

THE SOUTHERN HUNTER



Roedie Prinsloo with his St Paddys luck at the rifle shoot.

April 2012

**Southland Branch
NZ Deerstalkers Association**

Noticeboard:

Meeting: Wednesday 18th April at 8pm
 Executive Meeting: Wednesday 18th April at 7pm

Executive and committee members (2011 - 2012):

President	Nathan Dawson	235 8852
Vice	Steve Long	235 7035
Jnr. Vice	Bevan McNaughton	216 3365
Secretary	David Howden	213 0962
Treasurer	John DeLury	213 1430
Immediate P.P	Jim Ridley	2159649

Sub committees for year 2011-2012

Hall:	N. Dawson, J. Hogg
Huts:	J. De Lury, N. Miller, K. Watson.
Young Hunts:	N. Dawson, S. Long, S. Robinson.
Branch Hunts:	G. Ronald, J. Hogg.
AGM:	N. Dawson.
Trophies:	G. Ronald.
Poisons&toxins:	R. Phillips.
Stewart Island:	J. De Lury, R. Phillips.
Hokonuis:	K. Watson.
Longwoods:	S. Long.
South Coast:	R. Phillips, S. Robinson.
Fiordland:	B. McNaughton.
Caples:	J. De Lury, N. Miller.
Blue Mts:	S. Long.
Rifle range:	D. Howden.
Newsletters:	B. McNaughton.
DOC liaison:	N. Dawson.

Executive:

N. Miller, B. Bell, R. Phillips, J. Hogg, S Robinson,
 D. Craig, G. Ronald, S. Byrne, R. Sloan, K. Watson.

Life Member(s):

WA (Bill) Bell (*Branch*)
 Ray Phillips (*Branch*)
 Neville Miller (*Branch*)
 John De Lury (*Branch*)
 Roger McNaughton (*National*)

Branch email is: southlandbranchnzda@hotmail.com

Newsletter Address is: newsletter@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz

Postal address:

P.O Box 1588
 Invercargill 9840

Presidents Report

Hope everyone's had a chance to get out and have a look for a deer over the Roar or is still out there doing it!

Have heard some great stories from people of their successes and disappointments.

Not good to hear about another Hunting tragedy, just remember the deer will always be there, always identify your target.

Hope your all getting your submissions in for the Heli-hunting these need to be in by April 18th.

Roy Sloan spoke at last months meeting regarding the Wapiti and what developments have occurred over the last 12 months or so, was good to hear what the foundation has been doing. Roy also had some photos from some of the cameras they had in the blocks. there was a couple of good animals in there that got everyone's attention. Keep the good work up team.

Don't forget the Central southland and Southland Gun clubs will be holding their Clay target duck shooters shoots soon, get along and support these shoots and get your eye in for the ducks

The annual rifle shoot on March 3rd was a great day. We had a good turn out of guys and some mixed results, some good shooting and some bad shooting but we all had fun. Doug Gordon took first place this year, well done!

We also had some shooters try and work the St Paddys magic to help them out, not sure whether it paid off or not! was a great day and hope to see you all back next year.

Good luck to all the duck hunters out there, have a good one!

Nathan Dawson.

Guest Speaker

Stephen Logie from the Ministry of Fisheries will be speaking about Southland Blue cod fishery (20% commercial TACC cut and recreational bag limit cut effective 01 May 2012), a bit about the rules regarding harvesting Foveaux dredge oysters, update on the Paterson Inlet scallop fishery closure, the Paua accumulation limit and accumulation in general in relation to Stewart Island extended trips.

Welcome new Members:

- Brian Harris
- Greg Hudson
- Nathan Blair
- Jeremy Mark
- John Lynch
- Gerald MacRae
- Ean James
- Jason Young
- Phil Garaway
- Jeffrey Robin
- Craig Frisby
- Bruce Parsons

AGM May 16th

The AGM is fast approaching. So get those photos and heads prepared for the competition. The measuring day for all heads will be 1pm on Sunday 13th May at the club rooms.

Photos need to be to Neville Miller by 5pm Friday the 11th May 43 Bain St, Invercargill, 2168654

Horns, tusks and antlers can be all shapes and sizes to enter so don't be put off if you shoot something that you don't think will win. Every photo and head that is entered goes in the draw for the \$250 Hamills voucher which will be drawn out of the hat as a lucky spot prize, so you need to be in to win.

Would be great to see you all there so make sure you mark it on your calendar.



NZDA Caps & Beanies

The Southland Branch has sourced a supply of caps and/or beanies that will have the Southland branch logo printed on them.

The ones available are:

Caps: Dark green with a yellow logo on the front. Peaked front to keep the rain off.

Beanies: Two types available - the standard type of beanie, and one that pulls over the ears (good for the cold days).

Both caps and beanies will have the logo printed on them.

If anyone wants them, they will need to pay up front, as the order will not be sent in until we have a reasonable number to purchase. The cost is \$15.00 for either the cap or the beanies. Cheques can be made out to Southland Branch NZDA, or cash is more than welcome.

For orders, please see R. Phillips on a meeting night, or mail to:

Southland Branch New Zealand Deerstalkers Association
P.O BOX 1588
Invercargill 9840



Club Fishing Trip

19th May there will be a fishing trip from Waikawa Harbour with Caitlins Marine Encounters. \$125 per person looking for 8 people but if we get more than 8 he will do a second day for us, so first in first served. They fish for Groper, Trumpeter, Blue Cod and Perch. Have been out with them earlier this year and we had great success and even caught some Salmon. Please Contact Nathan on 2358852 after 7.30pm or email nathan.adrienne@xtra.co.nz. Your place will be confirmed when your payment is made no refunds if you pull out
www.catlinsmarineencounters.co.nz

The Firearm Safety Code:

1. Treat EVERY firearm as loaded.
2. ALWAYS point firearms in a safe direction.
3. Load a firearm ONLY when ready to fire.
4. **IDENTIFY** your target. **IDENTIFY** your target. **IDENTIFY** your target!!!
5. Check your firing zone.
6. Store your firearms and ammunition separately and securely.
7. Alcohol impairs judgment

Guest Speakers

If anyone knows of someone who would be interested in being a guest speaker at the meetings please contact

Ray Phillips, (rkphillips@xtra.co.nz)

Dave Howden (davidandlorraine@xtra.co.nz)

or Neville Miller (nandc43@xnet.co.nz)

Thanks to those members who have paid their subscription. In case you missed the invoice that was with the February newsletter here are the short payment details.

SENIOR MEMBERS:	\$90
JUNIOR MEMBERS:	\$30 (UNDER 18 YEARS)
STUDENT & SUPERANNUITANT	\$65
ASSOCIATE MEMBER:	\$50
FAMILY MEMBERS:	\$5
<small>(Family member = wife/partner, children under 16)</small>	
Associate Members (full member of another branch)	\$10

Payment by cheque or cash to Treasurer NZDA, P O Box 1588, Invercargill

Or if you use online banking: To National Bank Invercargill Branch

Acct: 060925 : 0270758 : 00 NZ Deerstalkers Assn Southland Branch. Include **your name** for reference. (Our Preferred method of payment)

BUSH NAVIGATION MY WAY - These days if I am going stalking in the bush in a new area to me, I get the area on my map copied at twice the normal page size so I can see it in the bush without my reading glasses.

At home I draw a line on the copy in the direction I intend to walk starting from where I will go into the bush. Across this line I draw a line in the direction of magnetic North. (About 21 degrees east of grid North. Check your map). I use my Silva compass to do this. I turn the adjustable dial until 21 is over the bearing line on the base plate. I place the compass on the map so that one edge of the base plate crosses the direction line then I rotate the compass to line up the orienting lines and arrow, inside the dial, with a grid North line on the map. Then I draw a line along the compass edge that crosses the direction line and put an arrow on its Northern end and mark it M.N.

Now to set the bearing of travel I place the compass on the map so one side or its bearing line is along the direction of travel. I turn the adjustable dial until the orienting lines and arrow, inside the dial, line up with the magnetic North line.

The compass is now ready for use. Rotate the compass until the North end of the pointer lines up over the orienting arrow and walk in the direction of the bearing arrow on the base plate. The magnetic bearing angle can be read off the dial. To get the true grid bearing if needed, just add 21 degrees.

To head back, turn the compass through 180 degrees and put the South end of the pointed over the orienting arrow, or alternatively turn the adjustable dial through 180 degrees and continue to use the north end of the pointer. (Add on or take away 180 degrees from the original bearing angle. It must not be greater than 360).

Try it at home. If you live in a city or town use a street map and pencil lines and plot a course for along your street. Then go out and try it and see if it works. Avoid steel objects because they can affect the compass.

Good bush navigators study the features on the way in. They turn around and look back at them, and remember them so that they can recognise them on the way out.

Alex Kidd.



OUTDOOR SAFETY

Visit: www.mountainsafety.org.nz

MSC Basic Bushcraft

The course is aimed at beginner trampers or those with little experience. It will suit those who wish to undertake easy overnight bush trips using tents or huts close to road ends.

- The course covers:**
- ▲ Planning and executing an easy bush trip involving camping out
 - ▲ Understanding basic first aid and survival
 - ▲ Selecting and using suitable clothing and equipment
 - ▲ Operating stoves and managing fuels safely
 - ▲ Map work and route finding on track
 - ▲ Using bush walking skills (moving effectively with a group along a track)
 - ▲ Safely near water

Dates: Wednesday 23, 30 May, Wednesday 6, 13 & 20 June, Saturday 23, Sunday 24 June *(five evening sessions and weekend)*

Cost: \$40pp

Contact: Mountain Safety Council Southland

E: southland@mountainsafety.org.nz

T: 03 216 3555



Game Animal Council.

If you only write one submission in your life this must be it. Please forward to as many people as you can

Guys the time has come to ensure we have a future for Hunters in New Zealand. You need/must put a submission in to support the Game Animal Council.

If you think everything is good and rosy in New Zealand and your hunting future is locked up and secure, well-think again. Recently the Game Animal Council bill got its first reading in Parliament. Most of it went smoothly, that's until the Green party conservation spokesperson Eugenei Sage spoke. Now one day soon there will be a change of Government and the Greens may hold the balance of power and have some say in how this country is Governed and there is a possibility that people like this could hold the Conservation portfolio. Hunters need to go to-

<http://www.greens.org.nz/speeches/eugenie-sages-speech-game-animal-council-bill-parliament> - this speech is at the bottom of this email - this is a very scary speech and reality is even scarier if the Greens were to hold the balance of power.

Ignore all the gossip and rubbish you may have heard from the inevitable knocking brigade. The Game Animal Council will be good for all hunters and hunting. We need to ensure we have a future and this is through the Game Animal Council, run by hunters, working for hunters.

Guys, the solution is simply that you need to write a submission supporting the Game Animal Council. Hunters, this is your opportunity for you to ensure there is a future for your kids. You should not take this lightly.

Writing the Submission is Simple, if you don't want to go into a lot of detail just say the following in your own words, it will only take a couple of minutes:

I support The GAC establishment committee's recommendations as representing the vast majority of views that came from an extensive consultation process we all participated in. I request that the select committee ensure that the bill is consistent with those recommendations.

Details of the Bill and submission

The Local Government and Environment Select Committee has announced a due date for public submissions on the Game Animal Council Bill.

The closing date for submissions is Friday, 20 April 2012

The committee requires 2 copies of each submission if made in writing. Those wishing to include any information of a private or personal nature in a submission should first discuss this with the clerk of the committee, as submissions are usually released to the public by the committee. If you wish to appear before the committee to speak to your submission, you should state this clearly and provide a daytime telephone contact number. To assist with administration please supply your postcode and an email address if you have one.

Use the form in this link below to make your submission, this is the easiest way and only takes a few minutes and only one copy required - http://www.parliament.nz/en-NZ/PB/SC/MakeSub/e/c/f/50SCLGE_SCF_00DBHOH_BILL11159_1-Game-Animal-Council-Bill.htm

Verification Instructions: Please enter the words that you see in the box, in order and separated by a space. If you are not sure what the words are, either enter your best guess or click the reload button next to the distorted word

The public submissions process is a crucial part of the Bill's progress, we really need your support.

Pass this message on to your hunting mates, this is your chance to influence the future of your hunting.

Don't leave it up to the person who sent you this email.

Eugenie Sage Speech

EUGENIE SAGE (Green): Tēnā koe, Mr Deputy Speaker. I rise to speak on the first reading of the Game Animal Council Bill. The Green Party opposes this bill because of the pre-eminence that it gives to introduced deer, tahr, chamois, and pigs in the management of our public protected lands, and the way that that cuts across the statutory purpose of conservation legislation. The bill creates the Game Animal Council as a statutory authority, and in so doing, elevates and gives special status to hunting and problem animals such as deer and tahr. The bill is a big lollipop for United Future, but it is a huge backward step. It is poisonous for conservation, and particularly our indigenous plants. Our alpine flora evolved without browsing mammals, and species such as *Ranunculus lyallii*, the Mount Cook buttercup, are very vulnerable to the heavy browsing and trampling of big introduced herbivores such as tahr and chamois. So we believe that our conservation lands should be managed to protect their indigenous ecosystems and provide for a range of recreation, not managed as game preserves for hunting. These game preserves are in direct conflict with the purpose for which conservation lands are managed, and that is to protect our natural indigenous ecosystems, wildlife, and habitats.

Although Mr Dunne may say that this bill does not dilute existing powers in the legislation, it creates very real tension between the delegated functions of the Game Animal Council and the Department of Conservation. We have seen how many hunters interested in protecting deer from by-kill through 1080 operations have opposed and raised a lot of public concern about 1080 in order to protect their hunting interests, and that same tension will be evident with this Game Animal Council.

The bill enables the Minister to designate herds of special interest, and allows the Game Animal Council, not the Department of Conservation, to manage areas of conservation lands for hunters and recreational hunting. In giving this privileged status to hunters and hunting, we seem to have forgotten the deer menace and the huge financial and resource investment by the Crown over many decades in controlling deer and other pests on Crown land. Deer were declared noxious animals in the 1930s, and it was the Department of Internal Affairs and then the New Zealand Forest Service that employed professional cullers from the 1930s right until the end of the 1980s to eradicate deer from New Zealand. We understood then the ecological impacts of deer browsing. We understood that it could contribute to erosion. We understood that it severely reduced the capacity for forestry generation. So the Crown funded those professional cullers, and that saw nearly 3 million deer culled between the 1930s and the mid-1950s.

It was that effort in professional deer culling and helicopter recovery of venison that dramatically reduced deer numbers in the South Island. It was this House that passed the Wild Animal Control Act in 1977, in recognition of the need to control these harmful species and to regulate the operations of both commercial hunters and recreational hunters, if we were to get effective wild animal control. This bill undermines that past commitment and that investment of Crown resource, because of the privileged status it gives to hunting. In our view, the Government's conservation priorities are all awry. Having cut conservation funding by \$54 million, the Government is now proposing to allocate \$100,000—it says in the regulatory impact statement—to the Game Animal Council, when the Department of Conservation is having to pull back on its work. How is that \$100,000 to be found? Through reprioritisation within Vote Conservation. So it will be robbed from work on our indigenous species. A trumper emailed me only yesterday to say how impressed he was by the work of the department in the Hurunui Valley, where staff are working to protect great spotted kiwi. They and he were worried that those staff would lose their jobs in the next round of restructuring in the department. The Government can increase the spending on noxious animals such as tahr, but not on our indigenous species.

As the regulatory impact statement highlights, there is no need for this bill and no need for the Game Animal Council. I quote from the statement: "There is no information clearly establishing that current institutional arrangements in the management regime for wild animals requires change to improve participation among the different groups with interests in these animals and their effects". It goes on to say: "There is no evidence that current user groups and organisations (for example the Deerstalkers' Association) are deficient in representing their members' interests." We already have the Conservation Authority and conservation boards, which enable people to participate in the management of conservation lands.

We have an example of what happens when you get a herd management plan, in the tahr control plan in the central Southern Alps. Himalayan tahr numbers were reduced to around 3,000 in the early 1980s. Now, with that plan, which emphasises the role of recreational hunters, we have seen tahr numbers climb to over 10,000, with huge impacts on the

alpine flora of that region, including a number of threatened plants, like the Mount Cook buttercup. So this bill, in putting hunting interests first, potentially compromises all of those indigenous ecosystems. I look forward to being on the Local Government and Environment Committee and hearing public submissions. There will be, I think, a strong swell of opposition, because of the way the bill cuts across the Conservation Act and the conservation purpose to preserve and protect our indigenous biota. Thank you.