I think they are out there, lying in our bush. It would be great to get some results ready for discussion at the Sika Show.

You can post them to me at: Allan Jackson, 161 Grampian St, Tokoroa, aljackson8@clear.net.nz or drop them in the Jaw boxes or even leave at Marks place, Custom Cartridges, Taupo.

Just remember the anti hunting Greens are sitting on the political horizon looking at the conservation portfolio. They hate deer and don't like Deer repellent. Our Sika herd on public land is looking very vulnerable. Safe Hunting, Allan Jackson

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

1. HELP SUPPORT US ON FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/NZdeerhunting
By growing out online community we can do more for you in hunting in New Zealand

2. NEW ZEALAND FIREARMS – an exploration into firearm possession, use and misuse in New Zealand by Chaz Forsyth. Flyer included in the mail to the branches and available electronically on request from the NZDA National Heritage Trust c/o the NZDA National Office, PO Box 6514 Marion Square Wellington 6141 or email us on [deerstalekrs@paradise.net](mailto:deerstalekrs@paradise.net.nz) nz to order your copy \$30.00 including post and packaging within New Zealand. Soft cover, 350 pages with appendices, tables and graphs. The contents include:

- a. Unintentional shooting incidents
- b. Firearm-armed crime - extent
- c. Firearm-armed crime – patterns
- d. Suicides and suicide by firearm
- e. Legitimate New Zealand firearm users
- f. Other social factors
- g. Epilogue

3. FIREARM AND HUNTING SURVEY

The survey has been up for a month or so now, - the first 95 or so results, when analysed have revealed some interesting results, altogether far too early to discuss here, but could point the way for more research in future. It asks questions which to our knowledge, are not being asked elsewhere, and any "overlap" with any other surveys is intended only to confirm the veracity or otherwise of our findings/results.

This research project has these key features:

- It firstly examines the relationship between how people use hunting rifles in the field and the type/make of firearm being used.
- Secondly, this project seeks to explore the membership of hunting and firearm-related organisations to start an examination of how much influence training provided by these organisations is having on how firearms are used whilst hunting is being undertaken.
- Lastly, the research project is going to use this survey as an opportunity to gather more data about hunting in general to supplement previous and upcoming research on recreational hunting in New Zealand.
- This study is designed to feed directly back into the firearms/hunting community.

- An executive summary of the findings will be made available at the conclusion of the research project.
- The feedback will be either directly through the Fishnhunt website on the forum or through a link to a downloadable PDF file.
- Participation in this study is completely voluntary. There are no foreseeable risks associated with this project. However, if you feel uncomfortable answering any questions, you can withdraw from the survey at any point. All information entered into this survey is confidential with no way to link any responses to individuals as it is a completely anonymous process.

If you have any questions or suggestions please feel free to contact through forum PM or:
 D. Guil Figgins 03 473 0304; guil.figgins@gmail.com OR Chaz Forsyth, 03 473 8317;
forsyths@clear.net.nz <http://questionpro.com/t/AJN6nZOTP9>

4. TRACER AMMUNITION A supply of Tracer ammunition is currently available through various outlets. This ammunition poses a real fire risk at any time of the year and in particular in summer. Most ranges have categorically banned the use of tracer ammunition on their ranges. Members are also advised that such ammunition is banned on most civilian ranges and in commercial forests.

5. ROARING REDS OF THE RUGGED SOUTH DVD produced by the Graff Boys is out now. (DVD retailing for \$39.95, but any of your NZDA members that email me saying they heard from you, can have it for \$34.95, including postage. The DVD has an educational bit on how to butcher a deer in the field. Contact Clyde Graf on thegraffboys@xtra.co.nz

6. NZ AMMUNITION'S NEW WEBSITE NZAMMO.CO.NZ Support your NZDA's sponsors.

7. FIORDLAND WAPITI FOUNDATION SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2012/2013 (excerpts)
2013 Ballot The team has been working on the information packs that will be sent to all hunters unlike other years when it was only sent to party leaders. Every successful ballot applicant should have been sent an order form for Backcountry Food supplied by the Foundation for their personal use. This is a very important fundraising venture for our activities so please support this venture. We have made changes to the Backcountry order form and hunters can pay by direct debit. We encourage hunters to read and follow instructions well. If readers are interested in purchasing this product, get in touch with the Foundation at fiordlandwapitifoundation@xtra.co.nz as the product is available to our members as well. Concern was expressed about parties turning up at the briefings with a few members not present. Steps are being taken to have standby hunters available to fill those blocks in this position.

WARO It has been a tough start to the recovery season. The weather has been patchy to say the least but the team has done well with over 700 removed from the Wapiti area. We have had weather restraints in the past, it's just life working in Fiordland. Very few young males have been taken but older males are being assessed once there heads are fully grown. The recovery criteria has been female bias as the female to male ratio is a real concern to us. We have areas when there are good numbers of females and very low numbers of males. The recovery closed for the rut on the 17th of February which is earlier than other years. It will resume at the end of April.

8. MILITARIA AUCTION, APRIL 27 – 28TH 2013, WELLINGTON Enclosed in the mail to the branch is the catalogue. Postal bids are accepted. Check out www.militaria.co.nz

Regards, Dianne Brown, **CEO**

In the news

HUNTER SURVIVES 'TIGER' COUNTRY BY MATT STEWART – STUFF.CO.NZ (12 APRIL 2013)

A "series of bad guesses" left a disoriented Wellington tramper lost in the Wairarapa bush, sleeping in rotting logs and eating cabbage tree leaves for three days.

Fifty volunteers and two helicopters had been searching since Tuesday for waiter Michael Lindsay, 22, and by yesterday they feared he was dead.

But he emerged from the bush yesterday morning at Ruakokopatuna, about 15 kilometres north of the search area, having slept in logs and cliff overhangs while stuffing his clothes with ferns to stay warm, and eating cabbage tree leaves, watercress and boysenberries.

Michael, of Whitemans Valley, Upper Hutt, set off on Monday with father Geoff and a friend, intending to spend one day hunting. But things went wrong that night after he set off early and was hunting alone.

"It was just really a series of bad guesses," he said yesterday at Wairarapa Hospital in Masterton, where he was being treated for bruised feet and infected grazes.

"I could have done a lot of things differently, but it's too late to look back and I'll learn from my mistakes, rather than making them again. It was a little soul-destroying at times but in that situation you've got to keep a level head. Panicking only makes things worse."

Dad Geoff, who raised the alarm on Tuesday evening, said: "Thank Christ he got out without any major injuries and not on a stretcher."

Michael talked to his mother Jennie on the phone yesterday afternoon before the pair were reunited in Masterton. She said: "It was great to hear his voice; he said 'Hi Mum, I suppose you've heard . . .'"

She described her son as having good bush sense, fitness and survival skills. Although she had been confident he would make it out, she said she had become concerned by yesterday morning.

Search and rescue adviser Bill Taylor said Michael "seems to have got confused and bush-bashed through approximately 25km of mean tiger country".

Michael's troubles began on Monday after he shot a stag. After dressing and bagging the meat, he left it on the ridge saddle between Kawakawa Hut and Pararaki Hut.

He then radioed his father, telling him he was going to look for antlers he was forced to abandon at the nearby Kaiwhiri peak on a hunting trip last year.

He found the antlers but by then night was closing in, making it too dangerous to carry on back to Kawakawa hut in the steep, untracked terrain. He slept that first night on a cliff overhang.

By morning, his father became worried and went up on to the saddle and radioed his son again.

Michael responded that he was trying to find his way down a ridge and would return to the hut by lunchtime. By then, he had run out of food and lost his compass.

When he failed to make it back by evening, his father raised the alarm. Michael spent Tuesday night in a hollowed-out log, then spotted a helicopter on Wednesday.

He climbed a tree with a high-visibility orange bag liner and lit a fire but failed to attract attention. By nightfall his torch batteries had died and he was again forced to sleep in a cliff overhang.

Despite the ordeal, he still made it out of the bush with the antlers that helped get him into trouble in the first place.

- © Fairfax NZ News

FOREIGN TRAMPERS 'VERY LUCKY' TO BE FOUND ALIVE BY ABBY GILLIES, MATTHEW BACKHOUSE – THE NZ HERALD (23 APRIL 2013)

Three foreign trampers who went missing for a week in the bush in Golden Bay will tell police about their ordeal today.

Finnish trumper Jenny Rautio, 26, and her United States companions Guy Verschuur, 51, and Kristine Mattiace, 22, were rescued by helicopter from Anatoki Forks Hut in the Kahurangi National Park late yesterday afternoon - 10 days after setting off on a three-day tramp.

They had sheltered in huts during heavy rainfall, rationing their food and eating what they could source from the land.

One of the women needed medical treatment, but all three were believed to be okay and were last night recovering with friends.

Police today said they were yet to interview the trampers but were hoping to speak to them sometime today.

Land search and rescue adviser Walter DeMaat yesterday said the group were "tired and hungry" but were otherwise fine.

A break in the weather allowed the helicopter to fly into the dense bush and rescue the trio.

"The river was in flood but it was a nice day, it was clear so it was great," said pilot Bill Wallace.

Heavy rainfall over several days had caused slips and flooding in the creeks where the trampers were, "so they probably did the right thing by not walking out while the creeks were in flood", he said.

"They were all fine. They seemed a bit ecstatic to be flying out."

The trampers' last known contact was a text message to a friend on April 13 indicating their intention to be out of the bush two days later. But they failed to alert authorities of their intentions.

The group was reported missing only on Sunday after a friend ventured into the area to search for them without notifying police.

The man's decision to look for them alone put him at risk too, said Mr DeMaat.

Anyone heading into the bush should have the correct gear, including a personal locator beacon, and plenty of food in case of unexpected situations that could make them delayed.

Trampers should also check the weather before they go and get advice from those who know the area well, such as Department of Conservation staff, said Mr DeMaat.

- APNZ

HUNTERS MISSING IN TE UREWERA NATIONAL PARK FOUND – ROTORUA DAILY POST (16 APRIL 2013)

A father and son missing in the Te Urewera National Park have been found after leaving large arrows and an SOS sign made out of rocks in a riverbed.

Rotorua police were advised late on Sunday afternoon of two hunters overdue in the northern Te Urewera National Park.

The pair, a father and son from the South Waikato had been dropped by helicopter into the Matawhero Stream [about 15km east of Galatea] on Thursday, and were to be picked up at 2pm on Sunday.

When the helicopter arrived to pick them up they were not at their camp.

During the afternoon the helicopter operator returned several times to the area, but by dark they were still missing.

Rotorua Police Search & Rescue arranged several search teams of Police and LandSAR volunteers to begin a search yesterday morning.

Efforts to get back into the area were hampered by fog, rain, and low cloud, but the weather improved by late morning and a helicopter was able to drop the first of the search teams at the lost parties camp, and conduct an aerial search.

Around midday the lost hunters were located in the Te Inepa Stream. This was about 5km from their camp and in a different watershed.

They had got lost on the second day of their trip and so had been lost for three days. They had no food or shelter, but had made a fire to keep warm.

Both were hungry and weak, and very happy to see their rescuers, police said.

In addition to lighting a fire, which assisted those searching for them, the pair had also left large arrows and an SOS sign made out of rocks in the riverbed.

They had a very well equipped campsite, and lots of good gear and food, but unfortunately had very little with them when they got lost.

Police were very happy to locate the pair when they did given the severe weather warnings in place for later in the week.

Given their weak state when found it is likely that if they had still been lost when the bad weather hit it could well have proved fatal for them, police said.

Police said this was a salutary lesson to those using the outdoors to always follow the outdoor safety code.

This is a salutary lesson to those using the outdoors to always follow the outdoor safety code.

Outdoor Safety:

- Plan your trip.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you will return so they know when to raise the alarm.
- Be aware of the weather.
- Know your limits.
- Take sufficient supplies. (This includes food, clothing to cover all eventualities, and a means of communication.)

HUNTERS LOST IN BUSH FOR THREE DAYS BY CHERIE TAYLOR – ROTORUA DAILY POST (7 APRIL 2013)

Two hunters who spent three days lost in remote bush set off their emergency beacon and were rescued a short time later.

Rotorua's BayTrust Rescue Helicopter pilot Barry Vincent said the two brothers in their 20s from Matamata and Ashburton, had gone into the Urewera National Park earlier last week and set up a base camp before heading off hunting.

However, they couldn't find their way back to camp and after spending three days looking for it, they set off their emergency locator beacon yesterday afternoon, Mr Vincent said.

The pair were running out of food.

"They did the right thing ... they had enough food at their base camp but they didn't have much left with them after two nights."

With the national tracking centre picking up the signal, the helicopter crew tracked the beacon to a remote gully a few kilometres from the Mangatoatoa hut, about 90km east of Rotorua.

"They were spotted from the helicopter and were found to be safe and without injury."

Because of the remoteness of the location, the helicopter winched the men from the area using the First Sovereign Trust rescue winch and were then taken to their vehicles, he said.

The men were not overdue from their hunting trip.



**Application for Membership of the Rotorua Branch of the
New Zealand Deerstalkers Association Inc 2013/2014**

To:
NZDA
PO Box 6514
Wellington

Dear Membership Secretary,

I wish to apply for membership of the Rotorua Branch of the New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association for the 2013/14 year (March 1st 2013 – February 28th 2014).

My details are as follows:

Surname		
Given Name/s		
Preferred mailing address		
Suburb		
City/Town		
New Post Code		
Telephone		
Cell phone		
Facsimile		
Email	_____	
	Do you wish to receive the NZDA Rotorua Monthly newsletter electronically? Yes / No	
	Are you able to assist with Search and Rescue? Yes / No	
Date of Birth if Junior or Superannuant	____ / ____ / _____	Junior less than 18 as at 1 March 2013. Superannuant over 65 as at 1 March 2013.

Membership entitles you to:

- ✦ Any discounts such as purchases in certain sport and gun shop and discounted heli fly in trips as available at times.
- ✦ \$10 Million dollar personal public liability insurance for hunting and shooting mishaps (such as accidental cause of fires and similar ie \$1 million cover for Rural Fires Act, exemplary and punitive damage.)
- ✦ Affiliation with COLFO, Coalition of Licensed Firearm Owners – the firearm fund for firearm rights.
- ✦ Access to monthly socials or meetings; the clubrooms; range competitions or individual shooting; competitions and trophies; organized hunts
- ✦ Involvement in conservation and animal management *ownership, shooting sport, hunting and habitats.*
- ✦ *Support for the branch as well as the national NZDA association to represent hunters' interests regarding firearms*

REMEMBER YOU MUST BE FINANCIAL AT THE TIME YOU SHOOT THAT TROPHY TO ENTER COMPETITIONS AND FINANCIAL TO MAKE ANY CLAIMS AGAINST THE \$10 MILLION INSURANCE COVER.

Range Keys	Any person who wishes to have a range gate key for the private use of our range must be a current financial member of the branch and must obtain a key from Hamills, Outdoorsman HQ or Hunting and Fishing. Your membership card must be produced at the time of key purchase. Keys may not be lent or passed on to other persons, whether they are members or not. Non-members can only enter the range if accompanied by a current financial member. Any use of the range by non-members requires prior approval of the committee executive.
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Club Contacts

Postal address: PO Box 857, Rotorua
Email: nzdarotorua@gmail.com web: www.nzdarotorua.org.nz

Patron	Des Jenkins	
Honorary Solicitor	Barry Rodgers	
Life Members	Des Jenkins	
	Rod Houghton	Ph 332 2577
	Malcolm Perry	Ph 348 4473
	Owen Rumble	
	Gary Winslade	
	Dennis Price	Ph 348 4343
Honorary Member	Ross Burton	
Investment Trustees	Cliff Graham	
	Rod Houghton	
	Ralph Price	

Branch Executive

President	Colin Petersen	Ph 343 9481
Vice President	Dennis Price	Ph 348 4343
Treasurer	Ralph Price/Mark Slade	Ph 357 2786
Secretary	Elvis Bowring	Ph 350 3230
Hunts Convenor	Cliff Graham	Ph 362 8883
	Murray Robson	Ph 345 5160

Committee Members

Range	Malcolm Perry	Ph 348 4473
Socials	Scott Russell	Ph 343 9383
Search and Rescue	Cliff Graham	Ph 362 8883
Webmaster	Ralph Price	Ph 357 2786
Tines Editor	Elvis/Scott	Ph 350 3230/343 9383
	Neil Fawcett	Ph 350 2233
	Lance Price	Ph 333 1625
	Rod Houghton	Ph 332 2577
	Peter Graham	Ph 333 1838
	Geoff Moree	Ph 348 8632
	Graham Allan	

Range Keys

Any person who wishes to have a range gate key for the private use of our range must be a CURRENT FINANCIAL MEMBER of the Branch and must obtain a key from Hunting and Fishing, Hamills, Outdoorsman HQ or Serious Shooters. Your membership card must be produced at the time of key purchase. Keys may not be lent or passed on to other persons, whether they are members or not. Non-Members can only enter the Range if accompanied by a current Financial Member. Any use of the range by non-members requires prior approval of the committee.

Membership Costs (Rotorua Branch)

Senior = \$100 (full benefits at local and national branch level)

Associate = \$70 (Unable to vote or enter national competitions. Does not receive H&W)

Junior = \$25 (Must be less than 18 years of age as at March 1st 2011. Full benefits apart from voting rights.)

Student = \$40 (Must be attending a tertiary institute or undergoing an apprenticeship. Proof must be provided.)

Superannuant = \$50 (Over 65 as at March 1st 2011. Full benefits)

Family = \$5 (Children or grandchildren)

Sender:

Rotorua Branch NZDA
PO Box 857
ROTORUA

