

TARGET TAUPO

**A newsletter for Hunters and Anglers
in the Tongariro/Taupo Conservancy**

NOVEMBER 1999, ISSUE 32



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

INNOVATION

BALANCING KILWELL TRADITION & TECHNOLOGY

Kilwell's new flyrod gets the big 'thumbs up'



Herb Spannagl,
angling enthusiast, author, says...

"The first thing I noticed was how smoothly the rod loaded and then unloaded without any noticeable tip oscillation. During false casting it held up all the 32' foot belly and the additional 25' rear taper without struggling."

"On the water the rod handled any length of line without folding up or even hemorrhaging under maximum load."

"Everybody was very impressed how a seemingly stiff rod could be so responsive. While good casting is largely dependant on good technique **this rod made that a much more enjoyable experience.**

Hugh McDowell, Angling Adventures, says...

"First, a confession: Having been "slinging string" for about half a century I thought myself capable of deciding the best line weight for any fly rod simply by feeling the action in the shop. But I must say I was a bit surprised to find this rod handled the suggested #6 line better than the #7 I'd already decided in my head would be correct one to use..."

"In general I think you are to be congratulated on having such a superb range of fly-rods, not just the "Innovation" alone but also the "Presentation" series. All of them are truly World Class and, I believe, **stand proudly alongside imported brands costing twice the money!**"



Tony Entwistle,
renowned South Island fishing guide says...

"Lightweight' and 'responsive' are the most striking first impressions when you pick up these new rods. In the **Innovation** series, Kilwell have set out to create rods with a stiffer action, but which are responsive and very easy to cast. No question they have succeeded brilliantly.

Their responsiveness makes it easier for anglers to feel the rod loading with loops that are tighter and better under control, these rods are going to ensure longer and more accurate casts. For those anglers who regularly have to battle a wind (most of us!), these rods will produce the goods. **This is a series of rods designed for New Zealand conditions with New Zealand anglers in mind.**"

Graham Pyatt, fishing guide says...

"... their fly rods rank right up with the very best available anywhere - the Presentation series put rod building into a class of its own, the overall performance of these rods produced the ultimate results or so we thought. Now Kilwell have done it again with their **Innovation** series."

"Actual casting under real conditions proved an absolute delight. The rods were extremely responsive and with a somewhat stiffer action than their predecessors, made casting extremely easy once you've made yourself familiar with the rods totally different responsiveness. During casting rod loading is extremely easy to the feel, loops are tighter and relatively easy to control and with all this of course comes accuracy."

"Overall it is my unreserved opinion, that again, Kilwell have come up with a series of rods that are world class - in every respect being equal at the very least to any rod available - **better than most.**"

FISHING



SHOOTING

TARGET TAUPO

**A newsletter for Hunters and Anglers
in the Tongariro/Taupo Conservancy**

NOVEMBER 1999, ISSUE 32

Published by
Department of Conservation
Tongariro/Taupo Conservancy
Private bag, Turangi, New Zealand

Front cover: Time out to enjoy a great morning's fishing

ISSN 0114-5185

Production and advertising by Fish & Game New Zealand
Telephone (09) 579 3000
Facsimile (09) 579 3993

CONTENTS

The views expressed in Target Taupo are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect Department of Conservation policy

Foreword from the Taupo Fishery Area Manager	3
Iki Jime.....	4
Brown Trout of Taupo <i>by Rob McLay</i>	6
What to do if you find a net	12
Free Lake Taupo boat fishing seminars	12
Possum Control in the Rangitikei River/Otamateanui Stream Areas of the Kaimanawa Forest Park	14
Tongariro Forest douglas fir logging	15
Trout Protection Bill.....	16
When must you stop fishing?.....	17
Staff changes	17
Fishing licence sales.....	17
Waiotaka log jam blown up <i>by Glenn Maclean</i>	18
Omori Stream fish pass	21
Lead free downrigger weights	22
Scientist attends international conference on fish migration held in Europe	23
Mixed prospects for Lake Otamangakau anglers <i>by Rob Marshall/Glenn Maclean</i>	24
Changes to the wild animal recovery industry	28
Goat control operations.....	30
A big season for predators	32
Boat anglers - who must be licensed?	33
Winter angling summary <i>by Rob Marshall</i>	34
300 metre markers indicate "No Go" Zone	36
Changes to fishing opportunities in the Waiotaka Stream	38
Illegal activities information.....	39
Rights-of-way in the Taupo fishery <i>by John Gibbs</i>	40
Pesticide summary	41
Requirement to produce a current fishing licence on demand.....	42
New river angling signs and rationalisation of Tongariro River tracks.....	44
Taupo District fishing licence review	45
Team Profile.....	48



Foreword from the Taupo Fishery Area Manager

You may notice some major changes in the format of this issue of *Target Taupo*. Most obvious is the change in page size from A5 to A4. When *Target Taupo* began in July 1989 it was a 27-page text booklet with just an occasional black and white photograph. The A5 size was quite suitable and using this smaller size presented significant savings in postage.



Over the years *Target Taupo* has become a larger magazine, and in conjunction with developments in printing and publishing, a series of format changes have occurred. Some of these have involved the use of colour photographs and the magazine is now printed in full colour. However many of the photographs were not as effective as they might be because of the small page size and some of the other opportunities made possible by the use of colour have not been fully utilised.

There is no longer the same financial advantage to using an A5 booklet over an A4 magazine and the 10th anniversary of the *Target Taupo* was an appropriate time for us to review the format, production and distribution of the magazine.

In this issue you will notice a number of changes which hopefully make the magazine more attractive and easier to read. As well as changes in the format of each page changes have been made in the order of the articles. Instead of presenting all of the short information items on the fishery and the conservancy together in Something Fishy and Bitz 'n' Pieces these items are now

spread throughout the issue. In another change all the feature articles bear the author's name along with a brief background of the author.

We hope that you find the new look appealing and easy to read.

John Gibbs
Taupo Fishery Area Manager

Iki Jime follow-up



Iki Jime. To destroy the brain position the spike in the centre of the skull between the eyes. Drive it 2-3cm into the skull and rock it forward and back to destroy the nervous system

After having been "Ikiied" bleed the trout. Place the thumb between the operculum and the gills of the fish. Run the knife across the gills and the throat and out of the underside of the fish

Bleed the trout in cold water. Note the gills turning pinkish indicating that most of the blood has been evacuated. The fish is now ready for storage

Effective Iki Jime spikes can be manufactured from a variety of implements. In this case these include old screwdrivers and a barbeque fork

In the last issue of *Target Taupo* we presented an article on how to select a suitable trout for eating and how to then handle the fish so as to achieve the best eating quality. This appears to have been a very successful article and we appreciate all the positive comments we have received. However, it appears we did not describe the location of the brain in a trout and the way to cut its gills clearly enough. To remedy this we are publishing these photographs showing the proper way to do the Iki.





I Said...



Competition Fly

fishing is an exacting sport, sometimes requiring long accurate casts, sometimes short and subtle, but at all times requiring a fly rod with a fine balance between power and sensitivity.

World championship competition places high demands on both the angler and his fly rod. The angler must be able to continually cast for 6 hours a day, without causing stress to his casting arm. Few rods have the balance and "feel" necessary to achieve this.

The Rodd and Gunn NZ Fly Fishing Team, competing in the World and Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships in Australia, 1999, has chosen to use Sage Rods, for their proven durability and ability to perform without compromise in the diverse fishing conditions encountered on the lakes and rivers of the competition.

The lifetime guarantee on every Sage rod is appropriate. Anglers who own them, use them for a lifetime.

Doug Rankin

Captain/Manager, NZ Fly Fishing Team



Sponsors of the NZ Fly Fishing Team

For more information contact the experts at your local Sage dealer.

- Tisdalls – Auckland • Just Fishin' – Auckland • Fish City – Hamilton • The Outdoorsman Headquarters – Rotorua
- O'Keefe's Fishing Specialists – Rotorua • The Fly & Gun Shop – Taupo • Sporting Life – Turangi
- Manawatu Hunting & Fishing – Palmerston North • Hamills H.B. – Hastings • Wellington Hunting & Fishing – Lower Hutt
- Tisdalls – Wellington • Stirling Sports – Wellington • The Complete Angler – Christchurch
- Fishermans Loft – Christchurch • Centrefire Sports – Dunedin • B&B Sports – Gore

Brown Trout of Taupo

by Rob McLay

Rob is the field operations programme manager for the Taupo Fishery Area and has been directly involved with the management of Taupo browns for 25 years. His affinity for brown trout extends back to his childhood when he chased browns in the lakes and tarns of central Otago with his dad.

It is fair to say that for most Taupo anglers, brown trout remain a mystery. By far the majority of our licence holders will never catch one from lake Taupo or its tributaries. For those who do, the event is likely to be memorable with the fish in all probability being large and perhaps the trophy of a lifetime. However there are a few anglers who target the browns and who often have several trophy specimens to their credit. We consider some angling aspects later in this article but for now, it is worth going back to the beginning and summarising how the Taupo brown trout fishery was established.

Success and disappointment

Prior to their introduction to Taupo, brown trout had already been established in a number of regions around the country by Acclimatisation Societies. The original stock was British and arrived by ship via Tasmania. The first introductions occurred in Otago and Canterbury in the late 1860s. However it was the late 1880s before the first liberations occurred in Taupo waters. These liberations involved the combined efforts of a number of resourceful pioneers who transported the fry around the lake using horse drawn coaches and the old steam ferry "Hinemoa". Fish were liberated in all of the major east Taupo rivers, the Kuratau and Whareroa rivers and in the lake and Waikato River near Taupo township. By 1898 occasional brown trout were being caught by rod anglers.

The two largest fish recorded were 23kg and 18kg and were both speared below the Kuratau Falls by Kahu Te Kuru in 1904.

While the establishment of brown trout in Taupo was a success, the outcome for anglers was disappointing. Unlike their South Island and southern North Island cousins, the Taupo browns were difficult to catch from the outset and have remained so to the present day. This led early enthusiasts to turn their attentions to other species of fish that might fulfil their sporting needs. As we know, rainbow trout were ultimately selected and successfully introduced. The rainbow trout boomed and by 1907 were the

dominant trout species in the lake, surpassing browns in numbers and angling values although not in weight. Because of this, the development of Taupo trout fishing techniques has focussed on catching rainbows and the methods and gear used over the last 100 years have rarely coincided with those that might be expected to regularly catch brown trout. The brown trout population has remained essentially unnoticed and untroubled by anglers.

Brown trout heaven

Although it is possible to find brown trout anywhere in the lake, the fish display clear preferences for specific areas. The most significant of these areas is the shallow lake margins and bays adjacent to the shoreline sweeping from the Waihi Stream around through Tokaanu and Stump bays and ending at the base of the Motuopa headland. Right in the middle of this zone is the Tongariro Delta. The meandering section of lower river from The Delta upstream to about Delatours Pool is akin to heaven for brown trout.

Substantial numbers of brown trout also live around the south western shoreline from Pukawa north to Whareroa. Other notable

areas include Waihora Bay (and lower river), Two Mile Bay through to Waitahanui, Waipahi, Waitetoko and Motuopa Bay. Within these areas brown trout are most likely to be found in the vicinity of the stream mouths and in the shallower

water between the lake edge and the deep water drop off.

Taupo browns display a high degree of selectivity for the rivers and streams that they use for spawning. Rivers such as Tokaanu, Waimarino, Tauranga-Taupo and Hinemaiaia have no brown runs to speak of while others of a similar size such as the Whitikau and Whareroa are loaded with several thousand fish each winter. Competition with rainbows for spawning and juvenile rearing space has probably played a large part in determining the streams that the browns have come to use. Over the last five years, we have trapped spawning runs in two tributaries of the

The brown trout population has remained essentially unnoticed and untroubled by anglers



Brown Trout heaven. The lower Tongariro river and delta where the biggest concentration of brown trout in the fishery is found

Tongariro, the Whitikau and Waipa streams. Out of a total run of around 12,000 fish in the Whitikau, approximately 1300 are brown trout (11%). Of 3000 trout in the Waipa, 600 or 20% are browns. The browns commence entering the spawning areas around April each year although in the case of the Tongariro, they will have been moving upstream through the river for up to two

months before this. When these brown trout arrive at our fish traps, they are an impressive sight. Big, strong and in their prime, they are a real handful for staff trying to gather the data.

It is interesting to compare these fish with the browns of Lake Otamangakau, a fishery with a well deserved reputation for its trophy trout. In the last full season of data that we have (1998), we trapped adult brown trout in Te Whaiiau Stream (Lake Otamangakau) and Waipa Stream (Tongariro River). The browns of Lake Otamangakau averaged 2.6kg (5.7lb) but this excellent average size paled against that for Taupo fish of 3.3kg (7.3lb). The quality of the fish and the large proportion of very big fish in the population surely places Taupo browns in the top category of trophy trout fisheries in the world.

A challenge or an exercise in futility?

How does one go about catching one or more of these magnificent specimens? Anglers can and do catch browns but this is often as much of a surprise to the angler as it is to the fish. Looking at our most recent angling data, we can see just how rarely brown trout are caught in the Taupo fishery. Angler harvest data is collected randomly throughout the fishery over

the whole year. Several thousand anglers are interviewed so that the full cross section of angling methods are surveyed for the lake and the rivers. In the winter of 1998, 174 angler-caught trout were weighed and measured by staff surveying the rivers. Of these fish, only three were browns! Remember that there are likely to be several thousand of these fish running the Tongariro as



A real bandful for staff. An impressive but common occurrence at our Tongariro (tributary) trap sites

evidenced by our fish trap data. Similarly over the summer of 1998/99 staff weighed and measured 519 fish on the lake. Of these, only five were browns!

So what is happening? There is no doubt Taupo brown trout can be difficult to catch, even with the correct gear and approach. However, the reality is that the gear, methods and traditional angling patterns of behaviour that have evolved to so successfully catch rainbows, simply do not work for brown trout in the Taupo fishery. Consider these examples. Deep trolling, which is a very popular angling method is unlikely to harvest browns regardless of the lures used because the lure is fishing water where browns don't live. Harling in shallow water during spring accounts for a few fish because good brown trout habitat is being fished. The trouble is many brown trout are scared off by the boat long before they see the lure. If the lure does not accurately represent what they are eating at the time, they will ignore it anyway. In the river throw a bomb with an attached globug near a brown trout anywhere in the world and you will get exactly the same response as you do at Taupo: a fish's version of an obscene gesture as it bolts for the nearest cover.

Perhaps the one significant exception to the fishing method/brown trout mismatch at

Taupo is night fishing with large Taupo style wet flies. This is a good approach for browns and

can be very successful. However, if you wish to catch more than just an occasional fish, you need to be prepared to fish this way on a regular basis and focus on locations where browns are known to be present in good numbers. Peak months are February and March and at this time of year weather permitting there are always a few dedicated anglers at river mouths like the Waitahanui, Waipahi, Whareroa and Waihora seeking their trophy brown. Rather than fishing in the main flow, seek out the quieter margins along the edge of the current. Retrieve the fly very slowly and avoid the luminescent patterns favoured when targeting rainbow trout.

The key attributes required to successfully catch browns are:

- understanding the fish's behaviour
- using flies that accurately match food items being eaten
- approaching and casting to a fish without being seen
- putting the fly in the right place on the first cast
- patience and perseverance.

These skills take much time and practise to develop. Most of our Taupo anglers (82%) are visitors who prefer a more casual approach to their fishing than this and that is fine. Our angler satisfaction surveys demonstrate that anglers are enjoying themselves out there and that, after all, is what it is all about.

Apart from the period during autumn and winter when brown trout are migrating to spawn, they are strongly territorial. Individuals will remain in the same locations throughout the year and will return to these sites year after year for as long as they survive the rigours of spawning and the attentions of anglers. This means you can expect to find a fish seen but not caught to be back in the same spot the next time you visit. Catching a particular fish can become a long-term project over several trips and provide interesting learning opportunities for the angler as various options are tried until success is had.

Browns are often very visible during the day but at Taupo this is when they are most difficult to catch. Smelt are an important part of their diet but they also feed on a wide range of items such as koura, aquatic insects, terrestrial insects (cicadas, green beetle) and some times unusual things such as frogs and mice. The key is that they will normally lock on

to what is most available at the time and then feed on this exclusively while the bounty lasts. This means that you may find the fish eating something completely different from one day to the next or even within the same day. You need to recognise when this happens and change flies accordingly.

Fishing for browns during the day is challenging and exciting because the fish are generally visible and they are big. The lower Tongariro and delta is perhaps the best area to visit. From spring through to early autumn, fish can be found holding

territories along both banks of the river. These territories are invariably located wherever willow and scrub growth provides cover over the water surface. Often these fish are inaccessible because the water is too deep to wade mid-stream and heavy cover screens them from the shore. To be successful, you need to blend in with the surroundings and so drab-coloured clothing is the order of the day. Move with stealth along the banks looking carefully at all sites that appear likely to

The quality of the fish and the large proportion of very big fish in the population surely places Taupo browns in the top category of trophy trout fisheries in the world

A pleasant surprise. A nice 3.8kg (8.5lb) brownie caught at the Waipēbi Stream mouth



hold a fish. The objective is to see the fish before it sees you. Polaroid sunglasses cut out surface glare and aid vision through the water and are a must. Having found a fish assess from its behaviour what it is likely to be eating, tie on a fly that accurately matches this and then deliver it to a position that makes it appear natural to the fish. A mistake with any one of these steps normally spells victory for the trout. The same principles apply when stalking cruising browns around the lake shoreline.

In some years during January and February the willow trees are home to thousands of cicadas and it is now that these trout are most vulnerable. A cicada dry fly can be cast almost on top of the fish as they are completely focussed on the naturals crashing onto the water. Once on the water the naturals buzz around and the trout will often take a dryfly which is allowed to drag and skate as the line swings with the current.

The reality is that the gear, the methods and the traditional angling patterns of behaviour that have evolved to so successfully catch rainbows, simply do not work for brown trout in the Taupo fishery

In late February to early March, the browns start moving into and up the rivers prior to the onset of spawning. This is perhaps the easiest time of the year to consistently catch them. The Hydro Pool on the Tongariro is

famous for this but the fact is that browns will occupy any of the pools that have sufficient water depth to provide security and cover during daylight hours. We have already referred to the numbers of brown trout which pass through our fish traps which are both situated above the winter limit on the Tongariro. These fish have

to swim the whole length of available fishing water yet apart from the Hydro Pool brown trout are rarely targeted anywhere else on the river. Another example is the Waitotaka River where we count up to several hundred brown trout during spawning counts within the prison farm. Very rarely is a brown trout caught in this river.

It is very rare to find anglers fishing the Tongariro in the middle of the night particularly in late summer before the rainbow runs commence. For those anglers that do night fish the river at this time, the results can be exceptional. Trophy-sized browns still actively building condition prior to spawning can be caught with relative ease at many locations over the length of the river. Successful methods range from fishing large

These fish have to swim the whole length of available fishing water yet apart from the Hydro Pool brown trout are rarely targeted anywhere else on the river

wet flies sunk deep to big dry flies including mouse imitations skittered across the surface. At this time of the year, browns will become easier to catch during the day if the river is carrying a bit of colour after rain. At these times even relatively inexperienced anglers can catch the fish of a lifetime by plugging away "across and down" with a sunken wet fly.



Adjacent to cnr H'way 41 & Ohuanga Rd, TURANGI.

Quiet, private, spacious ground-floor serviced suites, full kitchens & own patios, surrounding an all-year heated swimming pool and hot spa. Licensed restaurant & room service meals
A superb base with plenty to do - there's trout fishing, horse riding, golf, hunting, rafting, tramping and mountain biking.
Fishing Guide services arranged and/or tackle, waders, flies etc for sale & hire.

Phone or fax us for a quote.

Linda & Terry Drum
PO Box 130, Turangi.

E-MAIL: anglers@reap.org.nz

WEBSITE: <http://www.fishnhunt.co.nz/fishing/anglers.htm>

FREEPHONE
0800 500 039
Ph 07-386 8980
Fax 07-386 7408

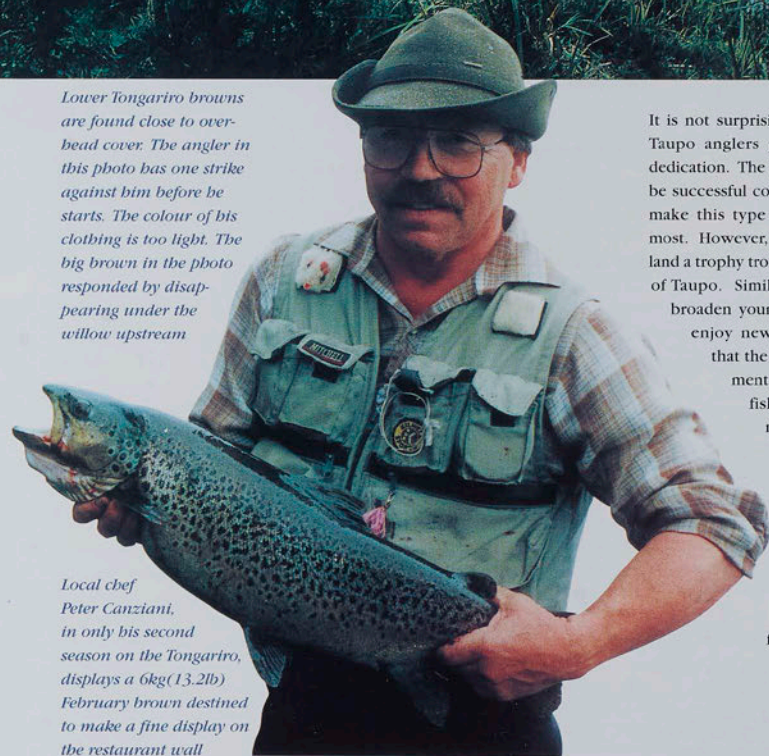
AA HOST
ACCOMMODATION



Lower Tongariro browns are found close to over-head cover. The angler in this photo has one strike against him before he starts. The colour of his clothing is too light. The big brown in the photo responded by disappearing under the willow upstream

It is not surprising that only a minority of Taupo anglers pursue brown trout with dedication. The time and effort required to be successful coupled with low catch rates make this type of fishing unattractive to most. However, if you have an ambition to land a trophy trout consider the brown trout of Taupo. Similarly, if you are looking to broaden your fishing opportunities and enjoy new challenges you will find that the browns fulfil these requirements very nicely. We know the fish are there in substantial numbers and that they can be caught. The learning curve involved for anglers unaccustomed to brown trout can be a lot of fun in itself. So if the thought of catching one of these monsters interests you, go for it and good luck.

Local chef Peter Canziani, in only his second season on the Tongariro, displays a 6kg(13.2lb) February brown destined to make a fine display on the restaurant wall



What to do if you find a net

Anglers have a crucial role to play in assisting us to protect the fishery from the damage caused by offenders using nets.

If you find a net set in the lake you should notify us immediately, regardless of the time of day, by telephoning (07) 386 8607. If after hours, an answerphone will provide a contact telephone number for the Conservancy Duty Officer. This information is also printed on your licence.

We require as much detail as possible, such as the net's exact location, and descriptions of people, vehicles, registrations and anything else you think may be of importance. Preferably we would like your name and contact details as we may need to confirm information, but this is not essen-

tial. Any information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

You must resist the temptation to interfere with the net in an attempt to save the fish, as the offenders often have the net

**If
you find
a net set in
the lake
leave it alone
and contact us
immediately**

under observation and will simply abandon it once they realise it has been detected. While you may save a few fish the offenders simply obtain another net and continue to pillage the fishery. The greatest long-term benefit to the fishery is to actually apprehend these people which will significantly curtail further netting activity.

Experience has shown that if these procedures are followed, on most occasions we will be able to apprehend the poachers.

Poachers using nets can cause a lot of damage to the Taupo fishery



FREE LAKE TAUPO BOAT FISHING SEMINARS

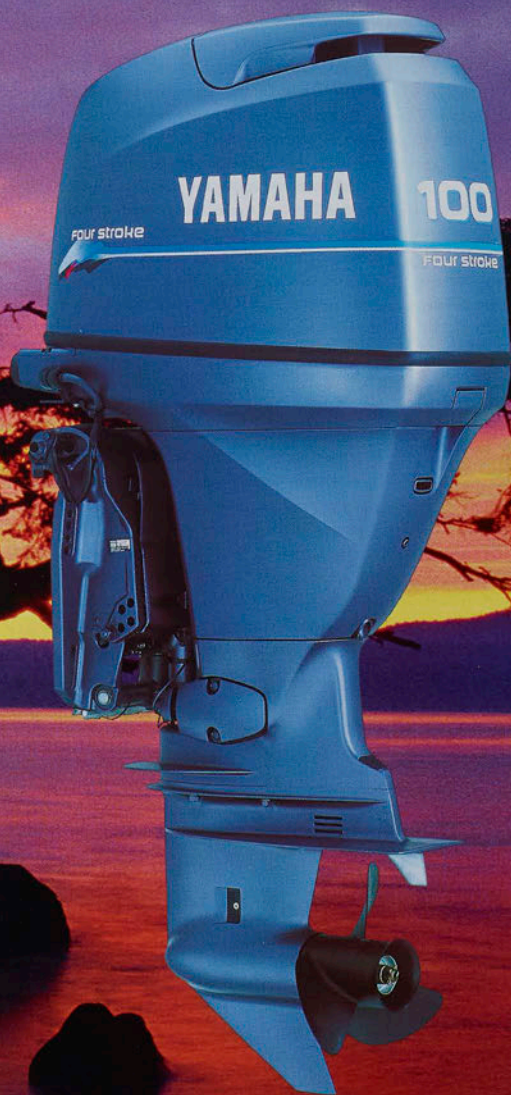
- Omori Boat Ramp - Thursday January 6th
2000 - 10am to 12pm
- Wharewaka Point - Thursday January 13th
2000 - 10am to 12pm

Taupo Fishery staff are conducting these seminars for those of you who fish on the lake over summer. We will focus on the basic methods and techniques of fishing on Lake Taupo including harling, jigging, deep trolling and the use of echo-sounders. We will also briefly discuss ecological and physical aspects of Lake Taupo and how predictable changes in the lake over the course of summer affect where the trout are likely to be.

These seminars follow on from very successful seminars held several years ago at Motuapa and Kinloch. In the future we intend to run these seminars annually, targeting different locations each time. This will provide a greater opportunity when you are on holiday in Taupo over summer to attend. The seminars aim to increase your fishing success and the enjoyment you get from the Taupo fishery.

Please tell your angling friends about the seminars. We will see you there.

More Power Less Weight.



The secret behind the F100, that sets it apart from all other outboard motors in this class, is its extremely high power to weight ratio.

The F100 delivers more power and acceleration than the competition while being quieter, smoother more economical and lighter.

This astonishingly powerful 4 cylinder in line engine features 4 carburetors, 16 valves and dual overhead camshafts, which ensures unsurpassed torque and power.

The F100 is amazingly light, its total weight is comparable to that of a V4 Two Stroke. The F100 has all the advantages of a Four Stroke with the light weight of a comparable Two Stroke making it suitable for a wider range of boats.

The Yamaha F100, setting the standard in 4 stroke performance.



YAMAHA

The future in 4 stroke technology...now!

For your nearest Yamaha dealer phone 0800 Yamaha or visit our website: www.yamaha.co.nz

Possum control in the Rangitikei River/Otamateanui Stream area of the Kaimanawa Forest Park

What's happening?

The Department of Conservation's Turangi/Taupo Area Office plans to reduce possum numbers over an area of approximately 250 hectares at the confluence of the Rangitikei River and Otamateanui Stream in the Kaimanawa Forest Park.

Why are we controlling possums?

The Rangitikei River/Otamateanui Stream area is the site of one of the last remaining populations of a species of native carnivorous land snail, *Powelliphanta marchanti*. Surveys conducted over the past several years have shown that possums were responsible for over 80% of all dead snails found. The snail population is now seriously threatened. Controlling possum populations will reduce predation of this inconspicuous but highly vulnerable species and arrest the decline in the population. To achieve recovery we will need a large reduction in possum numbers and continued periodic control to maintain possum predation at lowered levels.

How is it happening?

Baits containing the pesticide 1080 will poison the possums in an initial "knock

down". The toxic baits are a green paste applied by hand on white cards. These will be placed on the ground at regular intervals throughout the operational area. Prior to the application of toxic paste, possums will be pre-fed with non-toxic paste (brown in colour) applied in the same manner. A period of trapping will follow to ensure that possums that did not encounter bait or that ingested sub-lethal doses of poison are also killed.

Cereal baits containing the pesticide brodifacoum will be used to maintain possum numbers at low levels. These baits, under the trade names Talon or Pestoff are cereal pellets about 1cm long, cylinder shaped and dyed green or blue. Baits will be loaded into plastic bait feeders placed at regular intervals throughout the area.

When will it happen?

The initial "knock down" phase will commence in October/November 1999 and is expected to last approximately two to three weeks. We will contact neighbours and place warning signs immediately prior to the operation starting. The establishment of a bait station network will be carried out in November 1999. Loading of the bait feeders with brodifacoum pellets will be undertaken in autumn 2000 and these will be refilled at six monthly intervals in order to maintain a

The giant land snail has an 8cm diameter shell and eats earth worms



long-term reduction in possum numbers.

Why are we using this method?

We have found poison baiting is a very effective and environmentally friendly form of possum control. Hand-laid 1080 paste offers an initial control method that will allow the remote, rugged terrain to be covered effectively by the contractors. The ground-based application of 1080 paste preceded by a non-toxic pre-feed minimises the amount of poison laid and reduces the risk to non-target species. By hand laying the baits, watercourses and other important features can be avoided. Being slow acting, brodifacoum will not cause symptoms until after the possum has eaten enough bait to kill it. When bait is regularly spaced throughout the treatment area in bait feeders, most possums are likely to eat the bait. Overall, this method results in less risk to visitors, waterways, non-target species and the environment.

What do you need to know?

The pesticides we use are poisonous to humans and domestic animals. Poisoning can occur through eating baits or poisoned animals. 1080 is water-soluble and degrades into non-toxic substances. Residues of 1080 are rapidly eliminated from mammal tissue and its presence in meat intended for human consumption is unlikely. However, dogs are at risk from direct and secondary poisoning and need to be kept under control where 1080 baits are being used. Brodifacoum breaks down in dead animals to harmless by-products. However, poison symptoms take some time to appear so apparently healthy animals may contain poison. Baits are contained in feeders to minimise the risk to other species, but all green baits found throughout the area should be treated as poisonous. The risks can be eliminated by following these simple rules:

* DO NOT handle any bait

* DO NOT allow CHILDREN to wander

unsupervised

* DO NOT bring DOGS into this area

* DO NOT handle or take ANIMALS for eating
Observe these rules whenever you see warning signs about the pesticide.

How well has this operation been planned?

The use of baits containing 1080 poison requires the consent of the Medical Officer of Health. The Department of Conservation also has an internal consent process to ensure the operation is meeting our Quality Management Standards for pesticide use. These consents entail a detailed assessment of the risks involved in the work. Before approvals are granted, a satisfactory means to manage these risks must be shown. This is called an Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE) and a copy of the AEE for this operation can be obtained from the local Turangi DOC office if you are interested. Consent authorities usually impose conditions on an operation to further safeguard the public and the environment. We have consulted a number of people and organisations who may be affected by this operation prior to finalising the operational detail. We have also distributed a fact sheet.

What do I do if I suspect poisoning?

Always contact your:

* Local doctor, or

* Local hospital, or

* National Poisons Centre - Telephone (03) 474 7000

Who do I contact for more information?

Turangi-Taupo Area Office

Turanga Place

Turangi

Telephone (07) 386 8607

TONGARIRO FOREST DOUGLAS FIR LOGGING

Those of you who use Kapoor's Road access when you visit Tongariro Forest will be aware that we are currently removing a stand of 45-year old Douglas fir around the Slab Road/Pukechinou Road junction. Approximately 2500 tonne of timber was removed last year, and starting early January 2000 most of the remaining timber will also be removed. The logging plan requires all operations to cease by the end of May so as to not disturb the kiwi breeding season, but until then users of Slab Road can expect access delays as a result of logging operations.

In the meantime, deer are using the cleared areas that resulted from last summer's logging. Hunters who do their homework will be rewarded with some handy deer as spring growth starts to encourage these animals further out into the more open areas.

Trout Protection Bill

A bill to ensure the continued prohibition of the sale of trout in New Zealand has received a favourable recommendation from a parliamentary select committee.

Labour MP for Taupo, Mark Burton, introduced the Conservation (Protection of Trout as a Non-Commercial Species) Amendment Bill last year. This was in response to the discovery of a loophole in the Conservation Act that allowed the sale of imported trout in this country, while continuing the long-standing prohibition on selling domestic trout. Many anglers were concerned that this would lead to commercial exploitation of the country's recreational trout fisheries (see the article in the March 1998 issue

of *Target Taupo*).

Mr Burton's private members Bill was selected by ballot, given a first reading and sent to the Transport and Environment Select Committee. After hearing a large number of submissions, including one in support from the Taupo Fishery Advisory Committee, and weighing complex trade, biosecurity and resource management arguments, the committee recommended to Parliament that the Bill be passed with minor technical amendments.

Further progress on the Bill has been halted as Parliament enters the pre-election recess, so it will not now be considered for a third reading until the new Parliament sits next year.

HARD AT WORK IN TAUPO...

...someone's got to do it!



THE FLY & GUN SHOP
PROFESSIONAL OUTFITTERS OF QUALITY TACKLE

18 Heu Heu St Taupo (open seven days)
Phone 07 378 4449, Fax 07 378 4479

Our business is our sport and our sport is our life

When must you stop fishing?

This winter, we have detected a number of fishery offences involving anglers killing their daily bag limit of three trout and then continuing to fish on. Anglers frequently ask us if they can continue to fish after keeping three trout if they practice "catch and release". The short answer is "no".

The Taupo Fishing Regulations state "No person shall on any one day take and keep more than three trout; and no person shall continue to fish on any day on which he has already taken three trout." Anglers sometimes

comment that they would release any further fish they catch but imagine the temptation if the next fish is better than the fish already killed. If you want to keep fishing you must not kill your third fish until you are ready to go home.

We are also aware of several more devious attempts to overcome the daily bag limit. These involve a single angler and one or more others who take no part in the fishing except

to land the fish hooked by the angler. These fish are then counted against the licence of the person who landed them. Be aware that the definition of "take" as used to define the daily bag limit includes any activity in preparation or support of taking fish. If you are doing all the casting, retrieving and hooking the fish and the fish is killed it

***No person shall
continue to fish on
any day on which he
has already taken
three trout***

counts against your limit even if landed by someone else (it will also count against their limit).

We will be taking a hard line on anglers who attempt to overcome the daily bag limit in this way.

STAFF CHANGES

A new position has been established in the Taupo Fishery Area to manage the office, systems, staff support, fleet, buildings and other assets, to undertake work planning and reporting and to manage databases for the technical support staff. Jon Palmer from Omori has been appointed to the job. Jon will take over some of the work previously done by Shirley Oates. Shirley is moving to a part-time role later in the year but will still manage the fishing licence system and provide executive support for the Area and the Taupo Fishery Advisory Committee. Jon features in our team profile at the back of this issue

1998/99 FISHING LICENCE SALES

There was an increase in licence sales for the 1998/99 season of 4,584 or 7%.

Total licence sales for the 1998/99 season are shown below, with the previous year's sales shown in brackets:

Adult Season	12,571	(11,843)
Child Season	5,369	(5,067)
Adult Month	970	(857)
Adult Week	11,051	(10,069)
Adult Day	30,394	(27,832)
Child Day	6,819	(6,922)

*"Value...It's unwise to pay too much,
but it's unwise to pay too little.
When you pay too much you lose a little
money, that is all.*

*When you pay too little,
you sometimes lose everything,
because the thing you bought
was incapable of doing
the thing you bought it to do.*

*The common law of business balance
prohibits paying a little and getting a lot.
It can't be done.
If you deal with the lowest bidder,
it's well to add something
to the risk you run.*

*And if you do that,
you will have enough
to pay for something better."*

Jo19 Ruskin (1819 - 1900)



See our advertisement in this issue

F&G 328

Waiotaka log jam blown up

by Glenn Maclean

Glenn is the manager of the research and monitoring programme in the Taupo Fishery Area. He is also responsible for fishery advocacy and is the editor of Target Taupo

The Taupo fishery is totally wild sustained by the thousands of trout which run up the rivers each winter to spawn. When a log jam prevented fish getting to the spawning areas on the Waiotaka River this winter it was essential this was cleared. We used explosives to successfully remove the blockage and a few minutes later trout were swimming past on their way upstream.

is a barrier to upstream fish passage on all of the streams on the western shore and on some of the eastern tributaries. However on some streams the river has cut narrow incisions into the rock and the fall is reduced to a very narrow gorge containing a series of smaller falls and pools. Trout are able to negotiate through these gorges to access many kilometers of prime spawning water on the Waiotaka and Whitiakau rivers in particular.

Large logs swept downstream during floods readily block these narrow gorges. Occasionally a log becomes wedged and traps other logs and debris coming down.

The logs also trap gravel and stones and very quickly the river bed upstream of the jam builds up to the height of the top of the logs. This creates a waterfall.

Trout may not be able to jump the waterfall particularly if a lot of debris is lying in the pool at the base of the fall.

It was only a small log jam

We count the numbers of spawning fish in selected stretches of most of the eastern rivers every month during winter. One of these counts is on the Waiotaka River downstream of the gorge. When the counts in July and August this year were exceptionally high, we decided to explore the gorge in case it was blocked. As we walked into the gorge we came across hundreds more trout and it was no surprise when we discovered a small blockage near the top of a gorge.

The fall was only two metres high and not much larger than a natural fall immediately downstream that the fish were able to negotiate. However it was enough to stop the trout. Peak trout spawning is in September and October so it was essential we remove the blockage as soon as possible. Unfortunately we had to abandon our first attempt to remove the blockage in mid-September owing to high river flows.

However by the 1 October flows had dropped sufficiently to allow us into the gorge. We would use explosives to remove the blockage, and to safely lay the charges it was necessary for us to abseil into the gorge above the log jam and walk downstream. The jam consisted of only a couple of large logs. The first charges we set moved these



Rob Marshall abseils into the gorge watched by Roy Baker and Norrie Ewing. Already waiting in the gorge are Glenn Maclean and Tom May

A common problem

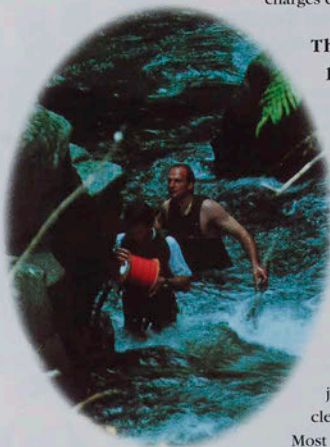
All of the larger Taupo tributaries flow across an ignimbrite rock belt that encircles Lake Taupo. At the transition between this rock and the softer material downstream the river inevitably tumbles down a waterfall. This fall



Glenn Maclean prepares to push a charge deep into the log jam

logs but did not dislodge the material wedged behind them. However the gaps created did allow us to set a second lot of charges deep into the jam.

Amidst the muddy water and rolling rocks and gravel the trout were now pouring through. At one stage we watched a large rock with a diameter of approximately 50 centimetres rolling down the chute that was forming. As the rock dropped into a small pool two fish in the pool ducked into the fast water to the side where they held for a few seconds. As soon as the rock was swept past the fish moved back into the pool. Within a few minutes the blockage was completely gone and the river now flows in a turbulent run which extends 20 metres upstream to the next pool.



Glenn Maclean and Rob Marsball lay out the detonating cord as they wade back upstream to the access point

These trout had places to go

The blockage remained when we dropped back into the site a few minutes after setting off the second charges. However the blockage was so loose that as soon as we moved a couple of small logs and rocks it started to collapse. Trout began to try and jump the remaining obstacles almost immediately.

Most trout were successful but others were off line and their first attempts ended with them crashing into the rock walls and remaining logs. Once the logs let go the river started to cut down through the gravel and rocks built up behind.

All we need is rain?

It is also clear that trout have been unable to negotiate the gorge on the Whitikau Stream for most of the winter. However this appears to be due to the unseasonably low flows this winter, as there are no new blockages anywhere.

The water in the gorge becomes confined in several very narrow chutes under low flow conditions which the trout are unable to negotiate. Under higher flows some of the water starts to spill around the edge of the chute which provides trout a way through.

This problem should resolve itself when we finally get some heavy rain. Rainbow trout on their spawning runs are very driven to reach their spawning grounds and can negotiate some very tough obstacles.

However, sometimes they just need a little bit of help from us. It is very practical hands on management and ensuring fish have full access to the spawning areas will make a big difference to how many fish are in the lake in future years.

Tom May points to a group of trout taking a short rest behind the rock. Trout began to swim upstream within minutes of the second charges being set off





Comfort and Safety Above and Below the Water Line

Walrus Waders are manufactured in three styles – CHEST-WAIST & THIGH and NOW STOCKING FOOT WADERS are available in boot sizes 5-14.

Made from high-density closed-cell chloroprene rubber, Walrus Waders are totally waterproof, warm and comfortable to wear. The closed cell neoprene from which they are made is re-inforced on the outside with nylon and lined with a warm plush pile which reduces condensation and helps make the waders easy to pull on and off. Because closed cell neoprene contains thousands of tiny air bubbles it is lightweight, flexible and provides excellent thermal insulation.

NOW with fitted cushioned knee pads for extra durability and protection.

All Walrus Waders are individually made and tested in New Zealand. Seams are cross link bonded and rubber taped for strength and durability.

Walrus Waders are available in Bush Green or Camouflage, fitted with either cleated or felt soles.



Now available in stocking foot

Walrus Corporation Limited
 68 Carbine Road, Mt Wellington, P.O. Box 111-209, Auckland. Ph (09) 573 0843
 Fax (09) 573 0782 • email: info@walrus.co.nz • web site: <http://www.walrus.co.nz>

For free brochure on Walrus fill out and mail coupon:

Name -----
 Address -----
 Town ----- Phone -----



T&G 3/77

Omori Stream fish pass

A new fish pass in the Omori Stream once again allows trout unhindered access to their spawning beds. Road widening in June had revealed that the 25-year old fish pass under Omori Road was in need of repair.

The stream is a small but important tributary for spawning on the western side of Lake Taupo. Most other tributaries on this side have restricted access to trout due to waterfalls close to where the rivers and streams enter Lake Taupo.

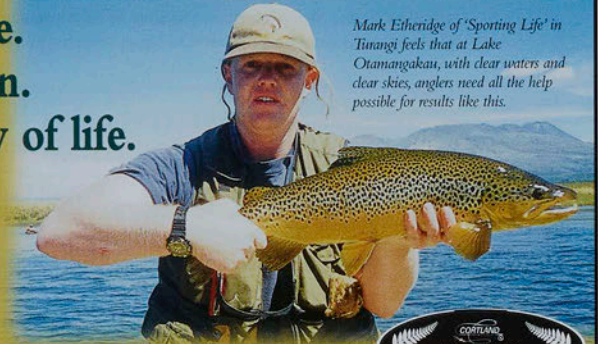
Downstream of the culvert several groups of trout were waiting patiently for something to happen. It was a case of the male (and female) must get through so we sprang into action. Taupo District Council, who is the

road authority, agreed to pay for a new pass. A builder was engaged and our staff cleared the site and access to it. Then there was a wait of two weeks for the timber to arrive from Auckland. Why Auckland? Well, you can't use any old timber on instream structures; for example the timber cannot be chemically treated. From experience, green eucalyptus is best and we found it in Auckland. When the timber arrived the old structure was removed and the new fish pass built in less than a day.

The project attracted a lot of comment in the local community and it was very pleasing to note the concern and interest local residents took in the wellbeing of "their" stream.

To some it's a pastime.
To others it's a passion.
To Cortland it's a way of life.

Mark Etheridge of 'Sporting Life' in Tinangiri feels that at Lake Otamangakau, with clear waters and clear skies, anglers need all the help possible for results like this.



The ultimate in stealthy presentation, your days of spooking fish in clear water conditions are over.

These lines are truly crystal clear, not opaque. The Clearline and Camo are intermediate. While the Clear tip has a 15 foot intermediate tip attached to a floating body. The Clear Camo is the most supple and combines low visibility and camouflage attributes. All of these lines give the New Zealand angler the advantage by sinking a fly invisibly along the edge of a drop off, while still maintaining excellent castability and minimum memory.

Extra slick finish shoots effortlessly through the guides

15 foot clear tip will not spook wary fish

Low memory due to the flexible mono core

Standard 444SL body aids in mending as well as visibility

Extruded monofilament core

Crystal clear coating makes this line virtually invisible

Camouflaged to virtually disappear in water

CORTLAND
PREFERRED FLY LINES
& ENDORSED BY THE
NEW ZEALAND FLY FISHING TEAMS

444 CLEAR CAMO LINES

444SL CLEAR TIP

444SL CLEAR

Cortland 444 Clear Camo Intermediate
- a line with a definite advantage

Lead free downrigger weights

A lead-free downrigger weight is now available to Taupo anglers. Steel weights are being manufactured and marketed by Geoff Wright-webb and Gus Te Moana of Taupo. These weights are available from Waioranga Sports, Western Bay Marine and Omori Store for the same price as comparable lead weights.

What is so special about lead free weights?

In 1997 we reviewed the use of lead in Lake Taupo and the potential impacts on the lake. We concluded that there was unlikely to be a significant risk to the ecology of the lake from the loss of lead based fishing equipment. (*Target Taupo* issue 26). However we also recognized that lead is an environmental toxin and the most responsible approach is to use alternative materials where practical. Currently the most widely used downrigger weights are lead balls of 3.6 or 4.5kg. For steel downrigger weights to be a practical option they need to be as effective as the

lead balls, widely available and a similar cost.

Steel springs surprise

We carried out a trial to test whether the steel weights achieved similar depths to lead balls of the same weight. The trials, comparing the performance between 4.5 kg steel and lead weights, were conducted on Lake Taupo using two boats. One boat towed the weight from a downrigger at trolling speed while on the following boat we located the weight on the sounder and measured its depth. The depth of each weight was measured at four different cable lengths. The results of the trial are presented in graph 1.

For any given length of cable the lead ball reached a slightly greater depth than the steel ball but we were surprised how little difference in depth there was between the two weights.

We also filmed the the weights as they were towed through the water. The boats towed the weights past two divers, one of whom staying on the surface directing the boats and

SCIENTIST ATTENDS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FISH MIGRATION HELD IN EUROPE

Taupo Fishery Scientist Dr Michel Dedual attended this conference held in Norwich, England, in June. Michel highlighted the Taupo Fishery to the conference when he presented his study of the migration of wild rainbow trout carried out in the Tongariro River in 1995.

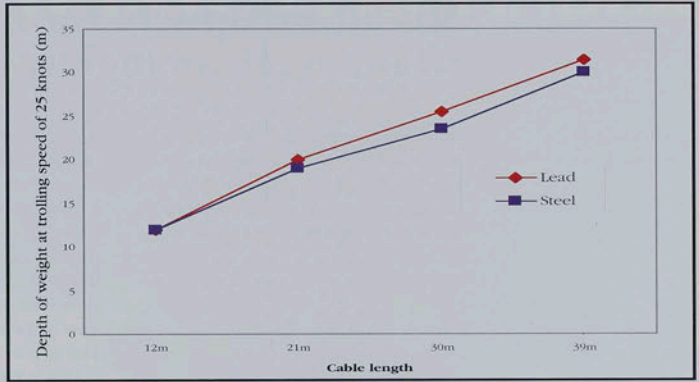
Scientists from all over the world were present and shared their experiences and the problems facing the fisheries they manage. Hearing about the problems facing the fisheries around the world vividly reminded Michel how fortunate we are in New Zealand, to still be able to enjoy our world-class fisheries - it also reinforced the commitment to protect it as much as we possibly can.

To illustrate other agency's problems it was alarming to listen to the dramatic problem faced by Norwegians scientists. They are battling against a newly introduced disease that is threatening their wild and farmed stocks of Atlantic salmon, which are worth hundreds of millions of dollars to the local economy. The problem is so serious that the

only option to contain the disease was to try to remove all the fish from the entire 21 rivers infected. To do this they poured vast quantities of Rotenone into each river. Rotenone kills everything, reflecting just how extreme and serious this action was, not to mention costly. This clearly highlights what could occur if a new disease was introduced into Taupo and the severity of possible treatment. Other serious problems exist where several countries spread along the same river catchment share fisheries. A typical example is in northern Scandinavia where the headwater of a substantial salmon river flows through Finland and the lower part through Russia. Both countries have built several dams. The end result is a prolonged series of arguments about whose dam is the worst culprit in the death of the fishery and who should foot the bill. This promises some very long discussion in the cold Scandinavian winter ahead.

However, the most significant point of all from the conference was the desperate call from Third World fishery agencies to be able

Graph 1 plots the actual depth of lead and steel weights against the length of cable used



relaying their approach to the second diver who was waiting on the lakebed with a video camera. This enabled the diver who was filming to quickly locate the fast approaching weight and film it before it disappeared. The film showed the steel weight travelling smoothly in the water without spinning. Gus and Geoff report that the steel weights snag less than the lead weights and if they do become snagged are easier to free. Their fishing success is the same as with lead weights.

Even though the performance of the steel weight is similar to lead, Geoff and Gus are presently working on another design that will enable the steel weight to even more closely match the performance of lead. We commend Geoff and Gus for their efforts in producing a lead free downrigger weight. Anglers now have a practical option which costs no more than lead and which is effective. When you buy your next weight make it steel and do your bit to reduce the amount of lead in Lake Taupo.

MIGRATION HELD IN EUROPE

difference between them and us. In the western world we do not rely on inland freshwater fisheries as a most food source but they certainly do in Africa, Asia and South America. Faced with a demographic explosion their fisheries are under serious threat and major disasters would occur if the fisheries were to collapse. The information that they need to keep their fisheries afloat includes knowledge of the different migrations the fish make, estimation of the stocks present and the maximum sustainable harvest. To address some of these issues, officials from the United Nations were present at the conference. They propose to set up an international committee that could collect and refurbish the equipment we are not using anymore so that needy organisations can do their research. Experienced researchers could also be sent to assist in these countries. People who were at the conference are committed to try to provide as much assistance as possible and we wish them good luck.

LOOK FOR UMPQUALITY LEADERS AND TIPPETS.

Check our complete line of tough, tapered materials. For quality you can see. And fish can't.

1-800-322-3218

FEATHER UMPQUA MERCHANTS

Mixed prospects for Lake Otamangakau anglers

by Rob Marshall and Glenn Maclean

Trout from Lake Otamangakau run up the Te Whaiu Stream to spawn every year between April and August. We intercept these trout during this spawning migration using a specially designed trap. Our staff monitor the trap 24 hours a day seven days a week, weighing and measuring every trout trapped. The sixth year of fish trapping recently ended, and as you can imagine a large amount of information has been collected over this time.

The key features of this year's run were:

- The increase in the number of trout
- A reduction in the number of very large trout
- The reduction in the average size of the trout.

The largest run of rainbows since trapping began

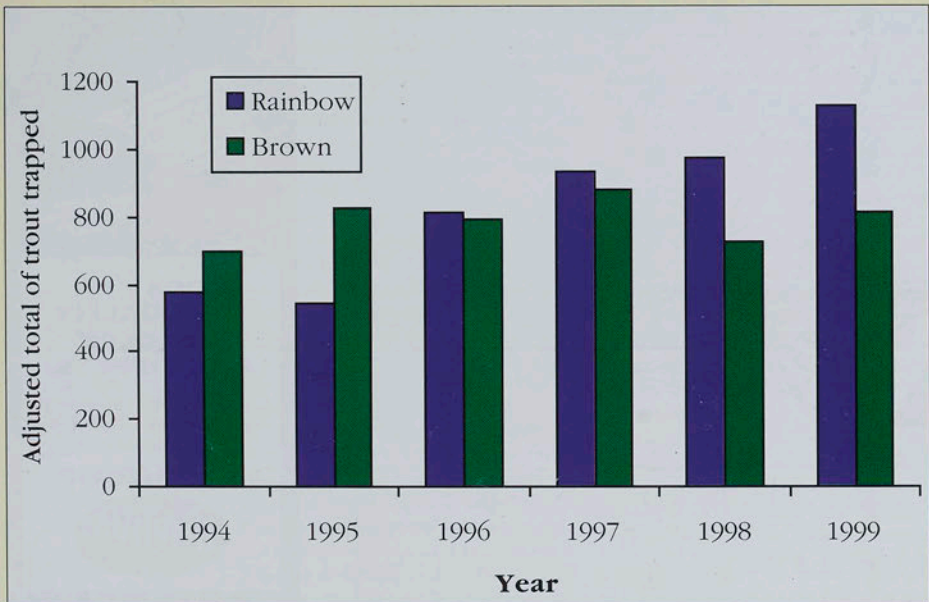
When fish are caught in the trap they are marked with a clip on one fin. The fish are then released upstream of the trap to complete their spawning migration. After spawning, as they migrate back down-

stream we attempt to recapture as many of them as possible. By looking at each fish's fins we can establish the proportion of fish that were able to avoid the trap during floods on their way upstream. Using this proportion we adjust the number of fish actually trapped to take into account those we missed and so get a more accurate estimate of the total run size.

This year an estimated 1123 rainbow trout ran the Te Whaiu Stream. This is the largest number recorded and double that of 1994 and 1995. The data shows the main reason for this was a very large number of young maiden fish (first time spawners) in the population. This is consistent with the observations of anglers last summer who reported unusually high numbers of young fish in the lake. All in all this suggests a very strong year-class coming through which is an encouraging sign.

The brown trout run was 814 fish this year compared to 722 last year and was the third highest since the trap was installed. The majority of the brown trout were

Graph 1: Total adjusted run of rainbow and brown trout in the Te Whaiu Stream, 1994 to 1999



THE ULTIMATE FISH FINDER.



Authorised
Central North Island
Haines Dealer.
Enquire about our
packages now.



CALL THE BOATMEN
Trev Terry Marine Ltd



Nukuhau Street. PO Box 1038, Taupo

Fax & phone (07) 378 7779.

A/h (07) 378 8753



YAMAHA
Outboards

spawning for the first time (maiden), though a large portion of them (42%) had spawned before. 3.5% were actually spawning for the sixth time, making them at least nine years old.

Size of the fish

Over the years, Lake Otamangakau has produced many superb fish up to seven and eight kilograms in weight. During the operation of the fish trap our staff are lucky enough to handle many such fish. The largest so far is a 6.9kg (15.2lb) rainbow trapped in 1996. However this year's data highlights a reduction in the number of very large trout. In the past the average weight of rainbow and brown trout trapped has always been above 2.5kg. This year it dropped to nearly 2kg for both species.

The proportion of the population that exceeds 4.54kg (10lb) is a good indicator of how many very large fish are available to anglers. This year only 0.2% (two fish) of the rainbow trout population trapped was bigger than 4.54kg. This is the least number of very large rainbow trout trapped and compares to 1996 which is the best year recorded when 9.2% (42) fish exceeded the magic mark. The percentage of very large brown trout has also dropped. Normally between 0.4% and 1.5% of the population is greater than 4.54kg. This year none were trapped.

Where have all the big fish gone?

In many fisheries, including Lake Taupo, once trout mature and undergo spawning for the first time their growth virtually stops. Thereafter they are able to gain enough condition over the summer months to survive and spawn but there is rarely any surplus available for extra growth.

Things are different in Lake Otamangakau. The spawning migration of each trout is very short and brief and they are able to return to the lake in relatively good condition after spawning. When back in the lake fish begin feeding on the huge number of insects available. On this diet and because little condition was lost during spawning the trout are able to gain surplus condition which they put into growth. The net result is Lake Otamangakau trout continue to grow each year. It is the older trout which have continued to grow throughout their life that

are the trophy fish sought after by Lake Otamangakau anglers.

Each year when we trap the trout we mark them with a different fin clip which we can recognise in future years. Therefore we can tell how many times a particular fish has spawned and how old it is. As already mentioned the number of old fish was much fewer this year which explains the lack of really big fish.

It is possible that angling is effecting the number of trout reaching old age. Anglers may be removing too many young trout yet to reach their full potential, or it may be that incorrect catch and release technique is causing significant mortality. Another possibility is that the amount of food in the lake at certain times of the year is insufficient although this is an unlikely scenario given what we know about the insect population in Lake Otamangakau. It is also possible that a lot more fish than we realised were lost over the Te Whaiau spillway in the last two years. In both these years unusually high water levels in spring in the Waikato River required Genesis (then ECNZ) to stop diverting any additional water from Lake Otamangakau. With the Wairehu Canal (outlet) closed the water flowing into Lake Otamangakau has had to be spilled over the Te Whaiau spillway. This is just downstream of the mouth of the Te Whaiau Stream and spent fish returning to the lake are very susceptible to following the current over the spillway. We know a lot of juvenile and adult fish were lost but it may have been even more significant than we thought.

Where to from here?

We are undertaking detailed analysis of the six years trapping data at present and will update you in a future issue of *Target Taupo*. This report will provide us with a lot of information to help answer the questions raised by this year's trapping results. We are also repeating the Lake Otamangakau harvest survey, first done over the 1996/97 season. This survey will provide information as to whether the harvest has increased or whether the total angling effort may have increased. This may be a factor if significant mortality from poor catch and release techniques is occurring. We will be on the lake over summer collecting this information from anglers.

Please spare a little of your time to talk to the use. We will try and make the interruption as brief as possible.

Spilling over Te Whaiau spillway is not an issue this spring because of the very low level of Lake Taupo. In the longer term we will be seeking changes to how the lake is operated as part of the Tongariro Power Development (TPD) resource consents to overcome this problem.

While the absence of very big trout is disappointing, if we can resolve the problem then the very strong year-class coming through means the fishery should rebound quickly.

So what can I expect this summer?

Prospects for the summer are good given the trapping results this year. There are a lot of fish in the lake which will help to improve anglers catch rates. However, given the low number of fish in the spawning run over 4.54kg (10lb), trophies are likely to be very hard to come by. Please take care releasing any fish. If they die from incorrect handling it is simply a waste!

SUBSCRIBE NOW

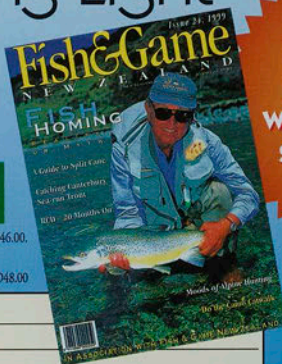
Sportfishing Light

4 Issues for only \$25

Mail to: Fish & Game New Zealand, P.O. Box 12 965, Penrose, Auckland

or **FREEPHONE**
0800 113 441

NEW ZEALAND \$25.00. AIRMAIL: Australia/South Pacific NZD46.00.
North America/Asia & U.K. NZD49.00. Europe NZD51.00
SUREFACE: Australia/South Pacific, NZD44.00. Other Countries NZD48.00



VALUE
\$8.00

FREE

with every new
subscription
or renewal

- Clamps to pocket, belt or hat
- Flexible neck lens
- Requires 2 'AA' batteries (not included)



Order
your back
issues now
only \$6.⁹⁵ ea

Name _____
Address _____

Town _____ Phone _____

Subscriptions Total \$ _____ (see prices above) Binders @ \$19.95 ea. _____

Back Issues Required (issue no's) _____ @ \$6.95 ea.

Make cheque payable to Independent News Auckland Ltd, or alternatively, enter your visa/bankcard details below:

Card Number

Expiry Date _____ Total Amount \$ _____

Signature _____

Fish & Game

GREAT FISHING GIFT!

4 Issues for \$25. Each additional gift \$20.
Gift cards will be sent to you for announcing your gifts.

From: Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

To: Name _____

Changes to the wild animal recovery industry

In the July issue of Target Taupo, we published information on changes to the way in which the Department of Conservation manages the wild animal recovery industry and how the Tongariro/Taupo Conservancy proposed to implement these changes. The consultation process is now complete and following is an outline of the final outcome.

Helicopter operators no longer need a WARS licence to undertake animal recovery

Most aerial hunting activity involves deer recovery or aerial culling of goats and thar. Prior to 1 October 1999, only helicopter operators who held a Wild Animal Recovery Service (WARS) Licence were able to hunt and recover wild animals. The WARS licence system was administered by the Department of Conservation.

In addition to a licence, WARS licence holders also required a hunting permit from the Department of Conservation to hunt on land administered by the Department. On private land, the permission of the landowner was required. There were 56 WARS licences issued for the 1998/99 year.

What has changed?

The Wild Animal Control Amendment Act 1997 came into effect on 1 October 1999. This legislation repealed the licensing provisions for aerial recovery under Part II of the Wild Animal Control Act 1977. This means the

WARS licensing system has been abolished.

From 1 October 1999 helicopter operators wanting to carry out a wild animal recovery operation need to:

- obtain landowner permission to hunt on private land
- or obtain a concession to hunt on land administered by the Department of Conservation
- and comply with the Civil Aviation Authority requirements
- and comply with NZ Police requirements.

Private landowners are no longer restricted to using a licensed WARS operator for wild animal recovery operations on their land.

What will happen on land administered by the Department of Conservation?

Aerial operators who want to undertake wild animal recovery on land administered by the Department of Conservation are required to

obtain a concession. The requirement to have a concession brings wild animal recovery in line with other business activities carried out on land administered by the Department.

A concession is an official authorisation to undertake a commercial activity in an area managed by the Department of Conservation. For a wild animal recovery operation the concession will be in the form of a licence or a permit. Any operator or company can apply for a concession. The application will be assessed having regard to a number of criteria including:

- the nature and effects of the activity on visitor safety
- consistency with Conservation Management Strategies (CMS) and Management Plans (MP)
- the purposes of the Wild Animal Control Act 1977
- the role of recreational hunters in achieving wild animal control

An application may be declined if



Table 1: Restrictions on WARO in the Tongariro/Taupo Conservancy

Name of Area:	Restrictions on WARO concession activity.	Reason for restriction (based on PTIII B Conservation Act and Section 23 WAC Act)
Tongariro National Park	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> WARO activity will be limited to <i>two experienced operators</i> (who prove most suitable based upon the criteria set out in the application form) during the period 1 May to 31 October each year; WARO activity will be restricted to that area of Tongariro National Park known as the Hauhangatahi Wilderness Area and that area north of the Whakapapanui and Waihoheho Rivers; WARO concessionaires will be required to log activity and provide prior notification of all activity; Hunting effort/flying hours and deer harvest data will be required; Operators must fly boundaries with DOC staff before any operations can begin; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> This recognises the role of people engaged in recreational hunting (S.23 WAC Act) - peak times are Nov/Dec/Jan & Mar/Apr; and the impact low flying aircraft will have on the experience of very high numbers of summer visitors - peak times are Labour weekend to Easter. Restrictions are consistent with CMP where aircraft use is restricted to essential management purposes; Presence of significant numbers of permanent possum bait stations pulse fed monthly with Brodifacoum on the southern side of Mount Ruapehu and in the Whakapapaiti catchment exclude these areas from commercial recovery of deer; Required of all aerial operators within the park; Hunting effort/deer harvest/vegetation condition monitoring regime in place; 4b. Required to assess impact on visitor experience; Operators must be aware of boundary issues with neighbours;
Kaimanawa Forest Park	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> WARO activity will be limited to the period 1 June to 31 October each year; WARO activity will not be permitted in the gazetted Recreational Hunting Area (24,000ha) in the north east of Kaimanawa Forest Park; Harvest/hunting effort data required; Operators must fly boundaries with DOC staff before any operations can begin; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> This recognises the role of people engaged in recreational hunting (S.23 WAC Act) - peak times are Nov/Dec/Jan and Mar/Apr/May. This recognises the role of people engaged in recreational hunting (S.23 WAC ACT) - area has highest recreational hunter use in NZ with up to 1000 hrs of effort per square kilometre per annum. Restriction is consistent with the Kaimanawa Forest Park CMP; Deer harvest/vegetation condition monitoring regime in place to monitor impact of various management options in Kaimanawa/Kaweka Ranges; Operators must be aware of boundary issues with neighbours;
Rangataiki Conservation Area	WARO activity will not be permitted	Presence of significant numbers of permanent possum bait stations pulse fed with 1080;
Tongariro Forest Erua Forest Waituhi/Kuratau SR All Lake Taupo Northern & Western Lakeshore Reserves	WARO activity will not be permitted	Continued presence of various toxins for possum maintenance control by DOC & Animal Health Board contractors;
Raurimu SR Mangatapuhi SR Hukupapa SR Whakapapa River SR Whakapapa Island SR Waimarino SR Whakapapa Marginal Strip	WARO activity will not be permitted	Continued presence of various toxins for possum maintenance control by Animal Health Board Contractors;
Pakuri SR Ohinetonga SR Rangataua Forest Conservation Area Opepe SR Ohakune Lakes SR	WARO activity will not be permitted	Presence of significant numbers of permanent possum bait stations pulse fed monthly with Brodifacoum;

any adverse effects of the activity can not be avoided, remedied or mitigated. Alternatively, conditions may be attached to a concession which outline how, when and where the activity is to be undertaken.

How will the changes be enforced?

As of 1 October 1999 all offences relating to illegal wild animal recovery operations on private land are to be dealt with by the NZ Police. Offences on land administered by the Department of Conservation should be referred to the local Area Office.

There has been a significant increase in the offence provisions relating to illegal wild animal recovery with fines of up to \$10,000 for individuals and \$80,000 for companies.

What areas are available for aerial recovery?

Generally, most areas of land administered by the Department of Conservation are available for wild animal recovery operations unless there are reasons why an area should be restricted. A list of restrictions for the Tongariro/Taupo Conservancy is shown in table 1. Applications for concessions have been invited from all operators holding valid WARS licences

prior to 1 October 1999, but other individuals or companies can also apply for a concession at any time.

Consultation

In July the Tongariro/Taupo Conservancy set out a list of proposed restrictions for WARO concession activity on the various conservation lands it administers. The public had 40 working days to comment, and a total of nine submissions were received. These are summarised in table 2. Seven people also attended a public meeting in Turangi on 11 August.

The outcome

The final concession regime implemented in the Tongariro/Taupo Conservancy (outlined in table 1) reflects the intent of the legislative change in the Wild Animal Control Amendment Act (1997). It takes consideration of a range of ecological and social issues within the land that the activity will be permitted; and has been modified from the original proposal as a result of a public consultation process. We will work with all interested parties to help ensure the regime is implemented in an efficient and effective manner.

The Best of **BRITISH**

SuperFly



"The finest value disc drag in the world".
The SuperFly is the new generation of disc drag reel which combine British Fly Reels quality with a newly patented drag system

- Silent operation • Patented drag control system
- Rim control • Quick release spool

\$71

RimFly CARTRIDGE



A new generation following the tradition started by the L.C. - with separate quick change line cartridges, each with its own line retainer

- Rim control • Adjustable spring and pawl check
- Line identities on each cartridge
- Spare cartridge available

\$82

Distributed by

North Island
R.A. Conaghan
Ph 09 373 4340

South Island
Alexto Sports Ltd
Oh 03 477 0084

Available now
from good
fishing tackle stores

FIG 408

GOAT CONTROL OPERATIONS

Contract goat hunters are working in Erua and Tongariro forests and their associated reserves, and around the Lake Taupo lake shore this spring and summer. These hunters are using specially trained dogs and are re-working areas previously treated in an attempt to maintain very low goat numbers. Where kiwi are present, Department policy is to only allow dogs which have been certified through the kiwi aversion training scheme.

There will also be a limited aerial shooting in all these areas. This aerial shooting is solely for goat control and not related to the Wild Animal Recovery Operation Concession issue.

Table 2: Analysis of Submissions on Tongariro/Taupo Conservancy WARO Proposals

Submitted by	Relationship with DOC	Nature of Submission
1. New Zealand Forest Managers	Neighbouring land manager (Lake Taupo & Rotoaira Forests)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerned at trespass/illegal activity and lack of requirement for identification markings on helicopters; - Concerned game will have access to toxins used for forest protection;
2. Air Charter Taupo	Neighbouring land occupier (East Taupo Lands & Air Transport concessionaire)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerned at trespass/illegal activity and the impact this will have on their commercial activity on their land (tourist hunting) - Concerned at lack of requirement for identification markings on helicopters; - Concerned that DOC enforces the law;
3. Owhaoko Lands Trust	Neighbouring land owner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerned at trespass/illegal activity and the impact this will have on their commercial activity on their land (tourist hunting) - Concerned at lack of requirement for identification markings on helicopters; - Concerned that DOC enforces the law;
4. NZ Deerstalkers Association (Taupo)	Hunter representative organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supportive of Conservancy's approach, especially excluding RHA; - Concerned at trespass/illegal activity and wanting commitment from DOC to enforce concession conditions;
5. NZ Deerstalkers Association (Upper Hutt)	Hunter representative organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerned at impact on recreational hunting opportunity; - Concerned at trespass/illegal activity and lack of requirement for identification markings on helicopters;
6. Neil McAlpine	Hunter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerned at impact on recreational hunting opportunity; - Concerned at trespass/illegal activity and lack of requirement for identification markings on helicopters;
7. Gordon George	Hunter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerned at impact on recreational hunting opportunity; - Concerned at trespass/illegal activity and lack of requirement for identification markings on helicopters;
8. Forest & Bird - Conservation Director Kevin Smith	Conservation group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disagrees with the approach taken; - Concerned restrictions are not justified and wants Kaimanawa FP, Rangataiki Forest Conservation Area and Tongariro NP opened up to WARO concessions full time except for Christmas/New Year period and Easter; - Concerned Tongariro & Erua Forests are being eaten out by deer and wants these areas open to WARO (does not support present toxin regime in southern parts of Tongariro National Park, Tongariro Forest & Erua Forest);
9. Tongariro/Taupo Conservation Board	Conservation Advisory Body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supports approach in Tongariro National Park; - Concerned that the history of aerial venison recovery operations in the Kaimanawa's clearly demonstrates that this method has indirectly lead to an increase in the sika herd numbers (which has had an adverse impact on conservation values). Suggests that in developing its aerial animal recovery concession policy for the Kaimanawa Forest Park, the Conservancy takes due account of that outcome; - Suggests that the Conservancy consider alternative control methods for the Kaimanawa's and invites the Department to report back to the Board in due course;

Kiwi enemy number one - the stoat. With good food supplies available in our forests this winter, rodent survival has been big. This in turn has propped up the survival of stoats, their major predator. The result will be increased stoat predation on native wildlife during the 1999/2000 breeding season



A big season for predators

Trampers, hunters and anglers in the back-country this spring and summer can expect to encounter higher than usual numbers of

rodents and stoats. We are already receiving comment about the number of rats and stoats around.

Wild pigs have also done well this winter with fat healthy hogs breeding prolifically all around the region.

The exceptional fruiting and seeding that occurred through autumn and winter 1999 in both lowland and beech forest habitats has allowed high winter survival of these introduced predators.

Going into the breeding season with higher than normal numbers means the populations will hit unusually high peaks about December.

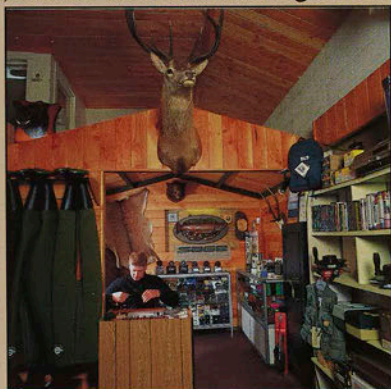
The tragedy is that while our native fauna will have shared the bonanza of beech seed, miro, kaihikatea, tawa, hinau and Comprosmia fruit many species are about to get hit hard from the higher than normal predator numbers as they start their breeding seasons.

Earlier this year the Minister of Conservation announced a \$6.6M funding package for mustelid (ferrets, stoats & weasels) research and development of control techniques over the next five years.

Unfortunately we won't be able to do much about the current peak in the predator cycle, but this is a phenomena that occurs about every five to seven years so hopefully by the next time it happens, we will be ready.

SPORTING LIFE - TURANGI

Outfitters to the Famous Tongariro River



Fly fishing specialist outfitters, providing a complete range of all tackle, hireage and accessories from leading manufacturers including Cortland, Scientific Anglers, Umpqua, Sage, Composite and Killwell.



Sporting Life Turangi
Graham and Kathy
The Mall, Turangi
Telephone: (07) 386-8996
Fax: (07) 386-6559



P&G 163

Boat anglers - who must be licensed?

Some Taupo boat anglers appear uncertain as to who requires a fishing licence when a group go out on a boat fishing trip and who has the responsibility to ensure that those requiring a licence do in fact have one.

Obviously everyone who is actually fishing requires a current licence. However, where misunderstanding exists is if set rods are being used. A set rod is defined under the Taupo Fishing Regulations as any assembled rod being used to take trout where the angler is **not in direct contact** with the rod. In most cases this includes a rod which is placed in a rod holder unless the angler stands with their hand on the rod. If you are going to use "set rods" during your boat fishing outing then **all of the boat's occupants** must be licensed whether they are fishing or not.

If not all the occupants are licensed then the passengers who are actually fishing have to

remain in physical contact with the rods. The reason for this regulation is so that we can clearly establish who is fishing, and so responsible for having a current licence and abiding by the other fishing regulations. If it is not

clear who is actually fishing then the only way to be confident that, in fact, some anglers are not fishing without a licence is for everyone on board to be licensed. Some boaties are not happy about having to buy a licence when they are not intending to go fishing but if this is the case then the anglers simply need

to keep hold of their rods. Such a requirement is nothing new and it was only when downriggers were introduced in 1994, which require the use of rod holders, that the use of set rods has been permitted in the Taupo fishery. Until then all anglers had to keep contact with their rod unless they were the sole occupant of the boat. Many anglers find it very convenient to use set rods but you need to recognise that this convenience comes at a cost, that being the price of licences for any non-fishing members of the party.

Who is liable?

Who is responsible and liable for ensuring the correct number of occupants on the boat are licensed?

Firstly, the angler is responsible for his/her own licence. Secondly, it is the responsibility of the boat operator or person "in charge" to ensure that either the anglers remain in contact with their rods or if set rods are used, that all the boat's occupants are licensed as required.

In case your boat is approached this summer by fishery rangers please ensure that the set rod or physical contact rules are being followed. These regulations are being enforced to ensure all anglers pay their fair share towards the management of the fishery. Fishing without a licence is a form of poaching and the angler is ripping off all of you who have paid your share.

If you are going to use "set rods" during your boat fishing outing then all of the boats occupants must be licensed whether they are fishing or not

Using set rods means all three people on this boat must have a current Taupo District fishing licence



Winter angling summary

by Rob Marshall

Rob is the Fisbery Area Ecologist and is responsible for the fisbery monitoring programmes. He is also a very keen angler.

As spring arrives it is time to look back and assess how this year's river fishing measured up. Over winter we interviewed anglers on all the Taupo rivers, measuring the catch and collecting all manner of data to assist with managing the fishery. In all 1278 anglers were interviewed. Thank you if you gave a minute of your time to talk to us, the contribution is much appreciated.

The data confirms that the fishing was quite different from last winter. The average size of the trout this year was much more typical of Taupo. The catch rate or the number of fish caught per hour also changed, with a significant improvement in the catch rate from the Tongariro River. All in all it was a happy group of anglers we talked to.

What is a typical Taupo trout?

A lot of fish in angler's bags this year were like peas in a pod: all fat, silver and fit and approximately 1.8kg. Table 1 shows how the average length and weight of fish has changed in recent years. The eruption of Mt Ruapehu in

Table 1: The average length and weight of trout caught by anglers on the Tongariro River, 1996 to 1999

	1996	1997	1998	1999
Average length (mm)	541	569	589	545
Average weight (kg)	1.93	2.36	2.63	1.83

1995/96 changed the ecology of Lake Taupo (see *Target Taupo*, issue 27). This change affected the growth of the trout, which was reflected in the exceptional average size of trout caught during 1997 and 1998. However, this year the average weight of trout in the Tongariro River dropped to 1.83kg. This is consistent with the average size of trout prior to the eruption, which for many years fluctuated between 1.8 and 2.0kg.

Fish in the other rivers in the district this winter were similar in size, with the Waitahanui and Hinemaiaia producing fish of an average weight of 1.94kg (553mm) and the Tauranga-Taupo 1.74kg (528mm).

How satisfied are anglers with their fishing?

Some of the most important information

collected as part of the river creel surveys is the assessment of angler's satisfaction. Table 2 shows how anglers on the Tongariro River this year rate the size and quality of the trout, their success and their angling enjoyment compared to the previous three years.

Anglers noticed the reduction in the overall size of fish caught compared to 1997 and 1998 rating their satisfaction with the size and quality of the fish significantly less. However, this reduction in size didn't appear to impact on their angling enjoyment, which they rated excellent.

In contrast the catch rate (number of fish caught per hour) on the Tongariro was much higher this year. However, even though anglers had much more success than last year they did not rate their satisfaction with their angling success any higher.

The improvement in the catch rate for the Tongariro River reflects the recovery underway following the eruption of Mt Ruapehu. The eruptions in 1995/96 and subsequent inputs of ash killed the majority of juvenile trout in the Tongariro River at the time. These fish would normally have returned to the river last year to spawn, and their absence was responsible for the low catch rates. Each year as conditions in the river improve spawning and juvenile rearing is more and more successful and this will be reflected in greater numbers of fish returning to spawn in the next few years.

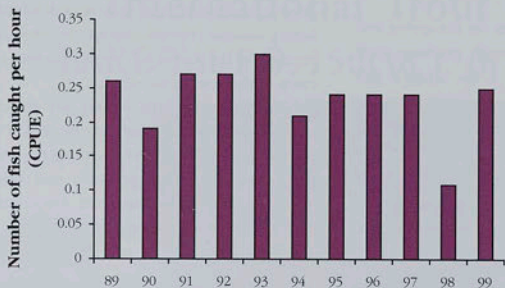
The increase in size limit, imposed as a result of the eruptions is also likely to contribute to the improved catch rate. The size limit was increased to 45cm in 1997 to protect those juvenile fish that did manage to survive the eruptions. Under the new regulation a large number of fish in the lake last summer were undersize and had to be released if they were caught. These fish continue to grow until they are mature when they run rivers and are available to be caught again. As a consequence the catch from the Tongariro River was larger than if these fish had been harvested from the lake under the old size limit of 35cm.

A memorable May

Catch rates are expected to fluctuate up and down over time as fish move in and out of the rivers. Early in the season catch rates are

Table 2: Average rating of the size and quality of the trout, angling success and enjoyment on the Tongariro River 1996-1999 (1=terrible to 5=excellent)

	1996	1997	1998	1999
Size and quality	3.9	4.3	4.3	3.4
Success	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.4
Angling enjoyment	4.5	4.8	4.7	4.8



Winter fishing season

The fluctuations in catch rate on the Tongariro River between 1989 and 1999

The Silly Pool, upstream of the Tongariro National Trout Centre on the Tongariro River was one of the most consistent fishing pools this winter

usually low, because only a small proportion of the population are physiologically ready to spawn. Catch rates are expected to increase as the season progresses and more fish enter the river. It was therefore surprising that May was the most successful month for anglers on the Tongariro River, with a catch rate of 0.37 fish per hour (approximately one fish every two and a half hours). This is a very high catch rate for the Tongariro River. July and August also had very good catch rates of 0.30 and 0.31 respectively.

Waitahanui anglers found success much

harder unless the wind and river conditions were ideal. This is reflected in the catch rate of 0.11 fish per hour or one fish for 9 hours of effort. In contrast the Tauranga-Taupo River recorded its highest catch rate since 1994 (0.29 fish per hour or one fish every 3.5 hours).

Spawning

Drift dives are completed on all of the eastern Taupo tributaries during winter. A team of divers swims a section of each river and counts the fish present. The Tauranga-Taupo, Waimarino and Waitotaka Rivers all recorded some of the highest counts on record, with the Waimarino count reaching 1007 trout in August.

Runs through the trap on the Waipa Stream, upstream of the winter fishing limit on the Tongariro River, are also substantially up on last year. It was not until July that the first major runs arrived with even more in August and the run peaking through the trap in September.

Conditions over winter and spring have been ideal for spawning, and coupled with the large number of fish in the rivers, this should allow for successful juvenile recruitment and rearing.



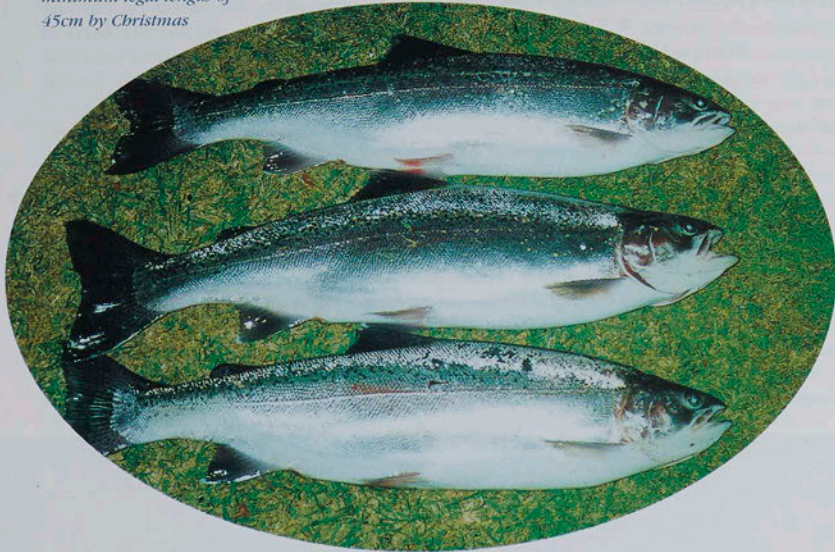
Prospects for the coming summer

Indications are promising for the spring and summer. Anglers are already catching good quality fish in the lake, as the shallow and deep trolling starts to improve. At this time of year the trout population in the lake is dominated by mending kelt that have returned from spawning and small maiden fish. As summer progresses the condition of the mending fish will improve, and the size

of the young maidens will increase. Feeding predominantly on smelt young trout can grow up to 1mm per day or 3cm each month during summer. The photograph below is an example of the sort of fish you can expect to catch in the coming months.

Remember to carefully release any under-sized (<450mm) fish that you catch. Their contribution to the winter spawning run and the young trout they produce will help sustain the fishery into the future. Good luck with your summer fishing.

Typical Lake Taupo rainbow trout. These maiden fish are growing at 1mm per day and most have reached the minimum legal length of 45cm by Christmas



300 METRE MARKERS INDICATE “NO GO” ZONE

With the onset of the summer boating season, we remind lake anglers that boat fishing restrictions apply to most stream mouths. Fishing from a boat within an arc of 300 metres of a stream mouth is prohibited at all except four river mouths. These exceptions are the Tongariro and Tauranga-Taupo river mouths where you may fish from an anchored boat and at the Waikino and Otopoto falls where no boating restrictions apply.

Stream mouths are marked with a white, yellow and black ringed post. From time to time, the marker poles become dislodged or obscured by vegetation. A rise or fall in lake level can also cause the poles to become

inappropriately placed relative to the position of the stream mouth. We make regular inspections and spend considerable time erecting or re-locating markers. This is done specifically for anglers' convenience to help you identify the position of stream mouths that may be somewhat obscure when viewed from out on the lake.

There are a number of other features and locations in the fishery where boating restrictions apply. Anglers are advised to become familiar with these before venturing out. You are welcome to get in touch with us on (07) 386 8607, if you need clarification of a particular point.

Mighty River Power International Trout Fishing Tournament LAKE TAUPO, 15th to 17th April, 2000



mounted trout is the 12lb winner
of the 1998 tournament

- fun for the family
- enjoy team fishing with friends
- prizes for children, individuals, overseas entrants, teams
- catch the tagged fish and win a car
- \$500 of tackle for anyone who catches the tagged fish in Year 2000

all photographs taken by contestants during 1999 tournament

www.reap.org.nz/~fishcomp

\$30,000 to be won!

Entry Details

Post to "Trouty 2000", P O Box 1497, Taupo

Name and Address _____

Team Name _____

Junior or Adult? _____

Registration Place? Taupo/Tokaanu _____

Fees, \$10 Junior, \$65 Adult, Additional \$25 for each Team Member _____

Contact Trouty, P O Box 1497, Taupo, Phone 07 378 0232, Fx 07 378 0236 for assistance

FISH LAKE TAUPO



Changes to fishing opportunities in the Waiootaka Stream

The first of December will see some significant changes to fishing opportunities in the Waiootaka Stream. From then the 10km section of stream within the boundaries of the Tongariro-Rangipo prison farm will be closed to fishing at all times. In the past this stretch was open from 1 December to 31 May each year before closing for the

spawning season. A bonus to anglers though is that an additional 2km of water above the Hautu Ford will be open all year round.

Last year the Department of Corrections, which manages the prison, decided to cease their practice of allowing controlled access onto the property to fish the Waiootaka River. Their intention was to allow only local prison staff to fish this section of the stream in an effort to improve security within the prison, especially related to the supply of drugs. Our strenuous attempts to re-negotiate a controlled access agreement were unsuccessful and we were left facing a de facto private fishery. Following a recommendation from the Taupo Fishery Advisory Committee the Minister of Conservation decided to close this stretch of river within the prison to all fishing.

When determining the precise boundaries of this closure it became apparent that 2km of stream upstream from the present winter limit at the Hautu Ford could be opened to winter angling without a detrimental impact on the fishery. A survey in September counted nearly 150 trout in the upper half of this section but we only saw a small number of spawning redds. This section of the Waiootaka up to the point where the prison



Fisbery Manager John Gibbs and Ecologist Rob Marshall (wetsuit) survey a typical stretch of the Waiootaka River upstream of Hautu Ford. This part of the river for a distance 2km upstream of the Ford will be open to angling all year round

Large overhanging willows at intervals along the river will be a challenge for anglers





The Waiotaka is a delightful river within the prison. However, changes in prison policy caused in effect a private fishery and this stretch of river is now closed to all anglers. The dark shadows in the water are a school of spawning trout. Such scenes were typical of the upper Waiotaka this winter

boundary crosses the stream is heavily overgrown with willows and access is awkward but by no means impossible. We will probably make some track improvements in time on the anglers' right-of-way on the true right bank. Anglers should note that the true left (western) bank of this section is part of the prison property and access over it is prohibited. The upper limit will be marked with a black, yellow and white ringed post and a sign.

Under the provisions of the Conservation Act we will be publishing notices implementing the changes to both the 12 month open

section and the new prohibited fishing area. In summary the changes to the Waiotaka fishing restrictions are that fishing will be:

- prohibited at all times in the stream where it passes through the Tongariro-Rangipo prison
- permitted from 1 December to 31 May in the river upstream (south) of the prison within the Kaimanawa Forest Park
- permitted all year round from Lake Taupo up to the point where the prison boundary crosses the stream, approximately 2km upstream (south) of the Hautu Ford on Waiotaka Road.

Information about illegal activities is only of use when it is passed on immediately

If you see such an activity, **whatever the time**, please contact compliance staff

Telephone: (07) 386 8607

After hours, an answerphone message will provide you with the number of the Conservancy Duty Officer. He/she will take your call and pass on your information to the appropriate person.

Note this contact number is also printed on your Taupo District fishing licence.

Rights-of-way in the Taupo Fishery

by John Gibbs

John Gibbs is the manager of the Taupo Fishery Area. He has fished Lake Taupo since the 1950s and his working involvement with the fishery management goes back to 1964

In the March issue of *Target Taupo* we ran an article on camping in the Western Bays of Lake Taupo. The discussion on public access

rights provided by the 1926 Maori Land Amendment and Maori Land Claims Adjustment Act has sparked enquiries as to just what activities are permitted on the lake shore and river bank rights-of-way.

The key thing to remember is that the 20 metre wide rights-of-way over lakeshore Maori land are just that. They do not change the underlying ownership of the land which remains in Maori title and must be respected as such.

Activities permitted on rights-of-way are not all clearly defined in law and some have evolved over time through common law and precedent. Fundamentally, the rights-of-way exist to provide access to and along the water's edge. However, the lake shore and river bank rights-of-way have some important differences in their purposes and provisions.

The lake shore right-of-way is for all public, not just anglers. It is classed as a general right-of-way available at all times to pass over and along by whatever means. The key constraint on its use is that the right-of-way must not be obstructed. It is unlikely that fishing, beaching a boat,

picnicking or swimming would constitute an obstruction but camping would. Lighting fires is not encompassed by the right-of-way

and in any case requires both the permission of the landowner and a permit from the relevant rural fire authority. Likewise, there is no inherent permission for toileting on the right-of-way.

The river bank rights-of-way are more precisely defined and specific in their purpose. They:

- are limited to specified distances up both banks of

nominated rivers (see table 1 below)

- can only be used for access by foot for the purposes of angling
- can only be used by people holding a valid Taupo fishing licence
- do not extend a right of use to the general public.

In all cases the distances are measured along the centre-line of the river. The rights of way apply to all tributaries entering the rivers within the defined lengths, except for the Tongariro River. In practical fishing terms this means the Mangamutu and Te Arero tributaries of the Waitahanui River

also have rights-of-way on their banks.

Just why the particular distances specified were chosen is lost in the mists of time.

River bank rights-of-way are 20 metres wide and can only be used for foot access by licensed anglers. They have no general right of public use

Rights-of-way do not change the underlying ownership of the land which remains in Maori title and must be respected as such

Table 1. Rivers with anglers rights-of-way

River	Extent of right-of-way
Tongariro	Mouth to Whitikau Stream junction
Poutu	Junction with Tongariro River to old State Highway bridge
Waiotaka	Mouth to source (excluding within the boundaries of Tongariro-Rangipo prison)
Waimarino	Mouth to source
Tauranga-Taupo	Mouth to three miles (4.8km) upstream
Waiphi	Mouth to source (NB - the Waiphi is closed to fishing)
Hinemaiaia	Mouth to three miles (4.8km) upstream
Waitahanui	Mouth to source
Waihora	Mouth to six miles (9.7km) upstream
Waihaha	Mouth to six miles (9.7km) upstream
Whanganui	Mouth to one mile (1.6km) upstream
Whareroa	Mouth to three miles (4.8km) upstream (NB - the Whareroa is closed to fishing)
Kuratau	Mouth to 10 miles (16.1km) upstream

Some are self-evident, such as the Whanganui Stream which has a waterfall about one mile from its mouth, and the Hinemaiaia which ran through an inaccessible gorge about three miles above its mouth. Less obvious is the Tauranga-Taupo which has many kilometres of good and physically accessible fishing water above the limit of the three mile right-of-way.

The rights-of-way only apply over Maori land or land that was in Maori ownership in 1926. Considerable lengths of both the lake shore and river banks are Crown land in some form of reserve or other status, such as forest park. Various forms of local body reserves also occur. There is free public access over all these reaches and other uses (eg, camping) are limited by the particular status of the land or governing bylaws. Very small lengths of the shores and banks are in pre-1926 freehold title and thus have no public

access at all.

In using rights-of-way people should be mindful that they may lie over or adjacent to sites of special cultural significance to tangata whenua. These include marae and urupa (burial sites) and you should take great care not to trespass onto them or desecrate them in any way. Some examples are at Whanganui Bay, Poukura

Be especially sensitive to Maori concerns in the vicinity of marae, cemeteries and settlements

and Waihi.

The Department is preparing a register of all legal accesses for anglers and this should be complete in about a year's time. Ultimately we hope to make this register accessible through the DOC internet website, www.doc.govt.nz. Information on river bank access can also be found on the large angling signs at major river access points on the Tongariro, Waioataka, Waimarino, Tauranga-Taupo, Hinemaiaia and Waitahanui rivers.

PESTICIDE SUMMARY

Toxins are used on public conservation land for a variety of reasons these days. Animal pests impact on conservation values, spread disease and are sought after for their fur, skins and/or meat. Any use of toxin on conservation land must be in accordance with strict protocols set down by the Department of Conservation. Our new Quality Conservation Management (QCM) Animal Pest System also requires each conservancy to produce a summary of all pesticides used on land administered by the Department, every four months. This is called a Pesticides Summary. This summary is too large and in the wrong format to publish in *Target Taupo* but is sent to all game packing houses, aerial wild animal recovery operation concession holders, hunting organisations, and is available wherever hunting permits are issued. If you hunt or take dogs onto any of the areas listed below, you should ensure you first read the latest Pesticide Summary:

- Southern shores of Lake Whakamaru
- Tirohanga scenic reserve
- Lake Taupo lakeshore reserves
- Opepe scenic reserve
- Lower Tauranga-Taupo River
- Mount Pihanga, Tongariro National Park
- Waituhi/Kuratau scenic reserve
- Tongariro Forest and adjoining reserves
- Erua Forest and adjoining reserves
- Whakapapa Village in Tongariro National Park
- Ohakune mountain road in Tongariro National Park
- Karioi lakes/Rangataua Forest
- Ohakune Lakes scenic reserve
- Rangitikei River/Otamateanui Stream confluence in Kaimanawa Forest Park

There may be other areas where private possum hunters have also laid cyanide for skin/fur recovery operations. These areas are not listed in the Pesticide Summary. Please take note of any poison signs when hunting and do not tamper with or remove any such signs.

Requirement to produce a current fishing licence on demand

We check over 3000 anglers every year to ensure that anglers hold a current fishing licence and are abiding by the other fishing regulations. The vast majority of you are able to produce your licence when requested though occasionally we encounter an angler who has left their licence at home. Our normal practice in this situation is to take your details and allow you seven days to produce a current licence purchased at a date and time prior to when we stopped you. So long as a licence is forthcoming nothing further occurs. However there are several issues that have arisen out of this practice. Firstly more and more anglers are not carrying their licence on them and secondly we often have to write or telephone several times before a current licence is finally produced. In amongst those people who are a bit lax about sending their licence in, there is of course the very occasional angler who never had a licence at all and is hoping to get away

with it. Currently it takes a lot of work to weed these anglers out. It is an appropriate time to remind anglers of their legal obligations under the Conservation Act 1987 and the Taupo Fishing Regulations 1984. The Conservation

The offence in this case is not being able to produce a licence when requested, not whether or not the angler actually has a licence.

Act makes it an offence to take sports fish from freshwater at any time without an appropriate licence and is the rule all of us are familiar with. However regulation 15 (a) of the Taupo Fishing Regulations also applies. This regulation requires that an angler produce their licence on demand from a warranted officer.

The current incidence of anglers not producing a licence when asked is causing a lot of additional

work which is unnecessary in many cases if anglers took more care to carry their licence.

There is no requirement on us to allow anglers extra time to produce a licence but the current procedure reflects that there will always be odd occasions when with the best of intentions the licence is forgotten. However because of the growing incidence of anglers not carrying their

licence some modifications to the procedure have been implemented. Initially the angler will still be given a period of time which, depending on the circumstances may be up to seven days, to produce a current licence.

However, we will not be writing follow up letters or making telephone calls if we have not received a licence within the agreed time. The next step will be to instigate a prosecution.

If in the longer term the incidence of anglers not carrying their licences continues to grow then we may be forced to apply the regulation exactly as it is written which would be unfortunate.

The bottom line is that the onus is on you to carry your licence at all times when you are fishing.

Carry your licence so that we can instead spend our time detecting those people who actually do not have a licence or are engaged in other nefarious activities.

Deceiver Believers

Dave Hern – Hunting & Fishing Hawkes Bay

If you want to take on good trout in crystal clear water with rocks and snags and all the other potential hazards that high country fishing involves then Umpqua Deceiver is the tippet material that will give you the edge to hook and land a trophy trout. This 2.2 kg Mohaka Rainbow was landed on 3/16lb Deceiver attached to 13' 6lb strike tapered leader.

FLY: # 16 Olive Flashback Caddis
ROD: Sage SP390 9' #3 weight
REEL: Lamson
LINE: DT 3F Teeny





Hardy

REEL COLLECTION

There is something about the sound a reel makes as it plays out a line that tells you it has true quality. That sound is instantly recognisable to anyone who has brought a reel from us. It is the sound of unsurpassed engineering excellence married to a real understanding of what fishermen need on the water. That understanding is why our range is comprehensive. It gives the angler a choice of 6 series of disc, drag and click-check fly reels. All designed to radically improve performance. A reel from House of Hardy is more than just a superbly balanced piece of machinery. It is a symbol. A symbol of our commitment to manufacture only the very, very best.



Hardy Tackle is available at these House of Hardy Dealers

TISDALLS
176 Queen St
Auckland
Ph: 09 379 0254

O'KEEFE'S FISHING
27 Eruera St
Rotorua
Ph: 07 346 0178

CREEL TACKLE
189 Taupahi Rd
Turangi
Ph: 07 386 7929

TISDALLS
51 Broadway Ave
Palmerston North
Ph: 06 358 6377

COMPLETE ANGLER
Cashel & Barbados St
Christchurch
Ph: 03 366 9885

TISDALLS
52 Willis St
Wellington
Ph: 04 472 0485

CENTREFIRE
358 Moray Place
Dunedin
Ph: 03 477 3266

For the latest House of Hardy Catalogue please write to:
Tisdalls, Box 269, Wellington or phone 04 472 0485
e-mail: hardy@tisdalls.co.nz

(Dealer enquires to 04 939 1889)

New river angling signs and rationalisation of Tongariro River tracks

Many of you will have seen our river angling signs on the banks of the Tongariro or other Taupo rivers. You may also notice that these signs are slowly succumbing to the rigours of nine years in the sun, rain and wind. The time has come to replace these signs with new, up-to-date versions. New Tongariro River angling signs will be in place by the end of November and you will see new signs on all of the eastern tributaries by the end of the 2000. The main objective of the new signs is to provide information to local and visiting anglers, so that you can make the most of your visit.

The process of producing these signs has been a lengthy one and has been underway since the beginning of this year. A concept was developed in February and since then a lot of time and effort has been put into refining the signs ready for production.

The new signs comprise a section of text, a map and a photograph of the particular river. The text is designed to provide anglers with information about some of the key fishing regulations that apply to Taupo and guidance with understanding the 'unwritten' rules of angling etiquette. The text also provides a contact telephone number should

you witness illegal fishing activities.

Modern computer technology was used to create the maps. The maps are extremely accurate as they are scanned from aerial photographs taken after the July 1998 floods. The maps provide details on access to the particular rivers as well as recognised pool names, bridges and closed waters.

The production of the new access maps also provided an ideal opportunity to rationalise the current network of angling tracks. The aim was to identify what tracks were required and what tracks were redundant and simply confused anglers trying to make their way around. The process was governed by a set of principles which we established in consultation with the Taupo Fishery Advisory Committee. These principles are as follows:

Vehicle access

- * Roads are to be maintained to a level suitable for 2-wheel drive vehicles.
- * Access to a particular section of river will not be duplicated or over provided.
- * Subject to the previous conditions, vehicle access will only be provided if there is demand for it.

Rob Marshall signs off the final proofs for the new Tongariro River signs. The new signs will be in place by the end of November



Foot access

* Where practical access is to be provided along both banks within 20 metres of the river.

* The Tongariro River walkway will be used as the basis for angler access tracks on the true right of the Tongariro River. Parallel track development will be provided only where the walkway is inadequate to meet the needs of anglers.

* Demand will influence whether we retain old tracks or build new ones within the network.

* The track network may be constrained by topography and ground surface.

Pool names

* Only recognised, long-established pool

names are to be used on the map.

The maps on each sign detail the track network and anglers will begin to see changes in the tracks along the rivers over the next few months.

Another development on the signs is a photograph. Every sign will have a different photo on it depicting a typical scene from that particular part of the river. The role of the photo is not only to add to the signs overall appearance, but also to provide summer visitors with an appreciation of the scene in winter, when the majority of angling is done.

Keep an eye out for the new signs on the Tongariro River that will be in place by the end of November this year. We welcome your feedback on the design and effectiveness of these signs.

TAUPO DISTRICT FISHING LICENCE REVIEW

We recently completed a 29-page review looking at all aspects of the administration of Taupo Fishing District licences. This review built on a 1998 study by Waikato

University student Rachel Harris, whose report provided recommendations on the fee structure and licence sales infrastructure.

The review contains 39 recommendations and has been presented to the Taupo Fishery Advisory Committee and the Tuwharetoa Maori Trust Board for discussion.

Many of the recommendations, particularly with regard to the licence administration, are similar to what is currently practised. This is hardly surprising given that the administration has evolved over a number of years and undergone many changes to improve its effectiveness. However, we are recommending changes to several of the available categories as well as a formula for setting the fee relativity between different licence categories.

A full summary of the review and a discussion of any changes arising out of it will be presented in the March 2000 issue of *Target Taupo*.



PROGUARD TRS WADERS

- Stock sizes • Made to Measure
- At Factory Prices • For adults & children

Call **0800 WADERS**
0800 92 33 77

Products available include waist or chest length waders in two materials:

- Neoprene – a dense closed cell waterproof neoprene rubber material with a jersey knit outer layer bonded to both sides to provide excellent thermal qualities. Seams are sealed for extra strength.
- PVC coated nylon fabric – a new lightweight, flexible, strong, waterproof material, excellent for use in warmer climates. Areas such as surf, rivers, ponds, wetlands forestry work, etc. Seams sealed and crutch area strengthened.
- Waders bonded on quality gumboots - Options include: gumboots with steel re-inforced sole for rock work and oyster farming. knee pads fitted.
- Damaged gumboots replaced.

Repair service also available.

Enquiries welcome for custom-made jackets, carrybags and other items.

Made in New Zealand by Proguard Industries




PG 427



Taupo Field & Stream Directory

To advertise in the Taupo Field & Stream Directory and reach 12,000 annual fishing licence holders, contact Peter McIntosh on (09) 579 3000

Tongariro Adventure



Discover the Central Plateaus Fishing & Hunting

Centrally located to some of NZ's finest trophy & wilderness fishing:

- Ruapehu & The Tongariro National Park
- Lake Rotorua
- Lake Oramangakau
- and many challenging mountain streams and rivers

Email: pukenuilodge@xtra.co.nz
Website: www.tongariro.co

We have:

- Quality affordable accommodation
- Powerficient sites
- Meals (breakfast/dinner)
- Self catering
- Spa pool
- Transport
- Fishing Licences
- Fishing Guides

For Booking: Box 24 National Park.
Ph: (07) 892 2882. Reservations: 0800-785-368

TURANGI SMOKEHOUSE and DELI

Trout Smoking
- Just bring it in!
- Home kill processing available



MAF inspected and approved premises. World famous hot smoke technique. Vacuum packed for extended shelf life.

Smoked Products - Available ex-stock

- A: Venison salamis (six flavours, whole or sliced)
- B: Chickens, size 8 (smoked & cooked ready to eat)
- C: Salmon (hot or cold smoked)
- D: Venison pastrami (sliced & interleaved packs)
- E: Beef pastrami (sliced & interleaved packs)
- F: Kofler (sliced & interleaved packs)
- G: Venison meat loaf (cooked ready to eat)
- H: Middle bacon (double smoked, superb flavour)

ORDERS: Phone/Fax (07) 386 0235 or A/h (07) 386 8454

A more comprehensive price list is available on request

TONGARIRO RIVER RAFTING

Tongariro River Rafting offers you superb nymph and dry fly fishing on isolated water. We supply sumptuous lunch and all transport. Don't just dream, ask for our eight hour wilderness, chauffeured, raft fishing experience. We also run family white water rafting trips.

For Rafting and Ralt Fishing in the North Island contact:

Garth Oakden, Tongariro River Rafting
PO Box 281, Turangi.
Ph: 0800 10 10 24. Fax: 07 386 6445.
Email: rafting@xtra.co.nz

The Store - Te Rangī Itā



The gateway to the famous Tauranga - Taupo River

- Comprehensive fishing tackle shop, hire waders, guide
- Hungry trout cafe home cooking, cappuccino, espresso, yummy breakfast, lunches
- Petrol, diesel and well stocked groceries.

Stella & Pete
Ph: (07) 386 8953 Fax: (07) 386 0497

WILDERNESS ADVENTURES

Fly Fishing

- Novice → Master
- Local or Back Country
- All Gear Supplied

For "Simply the Best" Adventure Let Us Guide You

Phone/Fax: (07) 378 4514
e-mail: ian@wilderness.co.nz
34 Aubrey Cres, Rainbow Point, Taupo, NZ

Creel Tackle House



189 Taupahi Road, Turangi
Brian Scott: Phone/Fax 07 386 7929

FLY FISHING TACKLE SPECIALISTS

- Quality fly tying materials
- Hire tackle
- Open 7 days

Central North Island Agents for:



GUIDED FLY FISHING

on the Mighty Tongariro River & Lake Taupo Tributaries
Full Tuition & Quality Tackle
with


KEN DRUMMOND
PHONE (07) 386 0411
P.O. BOX 186 TURANGI

MEMBER: NZ PROFESSIONAL GUIDES ASSN.

GREIG SPORTS

For your Fishing, Hunting and Sporting requirements

Bruce & Joan Pascoe
59 Town Centre,
PO Box 71, Turangi
Ph/Fax: 0-7-386 7713
A/H: 0-7-386 6419



WAIORANGA SPORTS & TOURS

Specialising in:-

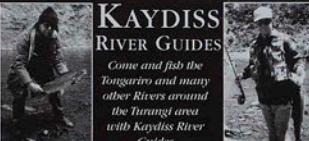
- Fresh & Saltwater Fishing Tackle
- Fishing Trips
- Hunting Excursions

Open 4am for fishing tournaments

147 Tongariro St
Taupo, New Zealand
Ph/Fax: 0-7-378 3714, A/H 0-7- 378 7916



To advertise in the Taupo Field & Stream Directory and reach 12,000 annual fishing licence holders, contact Peter McIntosh on (09) 579 3000



KAYDISS RIVER GUIDES

Come and fish the Tongariro and many other Rivers around the Turangi area with Kaydiss River Guides

FLY FISHERS PARADISE - The winter runs of Steelhead are exceptional with summer providing large brown & rainbow's which make it a fly fishers paradise.

GUIDE - Your Guide Warren Kay has over 15 years experience fishing the Taupo Region & Central Rivers of the North Island.


Contact: Warren Kay • 24 Puatata Road, Turangi • Phone/Fax: 07 386 7623
 Mobile: 025 490 973 • Email: Kaydiss_River_Guides@compuserve.com
 Internet: http://ourworld.compuserve.com/ • Homepages: Kaydiss_River_Guides/



Turangi
New Zealand
Adjoins State Highway 1

- All standards of accommodation from \$25 per night per person
- Self catering facilities and BBQ areas
- Fire side Bar
- A La Carte Restaurant
- Micro Brewery
- Spa & Sauna
- We'll even cook your catch!

For bookings: Box 174 Turangi 2751
 PH: (07) 386 7492 FAX: (07) 386 0106

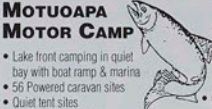


TONGARIRO RIVER FISHING & ACCOMMODATION

ONLY \$20.00 pp per night



Fishing Guide Ron Horton Ph: (07) 386 5441 evenings
 273 Taupahi Rd, Turangi



MOTUOA MOTOR CAMP

- Lake front camping in quiet bay with boat ramp & marina
- 56 Powered caravan sites
- Quiet tent sites
- Ideal sites for motor homes
- On-site caravans for hire, fully equipped, bring own bedding

Facilities include: Kitchen, Dining, TV, Showers, Toilets, Laundry, Fish cleaning facilities, BBQ, Spa pool

- 10 mins to Turangi
- 30 mins to Taupo
- 35 mins to ski-fields
- Permanent sites available

13 Parekararanga Rd, Motuoa, PO Box 41, Turangi
 Phone: 07 386 7162

Chauanga Rd, PO Box 41, Turangi
 Phone: 07 386 8754

Fax both camps: 07 386 7162

MOTUTERE BAY HOLIDAY PARK




- Over 230 sites / tourist flats
- Plenty of caravan storage space
- Lakefront camping / sites swimming
- Public boat ramp & ski lane
- Handy to main fishing rivers
- Mt Ruapehu Ski field 50 minutes
- Hot pools at Tokaanu 20 minutes
- Childrens playground
- Paraplegic ablutions & toilets
- Camp store, fishing tackle, licenses
- Public telephone

Phone/Fax: (07) 386 8963

Braxmere Fishing Lodge

Tokaanu, Turangi



- 5 mins from Tongariro River
- 30 mins from Whakapapa Snowfields
- 2 separate houses with own thermal pools & barbecue
- Licensed Restaurant (The Place) on site conference centre
- 11 self-contained units all have lake views
- Thermal pools • Barbecue • Drying rooms/Laundry
- Mobile homes facilities • Mountain Bike hire
- Hire boats and fishing gear • Fishing guides available
- Wharf and launching ramp • Competitive rates - group rates

Little Waihi. Tel: (07) 386 8011
 P.O. Box 11, Tokaanu. Fax: (07) 386 7513

WINDSOR LODGE

MOTEL/CARAVAN PARK
 SH 1, Waitahanui, Taupo



- 8 fully self-contained units
- Fish cleaning room & Smoker
- 150m from fishing pools
- Wader & rod hire
- Children's play area
- Easy access to lake
- Shop - EFTPOS

Phone (07) 378 6271
 Fax (07) 378 6246
 Your hosts: Debbie & Brian Blackburn

BELLBIRD LODGE



Turangi

Budget priced accommodation, big on comfort and service. Only \$17 per night, guests supply own linen. Freezer and fish smoker. Shuttle service to favourite fishing spots. Enjoy one of our free desserts every night. Guides arranged.

Call Clint or Janeve Green for booking or quote.
 Ph/Fax (07) 386 8281
 bellbird@reap.org.nz

Sportsman's Lodge

- Right on the Banks of the world famous Tongariro River
- Inexpensive riverside accommodation Doubles from \$45 per night.
- Large shared Kitchen/dining room with all facilities
- TV lounge with open fire and sun decks
- Fishing Guides available

15 Taupehi Road, Turangi,
 New Zealand
 Ph (07) 3868-150

PETER CHURCH GUIDING

(Member NZ Professional Guides Association)

OVER 15 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Specialising in ● flyfishing ● lake fishing
 ● tuition ● all tackle provided

Phone: (07) 386 8621 Fax: (07) 386 8622
 Email: churchfinservices@xtra.co.nz
 PO Box 184, Turangi



Team Profile



*Jon Palmer
(JJ aka Jon Junior)*

Jon is interested in all types of fishing but rates himself a novice with a fly rod and has yet to catch a trout on the fly in the North Island. He also participates in a wide range of other outdoor recreational activities including tramping, canyoning, kayaking, mountain biking and camping. "Living in this area will enable me to do all of these things," says Jon.

"I relish the challenge this job will provide and also enjoy being part of the fishery team who are a great bunch of people obviously focussed and dedicated to their work."

Jon is the Taupo Fishery team's newest member filling the scheduler/service position. This job involves planning and scheduling all the resources for programmes and projects undertaken and providing financial services and administrative support to the Area.

After working for 10 years in the textile industry, fulfilling various roles including technical, mechanical and management, Jon decided to pursue something he is interested in - conservation management. Jon moved to Christchurch to attend Lincoln University to complete a degree of Bachelor of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management concentrating on planning and ecology. "I couldn't have done this degree without the support of Justine, my fiancée," he says.

During university breaks Jon worked as a park ranger at the Port Hills of Christchurch building and maintaining tracks, guiding school groups and undertaking weed and pest control and forest restoration work. Jon inadvertently became a one-eyed Cantabrian with regards to rugby, and says he would have great trouble supporting another team since Canterbury are the best. However, Jon is struggling with the realisation that none of his fellow workers share this view.

THE ATTITUDE TO BUILD THE BEST BOATS IN THE WORLD



At Haines Hunter building boats is more than a profession it's a way of life. Our team of boat builders represent over 30 families all relying on the success of the product that goes out the door. With this comes a responsibility to your fellow worker, an attitude to build the best boats in the world. Every Haines Hunter reflects this attitude, it is in the finished product.

single staff member is allotted to that boat to follow it through the complete boat building procedure. Their butt on the line because it's their responsibility to ensure



each procedure is completed to perfection, that everyone pulls their weight. Haines Hunter boats are hand built by skilled professionals who care about their work.

MATERIALS OLD AND NEW.

Through the wisdom of the master boat builders who started the company many years ago, they invested in a 1000 acre native and exotic forestry block. With selected milling being the policy from day one Haines Hunter today enjoys the benefit of it's own quality timber. Teak is used for the final finishing work to keep in the marine theme and to ensure long



life. The resins and glass fibre used are state of the art and more than comply with the best of industry standards world wide.

THE PROMISE Haines Hunter is a New Zealand owned and operated company that takes immense pride in producing boats



for the enjoyment of our clients who love the outdoor challenge

our coastal waters provide, be it for fishing, diving or just getting out there with the family. Every boat comes with a guarantee of satisfaction, if

there is a problem with the boat in anyway we will set it right. We promise your satisfaction is what we strive for.



ATTENTION TO DETAIL

A hard discipline to keep up day in day out, but that is what building a Haines Hunter requires. From the gel coat through to the last screw and final polish, every care is taken to present to you, our client, the best possible product.

ONE MAN ONE BOAT

As each hull is released from the mould a



HAINES HUNTER

THE SECRET IS IN THE RIDE

Haines Hunter NZ Ltd, 8 Cawley Street or P. O. Box 11015, Ellerslie, Auckland, New Zealand. Phone 09 579 9661, Fax 09 525 0173. FREEPHONE 0508 HAINES

CRESCENDO HH1232



LANDROVER
SCIENTIFIC ANGLERS
BUCK
SWAZI
LANDSDOWN RUN
SAGE
SILVA
SCARPA
EARTH SEA SKY
BARBOUR

COLUMBIA

STONEY CREEK

LEATHERMAN

FENWICK

ABU

LEVI'S

R M WILLIAMS
FAIRYDOWN
SWANDRI
SWISS ARMY
KILWELL
DRIZA-BONE
GREAT OUTDOORS
GARMONT
BUSHNELL

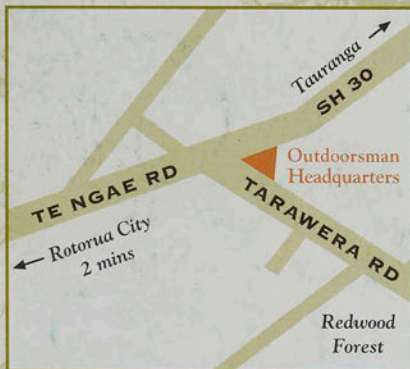
Outdoorsman Headquarters



EXPERIENCE NEW ZEALAND'S
GREATEST OUTDOOR OUTFITTERS

Open 7 Days

• Tarawera Road, Rotorua



Outdoorsman Headquarters

ALL YEAR BEST PRICES

0800 OUTDOOR
(688 3667)

PENN

LINE 7

MACPAC

WOODMAN

MAGLITE

SHIMANO

RAY-BAN