

## The southern hunter



February 2008  
Southland branch  
NZ deerstalkers association

### Noticeboard:

Next Executive meeting: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> 7pm

Next General meeting: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> 8pm

### Executive and committee members (2006-2007)

President	Roy Sloan	235 2813
Vice.	Nathan Dawson	235 8852
Secretary	David Howden	2130962
Treasurer	John DeLury	217 5890
Immediate	Ray Phillips	216 3751
Huts	Neville Miller	216 8654

#### Executive:

Jim Ridley   Roger Stratford   Steven Long   Brendon Bell   Davey  
Craig   Murray Barkman   Wayne Cook   Murray Colson  
Euan Butters

#### Guest Speakers

Over the couple of seasons Southland Branch members have been undertaking a rat control program at Mason Bay on Stewart Island. This has been widely covered and will continue this spring.

Our Guest speakers this month will be Letitia McRitchie who is Biodiversity - Animal Threats, Department of Conservation, Stewart Island Field Centre who will talk on the program and results to date and Brent Beavin also from Stewart Island Field Centre who will talk on his investigation and proposals to eradicate rats, possums and cats from Stewart Island.

**Both these folk are making a significant effort to communicate with hunters. Please make a special effort to attend. If you know any whitetail hunters invite them along.**

## **Subscriptions.**

All members will have now had an account for subs which were due on 1 March. Reminder that you are not covered by insurance unless you are financial nor can you enter competitions. A big thank you members who have paid, the treasurer appreciates early payers especially those who pay on line. (saves quite a bit of work.) Someone paid by making a deposit direct to the bank. If that was you please notify John ASAP.

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## Competitions.

Reminder that trophy and photographic competition are held at our May meeting. Now is the time to be sorting out your photos or taking those special ones during the roar, Photos must have been taken May 07 - May 08, categories, Game Animals, other Wildlife, Scenic and Topical/hunting interest which should have some evidence of human activity in the picture. Good luck.

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## ADVOCATE UPDATES

### (I) NZDA PRESENTATION: WEST COAST CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (CMS)

Graeme Steans and Hugh attended the DOC West Coast forum on 22 February in Christchurch, and talked to the NZDA submission for an hour.

The following is from a report by Hugh Barr: -

'The Panel was chaired by a Director General's representative, with the Planner Campbell Robertson, and the Chair of the Board and a Maori Board member. Two other board members were in the audience.

We spoke to the 25 points in the submission, especially mentioning:

1. The CMS being too biased to native biodiversity and that NZDA would like to see areas on the Coast where deer were managed as a recreational resource. They wanted to know whether there were any areas NZDA had in mind for such management.
2. That NZDA wanted to work with DOC and see more liaison on matters affecting recreational hunting, and encouraging it, including more information on where animal numbers were considered too high by DOC.
3. We challenged DOC's claim that deer populations grew at 30% a year as ridiculous, quoting farmed hinds only achieving 80% fawn weaning percentages when farmed.
4. Himalayan tahr: We expressed concern re DOC shooting mature bull tahr, and the antics of heli tahr cowboys. Graeme stated he had a video of such cowboys taking out animals. We also supported a rollover of the Tahr Plan.
5. Promoted vehicle use to get nearer to recreational hunting areas.
6. The use of management agreements with branches when maintaining public huts
7. Concerns about interference with recreational hunting by commercial hunting.

This was a useful opportunity to promote NZDA's position, and meet DOC Hokitika staff and Board members. I said NZDA wanted to continue to be involved as the CMS was developed as for instance happened in Southland.'

DOC

(i) STRATEGIC DIRECTION - as per the mail to the branches recently  
The director general DOC has explained the reason for the wording change, which he states was for clarification, ie 'the value of conservation is already there - the problem is that people don't see it. DOC says they need to help people understand that the slimy snail is just as precious as the cuddly kiwi and the muddy bog is just as valuable as the majestic mountain. It's also about selling the message that healthy eco systems deliver services that sustain our physical, mental, cultural, spiritual, social and economic life.

If people appreciate and understand that, then you would expect more people to support more work and conservation would get done. .... The overall purpose is to get better results for conservation.

The change relates to the key sentence in the Strategic Direction: -

The overarching purpose of the department is to increase the value of conservation to New Zealanders.

This was amended to and also added to and now reads: -

The overarching purpose of the department is to increase the value that New Zealand's attribute to conservation.

This leads to enhanced care of New Zealand's unique heritage for people to benefit and enjoy'

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### **TIP'S FOR THE ROAR.**

- 1** Be seen. A lot hunter's pop out of the woodwork at this time of year.
- 2** Identify your target. As above.
- 3** Learn how to roar. This can increase your odds.
- 4** Just because a roaring stag has gone quite. Doesn't mean he has buggered off.
- 5** Roaring a stag in. Remember-he will try and cut your wind. He may end up behind you.
- 6** Hunting in pairs. One stay back and do the roaring. While the other does the hunting.
- 7** If you shoot the small one's you won't see the big one's.
- 8** They still roar in the warm weather.
- 9** The big guys can rut earlier than the young.
- 10** Remember the Birds and Bee's. If there are hind's around then, most likely there are Stag as well.
- 11 After the rut. This still can be a good time to find a Stag. They like to fatten up before winter. Good luck!

Welcome to new members Timo Bierlin and Sam Thurlow

## SOUTHLAND BRANCH UP AND COMING HUNTING EVENTS

<p>September 2007  <b>Organiser:</b> Jim Ridley  <b>Phone No:</b> 021 733 129  <b>Destination:</b> Wapiti 101. Fiordland. Lake Te Anau end. A good opportunity to get a look at some Wapiti country.</p> <p><b>Date:</b> Weekend of the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup></p>	<p>October 2007  <b>Organiser:</b> John DeLury  <b>Phone No:</b> 03 21 75 890  <b>Destination:</b> Trout fishing Mavora Lakes. Help will be given to member wishing to master the art of fly-fishing. Accommodation Red Stag Hut.</p> <p><b>Date:</b> Weekend of the 24<sup>th</sup>&amp;25<sup>th</sup></p>	<p>November 2007  <b>Organiser:</b> Steve Long  <b>Phone No:</b> 03 217 8508  <b>Destination:</b> Blue Mountains. If you haven't hunted Fallow deer, then there is no better place to cut your teeth on the animals.</p> <p><b>Date:</b> Weekend of the</p>	<p>December 2007  <b>Organiser:</b> Nathan Dawson  <b>Phone No:</b> 03 2358 852  <b>Destination:</b> Deer hunt in at Monowai</p> <p><b>Date:</b> Weekend of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup></p>
<p>January 2008  <b>Organiser:</b> Roy Sloan  <b>Phone No:</b> 03 2352 813  <b>Destination:</b> Hunts weekend Bush craft, River crossing. All done fly camping in red deer, fallow and Chamois country?.</p> <p><b>Date:</b> Weekend of the 12<sup>th</sup> 13<sup>th</sup></p>	<p>February 2008  <b>Organiser:</b> John De Lury  <b>Phone No:</b> 03 21 75 890  <b>Destination:</b> Lake Houroko. Accommodation Thicket Burn Hut. Some of our best red deer hunting is in this area.</p> <p><b>Date:</b> Weekend of the 16<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup></p>	<p>March 2008  <b>Organiser:</b> Murray Barkman  <b>Phone No:</b> 03 236 2730  <b>Destination:</b> Borland. Some very good open tops hunting. Good red deer country.</p> <p><b>Date:</b> Weekend of the</p>	<p>April 2008  <b>Organiser:</b> Alex Kidd  <b>Phone No:</b> 03 217 4638  <b>Destination:</b> Longwood's, some very good hunting if you know the area and Alex knows the area. And to top it of the Stags will be rutting.</p> <p><b>Date:</b> Weekend of the 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup></p>

<p>May 2008  Organiser: Wayne Cook  Phone No: 0272 232 049  Destination: Mystery tour.  Give Wayne a ring.</p> <p>Date: Weekend of the 10<sup>th</sup>  and 11th</p>	<p>June 2008  Organiser: Jim Ridley  Phone No: 021 733129  Destination: Mystery Trip</p> <p>Date: Weekend of 14<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup></p>	<p>July 2008  Organiser:  Phone No:  Destination:</p> <p>SOME ONE NEEDS  TO STEP  FORWARD!</p> <p>Date:</p>	<p>August 2008  Organiser:  Phone No:  Destination:</p> <p>SOME ONE NEEDS TO STEP FORWARD</p> <p>Date:</p>
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