

Newsletter of Nelson Branch NZDA | **October 2023**

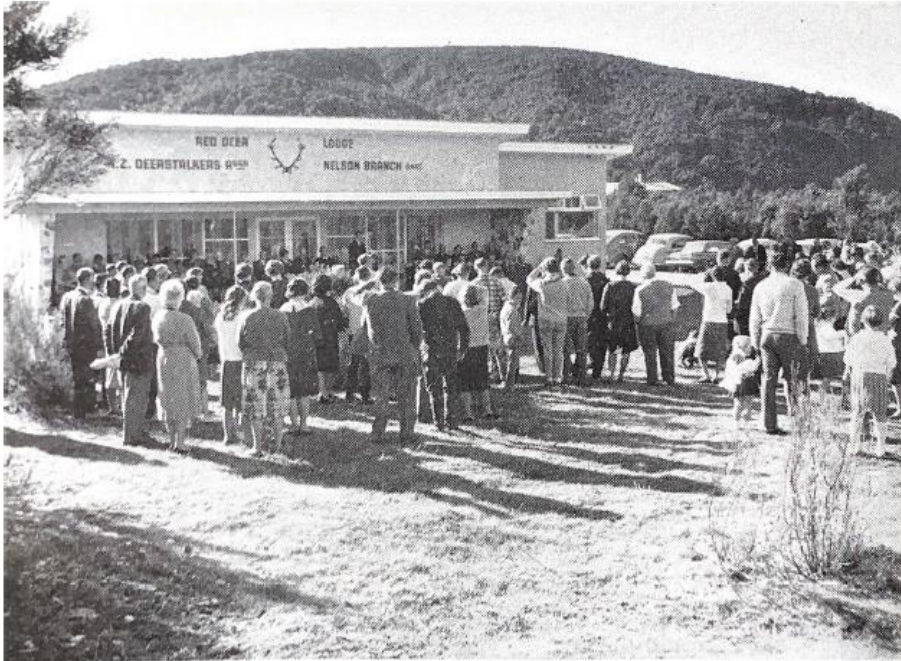


Photo G. C. Wood, Nelson.

Mr. W. Rowlands, M.P., addressing guests at the opening of The Lodge.

Official opening of Red Deer Lodge in 1965

November Club Night - GPS Navigation

“Now where are we……?”



THIS MONTH

EDITORIAL

GAC - Research

Range Matters – 2023-24 Competition Schedule, First Summer Series Results & International Success

Goat Competition Update & Spot Prizes

Kea at Nelson Lakes

A Bit of History - The Petre Head

Wanaka - Otago & Fiordland Wapiti 2024 Roar Ballot

Fish & Game News

LIGHTEN UP

**CLUB NIGHT Tuesday
31st October **GPS Navigation****

MEMBER BENEFITS

IMPORTANT LINKS

Editorial

Plenty happening and that includes a swing to plenty of pretty crazy spring westerly weather.

We had our first goat open day and it was a fairly quiet affair on a very miserable, wet day in Murchison. But it was good to get some tails entered there and chat to the hunters. Further below is detail on the next open days and great spot prizes (such as the great little PLB pictured) that one lucky person will win at each open day.



Science matters.....fear and loathing should not and is not the answer.....GAC have circulated research into the debate on carbon storage in our forests and the effect of ungulates on this. Whilst the debate about, and management of CO₂ is required, demonising certain things (utes?) activities, or animals without sufficient scientific evidence or a balanced appraisal looking at all issues, is not the best way forward. So good job GAC.

The Summer Series shooting competitions are underway again, please check the schedule if you are a regular range user as it shows which weekends our Packers Creek Range is staging events and so access is affected. Also, a big shout out for Ian Owen, who has won a section of the International Benchrest Competition in France! Don't forget the Murchison Range is available for sighting-in if you are travelling south – the new Range Standing Orders are posted there now.

Further to the National Newsletter I am keen to add my personal thanks to the three new Board members who allowed themselves to be met, interviewed and then appointed to the Board. We have always sought to tap into expertise within our membership and the skills Ash, Willy and Brian bring will really lift us and our capability to manage better. I feel greatly encouraged looking forward. Also in the national newsletter I wrote on the research budget – any member who has an idea about research that will support better game animal management can get in touch via our Secretary or directly with me for initial consideration of ideas.

The National Office and Marlborough did plenty of work in submitting to OSPRI on NZDA's strong view that deer repellent. It should be used in their programme against possums with 1080 in the coming year wherever deer by-kill in areas we hunt is a likely problem. We supported their submissions (and are thankful for their detailed work) by both helping with reviews, and in formal written support of them to OSPRI.

We have featured the Wanaka Ballot below as it offers a huge range of differing hunting experiences for all levels of hunters. Possibly for the more experienced, but also offering a unique opportunity is the Fiordland Wapiti Bugle, the ballot for this is also open now. We were asked at last club night the "chances" of getting a block....the only certainty is that if you don't enter... you lose.....I have used ballot systems across the South Island for quite a while and can count on one hand the few years I didn't get a block somewhere across the wide range on offer. Just need to be flexible!

Good Hunting & Safe Shooting - **Richard Wells**

GAC Report – Well Worth Reading

New Research Supports Managing Deer For Biodiversity Over Carbon Storage

NZ Game Animal Council

25 September 2023



Dear NZDA Members,

NZ Game Animal Council has released a media statement today regarding new research that shows deer have little impact on the carbon storage of our intact indigenous forests. This supports biodiversity protection as the primary goal of deer management.



The Report

The report, link here: [Review of the likely magnitude and manageability of deer impacts on carbon stores in indigenous forests](#), was undertaken by Crown Research Institute Manaaki Whenua-Landcare Research and commissioned by the Game Animal Council.

Co-author of the report and Principal Scientist in Ecosystem Ecology, Dr Duane Peltzer confirms that the case for deer management to improve carbon storage across intact indigenous forests is weak.

Read The Full Statement

“The evidence for changes in carbon for intact forests caused by deer or resulting from their management is poor,” says Peltzer. “Deer and other ungulate browsers have very little overall impact on the carbon storage of intact indigenous forests and in fact the carbon storage potential of our forests has been relatively stable for some time.”

“The research shows that in some forest types the presence of deer may have a small negative effect on carbon stocks, while in other forest types deer will either make no difference or actually promote more carbon storage. Overall, however, the impact of deer on indigenous forest carbon storage is pretty much neutral.”

...Continue reading the statement..... link here: [here](#).



Photo: 2022 David Keen South Canterbury Hind and Yearling on Dusk

Range Matters

Here is the schedule of Shooting Competitions in New Zealand this year. The **yellow highlighted** dates are Packers Creek events so the **range will be closed to members on those days** unless competing. Always check the calendar on our website: <https://www.nzdanelson.co.nz/range>

Benchrest – Summer Outdoor Programme 2023-2024

Sunday 17 September 2023	1pm	(RF)	2 x 50m Targets	Nelson
Sunday 15 October 2023	1pm	(RF)	5 x 50m Hunter Targets	Nelson
21-23 October 2023	NZDA	(CF)	South Island Benchrest Championship	Nelson
Sunday 12 November 2023	1pm	(RF)	2 x 50m Targets	Murchison
Saturday / Sunday 9 – 10 December 2023	(RF)	Canterbury Champs	McLeans Island	
Sunday 17 December 2023	1pm	(RF)	5 x 50m Group Targets	Nelson
Sunday 14 January 2024	1pm	(RF)	5 x 100yd Hunter Class Targets	Nelson
27-29 January 2024	NZDA	(CF)	North Island Benchrest Championship	
Tokoroa				
Sunday 11 February 2024	1pm	(RF)	2 x 50m Targets	Murchison
18 – 24 February 2024		(RF)	TSNZ Nationals	Palmerston North
Sunday 10 March 2024	1pm	(RF)	5 x 100 yd Group Targets	Nelson
16-17 March 2024	(RF)	South Island Outdoor Champs	McLeans Island	
Sunday 14 April 2024	1pm	(RF)	2 x 50m Targets	Nelson
29 Mar – 1 April 2024	NZDA	(CF + RF)	Nationals (Monday Rimfire Champs)	
Nelson				
1-3 June 2024	NZDA	(CF)	Zuppa Shoot	Nelson
28-30 June 2024	(RF)	Matariki Challenge weekend	Nelson	
CF	Centrefire	RF	Rimfire	

Results of first of the Summer Series (even if it doesn't feel like summer yet):

2023-4 Outdoor Benchrest Series					
Packers Creek		17-Sep		2 x International Targets	
		T1	T2		Total
1	Greg Couper	240.05	238.06		478.11
2	Carina Jackson	238.08	238.11		476.19
3	Graeme Smith	233.05	243.07		476.12
4	Graeme Vallance	227.04	231.02		458.06
5	Terry Farnham	225.05	232.03		457.08
6	Craig du Winnaar	213.01	224.01		437.02
7	Michael Kidson	218.03	215.04		433.09
8	Anne Marie Kidson	228.04	198.03		426.07
9	John Ronaldson	221.03	201.00		421.03
10	Simon Cotton	207.03	199.02		406.05

As always – if interested in having a try at benchrest shooting contact Graeme Smith by email lvhvbr@gmail.com He will support you!

16th World Benchrest Competition – France

Rank	Bib	Name	Firstname	Country	Team	W.U	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	AGG. MM	AGG. MOA
1	606	OWEN	IAN	NEW ZEALAND	A	6,26	5,44	4,68	4,43	5,36	4,86	4,9540	0,1783
2	614	NADER	JOEL	USA	C4	4,48	3,25	5,17	6,87	6,44	3,61	5,0680	0,1824
3	401	BAKER	HARLEY	USA	A4	7,64	5,63	4,57	5,03	7,96	3,90	5,4180	0,1950
4	102	DE VILLA	DAVIDE	ITALY	A1	4,75	7,47	5,43	4,75	7,28	2,19	5,4240	0,1953
5	101	CAMPBELL	WAYNE	USA	A1	5,62	2,87	4,38	8,61	6,62	5,74	5,6440	0,2032
6	501	BOYET	DENIS	USA	C1	14,06	3,02	6,47	7,13	6,11	5,61	5,6680	0,2040
7	519	JOHANNES	FRANK	ICELAND	A	4,34	4,84	6,04	6,61	7,17	3,74	5,6800	0,2045
8	418	EYMIEU	JEAN-CLAUDE	FRANCE	B4	7,04	4,22	6,61	6,33	6,61	4,76	5,7060	0,2054
9	213	SEEMANN	ROBERT	CANADA	A2	5,42	4,68	4,57	6,58	7,48	5,43	5,7480	0,2069
10	514	LEE	STEVEN	USA	C3	4,57	5,86	4,59	6,73	8,22	3,58	5,7960	0,2087
11	223	ESTERAS MIÑANA	SILVIA	SPAIN	B2	4,37	4,35	2,04	5,76	5,39	11,79	5,8660	0,2112
12	613	DU MONT	MARK	CANADA	C2	6,21	4,24	6,01	5,93	6,87	6,56	5,9220	0,2132
13	414	STEVENS	BILLY	USA	B4	4,09	4,53	7,43	6,34	5,84	5,49	5,9260	0,2133
14	201	PEINHARDT	JEFF	USA	A2	9,54	5,19	3,77	6,24	7,63	7,08	5,9820	0,2154
15	405	SCHOENDORFF	PASCAL	FRANCE	A4	6,38	7,58	5,19	5,31	6,34	5,58	6,0000	0,2160
16	419	AMICE	REMY	JUVELLE CALEDON	A4	7,38	5,52	8,70	8,33	3,65	4,12	6,0640	0,2183
17	315	MADINELLI	CARLO	ITALY	B3	6,77	4,90	4,94	5,23	6,54	8,72	6,0660	0,2184
18	214	SAUTER	BART	USA	B2	13,36	3,98	8,28	5,09	7,66	5,47	6,0960	0,2195
19	114	ROBINSON	BRIAN	USA	B1	6,12	4,52	7,91	5,71	5,54	7,18	6,1720	0,2222
20	317	KLEMM	ALEXANDER	GERMANY	B3	6,08	4,84	8,09	6,08	6,32	5,69	6,2040	0,2233

Ian Owen, (Otago and Board member) is a regular and very competitive shooter here in Nelson (as is his partner Helen). This September they travelled to France and as per above **Ian took top honours in the 100m Light Varmint Class. Epic result from one of ours – Tres Bon!!**

Some pics from the event below courtesy of Ian Owen.



Goat Competition Update

**ENTER THE NATIONAL WILD
GOAT HUNTING COMPETITION**



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai



Billy on Mt Owen

Credit R Wells

The Goat Competition is well underway now. The next open days are listed below and there are cool spot prizes to be won on the day by anybody entering some tails or a head. Final prizegiving will be in early December with all details in the next Echo.

All information here: [Goat Competition](#)

Remember - hunt safely, legally and ethically.

Three Open Days to Go!

Nelson	• 17 September 10am-3pm	Murchison DOC Field Base, 116 Fairfax Street, Murchison	richardw@nzdanelson.co.nz	8 December 2023
	• 29 October 10am-3pm	Motueka DOC Office, 406 High Street, Motueka		
	• 19 November 10am-3pm	Murchison DOC Field Base, 116 Fairfax Street, Murchison		
	• 26 November 10am-3pm	Nelson NZDA Meeting Room - Fish and Game Rooms, 74 Champion Road, Stoke, Nelson		



Tails and meat from Wairoa



Every Entry at **Motueka** DOC Centre Open Day **29th October** will be in the draw to win this “hunting weekend’s worth of carry-in food from Back Country Cuisine [Website Here](#) . **Drawn on the day.**

Murchison Open Day **Sunday 19th November** spot prize! %% discount One Hundy and \$\$One Hundy!! **Drawn on the day, one winner takes all!**



Download the latest map for your device! **100% discount on any single \$40 download from Topo4 GPS!!!**

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Free Shipping over \$200 NZ & AU*

NEW CAMO HUNTECH HUT

HUNTECH

Looking for something?

MEN'S ▾ WOMEN'S ▾ KID'S ▾ ACCESSORIES ▾ CHIEFS RANGE ▾ HUNTING ESSENTIALS SALE

YOU WANT WOOL? WE'VE GOT WOOL.

Check out our range of MAPP® certified Merino Hunting Gear.

CHECK IT OUT

Explore a broad range of technical gear from New Zealand's oldest hunting apparel brand.

\$100 voucher for online shopping from Huntech!! [Huntech Link](#)



Final Open Day Spot Prize – Nelson Show **Sunday 26th Nov** at Fish and Game – **awesome PLB worth \$Five Hundy....**from Te Tari Pureke Firearms Safety Authority [Website Here](#) **Drawn on the Day**

ATTENTION GOAT HUNTERS – FOOD BANK DONATIONS WANTED

We hope as many of our members as possible are out there shooting some goats for conservation and the chance to win some great prizes. Goats are excellent eating, bar the old billies; lean, nutritious and good at taking up flavours in casseroles and curries.

So, if you're out there dropping a few goats, as well as collecting tails and heads for the NZDA National Goat Competition, please recover the meat as we will put it through to our adopted food banks. Gutted carcasses are preferred, but as long as you can keep the meat clean and chilled, we will gratefully accept any contributions.

If you think you can help then let me know and I can assist with getting your meat out to those who need it most.

Cheers **David Haynes** Call me on - **0272 351 833**



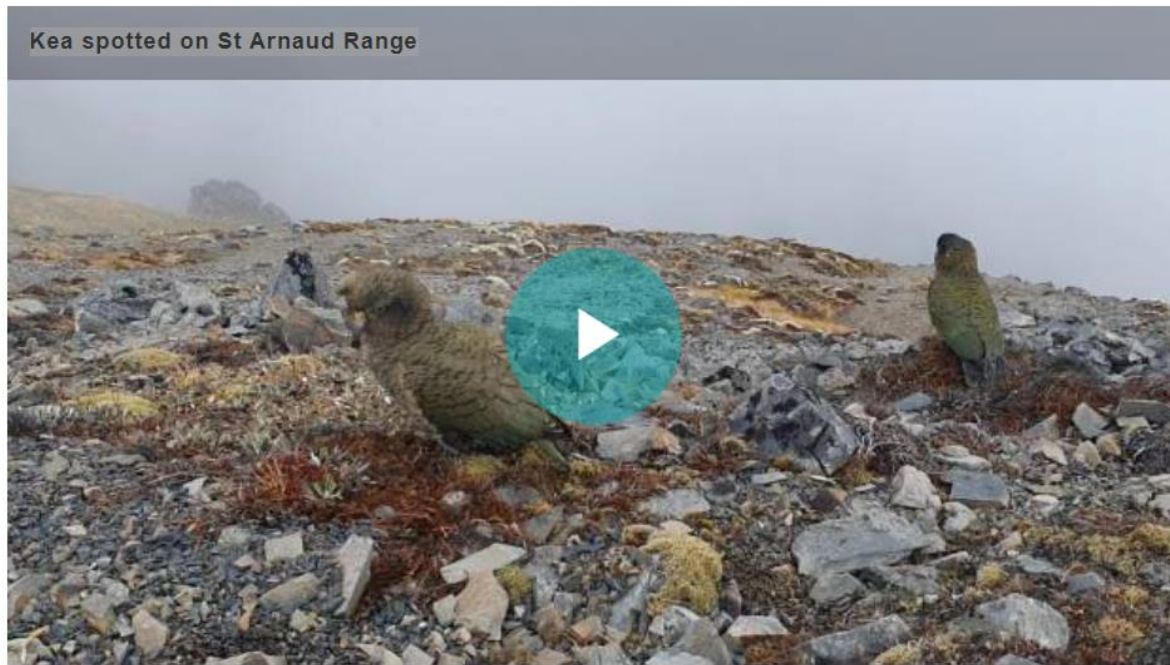
Goat in a fridge....goat on a stick

Kea at Nelson Lakes

Story from Stuff News – Nelson Mail

Kea numbers soar in Nelson Lakes National Park

Matthew Hampson 13:00, Sep 29 2023



MARK WILSON/DOC

A group of kea, including Wallie, at Nelson Lakes National Park earlier this month (credit: Mark Wilson).

Here is Newslink for video: [Kea Video Link](#)

Trampers now have a better chance of spotting an endangered native parrot in a national park, thanks to a baby boom high up in the mountains.

Melissa Griffin, Department of Conservation (DOC) senior biodiversity ranger, said kea numbers at Nelson Lakes National Park were on the rise thanks to fruitful breeding seasons in the last couple of years.

Once a common sight in the national park, numbers of kea there had dropped to the point where “people didn't see them any more,” Griffin said.

“There's been a really long history of working with kea at Nelson Lakes ... and from talking to people also, who have been coming to this place for their whole life, there used to be flocks of kea,” she said.



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION/SUPPLIED

Female kea Scuffle, right, with her three chicks during the 2022 breeding season at Nelson Lakes National Park.

“In the last probably 10 years, it kind of happened really suddenly, kea numbers just dropped off, and people didn't see them any more ... there were a few adults, but they weren't getting their chicks away. There was a lot of predation at the nests, so it was just really sad.”

Since 2021, efforts to monitor nests and control predation around nesting sites have been given a boost by support from the World Parrot Trust and the New Zealand Parrot Trust.

“Kea play an important role as seed dispersers in subalpine and alpine environments. Therefore, an increase in kea numbers in the area can have an important effect on plant communities,” said Luis Ortiz-Catedral, World Parrot Trust Oceania regional director.

The 2021 breeding season then saw six kea chicks fledge from two mothers at Nelson Lakes. And last year, another six chicks successfully left their monitored nests.



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION/SUPPLIED

Scuffle, left, and her mate outside their nesting cavity in the national park earlier in September.

“That first year when we got three chicks from each nest away, it was the most lovely moment, kind of like all that hard work had paid off,” Griffin said.

“Our rangers are climbing up very, very steep, rugged terrain to get to where these birds nest, and in all conditions, and to know that we had three birds from each of those nests, that the pair fledged all of their chicks, was such a huge thing.”

Based on reported sightings, she estimated there could now be around 25 kea in the national park.

“We always knew there’d be adults around, but we hadn’t been seeing juveniles, and we knew that we weren’t fledging good numbers to start building that population,” she said.

“But last summer and in the last year or so, members of the public have actually been seeing juveniles out while they're out tramping in Nelson Lakes, which is kind of a big deal when people haven't seen that for a number of years.”



ANDY MACDONALD/STUFF

Griffin says there are around 40-50 known historic kea nesting cavities at Nelson Lakes National Park, some which haven't been used in more than a decade.

Live capture traps purchased through fundraising by the Kea Conservation Trust helped protect a monitored kea nest in the Rainbow Conservation Area from feral cats last summer. Nine cats were caught in the traps.

“On the eastern side of the Southern Alps, kea numbers have dropped off down the whole country, and part of that is thought to be feral cats,” Griffin said.

DOC also created a ‘Where’s Wally?’ type quest last summer to find a juvenile kea named Wallie that fledged in December. The parrot was given the name after proving hard to spot in the nest.

“For a long time, there were only two kea chicks seen in footage from cameras focussed on the entrance to the nest cavity, then randomly a third chick started to appear. It was something of a mystery bird,” Griffin said.

Distinguishable by the letters CW on yellow on a blue band, Wallie had been spotted several times in 2023.

Breeding seasons typically start in July, and kea chicks fledge around Christmas, and this year, at least one female has been spotted sitting on eggs in her monitored nest cavity, Griffin said.

A Bit of History



N.Z. Forest Service (J. H. Johns, A.R.P.S.)

Photo and information by courtesy of the N.Z. Forest Service

NEW ZEALAND'S MOST HISTORIC RED DEER HEAD

This is the controversial "Petre Head", which is purported to be one of the first three stags released in New Zealand (Nelson) between 1851 and 1861. Whether or not the antlers are from the 1851, 1854 or 1861 stags will probably never be satisfactorily confirmed. Donne records that the skeleton was found near the Dun Mountains, Nelson, around 1874. The head was subsequently mounted with a skin from a Wairarapa stag and displayed at many exhibitions. According to Donne, "it is generally believed in Nelson that this was the stag received from Thorndon Hall, Essex, in 1851." Mr. Newton McConochie of Nelson, in whose possession the head remained for a number of years, believes that it is the stag which arrived in 1861 and was also a gift from Lord Petre. Regardless of its uncertain ancestry, it remains an extremely historic and interesting head, particularly with regard to the bifurcated tines, which some say is hereditary and relatively common amongst Nelson stags.

NEW ZEALAND WILD LIFE

27

Wanaka Roar Ballot – Open 1st October

What's not to love about roar hunting in Otago!!?? The Wanaka 50 blocks offer a wide range of terrain, accessibility and hunting. And its still free! [Wanaka Roar Ballot Information and Applications](#)



Pisa Range

Wānaka roar block system

Find out about the Wānaka roar block system and how to book a roar block for 2024.

DOC's Tititea/Mt Aspiring National Park Visitor Centre in Wānaka runs an annual ballot system for hunters wishing to hunt during the roar period.

The ballot ensures hunters have access to an area with the knowledge that only one hunting party will be present in each of the blocks for a seven day period.

Dates

In 2024 the roar system will run from Sunday 17 March to Saturday 13 April with the available periods being:

- **Period 1** Sunday 17 March to Saturday 23 March
- **Period 2** Sunday 24 March to Saturday 30 March
- **Period 3** Sunday 31 March to Saturday 6 April
- **Period 4** Sunday 7 April to Saturday 13 April

Block permits

Blocks are allocated through a ballot draw and are allocated for a seven-day period (Sunday to the following Saturday) as listed above.

The online application form will be available on this webpage from 1 October 2023.

The application form will be limited to four choices.

You can submit only one application per party.

No individual may be involved in more than one application.

The **ballot draw** will be held on **Monday 6 November 2023** at the Tititea/Mt Aspiring National Park Visitor Centre, Wānaka. Anyone wishing to observe the ballot draw should contact the office on +64 272 696 871 to indicate their interest at least one week before the date of the draw.

Applicants will be advised by email of the outcome of the draw by **Friday 10 November 2023**.

Confirmation of bookings

Applicants must confirm their block by return email before a set date in December 2023.

If confirmation has not been received by the set date, the booking will be cancelled and the block reallocated – no reminders will be issued.

Reallocating blocks

Any unconfirmed blocks will be available to parties that were unsuccessful in the ballot draw **by means of a 'first in, first served' basis**. Unsuccessful applicants will receive an email with dates that they can reapply for any of the unconfirmed blocks. Unsuccessful applicants will also be issued with an application number that must be quoted when applying for a block.

In January 2024 any remaining blocks will be made available to all hunters who did not enter the draw and a week later to hunters who have existing bookings and want a second block or want to extend their existing booking may also apply for any remaining unallocated blocks.

Permit issue

Permits will be emailed out to successful applicants by the end of January 2024.

Administration fee

At this stage no administration fee will be charged for blocks, although this fee may be introduced in future ballots to cover the costs associated with administering the roar block system.

General information

Helicopter operators **are not permitted** to undertake venison recovery during the roar period: 25 March to 15 April including Easter weekend (Good Friday 29 March to Easter Monday 1 April 2024). If any helicopter is observed recovering venison during that period, note as much detail as possible, e.g. make, colour, registration, and pass to DOC so an investigation may be carried out.

To encourage full use of the hunting blocks, any applicants who do not comply with the requirements of the Wānaka Roar Ballot or hunting permit system will be disqualified from following ballot draw(s). This may include hunters who submit multiple applications or who do not cancel their permits. The success of the system depends on the honesty of those involved.

Be aware that there may be other people in your block who also have right of access to public land. This could include trampers, anglers, farmers, DOC field staff, possum hunters and many others.

Identify your target before shooting.

Contact

For any other information about hunting in the Wānaka area during the roar period, contact:

Tititea / Mount Aspiring National Park Visitor Centre

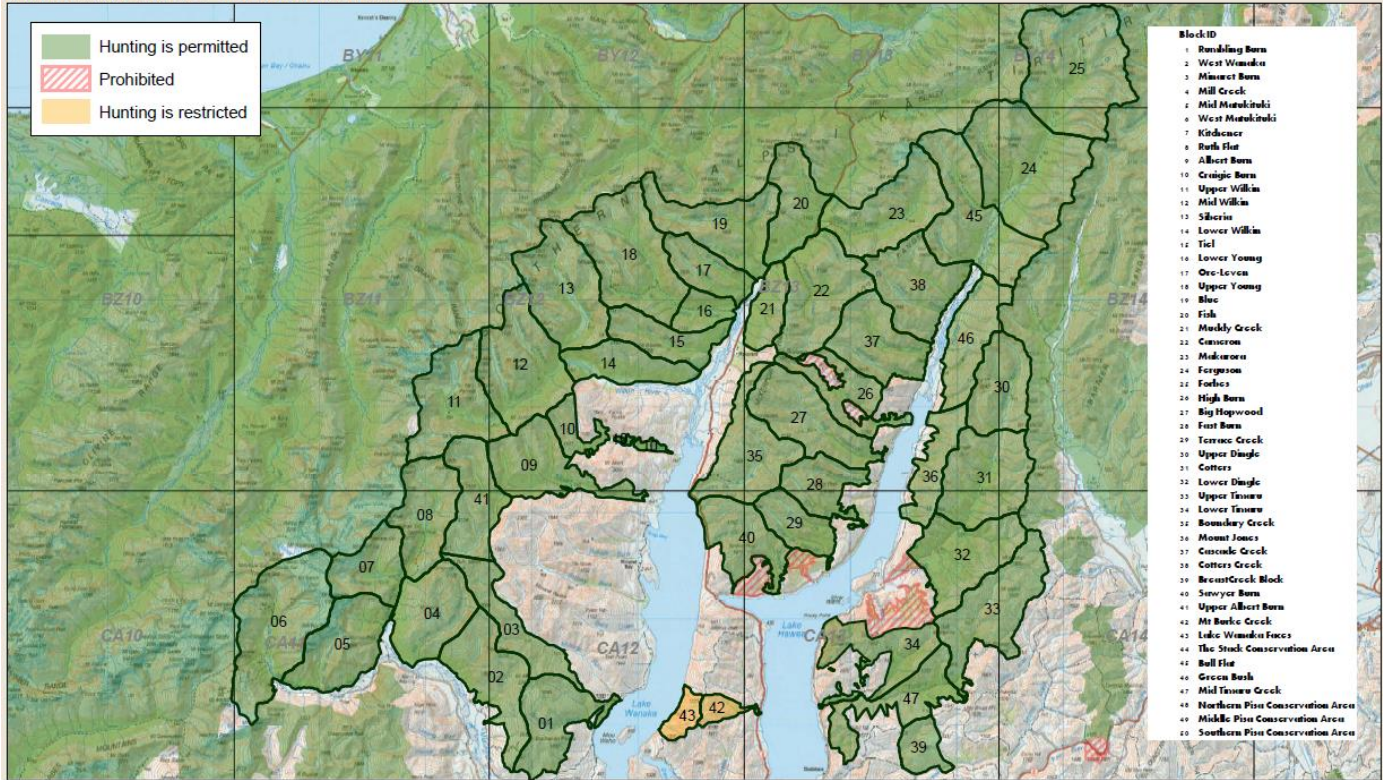
Phone: 0272696871

Email: wanakavc@doc.govt.nz

Address: 1 Ballantyne Road

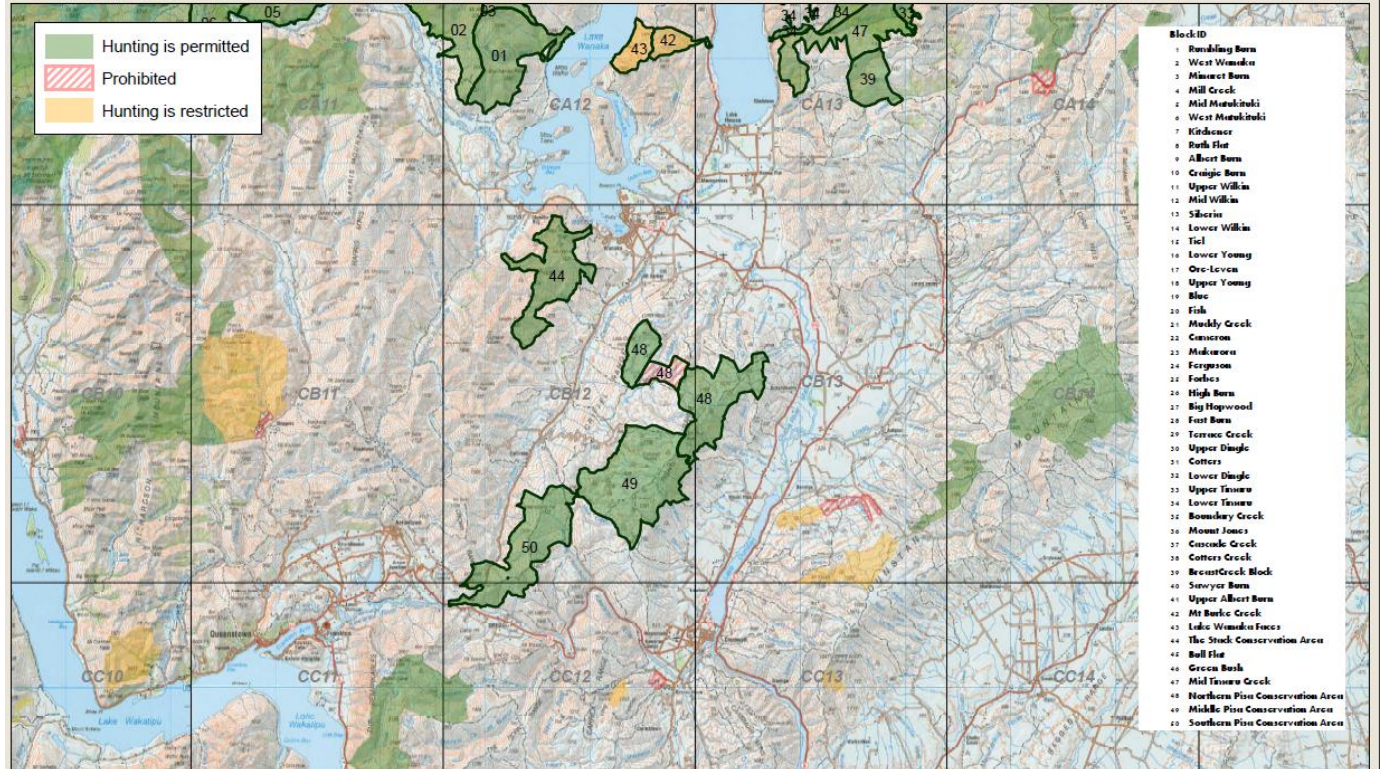
WANAKA AREA ROAR HUNTING BLOCKS

Check your permit and the DOC website for conditions that may apply to this area: www.doc.govt.nz/hunting

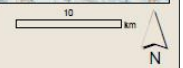


WANAKA AREA ROAR HUNTING BLOCKS

Check your permit and the DOC website for conditions that may apply to this area: www.doc.govt.nz/hunting



This map is a guide only and should not be used for navigational purposes. We recommend NZTopo50 series map(s)



New Zealand Government

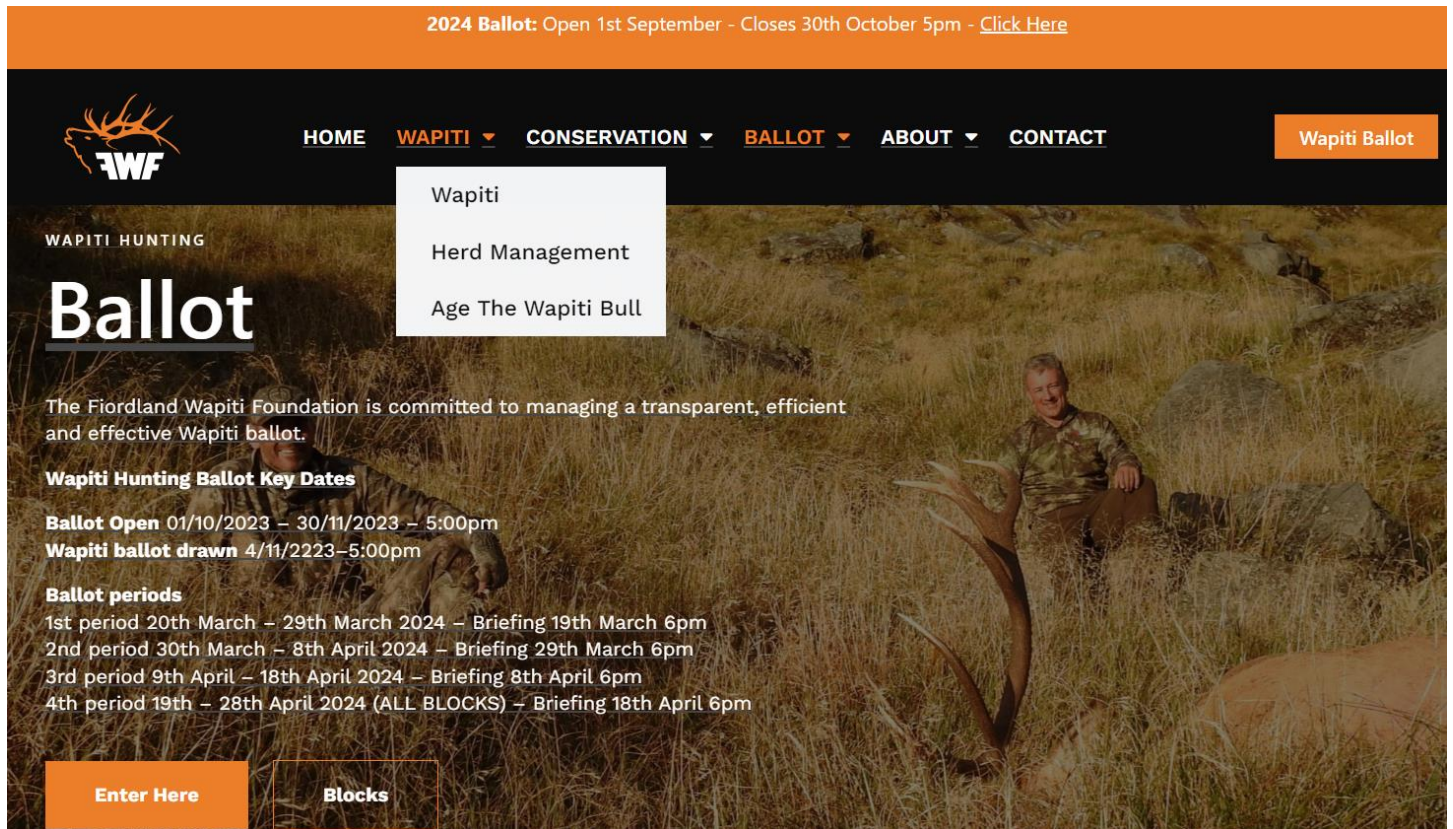
Wednesday, 31 September 2015
Covered content reserved

Options Galore

FWF Wapiti Ballot 2024 - Now Open

This is a unique hunting experience – check out all the blocks and information in link:

[FWF Wapiti Ballot](#)



The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu with 'WAPITI' selected, revealing a dropdown menu with 'Wapiti', 'Herd Management', and 'Age The Wapiti Bull'. The main content area features a large background image of a man in camouflage sitting in a field with a large set of antlers. Text on the page includes 'WAPITI HUNTING Ballot', a commitment to transparency, and key dates for the 2024 ballot. Two buttons, 'Enter Here' and 'Blocks', are visible at the bottom of the main content area.

2024 Ballot: Open 1st September - Closes 30th October 5pm - [Click Here](#)

HOME WAPITI CONSERVATION BALLOT ABOUT CONTACT Wapiti Ballot

WAPITI HUNTING

Ballot

The Fiordland Wapiti Foundation is committed to managing a transparent, efficient and effective Wapiti ballot.

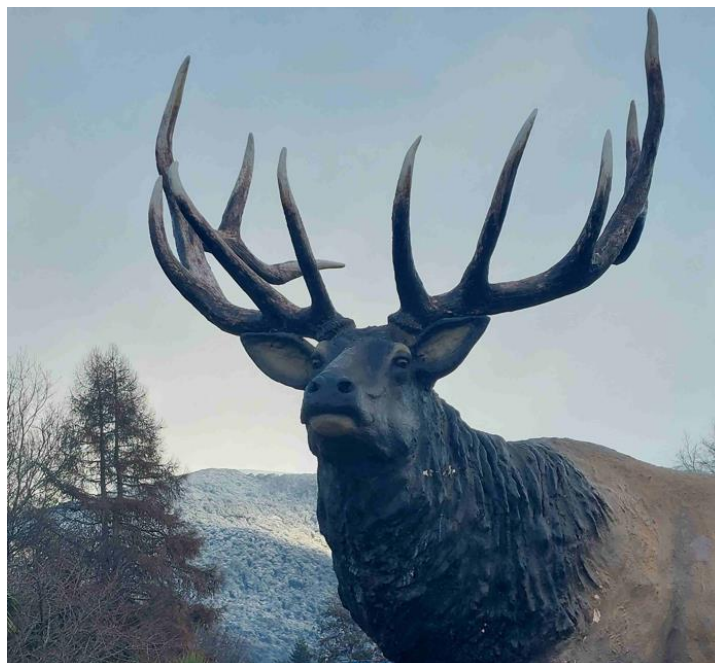
Wapiti Hunting Ballot Key Dates

Ballot Open 01/10/2023 – 30/11/2023 – 5:00pm
Wapiti ballot drawn 4/11/2023 – 5:00pm

Ballot periods

1st period 20th March – 29th March 2024 – Briefing 19th March 6pm
2nd period 30th March – 8th April 2024 – Briefing 29th March 6pm
3rd period 9th April – 18th April 2024 – Briefing 8th April 6pm
4th period 19th – 28th April 2024 (ALL BLOCKS) – Briefing 18th April 6pm

Enter Here Blocks



Club Night – Past One & Next One (Oct 31st)

If you weren't at our last club night you really missed out!



Aaron and Mark passed on great tips on what gear they take on a weekend hunt – cool learnings!



Keen young hunter takes great Sitka shirt door prize by being a regular attendee of Club Nights!

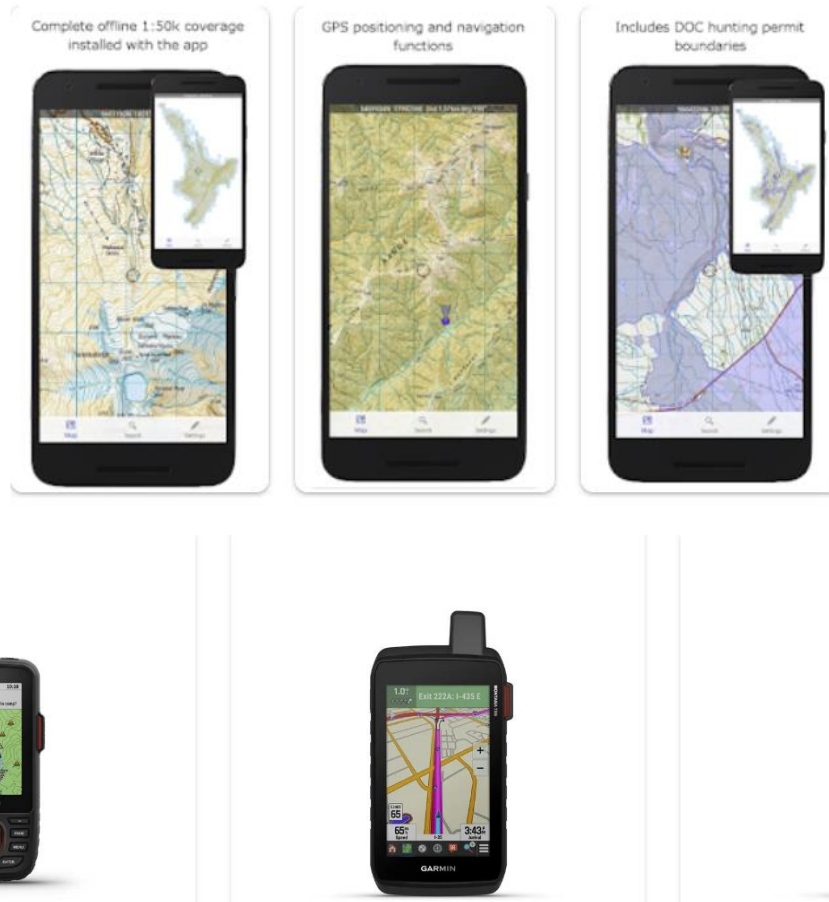


Warren sorting the many Cups and Certificates of our winners. And winning a few himself!

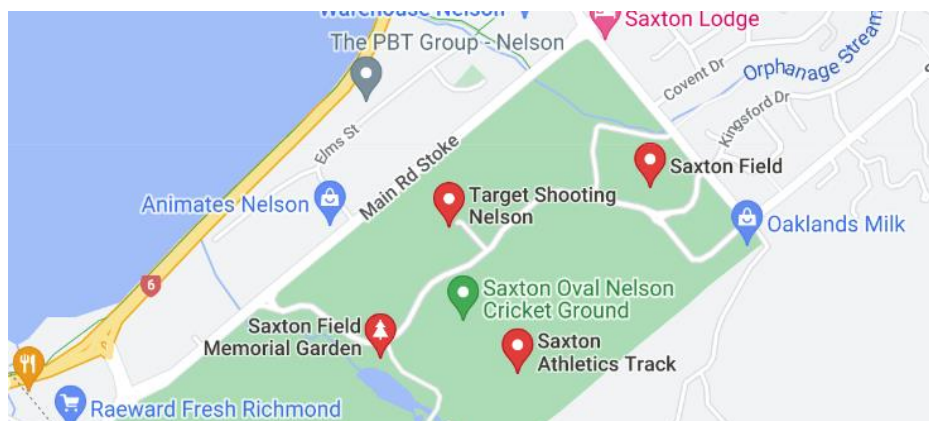
So be there this time on Tuesday 31st October!!!!

GPS Navigation led by Mike DeGray with practical hands on advice.

Demo, Q&A and then outside for a proper go. Bring your map phone or dedicated mapping device. Usual door prize up for grabs!



Where and When: Saxton Field TSN Smallbore Range @ 7pm



Fish and Game News

NELSON MARLBOROUGH FISH & GAME REPORT



MOTUEKA RIVER CLEAN UP DAY: Fish & Game, with assistance from the Nelson Trout Fishing club, held a Motueka River Clean-up day in September. We targeted all Fish & Game fishing access points, public areas, and some roadside verges from the Baton Bridge to Motueka. All told, a large trailer load of rubbish was removed, including 2 large mattresses, hundreds of bottles and cans, car parts and a range of other undesirable materials. Thanks to the Nelson Trout Fishing Club for their assistance. This Club is always there to assist us with public good initiatives such as this - they have a lot of dedicated members who are always willing to offer their time to help out for a good cause.

TROUT SEASON COMMENCES: The 2023-24 season commenced on Sunday 1 October. Thankfully, rain throughout Friday/Saturday was less than predicted and most rivers in the region were fishable come Sunday - though cloud and strong wind made fly fishing more challenging. Of course, these conditions did not affect spin/softbait anglers who did well on rivers that had been closed over the winter months. After a very stable winter, our rivers are in great shape and so are the trout: stable river flows mean abundant bug life and trout can feed consistently, putting back on condition after the rigors of spawning, and we have already had some great feedback from fish caught.

DESIGNATED WATERS LICENCE: This season Fish & Game is introducing the Designated Waters Licence. If you wish to fish the Upper Wairau (above Six Mile Creek, Travers, or Matakītaki (above Horse Terrace Bridge), make sure you get yourself this licence (\$5 per region, no limit on days fished). For non-resident anglers, there is a cap of 5 days per region, and a \$40 per day



Lawson Davey cleaning up baille wrapping from the Motueka River



Weesang Paaka with his first fish of the new season

Lighten Up

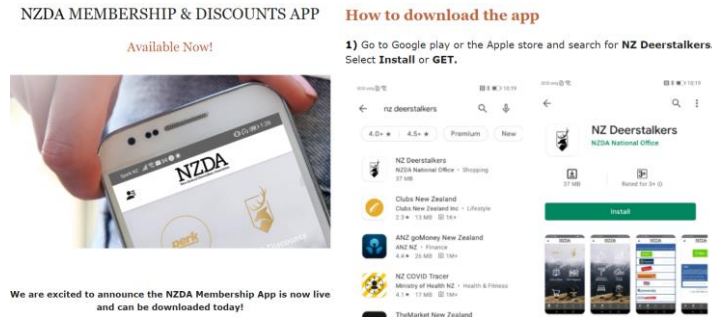


As the small band of hunter-gatherers sat around cleaning their weapons, one made the mistake of looking at his club straight on.



Member Benefits

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



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
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- 30% discount of Department of Conservation annual [Backcountry Hut Pass](#) or 'Hut Pass'. [See the DOC website for more details](#)



SUPPORTERS OF NELSON NZDA HUNTS COURSES AND KAI RESCUE **MORE INFO HERE:**

MEAT SOLUTIONS

Red Deer Lodge

- Information on costs and bookings of the Red Deer Lodge at Lake Rotoiti [Red Deer Lodge](#)
- Contact for Accom: info@starnaudholidaycottages.co.nz
- **Always remember to advise you are a Nelson member.**

2022 Branch Committee, Information & Contacts

- 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 orange

- NZDA National Association [NZDA](#)
- DOC Hunting Portal [Hunting Conservation Land](#)
- Fiordland Wapiti Foundation [Wapiti](#)
- Game Animal Council [GAC](#)
- Walking Access NZ [WAMS Maps](#)
- LINZ Basemaps [MAPS Link](#)

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](#)
- Police Firearms Safety Videos [FSA Safety Videos](#)

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