

THE SOUTHERN HUNTER



Caples Valley above Bowling Green Flat Dick Marquand, John Bishop, Neville Arneson

Southland Branch NZDA News Letter August 2020

Branch email is: enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz

News Letter douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz

Branch website <http://www.southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz/>

Monthly Meeting Wednesday 19th August 8pm
At the Longbush Clubrooms
Executive Meeting 7pm

Guest Speaker
Roy Sloan of Fiordland Wapiti Foundation

FACEBOOK:

AS YOU MAY KNOW THE CLUB HAS MOVED WITH THE TIMES AND NOW HAS ITS VERY OWN FACEBOOK PAGE FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE ON FACEBOOK. CHECK IT OUT, YOU WILL FIND HELPFUL INFO ON THERE AND IT WILL HOPEFULLY ENCOURAGE NEW MEMBERSHIP AND CLUB INTERACTION. WE ENCOURAGE ALL MEMEBERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO IT

NEW MEMBERS

New Members please welcome them

Luke Pile, Roger Wells, Mark Tinnock, Coren Sherriff

Club Hunts

All hunts for Southland Branch NZDA Members (with full NZDA membership) as Public liability Insurance required).

Wallaby Hunt

Looking at another Wallaby hunt before Christmas.

Wanted

Stories, adds, letters to the editor, or whatever for the newsletter, send to or contact the editor.

Guest Speaker's needed, Ideas wanted, who do you want, and names needed, suggestions to Executive.

INVOICES for SUBS

It was recently brought to the Executives attention that a Member has failed to receive an Invoice for this year's Sub.

If you have received this e-mail message and have failed to receive an Invoice.

Please

Contact National Office phone 04 499 6163 or e-mail membership@deerstalkers.org.nz
for an Invoice.

Could you also Please e-mail Tom Mead (Branch Membership Controller)

At enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz

So that he can get an idea of the extent of the problem

Presidents Report



NZDA
New Zealand Deerstalkers Association

Well things have been pretty quiet on the hunting front winter months are always tough time for deer they tend to hold up in smaller areas of feed and warm faces but don't move around as much. But they're still out there.

Rayioners is looking positive to be in the forests soon. Once we get the contract from Rayioners we will be able to have a vehicle inspection afternoon and get the ballot up and running□.

We held the kids hunting comp on the 12th of July and had a great turn out it was a great day and cool to see all the kids go away with a smile on their faces.

This month we have Roy Sloan coming along to speak at the meeting, he's going to give us a run down on the Wapiti ballot and some of the history behind it. If you're interested it would defiantly be worth making the time to come along Roy is a keen hunter and has a wealth of knowledge and will be able to answer questions on the FWF and Wapti hunting .

The national conference took place on the 25th 26th of July it was run as a Zoom conference this year while there were a few hiccups it ran reasonable smoothly and a new NATEX has been appointed

President Craig Benbow

Vice President Alec Mclver

Treasurer Carolyn Heffernan

Nth Is Reps

- Craig Sheridan
- Morgan Rogers

Sth Isl Reps

- Ian Owen
- Wayne Smith

We look forward to some positive change and see what the new members bring to the table.

Big thanks to Geoff Hinton from Focus computers and the Gore Branch who hosted us for the national zoom conference. And Thanks to our secretary Andy Nesbit who attended the conference as our delegate. I sat in as an observer on Saturday and it was educational to see how a conference operates.

Happy hunting Shaun Mckelvie

BOOKS FOR SALE

Contact Colin Geertson

All prices were taken from online 2nd-hand books. (Note these are being advertised throughout the South Island to various NZDA Branches)

My email address is – colingert@xtra.co.nz

My mobile phone is 027-6579512 but it is a waste of time phoning as I never hear it in time to answer. Texts are okay.

My landline is 03-5793101

AUTHOR	TITLE	PRICE
Kelly, Greg	Guns in the Hills	\$35
Kelly, Greg	The Gun in the Case	\$138
Helmer, Ron	Stag Party	\$25
Holden, Philip	Seasons of a Hunter	\$73
Holden, Philip	Backblocks	\$75
Holden, Philip	Hunter by Profession	\$45
Holden, Philip	On Target	\$30
Holden, Philip	Pack and Rifle	\$60
Holden, Philip	Holden on Hunting	\$??
Holden, Philip	Hunt South	\$38
Lyver, Andy	Fair Chase	\$19
Scott, Peter	Weekend Hunter	\$30
Rutherford, Ben	A View from the Brothers	\$37
Tinsley, Ray	Call of the Moose	\$36
Severinsen, Keith	Hunter Climb High	\$55
Forrester, Rex	Hunting in New Zealand	\$??
Forrester, Rex	Hunter for Hire	\$37
Severinsen, Keith	Hunt the Far Mountain	\$50
McNair, Jack	Shooting the Skipper	\$45
Thomson, Joff	Deer Hunter	\$66
Curtis, Max	Beyond the Rivers Bend	\$30
Luxford, David	Stags, Boars & Stories Rarley	\$35
Joll, Gary	Big Game Hunting in New Zealand	\$25
McConochie, Newto	You'll Learn no Harm in the Hill	\$50
Davey, Colin	Deer on my Doorstep	\$40
Banwell, D Bruce	Wapiti in New Zealand	\$213
Banwell, D Bruce	The Red Stags of the Rakia	\$278
Ruark, Robert	Use Enough Gun	\$134
McCristal, Vic	Top End Safari	\$71
Holden, Philip	Along the Dingo Fence	\$88
Holden, Philip	The Hunting Experience	\$80
Holden, Philip	Always Another Hill	\$???
Cameron, Murray	Trophy Hunter	\$50
Forrester, Rex	True Hunting Adventures	\$60
Holden, Philip	The Deer Hunters	\$47
Holden, Philip	The Golden Years of Hunting	\$56
Pittaway, Bob	The Lure of the Hills	\$33
Axbey, Bill	Along the Track	\$122



Editorial

Today I see on Stuff and Co that a Canadian Goose cull at Hokowhitu Lagoon Palmerston North has been put on hold. Some locals having complained considering it inhumane to shoot the geese at night. (Note a previous council cull had been held in daylight, where they were herded together and their necks broken in sight of people attending a function at Caccia Birch house. (*This cull was poorly carried out something better needed to be done than ringing necks.*) (Note in passing Te Anau township also has a similar geese problem. Which is not thought to be politically correct to tackle by shooting next the township)

Recreational hunting in New Zealand lives in a dangerous middle ground in between green types who would like to exterminate Tahr etc, and others who also consider themselves green, (and perhaps the same people). Who object to anyone harming animals in any way. When either side wins hunting loses!!

Some of us need to take note and don't push sensitivity issues as has been done in the past. Don't put that trophy head somewhere prominent when driving back into town. Change out of the blood stained gear before visiting the local shops (if possible). No videos of anything inhumane please. More of the population live in cities and are not used to seeing the coarser aspects of what results in food for some ones plate. The news media loves to report their objections.

Doug Gordon

Kids Hunt 10th -12th July

Huge thanks to everyone that came along to the kids hunting competition we had a great turn out , total of 24 entries.

Congratulations to all the kids that entered.

1st overall Blake Dason 4.10kg hare & 3.58 Possum

2nd Holly Duston 3.85kg hare & 3.99 Possum

3rd Kayla McLean 3.78 hare & 4.09 Possum

Big thanks to Hunting and Fishing Invercargill, Dawson Electrical & Tom Mead for supplying all the prizes. And thanks to all the helpers that made the day possible. We had a great day & everyone went home happy.

Shaun





Sponsors

Southland Branch would like to thank its regular sponsors and recommend them to its members.



**SOUTHERN
ADVENTURE**
THE IN STORE FOR THE OUTDOORS



Wallaby Trip June 2020

Once again the serpentine valley turned on the weather for 2 good days and one very foggy day of wallaby shooting. Friday the 26th June a very cold start to the day with 7 of us heading into the hills for a day of wallaby shooting. We split into 3 hunting parties and headed on in. plenty of Roo's to point a shooting stick at, a few pigs were seen and a couple of deer spotted after a member of one hunting party stated shooting with a very noisy rifle and scared them out of the gully which they were in. Was good to see all disciplines of shooting from the small to the large being used short range to long range, it was Sunny all day long with little wind and dry ground conditions made getting around very pleasant. Night time atmosphere was enhanced with the addition of an industrial styled brazier which kept us all warm whilst rehydrating and sharing a few tall stories.

One of the things I like about Neville Powell's farm is the cottage where we stayed, it allows us to bring a little bit extra gear so as to be able to enjoy a cooked breakfast each morning, a smart member of the group brought a crockpot and had a venison stew on for when we got back.

Saturday brought much of the same although the Roo's seemed a little harder find we still managed to control 129 wallabies for the weekend and 7 pigs. A evening shoot on Saturday ended up being abandoned due to foggy conditions which continued right through until Sunday where being able to see the next fence post was getting more and

more difficult the higher we went. A brief spell in the fog gave us an hour of looking for wallabies but conditions only allowed for one wallaby on Sunday being shot. Overall a great weekend and great company. Was a great having new member come along for the trip and seeing them enjoying a great weekend. A big thanks again to Neville for the use of his property. I will try to organize another trip for the end of the year.
Tom Mead

Branch Trophies

This is a series of articles on the branch trophies as found in the club rooms, with two other at Wapiti Lodge. (*Note I thought there was only one trophy at the Wapiti lodge until staying at it this year*)

Maurice Garvie Whitetail

Stewart Island 1985. Douglas Score 158 ½



Insert Score sheet

In 2003 Southland Branch hosted the NZDA National Conference at Ascot Park Hotel. As a feature it was decided to have a exhibition of the best whitetail heads taken off Stewart Island. 64 trophies were located and transported to Invercargill by various means. The trophy was shot by Maurice Garvey who is an Australian. He was tracked down in Australia and by lucky streak he had just had the head remounted and it was in storage in Christchurch. After the exhibition Maurice very generously donated the trophy to Southland Branch NZDA. Maurice was secretive about the details of the shooting of the buck and would only disclose it was shot on North Western Stewart Island.



Exhibition organisers John DeLury and Ray Phillips inspect some of the heads on display at the 2003 Exhibition and National Conference

Doc Hyperlinks on Poison Please check before hunting

[Battle for the Birds](#)

[Pesticide summaries interactive map](#)

OSPRI Hyperlink poison

[Aerial Pest Control Operations underway or planned](#)

Branch Tops

We are organizing branch tops with our logo on them. They are going to be a Hunting and Fishing fleece bush shirt. The cost of these will be around \$40 Men's and Women's styles

are available. To do this you will need to place an order we will process these once a month. To place and order please contact:

Thomas Mead 027 847 1882 or enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz



Pink

Blue



Green

Black

Grey

Freeze Dri



Available at a great price to Branch Members Contact Gus
Ronald gus.ronald@xtra.co.nz 03 213 0351 for a price list

**Southern New Zealand dotterel recovery project
information (From Doc)**

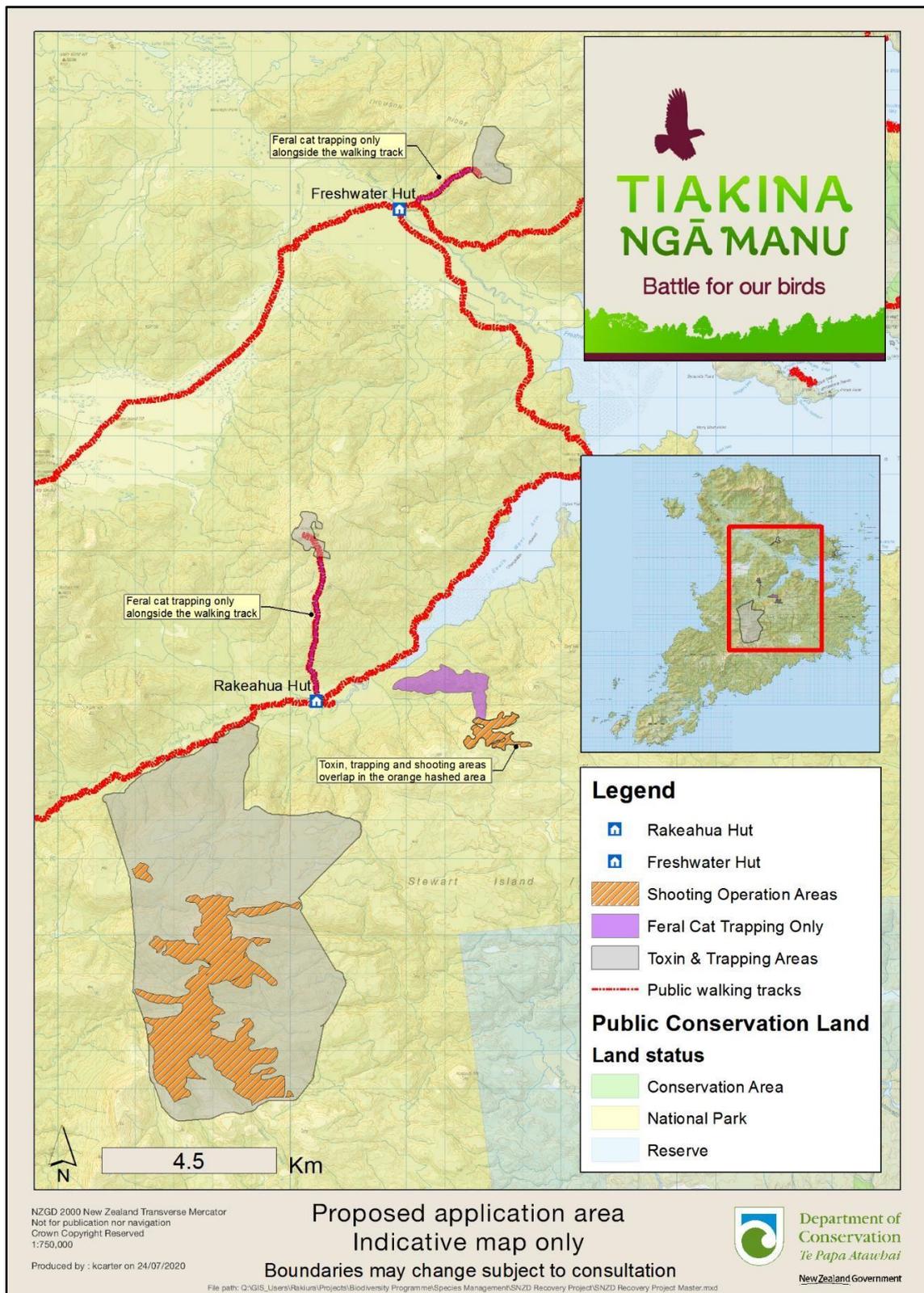


The population had reached a low-point in 1992 with just 62 birds at the time. Feral cat predation was believed to be the major contributor to the declining population. Toxic feral cat control began in 1994 and was successful, allowing the population to climb to 290 birds in 2009. The population recovery stalled before reversing with numbers falling from 288 in 2010 to 179 in 2015 at an average of 10% per year. The decline rate accelerated to 29% the following year with the population at an estimated 126 birds.

During the 6-year decline, studies and research were conducted to understand what had changed and why the feral cat control project was no longer working. This research turned up evidence of new predators such as white-tailed deer, spur-winged plover and Australasian harrier. Based on this new information and on a wide variety of technical advice we implemented an updated predator control programme which included targeting the newly identified predators and introducing new methods of targeting cats such as a new toxin called PAPP (PredaStop for Cats), shooting and kill trapping. Alongside the increased predator control, we also completed further monitoring and banding work in the field to understand whether adults were surviving, eggs were hatching and how birds move through the landscape.

After a breeding season of the revised management approach, we completed the annual flock count in April 2017 to see how the dotterel population was faring. We were very happy to see that the population estimate had grown from 126 in 2016 to 153 in 2017. After a second year of the expanded programme a second increase from 153 to 167 birds in April 2018 while April 2019 showed only a minor increase to approximately 170 birds and again to 173 birds in 2020.

We're now planning to continue the new work begun four years ago and will continue to closely monitor the dotterel population to get the most up-to-date understanding of their situation. We are hopeful that the recent 21% and 9% increases are the start of a recovery and will continue to do our best to give the dotterels their best chance.



The Oreti 2000

Fishing season came around yet again and as usual I was only half ready. So it was two weeks before I got fishing. Jim from around at work said the Oreti was fishing well on Minnow. So I decided to give it another try. So far from 20 plus years of trying I had two fish from memory from the river. The Hamilton Burn was where I had success fishing. So it came as no surprise that I caught my first two fish in the Burn.

Anyway I decided on a different approach to the Oreti. I gave Ken a farming friend a ring and got permission to go through his place downstream from Mossburn for a change. Thus Labour weekend Saturday found walking through the rough track to the Oreti. The pool where the track ended looked a chance so I gave it a go. The first cast catching a half-submerged bush downstream, due to the force of the current. Minnow freed I next cast further upstream. At least no snag this time. After a few casts I waded a bit of a backwater and headed upstream. Another pool another cast and bang I hooked one. A few minutes later I had a 3lb plus jack landed not in good condition but a fish. This I stashed to collect on the way back. Then after a few more casts headed up stream. Tried to cross one branch of the river to reach the next pool but was driven back, after nearly going over the top of the waders.

Further upstream I start to cross at the fantail of a short pool. Give a cast into it hook one then promptly loose it, before getting a chance to see how big it was. That was to be my lot there. On crossing I disturb two Canadian geese who take off then land again further downstream. Over against the far bank of the stream bed I find a good pool in the main branch of the river. Starting at the bottom of the pool I fished my way upstream. Several casts latter near the top of the pool bang another strike. Minutes later I have my hands on the fish that was to weigh a bit over 4lb gutted. Soon I am on my way home dropping of a fish for Ken on the way.

The following Wednesday I am back, I bring a shotgun (broken down in my fishing bag for the geese). I fish the pools I fished last time, but get nothing. So on upstream the next pool looks good. I fish it from the bottom up and get success a bit above the middle of the pool. This one makes a few good runs before I land it. On the way back I see a chance for a goose and sneak as I can putting a pile of drift wood between me and the geese (after assembling the shotgun). But not close enough as I miss as they start to fly off. With time now pressing me I head home with a trout that weighs a bit over 5lb.



Doug and a trout caught in that section of the Oreti. (file photo)

Sunday finds me back bring my daughter Allison for a fish. I didn't bring the gun so come across Canadian geese close enough to shoot. Nothing happens until we reach the pool where I caught Wednesday's fish. Here I see a trout but fail to get it to take the minnow. Upstream I cast into the very head of the pool and bang I have one on. This is soon landed it will weigh 5.5lb after this we swap rods so that I can sort out a tangle in Allison's line. After doing so I give it a cast and look in dismay as a fish fails to take the minnows it runs into shallow water. Upstream further we fish another pool Allison has a strike but the fish gets off before we get a look at it. Too soon it's time to head home for lunch.

Thursday morning over a week later and I get back to the river, being on night shift that week. There had been some recent rain but the river is lower than previously. The fishing is without success though I see three and get one to strike. Approaching the last pool before I turn back I spy a lone goose. Putting some cover in-between me and the goose I Half the distance. Put rod down assemble the shotgun and proceed to get closer using the cover of a willow in-between to keep out of sight.

Presently I pear around the willow and there only about 30 metres away is the goose. Action the goose takes off and I fire both barrels of BB Shot (lead in those days). For no apparent result. The goose flies off but fails to climb, disappearing into the river bed up river. I follow at a run have I wounded it? The fact that I have only four more rounds with me is a concern. (The rest are back in my fishing bag).

Upstream I find two more geese that fly off followed by another. That looks like it? Disappointed I turn for home. Only to see across the river a funny looking rock in the distance a bit downstream. As I get closer hopes rise. I am soon wading the river to retrieve my goose. Then head for home much happier

Doug Gordon



Wapiti Lodge, Thicket Burn Hut &

Red Stag Lodge Mavora



Bookings to Neville & Carol Miller Phone (03)216 8654 email

nandc43@gmail.com or 43 Bain St Invercargill

Please Note the Red Stag Lodge is on Doc land a hunting permit is required to have firearms at the site. **Deposits for any bookings to be received within seven days or bookings will be cancelled.**

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