

The southern hunter



2009

Southland branch  
NZ deerstalkers association

**Noticeboard:**

Executive Meeting: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 7.00pm

General Meeting: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 8.00pm

Executive and committee members (2008-2009)

President	Jim Ridley	2159649
Vice.	Nathan Dawson	235 8852
Jnr. Vice	Murray Barkman	2362730
Secretary	David Howden	2130962
Treasurer	John DeLury	2131430
Immediate	Roy Sloan	2352813
Huts	Neville Miller	216 8654
Newsletter Editor Nathan Dawson		

**Executive:**

Roger Stratford, Steven Long, Brendon Bell, Ray Phillips,  
Murray Colson, Euan Butters, J. Hogg, D. Craig, G. Ronald.

WA (Bill) Bell - Life Member

Branch email is [southlandbranchnzda@hotmail.com](mailto:southlandbranchnzda@hotmail.com)

**Guest Speaker for September:**

Steve Gamble and Son will speak and show DVD's on the Galapagos Islands Goat culling. This will be a first time viewing of the culling operation of Steve's footage.



Club member Steve Long on 2009 Tahr in Adams Flat on west coast

## **New Members**

A warm welcome to new members Jason Hoyle, Hudson Parker and Trevor Stirling

## **Weaned calves wanted.**

The club is looking to continue this fundraising project. If you have a weaned calf you would like to donate please contact Roger Stratford phone 2304388. Roger has a number of properties who will then take these animals through to sale as a fundraiser. thank you.

## **Wapiti Lodge**

Please remember to get your bookings for Christmas in to Neville by the end of this month phone  
03 216 8654

## **SUB COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE AS FOLLOWS**

	General Committees were formed for this year.
Hall:	B. Bell, M. Colson, M. Barkman, D. Craig.
Huts:	N. Miller, J DeLury
Young Hunters:	M. Colson, G. Ronald, N. Dawson.
Branch Hunts:	N. Dawson, D. Howden.
Speakers:	N. Dawson, S. Long.
AGM:	President.
Trophy Custodian:	G. Ronald.
Poisons/Toxins:	R. Phillips, D. Howden.
Stewart Island:	R. Phillips, J. De Lury.
Longwood/Hokonuis:	J. Ridley, R. Stratford.
South Coast:	R. Phillips, D. Howden.
Fiordland:	R. Sloan, E. Butters.
Caples/Mavora:	J. De Lury, N. Miller
Blue Mountains:	S. Long, M. Colson.

## **Animal Skin Tanning Service**

Adam Cowie  
Hm:03 2182977  
Mob: 0276314462  
E-mail [ajcowie@woosh.co.nz](mailto:ajcowie@woosh.co.nz)

## **Woodlaw Forestry Block**

Please be advised that from July 2009 the Woodlaw forestry block will be harvested between the hours of 7am and 5pm, outside of these hours the gates will be locked. If you currently hunt this block please contact Murray Mills at Lindsay & Dixon Ltd.

re. permission and access

03 2266059

021 226 6058

[murray@lindix.co.nz](mailto:murray@lindix.co.nz)

### **Thicket Burn Hut Tidy Up**

We have met with Doc in relation to the Thicket Burn Hut tidy up, Getting an exemption from WARO's for the Hokonui Forrest and some promising dialogue continuing at this stage. " will keep you informed".

### **Proposed and Happening Possum and Stoat Control in the Waitutu**

We have maps available in regards to this but as we cannot get them into the newsletter in a readable condition we will endeavour to get them on the website for you at [www.southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz](http://www.southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz) failing that contact Nathan for a copy of the 4 maps 03 2358852,or [nathan.adrienne@xtra.co.nz](mailto:nathan.adrienne@xtra.co.nz)

### **BUSH FIRST AID**

In December 1994, two friends and I were at Port Craig hut on our way back from walking the South Coast track.

A couple arrived who had had an accident on their way to Sand Hill Point. They had slid down a slip into a creek bed. The woman had crashed into a tree root and gashed her leg. Her partner had ripped up his shirtsleeve to make a dressing and ties to hold it in place. He helped her back to the track then on to Port Craig.

We gave her painkillers then very carefully removed the dressing. A strip of skin and flesh about 200mm long and up to 15mm wide had been peeled from her leg. We applied antiseptic cream to the wound. None of us in the hut had a sterile dressing suitable to cover such an injury but I had lots of band-aids. While one of my friends held the sides of the wound in their natural positions I applied band-aids across it, each new band-aid overlapping the last one until the whole wound was covered and supported. After a reasonable nights sleep she was able to walk out the next day.

These days I carry a better first aid kit.

Alex Kidd

## **Historic Port's Water Race**

Cut through heavy Southland bush by Chinese miners, and later extended to a length of 25 miles, Port's Race provided water for alluvial mining at Round Hill for over sixty years.

### **Southland gold**

Shortly after the success of the Otago rushes, gold was discovered in Southland, and miners flocked to the area. The southern goldfields at Nokomai, Waikaia, and in particular the Longwoods, were characterised by small yields over a sustained period.



Port's Water Race today



Gold was discovered at Round Hill in the 1870s, but the Europeans who discovered the site abandoned it shortly thereafter. A group of Chinese took over the rights to the field and established a town at Round Hill known as Canton. Round Hill was dogged by water shortages, and the construction of a series of water races to feed the diggings became necessary.

## **Race construction**

Henry Horatio Port and Charles Arthur Port were two of the miners operating a claim on the eastern side of the range who sought to improve their water supply. They obtained a licence to construct an initial race of six miles from Gorge Creek to the current location of Printz Battery in 1877. In 1888 they were approached by Chinese miners to extend the race to their workings at Round Hill. Chinese miners were contracted to excavate the race extension and it was completed over a period of fourteen months. Martin's Race and Turnbull's Race were also constructed at this time to provide water to the gold mining operations at Round Hill.



Port's Water Race Mile Post

In 1891 the Round Hill Syndicate, who owned most of the water rights in the area by that time, purchased Port's Water Race. As demand for water increased the race was upgraded and extended to improve supply. It reached its most distant point at Granity Creek in about 1897. It continued in use until the 1950s, and was part of a vital water supply to the sluicing operations at Round Hill.

## **Getting there**

Port's Water Race can be accessed from the south end off Round Hill Road on the Long Hilly track, an easy day walk with interpretation. The Long Hilly track is part of the Te Araroa walkway and has been constructed by the Southland Te Araroa Trust.

## Hunts Update

A Wallaby hunt was held on the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> of Sept was great fun everyone managed to bag a roo and have a lot of laughs in the process, we stayed at the Forks pub Hut, the publican and his wife looked after us to a 'T'. Great meals which were a battle for some to finish. Recommend it for anyone to stay at. PS never seen so many kiwi guys cheer for Australia before. We hope to get back up that way in Feb 2010 so keep an eye out.

Hoping to get back onto Coronet after the spring muster will let you know dates next month.

For any other inquiries or if you have something to put in the newsletter please contact Nathan Dawson [nathan.adrienne@xtra.co.nz](mailto:nathan.adrienne@xtra.co.nz)

# CHECK YOUR STOCK



**MSSA: Military-Style Semi-Automatic Firearm**



**If you have a semi-automatic firearm with any of the following features it is considered to have a 'military pattern free-standing pistol grip' and is therefore a MSSA:**

- An obvious pistol grip below the trigger guard that allows a full hand pistol grip irrespective that the pistol grip may be connected to the stock – this includes the HK USC .45, SL8-4 and Dragunov style stock
- Any addition that connects the pistol grip to the stock or butt in an attempt to make it no longer free standing (such as adding a metal or plastic rod).
- A second grip forward of the trigger.

**License holders who as a result of the change possess an MSSA must now:**

- If no 'E' endorsement is held, apply to Police for an 'E' endorsement on their firearms licence.  
*Police will waive the fee for the endorsement for those who take this option by 31 March 2010.*
- If 'E' endorsement already held, confirm lawful possession using the permit to procure process.
- If you do not wish to hold an E endorsement you must:
- Sell or dispose of the MSSA
  - To a person who has a firearms licence with an 'E' endorsement and a permit to procure.
- Surrender the MSSA to Police
  - MSSAs can be handed in to the Police. There is no 'buy back' scheme in place.
- Convert the MSSA so that it is in 'sporting configuration'
  - A conversion of a MSSA to 'sporting configuration' must ensure that the firearm does not have a military pattern free-standing pistol grip.



New Zealand Government







NZDA Media release Igill hearing 27Jul09

## New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association Incorporated

Level 1 45 – 51 Rugby Street P O Box 6514 Wellington  
Phone: 04 801 7367 Fax: 04 801 7368  
Email: [deerstalkers.org.nz](mailto:deerstalkers.org.nz)  
Website: <http://www.deerstalkers.org.nz>

26 July 2009

Media Release

### Deerstalkers urge recognition of Rakiura Whitetail deer

The New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association (NZDA) is urging Southland DOC and the Southland Conservation Board to recognise the iconic Whitetail deer in Rakiura National Park. They will be appearing to support their case at the hearings in Invercargill on Monday afternoon.

The Whitetail deer in Rakiura National Park attracts 2500 deerstalkers a year to the Park's back country, because of the dual attraction of the deer and the outstanding coastal and inland scenery. The deer are an existing use that pre-dates the formation of the national park by almost 100 years.

There has been a significant increase in the number and area of national parks in the last 15 years. This, together with the Parks' historic focus on "preservation" rather than evolution, and the requirement that introduced species be exterminated as far as possible, now puts them at loggerheads with established and recreationally and economically important activities such as deerstalking.

National parks are not only there for botanists, but for the benefit, use and enjoyment of the public. NZDA believes that now there are so many national parks, the parks' management needs to be more flexible in taking deer and deerstalking into account. Recreational hunters have been controlling and managing the herd for a number of years. This should be recognised and appropriately managed, NZDA believes.

ENDS

Further information: **Dr Hugh Barr**, NZDA National Advocate, 027 686 0063, 04 934 2244  
**Alec McIver**, National President, Wk 07 349 4250 Hm 07 347 4380

**New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association Incorporated** (NZDA) is the national body of recreational deerstalkers and other big game hunters. We have 50 branches and hunting member clubs throughout New Zealand. We have 7600 members, and have been actively advocating for recreational deerstalking and hunting, running hunter training courses, trips, conferences etc since 1937. NZDA maintains ethical standards for hunting.

## Abstract

Part 1 of this submission request that Whitetail deer herd in Rakiura National Park be protected from extermination by a Section 4 (2) (b) Determination under the National Parks Act. NZ Deerstalkers' Association makes this request because the Stewart Island herd is a nationally important deerstalking resource, attracting 3,000 recreational hunters annually to Stewart Island.

The herd generates high recreational value for these hunters as well as \$4-6 million in economic value annually from their visits. Recreational hunters make up the largest recreational group visiting the back country of Rakiura National Park.

Hunters, by taking 1500 deer annually are de facto controlling the Stewart Island deer herd, and have been doing this for the last 20 years. Whitetail, as a small deer are a low threat to the Park's native species. Their impact is probably less than that of trampers on the Park's muddy tracks, or of grazing concessions for cattle allowed in other parks. National parks are about intrinsic worth and benefit, use and enjoyment of the public, as well as protection of endangered species. They are significantly different from nature reserves which are solely for ecosystem protection.

The Park was set up with no consideration of protecting the significant ecosystem services provided by the deer, who have co-existed sustainably with the land for one hundred years prior to the park being formed. A Determination would provide a way of recognising the value of the deer in the Park, given the attraction to hunters is the Park setting itself, as well as hunting the deer. The deer cannot be transferred off the Island and still remain the drawcard they are now. Part 1 enlarges on these arguments.

Part 2 addresses the way that a Determination could be managed in the Park, and on the remainder of Stewart Island to more fully ensure the sustainability of the herd and vulnerable native plants, and maintain the herd's continued attraction to recreational hunters. They provide facilities and management at almost no cost to the Department of Conservation (DOC). The Association sees this submission as one step in the dialogue with DOC and the Board on this matter.

This was taken from Rakiura NPMP and Stewart Island CMS Whitetail herd Submission on 42(b) determination, anyone wishing to read the full determination may do so on the website [www.southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz](http://www.southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz)



3/7/2009

Gordon George

Committee - Submissions Officer

New Zealand Deerstalkers Association Inc. - Hutt Valley Branch

PO Box 40-226

Upper Hutt

Ph 04-570-6819 W

The Hon Tim Grosser

The Minister of Conservation

Parliament Buildings

Wellington

Dear Sir

**Re: Concerns over Heli-Hunting, WARO conditions and Conservation Board vacancies.**

Our branch is the largest Deerstalkers branch in the country with over 600 members who hunt not only locally but also throughout the country.

#### **Heli- Hunting**

Our members have considerable opposition to the practice of Heli-Hunting on Public land and which could be defined as follows:

- Paying client shoots deer or tahr from helicopter.
- Paying client gets dropped into vicinity of animal they spotted, helicopter then herds animal to make it easier for client to kill it.
- Paying client is dropped adjacent to animal to shoot it.

The reasons for our opposition to this practice include the following:

- It is grossly unethical and unsporting and risks the good reputation New Zealand has with the majority of overseas hunters.
- It disturbs not only the game animals but also the quiet enjoyment of the backcountry for all recreational users
- It specifically targets single trophy class animals removing them and the incentive they provide for recreational hunters to go into our back country. The end result of this is that far less animals will be removed in total as recreational hunters are far more likely to take multiple animals and go in greater numbers than heli-hunters whilst the chance of a good trophy exists.
- The conservation estate is surely there for all New Zealanders to enjoy on an equal basis not as an anything goes playground for the rich elite.

Above all else allowing Heli-hunting to occur will harm conservation outcomes as rich fee paying clients are not going to spend thousands of dollars on shooting female animals, they will continue to target single male trophies reducing the incentive for recreational hunters to enter back country areas and continue more balanced harvests.

Similarly the practice of live recovery of trophy Bull Tahr from public land for use in private game parks, be they for effectively "canned hunting" or "fair chase" is equally unacceptable.

**We ask that the minister bans heli-hunting immediately before too much harm is done and also bans the practice of live capture of trophy tahr. If the Minister is unwilling to ban these practices then please explain why ?**

**WARO Conditions and return to a block system.**

We request that DOC reconsider the present open slather (once you have paid your \$500 for a concession) approach to the control of aerial recovery operations. The present system does not create any predictability over the presence of particular operators in any given area and this creates unnecessary risks for both other operators and our members.

The old block system worked much better, created more knowledgeable, efficient operators and allowed more rapid identification of illegal operators or poor behaviour.

Under the present system I myself have witnessed (in late Jan 2002) one of the numerous operators who moved in the Tararua after it was opened up, hunting in a recently 1080'd area. One of us reported it to DOC Masterton, no one cared, I reported it to MaF, they said they would get back, never did and in March that year the feral meat industry collapsed due to poison residues on carcasses taken from poisoned areas. A repeat of this scenario is made more likely by an open slather policy from DOC.

The present system of no real management is not in conservation or recreational hunting's long term interests. The present boom-bust system serves no one well.

**We request that the Minister reviews the WARO system and recreates the block licensing system and institutes additional no-fly periods such as late Dec to late Jan and mid March to mid May (for the roar), along with banning aerial recovery on long weekends when recreational hunters have more of a chance to get further into the bush. This would create some predictability, encourage more hunting, foster recreation, goodwill and a quieter bush for all users at peak times**

**Conservation Board Vacancies.**

We wish to know if under the new Minister, these vacancies are now truly open to members of the deerstalkers, as previously we were all but told we were wasting our time?

Yours Sincerely

Gordon George  
NZDA - HV Branch





## Office of Hon Kate Wilkinson

Minister of Labour  
Minister for Food Safety

Associate Minister of Immigration  
Associate Minister of Conservation

17 AUG 2009

Gordon George  
Committee-Submissions Officer  
NZ Deerstalkers' Association Inc  
Hutt Valley Branch  
PO Box 40-226  
UPPER HUTT

Dear Gordon

Thank you for your letter of 3 July 2009 concerning heli-hunting on public conservation land, WARO conditions and conservation board vacancies. In replying, I intend to address each of these issues in the order in which you raised them in your letter.

### Heli-hunting:

Under its legislation, the Department of Conservation is obliged to consider any applications for concessions that it receives. Three helicopter operators have applied for concessions to undertake heli-hunting. These applications, which are currently being processed by the Canterbury, West Coast and Otago conservancies, will be publicly advertised for submissions later this year, at which time you will have the opportunity to re-state the points raised in your letter.

While these applications are being processed, and given that there is a level of uncertainty as to whether the current permits actually do provide for this activity, the department has allowed helicopter operators who hold current WARO permits, and who have applied for heli-hunting concessions, to continue to operate during the March-September season. The concessions will cover those areas of public conservation land, identified in the three applications, where they are consistent with the department's statutory plans and policies.

### WARO conditions:

The current WARO concession permits expire in September of this year, and the Canterbury Conservancy is leading a national process for the renewal of the permit that covers deer carcass recovery and the live capture and conveying of deer.

I understand that there has already been one round of detailed consultation about the process and the proposed revised WARO concession structure. The range of relevant stakeholders involved in the consultation round included members from other branches of your organisation, and your national advocate, Dr Hugh Barr. The matter of block-licensing was raised during this discussion, and the department's stated position is that, because any operator must now have a contract with a meat-processing firm, and be a New Zealand Food Safety Authority-certified supplier, this will likely restrict the number of potential operators who might apply for this type of concession. It was the fact that the previous

K

WARO concession permits were not restricted in such a way that gave rise to the call for block allocations, in the first place.

I am also informed that a second round of consultation is about to take place on a number of associated matters, including the various locations that have been put forward by conservancies around the country as being suitable for opening up to WARO activities, and discussions on the form of the concession document itself. A CD of this consultation material is being compiled, and your name has been added to the distribution list. You should receive a copy of the CD shortly, and your feedback is encouraged.

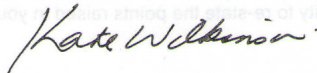
My department has considered the issue of the live capture and conveying of male tahr, and has determined as follows: because male tahr are sought-after by recreational hunters as trophies, the capture and conveyance of male tahr will be permitted only from within the national parks and exclusion zones where the "Intervention Density" is zero. This activity is managed under the "Thar Control Plan" and any prospective operator would need to apply to the local conservancy for a one-off permit, which will have a maximum duration of three months only.

#### Conservation board vacancies:

Conservation board vacancies are open to anyone wishing to contribute to conservation in New Zealand. In any one year, however, not everyone who is nominated can be appointed, as the number of nominees always exceeds the number of available places. It is also necessary to have a range of different perspectives represented on boards. The government made an election commitment to ensuring recreational interests were well-represented on boards, and is committed to carrying out this promise.

Thank you again for writing, and for your interest in these matters.

Yours sincerely



Hon Kate Wilkinson  
Associate Minister of Conservation



