

September 2024



[Link to DOC NZDA Goat Competition](https://doc.govt.nz/wild-goat-hunting-competition)

Please keep your goat tails in freezer for Open Day in November!

Next Club Night – Take Your Best Shot!



Greg Monahan explains how to take the best possible hunting and wildlife photos. This is your ticket to winning next year's competitions!

Club Night - Wednesday 7 pm 25th September

THIS MONTH

EDITORIAL

Tasmanian
Fallow

Goat Comp -
Skins &
Horns
Wanted

Range
Matters

Horsin'
Around in
the Leader
Dale

Coxy's
Corner –
Goats!

CLUB NIGHT
Take Your
Best Shot!

Fish & Game
News

Lighten Up

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Sept Deals

IMPORTANT
LINKS

Editorial

Based on the pollen count locally its spring...I'm sure the possums are enjoying the golden harvest but its getting up my nose.

Jo de Vos from Golden Bay and Greg have spent some time with the DOC Motueka office and reset the Flora Vehicle Access agreement for 2024-25. Obviously and unfortunately the 1080 drop in Kahurangi put paid to meat hunting in there from February but that is now in the past. It is reported that there are a few goats in the area too. All information on this access arrangement will be circulated to members by email soon. Remember that the agreement is for vehicle access, regular hunting by foot access is always available (with DOC open permit) so some goat tails with the associated goat meat are waiting in there. Be aware that Friends of Flora volunteers are regularly and frequently in the area undertaking trapping and monitoring work both on and off the tracks, as well as trampers etc so be vigilant and safe.



There is a fair bit of work going on amongst Top of the South branches to get an AHT Douglas score training day happening at Red Deer Lodge in October and I wish to thank those leading the work of organisation and administration. It's no small job! Also, a trip and a half for the certified trainers (Dave Keen and Marcus Pinney) who come from South Canterbury and Whataroa. If you want to be trained connect with Carina Jackson!

On the national scene one can see in the news the first steps to get firearms law into a more considered space, with due safety for the community without undue cost and rigamarole for legitimate owners, users, clubs and ranges. Expect this to be ongoing for some time as it's a step-by-step process and **be totally aware of all rules as they currently stand around use, carriage and storage, licensing and registration etc. (don't get caught out thinking most rules have changed already - they haven't!).**

Things are quiet in terms of events at the Packers Creek Range, but it is still open for sighting in on weekends. I encourage those of you who have not used it to do so. In Range Matters below there are some reminders about access rules. Please be aware of these, as well as fully conversant with the Standing Orders which have just been updated and posted at the Range and online. (same reminder goes for Murchison Community Range).

Please check out the information from Coxy regarding upcoming ground control of ungulates in the region and also some info on "goat ready" areas. Go get you some!

The 2025 roar/rut/bugle ballot season is underway so don't miss out.

Fiordland Wapiti and South Westland are underway NOW! And Molesworth in October as per these links:

[Fiordland Wapiti Ballot](#) [South Westland Red Deer Roar Ballot](#) [Molesworth Roar Ballot](#)

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

Tasmanian Fallow *report by our international correspondent* **Steve Parker**

Hi Richard and Nelson NZDA!

How are you? I hope well. I am living vicariously through your photos in the Echo and the emails following your hunting trips.

It is warming up here already, so the grass is green and time to get out to restock the freezer. The forest in central Tasmania is nice and walkable, though a bit dry already. Still remnants from the fallow rut around with rubs and wallows. Having the native trees light up orange from rubbing is a handy beacon. No stags about though.

I was successful in stocking the freezer with a young fallow doe. Would have had a second one the next morning, but I was a bit too patient waiting for the perfect shot to line up and it wined me and pranced off. Still, great stalks and keeping me fed. The little brown spot in one photo is a wombat. Don't worry, it is still wandering the hillside.

Cheers Steve Parker – Hobart, Tasmania



DOC - NZDA National Goat Hunt

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The DOC NZDA National Goat Competition is on again, with even more great prizes from a range of supporters and sponsors. Read all about it in the weblink below. More to come!

Website: [2024 Wild Goat Hunt Competition](#)

Date: 1st August – 26th November. Entries close at midnight on 26 November 2024.

Location: Nationwide – on both public and private land.

Entry locations: NZDA branches, DOC offices, and Hunting & Fishing NZ Ltd. stores.

Competition categories: Large national prizes, spot prizes, and NZDA branch prizes.

Category	Criteria
Got Your Goat	Enter just one wild goat tail or head and go in the draw to win prizes.
Great Goat Round Up	The more wild goat tails entered the more chances to win.
NZDA's G.O.A.T (Greatest of all Time)	Wild goat head with the largest Douglas Score.
Junior Goat Round Up	18 years or under more wild goat tails entered, the more chances to win
Junior G.O.A.T.	18 years or under wild goat head with largest Douglas Score
Monthly Spot Prizes	Enter just one wild goat tail or head and be in to win

Requests for Goat Skins and Horns

Kahu kurī (dog skin cloaks) were made of strips of dog skin taken from the kurī (Māori dog) before the kurī became extinct. Kahu kurī are prestigious garments possessing great mana (prestige) and were highly-prized heirlooms. Sadly, most now remain anonymous in museum collections around the world. The possession of a kahu kurī immediately identified the owner as a rangatira - someone of prestige and position within the hapū (sub-tribe) or iwi (tribe).

Kia ora, my name is Shanell, I am born and brought up in Nelson and a passionate weaver looking to restore cultural practices of cloak making.

An alternative to dog skin for making Kahu kurī is utilising goat skin. I am putting out a request to hunters if you can support this mahi please let me know. I appreciate that it may not be practical to retrieve the skin but if the opportunity arises I would greatly appreciate and come to collect.

Please call or text 0272 112 465.

Ngā mihi 😊



G'day all

My dogs loved the goat horns to chew on. Unfortunately, they have now all been chewed up and I'm looking for some replacements. I'm keen to shoot some goats myself, but till then, do anybody have some spare goat horns they don't want anymore?

If so, I'm keen to take one or two off your hands.

Pls contact me if you have any. Thanks! **Maarten** - M: **027 632 2096** E: adam15760@gmail.com



Tia, a great hunting mate of Maarten's

Range Matters

If interested in using the Range always check the calendar on our website: [Nelson NZDA Range Info](#)

Always be aware of and comply with our **Ranges' Standing Orders** – they are posted at the Ranges, but you should refresh yourself from our website:

Packers Creek – [Standing Orders Click Here](#) Range Use Etiquette - [Etiquette and Golden Rules Click Here](#)

Murchison Community Range - [Standing Orders Click Here](#)

Packers Creek Range Access Reminder:

1. Check website for opening days and hours
2. Be at gate **before** 0900 hrs not after
3. All vehicles **must have** headlights on and conform to convoy (i.e. **follow** the duty officer in and out on Sharlands Road – these rules are set by landowner/operator and are compulsory
4. Ensure you have your membership card and hiviz & hearing protection
5. Its wet up there, avoid driving on the grass

Any competition and event queries please:

call Graeme Smith - 03 5447138 or lvhvbr@gmail.com



Horsin' Around in the Leader Dale by Ros Wells

Richard worked very hard to organise a hunting trip like we have never experienced before, a trip into the Molesworth with the aid of horses and mules! This came about as we have been exploring more hunting block options in the Molesworth and managed to book one called 'Big Bush', to access the hunting grounds of this block, it is several kilometers walk along a flat farm access track where we are not allowed to drive, so we decided mules/horses was the best option to carry our camping gear in and meat out!

Our group consisted of Richard, Ros and our family friend Dorje and his son – John the horse and mule man meanwhile was stationed on the road and could ride in each day. We were on the DOC hunting permit and had an activity permit for the horses and mules.



Driving in from Hanmer, Makuratawhai in one of the peaks in another hunting block nearby covered in snow. Our trip (mid-August) was in the perfect window between two very cold snowy weeks. We knew more snow was on the way so we planned to come out earlier – it worked well!



The horses waiting for us at the road end. The mules were to carry the gear and we used the ginger horse (who was a tad frisky) to get us across a couple of rivers at the start of the trip, then Dorje rode him up to our camp.



Ros riding on the across the first river (Clarence) led by John. We then walked about 2 hours to our campsite.



Seth, Dorje and the two mules, Bruno and Muriel. They work well to carry heavy loads and always know to walk back home themselves; definitely our friends.



Our campsite for two nights, in the background is a small musterers' hut (Pie Cart). We chose this spot as there were deer spotted on the way in, we knew it was a good landing pad for our two hunting teams to go out each day and see animals. Also, good clean water at our doorstep.



We pitched a wee kitchen fly tent as the cold wind makes cooking harder!



Ros with her one of the three pigs spotted in a valley just around the corner from camp on first evening. Richard got two of them (both blue sows) and a weaner managed to get away. We have had them turned into sausages @ Meat Solutions! Ros shot another good sized pig next day (also a black one). It's a piggy place as Dorje shot one and John saw five.



Ros following a deer trail along one of the ridges, cold rain was falling but sun soon showed up. Great to see lots of deer sign about.



Glassing for deer in the valley, we saw a mob of stags very far away on a ridge but in the next valley we bumped into three deer, shooting two for meat and glory.



Ros with one of the deer we got, they were out napping in the warm sun. The yellow x mark is where Ros shot it from. They were fat and accessible – aka perfect.



Richard lugging out his share of meat across the great tussock tundra! It took nearly two hours of steady walking. We stashed it in the tussock then used our inReach to message John “the mule man” which also gives him GPS location.



Richard holding a deer heart, a delicacy we always try to bring home for mum. The 2 hearts plus pair of eye steaks weighed 1.8kg! We rested the meat out to cool down on rocks then carried 30kg between us for the mule man to collect from the main track. We were buggered afterwards but very satisfied!

Overall, it was a very successful trip for 2 days hunting, learned a lot about the mechanics of using horses/mules and we got what we wanted – MEAT! Although we are still not very horsey people, a bit of exposure and testing ourselves make it a really special adventure on our hunting memory list.

Essentials for this trip:

- Sense of adventure
- DOC activity permit and expertise with horses and pack mules
- Garmin inReach for comms to each other and close eye on the looming bad weather
- Lots of muslin (cheesecloth) for meat and big packs while hunting
- Good binos
- Hunting high and along the ridges glassing north faces

John Burrill from [Sherwood Ranch](#) based in Hanmer was a great mate to hunt with, safe, experienced, and skillful, and took care of all the horse stuff! Thanks John, till next time!



Last card! Dorje comes back to camp with pockets full of backsteaks and a hindquarter over each shoulder....just on dark as they say... before we quit next morning as a big storm arrives.

Coxy's Corner



Notes for Hunters from the Department of Conservation Motueka District Office

NZDA hunters,

I hope all are fit and well and have been getting out there...

I'd like to give you all a heads up regarding the **goat control** our DOC Office is planning on delivering from November this year through to June 2025.

Ground Control Kahurangi National Park

We will have 6 to 8 contract goat hunters with dogs operating in the Mt Arthur Tableland, Grecian River, Flora Valley, Cobb Valley, Waingaro Valley, Anatoki Valley, Lindsay River, Stanley River, Leslie/karamea Valleys, and Riwaka South Branch. This ground hunting is planned from November through to mid- December. A notice will be issued on the DOC Hunting Website.

Aerial control

Arthur Range, South Branch Riwaka, Devil Anatoki Ranges, Leslie/Karamea Valleys. This aerial control may commence in September and will be completed by the end of June 2025.

Goat hunting Competition – Hot tips for tails and meat

Recommended areas to fill your goat tail lines are Brown River, Lower Aorere River, Gordons Knob via Motueka Gorge or Inwoods Lookout, the Te Araroa Trail between Mt Starveall and Hunters Hut, Ben Nevis via Left Branch Wairoa, Goulter River via North Bank Wairau Road.

Hot barrels!



Contact me by email for more info. icox@doc.govt.nz

Cheers Coxy!

Last Club Night and Next



August Club Night - Greg waving a couple of packets of primers – what's best??



Reloading kit – good for wet days and saving money.

Thanks, Greg!

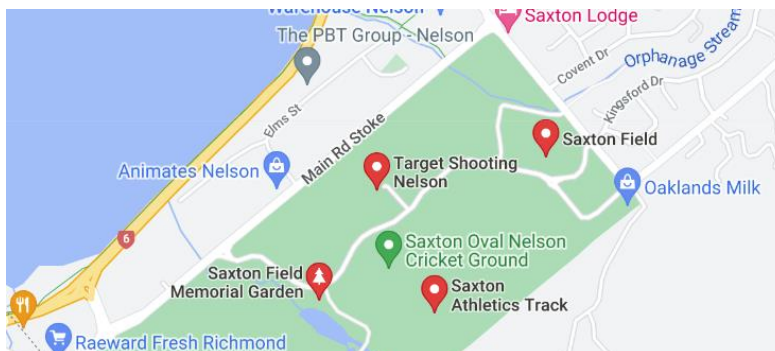
Hear it from The Judge!!

We are fortunate that Greg Monahan of Whistling Frog Media ([WFM Website](#)) is a member and keen to share his photographic skills.

Greg usually judges our photocomp entries so who better to provide advice!



**Where and When: Saxton Field TSN Smallbore Range - 7 -9 pm
Wednesday 25th September**



Fish and Game News

NELSON MARLBOROUGH FISH & GAME REPORT



ANGLERS HELP WITH OLD MAN'S BEARD: Members of the Nelson Trout Fishing Club joined Fish & Game staff and other members of the public to tackle Old Man's Beard in the Motueka Valley. OMB is widespread in this area, however it was a patch of important remnant native forest that the group helped control OMB on. The iconic area, known as Haycocks Bush or the 'tree tunnels' also happens to run alongside one of the best fishing beats on the Motueka, and is well known to any local angler. The group made good a good start on the pest vines along the 1.5km corridor length of trees, however there is much more to be done - many more return trips are needed and there will also be funding for professional contractors to tackle some of the other undesirable weeds as well as OMB.

RAINBOW SIDE-STREAM FENCE REPAIR: Thanks to the help of several enthusiastic volunteers and Fish & Game staff, the Rainbow River salmon spawning stream fence has been repaired. This is the most important salmon spawning site in the Wairau catchment and was installed by the Acclimatisation Society to protect this key spawning water prior to Fish & Game. The fence had seen better days, with broken wires and had collapsed in places allowing stock to enter, but is now stock proof again.

SHOVELER COUNTS COMPLETED: On 5 August, staff in every Fish & Game region hit the wetlands to carry out a national shoveler (kuruwhengi) survey. This has been completed each year since 2000, with around 240 sites counted nationally. Grey teal counts are also made at the time.

FISHING SEASON IS NEARLY HERE: We are counting down to the new trout fishing season. In general, this region has had another stable winter period which will have benefitted trout recruitment and should mean trout are in great condition come October 1.

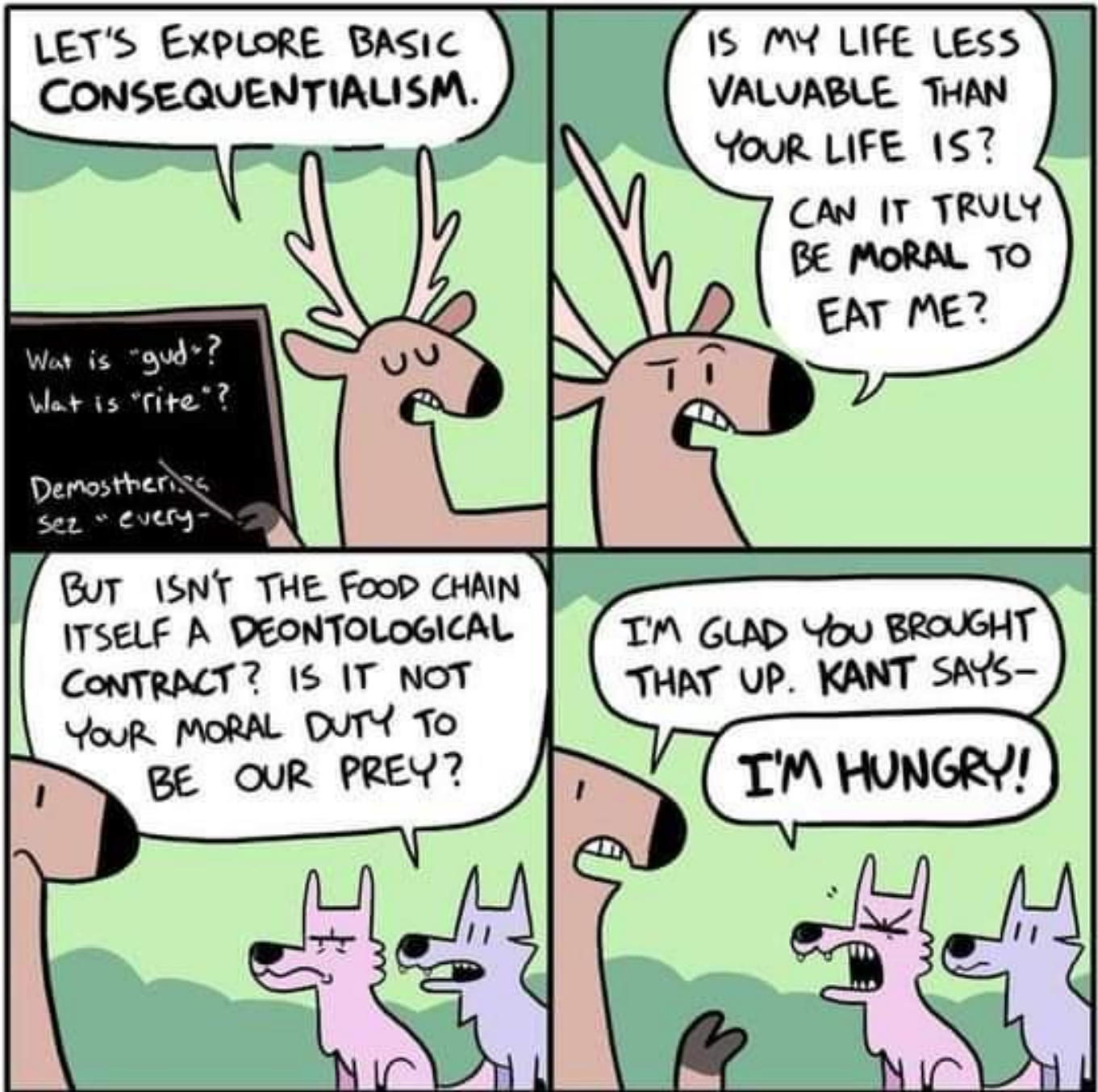


Members of the Nelson Trout Fishing Club tackling O.M.B in the Motueka Valley



The Rainbow salmon spawning stream fence has been repaired using staff/volunteer help over three days

Lighten Up



Instagram Facebook @awoocomic (c) AC Stuart

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Member Benefits – Know & Get Your Share!

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HUNTER INSURANCE

A special insurance package has been developed by NZDA for members*.

As a NZDA member you and your family can feel safe knowing you are personally covered in a hunting related accident or while undertaking NZDA activities.

Insurance only covers financial members, and is often a requirement when hunting on forestry blocks, so with our insurance cover you can access more hunting opportunities.

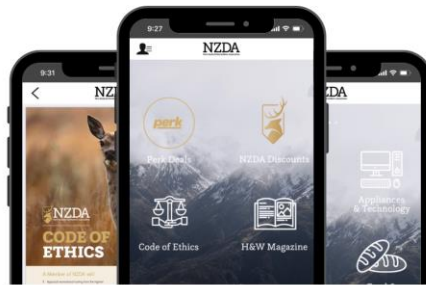
NZDA and all our members are covered by [AIG Insurance New Zealand Limited](#) insurance when hunting and undertaking NZDA activities.

The insurance indemnity cover includes:

- \$10,000,000 for General Liability
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*Excludes Associate Membership

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[MEAT SOLUTIONS](#)

Hunting and Fishing September Deals for Members Only



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Important links

Red Deer Lodge

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

2024 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.**

Advocacy and Access

- NZDA National Association [NZDA](#)
- DOC Hunting Portal [Hunting Conservation Land](#)
- Fiordland Wapiti Foundation [Wapiti](#)
- Game Animal Council [GAC](#)
- Outdoor Access Commission [OAC](#)
- Walking Access NZ [WAMS Maps](#)
- LINZ Basemaps [MAPS Link](#)
- 141 Forest Access Information [141 Access and Permit Info](#)

Ballots

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

Firearms and Safety

- COLFO [COLFO](#)
- NZ Firearms Safety Authority [Te Pureke](#)
- Mountain Safety Council [MSC](#)
- MSC Videos on [everything](#) safety and hunting [Watch Videos](#)
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