



# MOUNTAIN ECHO

Newsletter of Nelson Branch NZDA October 2022



What's to talk about? Plenty! as members Warren and Eric enjoy fireside chat on Rainbow organised hunt.



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Rainbow!

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New Season's Results & Event

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Those Were the Days...?

**Club Night -**

**Small Goods from Wild Game**

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> Oct - Doors open 7pm at Saxton Field**

Fish & Game Report

Important Links and Contacts

See how its done! Home Butchering - Small Goods from Wild Game on Club Night 25<sup>th</sup> October – @ Saxton Smallbore Range @ 7pm! And bring a friend!

## Editorial

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Hi All,



All sorts happening and that's not just the weather! This month's newsletter again shows the broad range of activities and issues that we undertake and deal with. Its great to have the front page pics showcasing organised hunting (Rainbow in September) and upcoming Club Night (the proof ends up in the pan!). More on both below.

And while we have had slips to clear at Packers Creek, the summer season .22 Benchrest shoot relocated to Murchison and so first points are on the board! Alister Ching has organised an informal supervised shooting event for mid October – see below and get along! Open to non-members.

Given we expect more hunters to be getting out and about meat hunting as the weather improves (really?!) some refresher information on storage and carriage of firearms while you are out and about has been included. It is easy to forget that these rules have been reviewed, redrafted and submitted on, but now are promulgated i.e. **REAL**. Don't get caught out through lack of knowledge.

On a similar note, is the inclusion of the COLFO Update. NZDA And its members support COLFO and there technical and advocacy work is important. Also see the section in the National Newsletter with advice re Police visits or vehicle stops etc [COLFO Provided Information re Police Visits](#) Be polite but be aware. The National Newsletter contains a helluva lot of information about advocacy work, competitions and opportunities, and useful news and tech. Get value by checking it all out and ensure when reading National Newsletter you click on the View Entire Message link as shown enlarged below to get the full story!

[Message clipped] [View entire message](#) It looks like this!

Last edition the proposed OSPRI national TB vector (possum & etc) control plan was mentioned. Since then, solid submissions have been lodged by our Branch (thanks David Haynes for drafting) in collaboration with Marlborough Branch' and both National NZDA and GAC have submitted comprehensively on the concerns regarding affects to deer and kea alike (and other animals of course) of broadscale aerial 1080 programmes and especially where repellent is not used.

Public submissions are a part of democratic process as in the same manner as voting. Not exercising the right to submit is seen by the proposers at worst as "silence is approval" or at least as "apathy/don't care". Neither holds true! so we must and do respond or be dis-enfranchised! Our submissions remain as ongoing public record of our principle and details views and suggestions for these types or operations (and of course other matters which we advocate on e.g., firearms policy, access and etc.

The upcoming Club Night looks tasty! And the BBQ season is coming (we hope!!) It is a great way to get the whole family into the benefits of hunting by making your own tasty treats at home beyond the old usual steak and stews! Please bring any friend (who may not be a member) along!

Good Hunting & Safe Shooting - *Richard Wells*

## At the End of a Rainbow – First Pics In....

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Looking....looking.....Photo Credit: Dave Woods



Nice knobby for the freezer – go Eric!



Chamois destined for the pan...



And in it...6 hours later! Chamois back steak and bacon rolls – instant gratification for the hunters.

Photos - Warren Plum

## Range Matters – First Summer Season Shoot Results & Hunting Rifle Event Coming

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All Packers Creek Range users note that this Range is once again open as usual but always check our website and your email for important updates plus shooting events schedule [Nelson Ranges - Information and Updates](#)

### **Note:**

Sat 16<sup>th</sup> October the range will only be open for 1 ½ hours from usual; 9:00 am start to cater for cool shooting event (see below).

Also it will be closed Labour Weekend Sat and Sunday for South Island Centrefire Championship



Our Rimfire Benchrest competition for the summer of 2022-23 has commenced and will consist of a variety of events on a monthly basis through to May next year.

Although we had planned to be at Packers Creek Range last Sunday, with continuing closure we repositioned to our Range in Murchison. 7 Shooters faced the starter (maybe Range Officer) in conditions that were warm and mild with just enough sneaky wind to be a challenge. Consistency is the game and Carina Jackson delivered a 244.8 / 244.12 pair of targets to finish off the opposition.

We will be back at Packers next month – Sunday 16 October 1pm at the gate.

If anybody out there is interested to try our sport you will be made most welcome. Give us a message on [lvhvbr@gmail.com](mailto:lvhvbr@gmail.com)

*Graeme Smith*

## Results

### **Murchison 11/09/22**

### **1st Shoot of Summer Outdoor Series**

		Target 1	Target 2	TOTAL
1	Carina Jackson	244.08	244.12	<b>488.20</b>
2	Greg Couper	238.06	247.10	<b>485.16</b>
3	Graeme Smith	237.08	245.07	<b>482.15</b>
4	John Ronaldson	226.04	223.03	<b>449.07</b>
4	Jude Peacock	223.05	226.02	<b>449.07</b>
6	Michael Kidson	215.03	229.02	<b>444.05</b>
7	Anne Marie Kidson	220.03	192.03	<b>410.06</b>

## 2022-23 Summer Outdoor Series - Points awarded

	11-Sep	16-Oct	13-Nov	18-Dec	15-Jan	12-Feb	12-Mar	16-Apr	7-May	Total
Carina Jackson	7									7
Greg Couper	6									6
Graeme Smith	5									5
John Ronaldson	3.5									3.5
Jude Peacock	3.5									3.5
Michael Kidson	2									2
Anne Marie Kidson	1									1

## Standings after Round 1 of Summer Series 2022-23

# Spring Centre-fire 100 metre Shoot-Out

using hunting rifles

@ Nelson NZDA Packers Creek Range

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October

An event that any shooter can enjoy! Fully Range Officer supervised.

What rifle can you use? – Any **Hunting** style centre-fire rifle

### Format:

- 100m prone with any type of rest (bipod, sand bag, hunting pack) – 5 rounds
- 100m prone without a rest – 5 rounds
- 100m sitting - 5 rounds
- 100m standing – 5 rounds

### Fees (for target and range costs):

\$5 fee for NZDA members

\$10 fee for non NZDA members

### When and Where?

- Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> of October
- 10:30 am kick off (meet at the gate by 10:15 to convoy through to the Range)
- NZDA Packers Creek rifle range

**Note:** Range will open as usual at 9:00 am for shooters use but will close 10:30 am. Participants in event can arrive at security gate at either 8:45 am or 10:15 am



## Attention Spring Hunters! –Storage and Travelling with Firearms – Police Refresher

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### [Secure storage and transportation guide and videos for firearms and ammunition](#)

**Sender:** Mike McIlraith

**Subject:** New secure storage and transportation video guides and updated guidance for firearms and ammunition

**Resource links:**

- <https://www.police.govt.nz/about-us/publication/firearms-and-ammunition-secure-storage-guidance>
- <https://www.police.govt.nz/advice-services/firearms-safety/safety/firearms-and-ammunition-storage-and-transportation>
- <https://www.police.govt.nz/advice-services/firearms-safety/safety/hunter-safety/hunter-safety-videos-resources>

Kia ora,

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



On 1 February 2022, new regulations for firearms and ammunition storage and transport came into effect, which affect all standard firearms licence holders.

We've updated the [Secure Storage Guidance for Firearms and Ammunition document](#) dated June 2022, with better photos so it's easier for our staff and the community to understand the new requirements and see how to comply.

**Tip:** To open the most recent version of the guide, follow the link to open guide in your browser and then click Ctrl + R to refresh your web browser.

To support the guidance document and the firearms community we've also developed and released a series of video

guides that cover:

- Installation kit – basic tools etc required to install a cable lock system or a steel safe
- Overview of general property security – things to consider to increase overall security at home
- Basic cable lock system – describes what it is and how to install it. Used for securing a single firearm only to a dwelling
- Steel safe – considerations and physical installation of a steel gunsafe
- Secure ammunition storage – complying with new law that states firearms and ammunition are to be stored separately
- Firearms in Motorhomes – considerations for security of firearms in motorhomes/caravans and physical installation of a gunsafe into a motorhome
- Semi-automatic firearms transport – considerations when transporting semi-automatic (or other types that do not have easily removable working parts) firearms
- Bolt action firearms transport – considerations when transporting bolt action firearms
- Firearms in unattended vehicles – complying with new laws in relation to stopping for a break in a journey when transporting firearms.

The guidance and videos are available under the [Firearms and Safety section of the Police website](#).

I ask that you please share this information with your networks. The videos will be of particular interest to those who transport firearms for hunting or recreational purposes.

Kind regards,

Mike

**Mike McIlraith**

Director Partnerships  
Arms Safety and Control  
Police National Headquarters

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# COLFO Update – Important News

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**COLFO News Issue # 5 September 2022** <http://colfo.org.nz>

## Regulations for Clubs and Ranges

While training for staff involved in regulating and inspecting clubs and ranges has continued. The actual regulations have still to be made public and we still don't know what fees will be applied.

## A possible solution to the Firearm Licence delays

In a reply to questions raised by Act MP Nicole Mckee police minister Hon Chris Hipkins has said he will make law changes to alleviate the situation and flatten out the “bell curve” of renewals that peaks every 10 years.

*“Police are under a lot of pressure when it comes to firearms licence renewals and new applications as well, and that is a result of the decisions that this **Parliament has made to make it more difficult for people to get firearms licences and to have their licences renewed,**” he said in the House.*

## Piecemeal Police gun crime data a ‘dangerous embarrassment’

The Council of Licensed Firearm Owners (COLFO) says piecemeal publication of firearm crime data masks incompetent data collection by Police, increases public firearm fear, and hides the failure of the firearm confiscation programme.

A story by the NZ Herald tries to make the best of data obtained from a Police database started in 2019, pretentiously called the ‘Gun Safe’ project. The data was promised to be public and easily accessible to help guide policy.

COLFO Spokesperson Hugh Devereux-Mack said the data had not been regularly released in full, forcing media and stakeholders like COLFO to request data under the Official Information Act.

“The failure to consistently record and report firearm data is a dangerous embarrassment.”

The GunSafe data includes all manner of events, even callouts where firearms are never found. Even the Police Association noted in 2020 that recording of events is erratic. Data reliability is undermined by broad criteria that leads to ‘events’ being entered into the GunSafe system. Entries include times a firearm is suspected but not present, times where there is a ‘perceived firearms risk’ but no actual firearm involved, times a subject is known to have a firearm – but Police do not encounter one, and for events when there is something that looks like a real firearm but isn't.

This means even courtesy visits to a licensed firearm owner's home can be

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classified as an 'event' within the system, inflating the numbers unnecessarily. These Gun Safe numbers have been used to argue for general armament of police which COLFO and other organisations spoke out against. Event details are either combined in rough categories or inputted into free text fields which Police noted in an OIA response to COLFO last year, made it too time consuming to formulate into more useful data.

“This poor reporting has created an unnecessary fear of licensed firearm owners, and misdirected efforts to deal with criminal use of firearms.”

“It has prevented the public from seeing that despite Government promises that the grandiose firearm confiscation would make New Zealanders safer, firearm crime has continued unchanged.”

“It has prevented the public from seeing the inability of Police to collect this data.”  
“Because of the inconsistent Gun Safe reporting framework, the data has possibly hidden a failure to catch and prosecute enough criminals who have firearms, and lays a poor foundation for costly new legislation” Devereux-Mack says.

COLFO supports frontline officers and their work on operation Tauwhiro which is necessary to tackle criminal use of firearms. Devereux-Mack says this is where Police should be investing their efforts and not the administration of the firearms licensing system where Police have shown that they are an inefficient disaster.

### **Consultation is open on the Firearm Register Regulations**

[https://www.police.govt.nz/advice-services/firearms-safety/news-regulations/consultation-proposed-regulations-support-new-firearms-registry?fbclid=IwAR3EVBrsefEPD3DXt-LNo4EZvLfaNoxtUVqsoUfZNK4easfJlrw-H\\_Fw9yj9l](https://www.police.govt.nz/advice-services/firearms-safety/news-regulations/consultation-proposed-regulations-support-new-firearms-registry?fbclid=IwAR3EVBrsefEPD3DXt-LNo4EZvLfaNoxtUVqsoUfZNK4easfJlrw-H_Fw9yj9l)

COLFO urges all licensed firearm owners to provide feedback to police on these proposed regulations. **Submissions close on 12 October 2022**

***Your first firearm or ammunition sale or purchase after June 2023 will trigger a requirement to register ALL your firearms within 14 days.***

## **September Club Night – Thanks Matt!**

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Matt Vincent demonstrates his own locally designed, MTN brand hunting gear



Webclick [MTN Gear](#)

## Stewart Island Organised Hunt on Island Feb 1<sup>st</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> 2023 – Here's Your Chance!

Was your New Year's Resolution to go for a whitetail hunt on Stewart Island??!!  
[www.nzdanelson.co.nz](http://www.nzdanelson.co.nz)

Here's your chance! **You need to book in October.**



This is all about forward planning and our very own Rakiura expert John Noakes organised a trip for February 2023. Final total costs depend on number attending and costs on the day but could be of the order of \$1500 per person total. Contact John today!

**Current Information:**

Dates: Depart Nelson 30<sup>th</sup> Jan, provisioning Invercargill 31<sup>st</sup>, arrive on Island 1<sup>st</sup> February, depart 9<sup>th</sup> Feb, overnite Timaru on way home

Activities: sightseeing, snorkeling, fishing, photography, history and HUNTING!

Blocks: North and South Pegasus (see map below)

Group size: 12 people max with 8 bunks in hut + tents

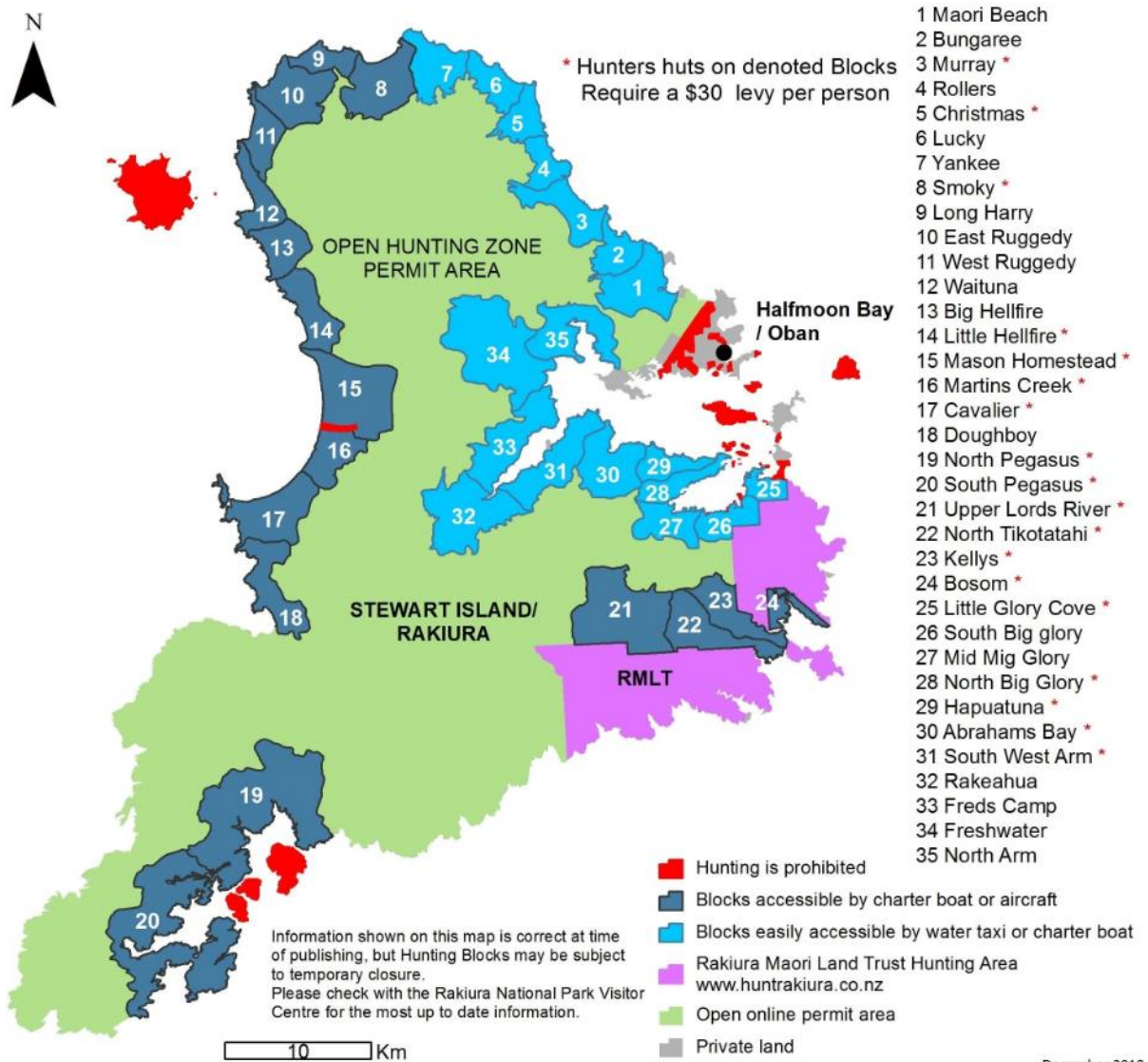
Organiser Contact: John Noakes (Noksee) [noakesjc@gmail.com](mailto:noakesjc@gmail.com) or call **0274 464 413**

What will be required to confirm your place: Name, contacts, \$400 deposit and firearms licence number and expiry by early November for DOC Permit process

See more here: [Rakiura Hunters Trust](#)



There's some left....



# Trapped!

## A Cunning Plan for Victor! by Alan Drake

One of the worst things to happen to somebody trying to trap critters, is the trap getting sprung and nothing getting caught (or all the bait gone...that's also very annoying)...there's nothing worse! After making boxes, buying traps, baiting them, not to mention talking-it-up to the kids about how effective all this will be; to then wander round checking them and finding one sprung with nothing in it, really is quite disappointing. The kids also think you've done a crap job and don't know what you're doing which doesn't help...

This happened to me once and is how I came to thinking more carefully about the baiting of the old faithful Victor spring trap. The DOC 150 plate traps are not a problem as I simply have a standard mouse trap placed after the 150 trap. When I wasn't sure what sort of rodents had invaded my roof space recently (Mrs 'Trapper' heard something skittering round one night), I simply placed a box with a plate trap AND a mouse trap in the roof. 5 mice ran over that plate trap only to be killed by the waiting mouse trap – excellent! And of course, if Rattus rattus was living up there, the DOC 150 would have fixed him as he headed to the peanut butter laden mouse traps – win win.

The thing is...those 150 traps are 40 bucks each and Wifey is all good about building things with the kids – as long as it's free to minimal cost! Now a Victor trap is \$7 and also awesomely effective on rats but typically not mice due to its dimensions...so, what to do?

Well, it turns out that just simply placing the Pic's peanut butter at the raised arrow at the centre of the yellow activation plate (I still also use the bait area by the hinge) remedies this problem. It's only about 10mm closer to the trap edge overall but makes a big difference. If you **only** use the moulded rectangular area by the hinge for baiting it, which is advised in the instructions, the kill bar goes **over** the entire mouse missing it. Mouse gets massive fright as well as education and never goes near trap again!

Anyway, it's my five cents worth. Sounds simple and I suppose many of you have probably sorted this already. But I just thought I'd mention it in case you've had the horrible 'sprung-with-no-catch' scenario with these Victor traps. The pictures show a couple of mice caught a few days apart...in case you're wondering, that's walnut pieces in the photos, and the brown 'dust' is cinnamon...what mouse or rat wouldn't want to get into that! Have fun ☺



# Those were (and were not) the days....

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## Modern hunting kit



### End of the day:

- Download 37 pics from phone
- Post some on Facebook, check myriad of waffle while there
- Download tracks and waypoints to laptop, check myriad of recent emails while there
- Wonder where three missing items are.....
- Spend an hour putting gear away

## 1970's Hunting Kit



10 rounds in the magazine, 1 in stock behind buttplate for emergencies.....



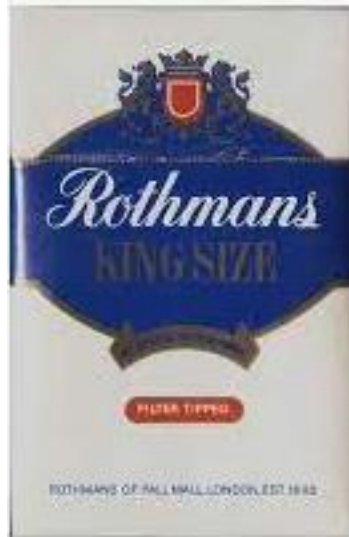


Game recovery basics



All terrain boots.....

and



### **Rothmans All Rounder Survival Kit (20 ways to stay alive and sane in the bush and only 43 cents)**

Hungry? Have a smoke

Thirsty? Have a durrie and know what a dry mouth is really about....

Tired? Stop for a fag

Raining? Stand under a tree and have a smoke

Lost? Have a smoke and think about it.....then follow trail of butts back

Hurt? Take your mind off it...light one up

Cold? Strike a match.....oh.... while you're at it....

Lonely? Offer your mate a coffin nail..... or scrounge one of his

Heard a deer? Break out a dart, see which way the wind is blowing and calm down....

Shot a magnificent trophy? Have a gasper and commit sight to memory forever

#### **End of the day:**

- Clear action and drop the three-o between seat squabs of Land-Rover in case of a dopey one on road
- Reflect on the day.....
- Decide to tell no-one about day's events
- and.....hell! you've earned it....
- celebrate with a ciggie! .....if it sticks to the blood on your fingers then it's been a good one!

**Editor notes** that whilst this may have vaguely been his youthful experience and while once considered acceptable practice it no longer is in any shape of form.....smoking I mean! **Just don't smoke!**

# Club Night – Home Butchering Done Right! Small Goods from Wild Game

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Rikki Brown - home butcher extraordinaire and NZDA member is demonstrating how he makes small goods out of his wild game with tasty samples on the night and recipes to try at home.



Come ask questions and learn from a fellow NZDA member.

**Bring a friend** and come check out what a club night looks like and learn about your local NZDA!!

## **Time and Date:**

**Doors Open 7 pm** Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October

**Venue:** Target Shooting Nelson's Smallbore Range Saxton Field, Stoke.

More info: [TSN Website](#)



# Fish and Game News

## NELSON MARLBOROUGH FISH & GAME REPORT



**FISH RELEASES:** Pre-season fish releases were undertaken at Lake Argyle & Waimea Park, in time for the new season.

**WETLAND PLANTINGS:** Fish & Game have been involved with a number of wetland plantings recently, including at Eves Valley - a newly constructed wetland which will also be a balloted hunting spot during the game season. 1000 of 4000 carex were planted recently, with the help of NMIT Trainee Rangers. Another 3000 plants will go in over the next while, then the hard work begins maintaining the plantings. Thanks to Appleton's Tree Nursery for also donating some plants for Eves Valley and Gibbs Rd wetlands.

**NEW BEATS FOR UPPER WAIRAU VOLUNTARY BEAT SYSTEM:** Two new beats have been added to the Upper Wairau voluntary beat system. The beat system was introduced in 2017 as a response to increasing angler pressure and to reduce incidences of angler conflict. Both new beats are below Six Mile Creek (locked gate) and are about 5.5kms in length - a day's fishing for most.

**OPENING DAY FISHING SEASON:** In this region, heavy rain leading up to October 1 saw many rivers in flood and not fishable. Experienced anglers can always find fishing, and therefore plenty of effort was directed towards Murchison / Springs Junction / Reefton area where there was more clear water.



New beats for the Upper Wairau beat system



Planting day at Eves Valley wetland

## Member Benefits – Don't Miss Out

Remind yourself of NZDA membership benefits and supplier discounts by clicking here: [Benefits and Discounts](#) and NZDA Benefits APP as per email from NZDA HQ on 17 Se

### NZDA MEMBERSHIP & DISCOUNTS APP

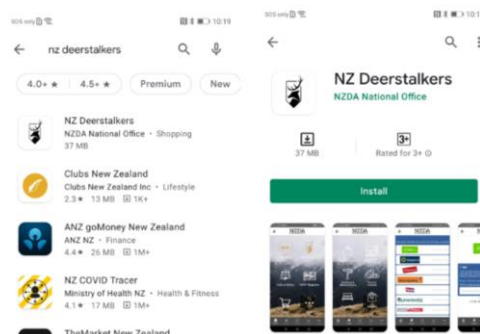
Available Now!



We are excited to announce the NZDA Membership App is now live and can be downloaded today!

### How to download the app

1) Go to Google play or the Apple store and search for **NZ Deerstalkers**. Select **Install** or **GET**.



## Exclusive NZDA discounts:

- Interisland Ferry group booking discount (contact us for the code)
- [Go Native](#) outdoor meals and snacks, 25% discount
- [SWAZI Pro Deal](#), sign-up with your valid NZDA membership
- [Napier of London](#) shooting and hunting goods, 15% discount
- [AJ Productions](#) - electronic game caller and trail cameras, 15% discount
- [Kilwell Sports](#) hunting supplies, 15% discounts on website orders
- Hunting with [Huntahr Guiding](#), 10% discount
- Heli Sika, 10% discount on helicopter flights to hunting blocks
- [Murchison Heli Tours](#), 10% off your flights
- [NZ Taxidermy Ltd](#), 10% discount on mounts
- [Bullivant Taxidermy](#), 10% discount on mounts
- 
- 10% discount of Department of Conservation annual [Backcountry Hut Pass](#) or 'Hut Pass'. [See the DOC website for more details](#)



**meat** Solutions

From the  
**Farm**  
to the  
**Freezer**

Supporters of Nelson NZDA HUNTS Courses and Kai Rescue **More info here: [Meat Solutions](#)**

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# Red Deer Lodge

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Information on costs and bookings of the Red Deer Lodge at Lake Rotoiti [Red Deer Lodge](#)

Contact for Accom: [info@starnaudholidaycottages.co.nz](mailto:info@starnaudholidaycottages.co.nz)

**Always remember to advise you are a Nelson member.**

## 2022 Branch Committee, Information & Contacts

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All details can be found on our refreshed website: [Nelson Branch Committee](#)

Website [Nelson Branch NZDA](#)

Facebook [Facebook Nelson NZDA](#)

## Other Key Links - click on the blue

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NZDA National Association [NZDA](#)

DOC Hunting Portal [Hunting Conservation Land](#)

Fiordland Wapiti Foundation [Wapiti](#)

Game Animal Council [GAC](#)

### Ballots

- [Haast Ballot](#)
- [Wanaka Ballot](#)
- Southland [Waikaia](#) [Leithen Bush](#) [Wainakarua](#) [Catlins](#)
- Fiordland [Wapiti Foundation Ballot](#)

COLFO [COLFO](#)

Mountain Safety Council [MSC](#)

MSC Videos on everything safety and hunting [Watch Videos](#)

Avalanche Advisory [Avalanche Advisory Site](#)

NZ Police (Firearms Law) [Firearms](#)

Also see here for firearms storage and carriage: [NZ Police Guide to Lawful Storage and Carriage of Firearms](#)

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